

#LOJTRA
.....
prostor za raziskovanje



RETHINKING *youth work*

Through nature-based and experiential approaches



APPLY HERE



More info: tina@drustvolojtra.si
www.drustvolojtra.si



Co-funded by
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What is it about

This is a gathering of practitioners, youth workers, educators, facilitators, who come together to pause and reflect on their practice and ways of approaching youth work today.

We would like to invite you not to a predefined programme, but to exploring together questions that don't usually fit into our daily routines. Because much of our work happens in motion. Between sessions, deadlines, responsibilities, expectations. There is often little space to stop and ask:

What are we actually doing, and why, in this way?

This gathering creates that space.

A space to step slightly outside of our practice in order to look at it again. Not to criticise it, but to understand it differently. We would like to start with ourselves. With how we experience our role: **What gives us energy, and what quietly exhausts us? Where we feel aligned, and where something feels off? What we carry into our work, often without noticing?** Because the way we work is never neutral. It reflects our assumptions, our habits, our ways of relating.

And then we turn towards practice. We look at what we do: the methods we use, the relationships we build, the structures we operate within.

And we ask:

- **Is this still responding to the needs of young people?**
- **Or are we, at times, repeating forms that no longer fully fit the reality we are in?**

Nature is part of this process not as a background, but as a different condition for thinking and being. It slows things down, creates distance, allows certain questions to appear more clearly or simply to stay longer.

There is no fixed list of topics. Instead, there is a shared inquiry. Facilitators will bring inputs, perspectives, and provocations. But the direction of the process will be shaped by what participants bring: their questions, doubts, tensions, and experiences.

At the center of it, there is a simple question:

Does the kind of youth work we practice still correspond to the realities it is meant to address? And if not, what would need to shift, in us and in our practice, for it to become more relevant again?



Practical information

Location: Lake Bohinj, Julian Alps, and Litija, Slovenia

Dates: 19–28 June 2026 (arrival on 19th, departure on 28th)

[Apply here](#) (deadline: 30 April 2026)

Contact: tina@drustvolojtra.si

Accommodation:

First part (19–22 June)

We will stay near Lake Bohinj, surrounded by the mountains.

Accommodation will be camping, with access to toilets, showers, and a covered space for meals.

Second part (23–28 June)

We move to a hill near Litija, where we will continue camping in a more settled base. The space includes covered areas, a kitchen, a working space, and access to 3 toilets and 3 showers.

How to arrive?

By [train](#) to Bohinjska Bistrica, then to Bohinj by [bus](#) or [bus](#) to Bohinj or first to Ljubljana and then to Bohinj.

By plane to Brnik, Zagreb, Venice or Trieste airport and then by [Goopti](#) to our location.

We will need your arrival plans confirmed by 1st of June. Do not hesitate to contact us if you will need any help.

Insurance

Each participant is responsible for arranging their own health and travel insurance for their stay in Slovenia. We strongly recommend having travel and health insurance during the project dates to avoid trouble. It is inexpensive and worthwhile. The European Health Insurance Card is also an option.

Costs:

All costs are covered by the Erasmus+ programme, with the exception of a €60 contribution for one day of accommodation and food. This is due to our stay in Triglav National Park, where prices are higher than usual.

If this contribution presents a financial difficulty, please don't hesitate to contact us – we will do our best to find a solution together

Travel cost reimbursements up to:

Travel distance	Green travel	Non-Green travel
10 – 99 km	56 EUR	28 EUR
100 – 499 km	285 EUR	211 EUR
500 – 1999 km	417 EUR	309 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	535 EUR	395 EUR
3000 – 3999 km	785 EUR	580 EUR

The distance is calculated with the help of an EU distance band calculator. The distance is calculated from the headquarters of each partner organization to the venue.

We encourage you to travel green! If you are willing to travel using modes of transport which are "greener" (i.e., not flying), please contact us and we will provide extra funds to cover that kind of a travel, since the Erasmus+ program enables this possibility.

Reimbursement will be completed upon full attendance in the Erasmus+ activity and presentation of the original tickets with boarding passes and receipt/invoices. In case you would like to receive your travel funds in advance, please state this in the application form and we will make this possible. However, we will still need all the tickets, invoices, boarding passes, etc., from you.



Hiking & physical requirements

Part of the training takes place in alpine terrain, including hiking.

Participants can expect:

- Walking times between 3 to 6 hours, depending on pace and group dynamics
- Part of the movement on uneven terrain (rocks, roots, ascents and descents — no flat paths)



What you need to bring

- Comfortable hiking shoes (not sneakers), preferably waterproof with good grip
- Hiking pants (long and short)
- swimming suits
- Upper layers (T-shirts, fleece or warm pullover)
- Rain/wind jacket + poncho
- Sunglasses
- Hat (sun)
- Backpack for day trips (20-30l)
- 1.5-2L of water bottle (refill points only at start/end of the day)
- Toiletry kit
- Personal first aid kit (incl. blister care)
- Power bank and chargers
- Headlamp

Who is it for

- This gathering is for youth workers, educators, trainers, and facilitators who feel the need to pause and look at their practice from a different angle.
- For those who are experienced in their field, but sense that some questions are still open.
- For those who notice tensions in their work — things that don't fully align, but are not always easy to name.
- For those who are curious to explore, rather than to confirm what they already know.
- It is for people interested in rethinking youth work through nature and experience, and for those who want to bring more outdoor and experiential approaches into their practice.
- You don't need prior experience in outdoor education. What matters more is a willingness to slow down, reflect, and engage in a shared learning process.



What to expect

You can expect a process that is not fully defined in advance. There is a structure, but it is intentionally open. It leaves space for what participants bring: their questions, experiences, and perspectives. Each day we will start with a shared input, something to think with, a perspective, a method, or a question that stays.

And then the space opens. Participants invited to propose questions, share practices, or explore what feels most relevant to them.

Along the way, you will engage with nature-based and experiential approaches- as ways to reflect, create space for exploring and going deeper.

About Lojtra and the team

Društvo Lojtra is an organisation working with young people in the fields of sustainability, creativity, and experiential learning. We create spaces where people can explore, connect, and grow – often outdoors and always in a participatory way.

Our work ranges from local community programmes to international trainings, with a focus on combining nature, creativity, and practical tools for youth work. Through years of Erasmus+ projects and collaborations, we have developed approaches that support both personal transformation and social impact.



Jaka Kovač is a trainer, facilitator, and youth worker passionate about bringing education into natural settings – the forest has been his playground since childhood. He is a certified nonviolent communication trainer and part of the Art of Hosting community. In his work, he creates safe yet stimulating spaces for connection with self and others.



Olga Poddubnaya has worked in the NGO youth sector since 2002, developing and coordinating local and international projects. She is now a freelance facilitator with a focus on the future of education, outdoor learning, female activism, and inclusive youth work. Her expertise includes facilitation, learning approaches, and designing educational processes.



Tina Trdin is a trainer, facilitator, and youth mentor exploring education in nature and reconnection with the land. Her work includes intercultural dialogue, outdoor learning, global citizenship, and sustainable community development. She also enjoys working with herbs and co-creating music – and secretly aims to move more activities into nature.



Aljaž Zupan believes in the power of cooperation. He is passionate about hosting inclusive processes where all the stakeholders have space to feel seen and heard. He enjoys stepping on different learning journeys, especially with groups of young people. He is absolutely amazed by the beauty and greatness of nature and he loves spending time in it for both personal and professional reasons.

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