

EVS Vacancy

Name of the hosting org: Azerbaijan Students' Union

Start date: 01.08.2016 - End date: 01.06.2017

Durations: 10 Month

Venue: Baku (Azerbaijan)

Number EVS placements: 2 Volunteers (only residents of the Netherlands and Estonia)

Hosting organisation: **Azerbaijan Students' Union - ASU**

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1. ASU – Background and experience

Azerbaijan Students' Union was formed on 15th September in 2008. The aim of the union is improving the role of the students in civil society. Azerbaijan Students Union unites all students in Azerbaijan irrespective of race, color, sex or religion. Union defends students' educational, social, cultural and economic interests. Azerbaijan Students' Union is a member of IAESTE in Azerbaijan.

The main aim of ASU is improving the role of the students in development of civil society. For gaining its aim Union realize these duties:

- To help students for their enlightening in different fields;
- To help students in increasing their activity for the development of civil society;
- To help students for their representation in the work of Higher Education Institutions;
- To strengthen international cooperation in student field;
- To prepare proposals and act for improving educational and social conditions of students;
- To reinforce activities about students employment service;
- Support students initiatives in different fields;
- Represent students in state, business and other organizations;

Generally we organize various projects related to student issues. These projects are supported by the Council of State Support to NGOs, the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Azerbaijan Republic, Open Society Institute Assistance Fund, Youth in Action programme and various business companies. We can mention project as: Creation of Student House, Propaganda of Students Rights in Azerbaijan, Establishment of Employment Service for Students, Youth Protects the Ecology and etc. Our regular activities include but not limited to: arrangement of training courses and workshops, youth exchanges, study visits, conferences, debates and forums, voluntary work camps for children and youth, promotion of volunteerism, gender equality, students right environmental protection. The main target groups are youth and children (students, volunteers, etc.). ASU is located in the Baku and there are around 10 staff members and 6 volunteers working full time. The main working staff of ASU consists of Chairperson, General Secretary, secretary on educational issues, secretary on social issues, secretary of public relations, secretary of international relations. Each secretary is coordinated by one secretary and they consist of different active students.

2. Description of the project

This project focuses on the promotion of the European values among the students and young people of Baku, Azerbaijan through different non-formal activities as well as increasing their understanding on the topics such as equality, human rights, democracy and European Citizenship. Involvement of the volunteer in the project activities aims to accelerate the intercultural learning among the youth. The project also addressed the issues of youth empowerment, youth capacity building and youth participation within the already existing European Clubs of Baku. The main objective of the project is to increase understanding of European values among the students of universities through different non-formal activities designed by the group of international and local volunteers and to ensure successful achievement of the project objectives EVS volunteer with the local team of volunteers will use different non-formal methodologies and activities addressing students of the universities. The project will take place in Youth Center of Baku.

3. Role and Activities of the volunteer

The main role of the volunteer will be to bring an added value to the work of the European Youth Clubs operating in the Youth Center of Baku. Moreover, it is expected from volunteers that her participation in the project will increase awareness of the young people about Europe and its main values.

The task of the volunteer will be :

- To facilitate the self-learning process of students regarding Europe and its values
- To contribute to the self –development and efficient organization of leisure time of young people
- To promote non-formal education methods in Youth Club
- To contribute to the intercultural learning impact of the project

Moreover, volunteers may initiate new projects addressed to the problems of young people.

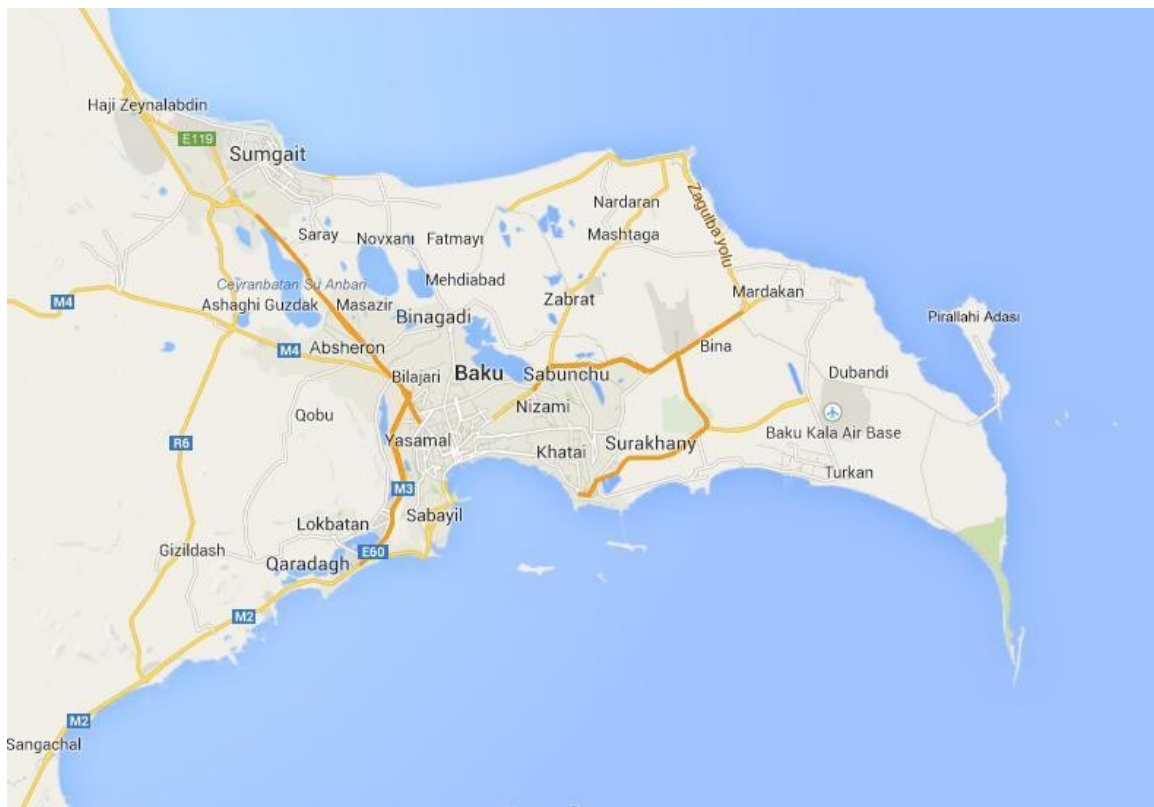
The volunteers will be expected to work 5 hours a day -from Monday to Friday. Volunteers will have weekends free to themselves.

4. Profile of the volunteer :

We would like volunteers applying for this project to have a strong motivation and dedication for working inside youth group. Volunteer's enthusiasm, creativity and interest in order to engage with people, to work in team but also willingness to accept personal responsibilities are highly appreciated. A readiness to work with flexibility in changing or developing situations is essential. Young people (18-30), legal residents in the Netherlands and Estonia, interested in new media, non-formal education and voluntarism and ready to get involved in youth work activities.

5. Venue, Living & Volunteering Conditions

BAKU





Baku - is the capital and largest city of Azerbaijan, as well as the largest city on the Caspian Sea and of the Caucasus region. It is located on the southern shore of the Absheron Peninsula, which projects into the Caspian Sea. The city consists of two principal parts: the downtown and the old Inner City. Baku urban population at the beginning of 2009 was estimated at just over two million people. Officially, about 25 percent of all inhabitants of the country live in the metropolitan city area of Baku. Baku is divided into eleven administrative districts (raions) and 48 townships. Among these are the townships on islands in the Baku Bay and the town of Oil Rocks built on stilts in the Caspian Sea, 60 km (37 mi) away from Baku. The Inner City of Baku along with the Shirvanshah Palace and Maiden Tower were inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000. According to the Lonely Planet ranking, Baku is also among the world top ten destinations for urban nightlife. The city is the scientific, cultural and industrial center of Azerbaijan. Many sizeable Azerbaijani institutions have their headquarters there, including SOCAR, one of the world top 100 companies and others. The Baku International Sea Trade Port, sheltered by the islands of the Baku Archipelago

to the east and the Absheron Peninsula to the north, is capable of handling two million tons of general and dry bulk cargoes per year.

Azerbaijan has hosted lots of international and regional competitions, big events. Baku 2015 first European Games was the biggest multisport event that Azerbaijan hosted. This was a great legacy and experience in order to organize other multisport events. Its past experience of hosting international events includes the Chess World Cup 2015, 2012 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, and the 2012 Eurovision Song Contest in Baku.

In 2016 Baku will host the 42nd Chess Olympiad organized by FIDE. Formula 1 European Grand Prix will be held in Baku on July, 2016. And Formula 1 will take place for 9 years in Baku. In 2020 Baku will host quarter finals of European Football Championship and the three group matches. The Women's European Volleyball Championship will be 30th edition of the tournament and hosted by Azerbaijan and Georgia in 2017.

1)Accommodation: Volunteers will live in an apartment to be rented by ASU. Mattresses and blankets will be provided for the volunteers, as well as basic furniture and kitchen utensils. Three rooms apartment: two bedrooms and one dining room, kitchen, bathroom, toilet and small balcony. Equipment: TV, Telephone, Sofa, Bed, kitchen utensils, chairs and table.

2)Food: volunteers will prepare their own meals and buy daily products such as milk, water, eggs, fruit and vegetable in the city or at the large food market located in downtown Baku. The volunteers will also have the opportunity to visit the restaurants, tea-houses and the bakery in the center of Baku. During lunch-time they will have free time in order to have lunch in cafeterias close to work place.

3)Local transport: volunteers home is not far from the work place. Volunteers can use the metro, bus and minibuses. Metro is quite a comfortable way for travelling within Baku. The underground network has about 20 stations and is easy to negotiate. Volunteers will receive the monthly money for public transportation and free metro cards.

4) Language support: for volunteers Azeri language classes will be organized by ASU, twice a week during the whole duration of the service. Other kind of support: each EVS volunteer will have a task supervisor and a mentor supporting him/her. Mentor of the volunteer in this project will be the local volunteer of Azerbaijan Students Union. Mentor will have important and quite active role in the project. Volunteer can always turn to the mentor in any problematic case. Mentor will assist the volunteer to solve any technical problems, help to get acquainted with the local culture, customs, rules and way of life. Mentor will help the volunteer to socialize and communicate with local community. Mentor will organize city-tours, take him/her to various parties/events. In addition, mentor will encourage and enhance his/her involvement in sports and cultural activities.

6. Recruitment process

Application procedure (deadline: June, 20th, 2016) Candidates will be asked to send us a carefully prepared:

- ☐ **Curriculum Vitae (CV),**
- ☐ **Motivation letter**

Step 1: Send all documents to the following e-mail address: asu_azerbaijan@yahoo.com

Step 2: - We will provide Skype interview with the selected participants.