



Udruga Agencija Lokalne Demokracije
Agenzia Democrazia Locale - Local Democracy Agency
Trg Sv. Zenona 4, 52474 BRTONIGLA – VERTENEGLIO, ISTRA – ISTRIA, CROATIA
Tel: +385 (0)52 774 617, Fax: +385 (0)52 720 424 OIB: 67874869306
E-mail: info@lda-verteneglio.hr Web: www.Lda-verteneglio.hr



2017/2018

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

INFOPACK

PROJECT TITLE:

Y.I.E.L.D. in Europe “Youth Ideas Empower Local Democracy in Europe”

01st September 2017 – 31st July 2018
Brtonigla – Verteneglio, Istria, Croatia

PLEASE, READ
CAREFULLY!

ALL THE INFO



Erasmus+

Sponsored by the Erasmus + programme



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SHORT OVERVIEW

Project Title

Y.I.E.L.D. in Europe
"Youth Ideas Empower Local Democracy in Europe"

Project Type

Learning Mobility of Individuals
Mobility of learners and staff
European Voluntary Service – Youth mobility

Project Duration and Location

Project duration: 11 months
01st September 2017 (Arrival day) – 31st July 2018 (Departure day)
Brtonigla - Istria Region, Croatia

Organization in charge of the Project

Udruga Agencija Lokalne Demokracije Brtonigla - Verteneglio
Local Democracy Agency Brtonigla - Verteneglio

Partner Countries

GERMANY - Open Door International e.V.
www.opendoorinternational.de
MACEDONIA - Mladiinfo International
www.mladiinfo.eu
ITALY - Associazione Protezione Civile Gruppo Lucano
www.pcgl.info
CZECH REPUBLIC - Mladiinfo ČR, z.s.
www.mladiinfo.cz

Working Language:

English, Croatian and Italian

Participants:

Each partner country should send 1 volunteer aged between 18 and 29 (at the start of activities)
Total number of volunteers: 4

Costs:

The project is supported by the Erasmus+ programme
Accommodation and food are **covered 100%**.
Travel costs will be reimbursed according to the travel distance per participant. Travel distances are calculated using the **DISTANCE CALCULATOR** supported by the European Commission.

ABOUT THE HOSTING ORGANISATION

The Local Democracy Agency (LDA) of Brtonigla – Verteneglio is a non-profit organization founded in **1996** with the support of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and partners from Italy, Switzerland, France, Municipality of Brtonigla and the Region of Istria in order to support the development of local democratic processes, promotion of human rights and active citizenship in Istria County.



Since 2009, LDA acts as association and promotes **democratic, social, cultural and economic development** based on the principles of **tolerance, dialogue, respect of human rights, cultural cooperation** and freedom of expression. Its work is based on reciprocity, involvement and participation of civil society, as well as the exchange of experiences between the partners involved.

LDA of Brtonigla – Verteneglio was founded on the principles of decentralized international co-operation, and since 1996 is a member of the **Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA - www.ald-europe.eu)**, a Europe-wide network based in Strasbourg, France. At the beginning of its work, at that time **Local Democracy Embassy**, as international organization was responding to the current needs of the territory based on the multi-ethnic character of the area and the large



presence of autochthons belonging to the Italian national minority who were the main factors in the process organization establishing. In this context, ALD was a successful tool for the promotion of a multicultural society and coexistence in the area, as well as a support in the development of democratic institutions at local level.



In recent years, after Croatian accession to the European Union, ALD is focusing its work on the promotion of European values, informing citizens about the European integration process and the advantages of EU membership, as well as part of its work is directed at young people working on improving and encouraging social inclusion, respect for cultural diversity and active citizenship among young people from Istria.

TEAM:

Umberto Ademollo (info@lda-verteneglio.hr) - President

Eric Persel (eric@lda-verteneglio.hr) – Project Manager, EVS coordinator, administrative officer



PROJECT IDEA

The long term volunteer project Youth Ideas Empower Local Democracy in Europe aims to add a set of new skills and knowledge to the participants profiles and improve the overall competitiveness of four young people from four different European countries. The project will introduce them to the local culture and traditions in the small northwest Croatian village of Brtonigla, where they will explore the theme of how the youth ideas empowering the local democratic process, how to raise their understanding and involvement in the process, how

to promote encouraging public attitudes toward youth involvement in order to strengthen the quality of the local democratic process, the local social trust and develop sense of belonging, so important for developing an environment for long term perspectives of the youth.

The traditional low youth interest and attention to the local politics and institutions as a tool to improve the local social environment, the higher regional unemployment, lack of development perspectives and planning of moving to larger urban centers is characteristic of many European regions and is a vicious circle of interdependent and persistent issues resulting in low trust, understanding and desire to get involved and try to influence through the system. The project aims to bring new perspective, more focus and knowledge on the topic from the youth perspective, discuss way to influence the environment, voice and address ideas and good practices from different countries.

The project will involve **4 volunteers** from **Czech Republic, Germany, Italy** and **Macedonia**. The service will take place in **Brtonigla** and surroundings from **September 2016** until **July 2017**. The countries have been selected on purpose, to include young people from both European Member states and non EU Countries.

ACTIVITIES

Through the implementation of the project, volunteers will be able to choose their activities, based on their **interests** and **needs**. Special moments during the project implementation will be dedicated to **increase foreign language competences** of the volunteers and to the promotion of the European Voluntary Service and the Erasmus+ programme among Croatian youth, especially those living and acting in rural/isolated areas. Activities will be organised in order to **promote multilingualism** (as main characteristic of the Istria region, where LDA is located) and the learning of different foreign languages as is one of the cornerstones of the European project and a powerful symbol of the EU's aspiration to be united in diversity.

General activities will take place during the week, not more than six hours per day. Volunteers will share the office space located at the Future Museum of wine and rural creativity in Brtonigla (Mlinska 2), where the head office of LDA is located. The working methodology used will be a mixture of informal and formal learning.

Volunteers will be able to modify the weekly timetable/schedule according to their needs and expectations.

MAIN TASKS OF THE VOLUNTEERS:

- To assist in project writing and preparation of project activities;
- To help with translations;
- To participate in the organization of activities (Info days) and promotion of the Erasmus + programs and EVS in high schools and local communities;
- To assist in the organisation of local events/manifestation aimed at the promotion of local territory (seminars, workshops, fairs, etc.);
- To participate in volunteering actions;
- To update social media accounts and LDA website;
- To editing articles, videos and photos about the EVS experience;
 - To organise intercultural events for locals such as intercultural nights, tandems, workshops and free language courses; etc.
 - To assist in the administrative tasks related to the above topics;
 - To participate in different educational events such as seminars, workshops, mobility's, etc., in order to develop personal and professional skills, etc.



The volunteers will work directly with the staff and the volunteers of the NGO, supporting all the activities car-



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ried out by LDA on a local, regional, national and international level. They will provide support in all activities related to the organization. We are **open to all ideas** implemented by the volunteers. They will be able to take responsibility for their own development goal and both plan a personal project and carry it out.

Besides, volunteers will have the opportunity to **cooperate with local bodies** and institutions such as the Municipality in Novigrad/Buje, the Italian and Croatian Elementary schools, High Schools, the Italian Communities in Buje, Brtonigla or Umag etc.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

LDA is looking for Volunteers from **4 volunteers** from Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Macedonia, **aged from 18 to 29 years (at the start of the activities)** who are **serious** and **motivated** to come to LDA for a period of 11 months. LDA places importance on gender balance, therefore two female and two male volunteers will be selected. The volunteers will acquire as much independence and responsibility in leading the activities, as willing to undertake. The organization would be flexible and allow helping in any way that he would find comfortable.

We are looking for **MOTIVATED, CREATIVE OPEN MINDED** and **INDEPENDENT** youngsters. Your skills will further develop while working together with us. We require the volunteer to have at least **basic skills in English** and ready to learn Croatian and Italian language in order to communicate with the local community. Our daily operations require volunteer's creativity and energy, necessary while working with people with all different ages and backgrounds, responsibility, patience as well as the ability to work in a team.

- MOTIVATED to learn and share knowledge and skills!
- Good EDUCATIONAL and SOCIAL SKILLS, to be able to work with several target groups;
- Good COMMUNICATION SKILLS and motivation to cooperate with your colleagues and with other volunteers;
- OPEN MINDED and FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE towards working hours, days in very busy periods;
- To have a RESPONSIBLE attitude and take INITIATIVE towards tasks;
- Be able to WORK in a TEAM;
- Good COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE (Microsoft Office, e mail, internet, Photoshop);
- ADMINISTRATIVE and ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS;
- Be able TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY and to fill in your own free time!





ABOUT THE VENUE – BRTONIGLA (VERTENEGLIO)

With its **2.000 inhabitants**, Brtonigla (Verteneaglio) is situated in the north-west part of the Istrian Peninsula (between Buje and Novigrad) and it is within reach of the western frontier of our hospitable and friendly Republic of Croatia. The Adriatic Sea washes the western part of the county and the eastern one is reached by the Mirna River. One of the main characteristics of the region is the **bilingualism**, as Istria is a region in which

Croatian and Italian are officially recognized.

Visitors have the real opportunity to see many things of their interest in this small and picturesque **rural place**, as for stance they can admire an unforgettable landscape, beauty of Nature, discover historical traces and centennial culture, can walk numerous pathways those lead to new scenarios and have new experiences as well. Brtonigla, just as other rural places in Istria, has a very interesting history. The settlement was erected on a **picturesque hill** on the place of the former remains of the ancient castle. After Roman conquest fortifications became towns and then feudal castles as well. To this very day this area rich in architectural remains of numerous castles, prehistoric settlements from the Bronze Age is proclaimed the Ancient Monuments. The **sea is only 5 km away** from the main square - the Church of St Zenon, patron saint of Brtonigla - and can be easily reached by bike. Brtonigla has always lived with and from agriculture. In fact, this area is very well known in Istria for its wine makers, olive growers and good Istrian food.

PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS



ACCOMODATION

Volunteers will be hosted in a private accommodation (two floors apartment) located in the centre of Brtonigla (close to the Church of St Zenon and 2 min of walk from the office).

The apartment is fully furnished and equipped and consists of 2 bedrooms, 1 living room, 1 bathroom, and a fully equipped kitchen. Volunteers will share bedrooms (2 volunteers per bedroom). If necessary, there is the possibility to make the living room a bedroom.



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TRANSPORT

As local transport is very limited, volunteers will have at their disposal a car. The costs of the fuel for the car will be counted in the monthly allowance. Their responsibility is to take care about the car and wash it regularly.

LANGUAGE COURSES:

Formal language training (Croatian and Italian) will be provided twice per week, while by communicating with the local population they will be able to learn the language in a spontaneous, informal way.

TRAVEL COSTS:

The tickets from home to the venue of the project will be reimbursed to the volunteers upon their arrival. Reimbursements are calculated using the **DISTANCE CALCULATOR** supported by the European Commission. In case the cost of the travel will be higher than the amount available (check table below), participant have to cover the difference by their own.

Participants travel costs (per person) - round trip

COUNTRY	DISTANCE BAND	REIMBURSEMENT AVAILABLE FOR 1 VOLUNTEER (RETURN TICKETS)
ITALY	500 - 1999 KM	275.00
CZECH REPUBLIC	100 - 499 KM	180.00
GERMANY	500 - 1999 KM	275.00
MACEDONIA	500 - 1999 KM	275.00



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MONTHLY ALLOWANCE:

Pocket money will be given to the volunteers once per a month in the amount of 90 Euro. Additionally to the pocket money they will receive the money for food and fuel for the car (local transport). LDA will also cover all the costs for the activities: task-related, linguistic and personal support, mentor, accommodation, food, administration/communication, etc.

Preparation of the volunteers: arranging insurance, staying in contact with the volunteer, evaluation, follow-up, administration, and communication will be covered by the sending organization.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

STEP 1: Candidates will be asked to carefully prepare:

- Curriculum Vitae (Europass format)
- Motivation Letter

STEP 2: Send all documents to the coordinating person of your sending organisation (SO) **until 10th July 2016**

GERMANY - **Open Door International e.V.**

Contact: linda@opendoorinternational.de

MACEDONIA - **Mladiinfo International**

Contact: centar@mladiinfo.eu

ITALY - **Associazione Protezione Civile Gruppo Lucano**

Contact: cooperazione@pcgl.it

CZECH REPUBLIC - **Mladiinfo ČR, z.s.**

Contact: marketa@mladiinfo.cz

STEP 3: A first selection will be made by the SO's until **15th of July**. The SO will contact all volunteers who fulfil basic expectations and the HO will communicate with them through Internet, discussing possibilities and opportunities (skype interviews). The volunteer will be selected according to his/her motivation to work with LDA and according to the skills they have (see "volunteer profile").

The recruitment process will be concluded until **31st July 2016**.

For further information please contact us at: info@lda-verteneglio.hr

Good luck with the selection process!