

## CALL FOR PARTNERS

### Erasmus+: KA2 – Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

United Societies of Balkans is looking for partners for a project proposal for a **KA2** – Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices, that is planning to submit to the **Greek National Agency** on R3 2020 deadline. The main theme of the project is **online volunteering** and the project will run for 24 months, having 1 IO. The deadline to answer to this call is **28/08/2020**.

We are looking for partner organisation who are working closely in the fields of volunteering (EVS/ESC, local volunteers, online volunteering, etc.) and who already have experience working with youngsters with fewer opportunities directly.

## PROPOSAL SUMMARY

This project will explore alternative forms of volunteering, map out good practices followed by organisations with a large pool of volunteers, and promote the **adoption of online volunteering** as a tool for social inclusion, improved provision of basic and **transversal skills** for the volunteers while reducing disparities in accessing and engaging with non formal education. Especially in circumstances similar to those prevailing during pandemics such as that of **COVID-19**, online volunteering can strengthen young people's sense of initiative, giving them opportunities to be active and broaden their horizons, even if they are practicing social distancing or cannot participate in traditional volunteering activities.

**Aims:** 1) Supporting opportunities for all, in acquiring and developing key competences, including basic skills through online volunteering, fostering employability, personal development and active participation in civic and social life, creating the conditions for transition of young people to adulthood.

2) Support youth workers and youth organisations in developing and sharing effective methods in reaching out to marginalised young people through the internet, addressing the risks and opportunities of digitalisation, fostering active citizenship, volunteering and solidarity among young people with fewer opportunities

### Target Groups:

Primary: Youth workers and people working in youth NGOs, practitioners working directly with youngsters with fewer opportunities or with marginalised communities, NGOs from other sectors with or without volunteers, coordinators/mentors of volunteers

Secondary: youngsters who cannot or do not want to participate in traditional volunteering vacancies, youngsters with fewer opportunities, youngsters practicing social distancing

The project will include the creation of **1 Intellectual Output, 1-2 mobility activities and 3 Transnational Partner Meetings.**

## PRIORITIES

**Horizontal:** Innovative practices in the digital era

**Youth:** 1) Promoting quality, innovation and recognition of youth work

2) Promoting engaging, connecting and empowering young people

## THE ROLE OF PARTNERS

- W Take active participation in all project phases from the preparation and implementation of project activities to the dissemination, monitoring and evaluation
- W Select and send a motivated group of participants according to the agreed profile in the mobilities of the project (possibly: a Training Course for coordinators of volunteers working in organisations, as well as a Blended Mobility)
- W Appoint a project management team who will be responsible for smooth and timely communication with USB, participating in 3 TPMs and virtual meetings
- W Contribute for ensuring visibility of the project and disseminating the project idea, results and activities on your websites, blogs, mailing lists and social media networks before, during and after the project completion
- W Be ready to organise with selected participants follow-up activities after the mobilities or activities connected to the Intellectual Output of the project (such as piloting activities with local youngsters) or Local Multiplier Events in form of local workshops, activities, and presentations of project results.
- W Working on the creation of the Intellectual Output of the project, with the collaboration of all project partners, including the dissemination and monitoring of the outputs
- W Leading a Work Package, hosting a mobility or/and a Transnational Partners Meeting

## WANT TO BE OUR PARTNER?

If you want to take part in the project and agree with your role and responsibilities as partner organisation, then please send us a fully filled **Partner Identification Form** (including the OID) to [evolunteering.usb@gmail.com](mailto:evolunteering.usb@gmail.com) with subject line "Partnership for KA2 E-Volunteering".

**Deadline for answering the call: 28/08/2020**

## WHO WE ARE?

United Societies of Balkans (U.S.B.) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization based in Thessaloniki, Greece working in the field of youth mobility, participation and facilitating society's awareness about social issues, inclusion and understanding. The vision and aim of the organisation is the promotion of youth empowerment, participation in the economic and political life, youth mobility, voluntarism and human rights.

Key areas of the organisation's activities concern the defence of human rights and the intercultural dialogue, the organisation of youth related projects such as youth exchanges and training courses, which can bring young people from Balkans and Europe together, and the organisation of local interventions, campaigns, researches, seminars and multimedia productions. It envisions a global and inclusive society, where citizens are equally empowered to contribute in the shaping of a world with less prejudice, discrimination and other forms of injustice.

The organization has a very rich experience in organizing international activities and gives the opportunity to local youngsters and people to meet and interact with other people from Europe. It has implemented successfully more than 60 youth and other projects about many different subjects, having hosted more than 3,000 people in Greece. Moreover it has been involved in more than 1000 youth projects and has prepared and sent around 2,500 youngsters abroad to youth mobility projects. USB is also a very active organisation in the field of voluntarism and especially in European Voluntary Service (EVS) and now European Solidarity Corps. Since 2009 it has hosted 200 volunteers in projects of 10 months or short term and has sent 100 volunteers abroad. Since 2016 it has created a network of 10 different NGOs in the city of Thessaloniki where it coordinates volunteer projects.

United Societies of Balkans believes in networking and the creation of long lasting synergies and has been a member organisation of UNITED for Intercultural Action, Salto-Youth, Thess Network-regional NGO network, FERYP (Forum of European Roma Young People), Anna-Lindh Foundation (co-head of the Greek National Network), Youth for Exchange and Understanding (YEU International), Youth Express Network (YEN), Butterfly Dreamer and DYPALL (Developing Youth Participation at Local Level), Great Silk Way International Youth Union, ENTER network, Youth Networks.