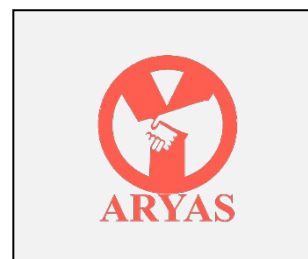


PARTNER IDENTIFICATION FORM

We Shape a Piece of Future!



IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Name	ARYAS NGO
PIC	918507454
OID	E10039696
Legal status	NGO / Association
Commercial Orientation	Non-Profit
Public Body	No
Main sector of activity	Offering participation in youth-led events and youth participation activities
Address	Albeștii de Argeș, Dobroțu, No. 289
Country	Romania
City	Curtea de Argeș
Website	www.aryas.ro
Facebook page	www.facebook.com/aryas.ngo/
Instagram page	www.instagram.com/aryas.ngo/
Email	contact@aryas.ro

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE

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Brief presentation of our organisation

ARYAS NGO is an independent association which took birth in 2015 when a group of people expresses their willingness to contribute on the building of a stronger, more educated and more open society in Romania and in Europe.

Our Mission: To contribute to personal, social and civic development of people.

Our Vision: We shape a piece of future!

From 2021, ARYAS NGO is accredited in the field of youth, under the Erasmus+ Program.

The specific objectives of the association are:

- Supporting the personal, educational, and professional development of young people;
- Promoting environmental protection;
- Supporting young people with fewer opportunities in their personal development and facilitating their inclusion in society and the job market;
- Fighting for human rights, social, cultural, and interreligious dialogue, gender equality, and equality in general;
- Promoting empathy, tolerance, and inclusion of marginalized young people in society;
- Promoting entrepreneurship as a means of supporting creativity and proactivity in the workplace;
- Encouraging a healthy lifestyle through sports and nutrition;
- Supporting young artists in the development of their skills and creativity;
- Promote European Union, democracy and peace.

The principles that guide us are: Involvement and Volunteering, Impartiality and Unity. ARYAS was created out of a desire to get involved in society by carrying out volunteer-based activities, without any material interest. The activities we implementing are apolitical and open to everyone, without any discrimination based on nationality, race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, social origin, personality, or level of education. The principle of unity underscores the idea of peace, cooperation, and inclusion, encouraging tolerance, justice, solidarity, and the fight against discrimination. Our values are in line with European values and promote respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and human rights.

Our target group is represented by young people aged 7 to 30 years old, coming from diverse backgrounds, including young people with fewer opportunities who face geographical difficulties (rural, disadvantaged urban areas), economic obstacles (young people with financial difficulties, recipients of social assistance, young people with parents working abroad, unemployed), educational challenges (early school dropouts or poor academic performance), and social obstacles (young people who are marginalized or excluded from

society, young people coming from disorganised or single-parent families, member of a social or ethnical minority group).

In terms of geographical distribution, the association's activities are predominantly carried out in the north of the Argeş county, specifically in the area of the town of Curtea de Argeş and the surrounding villages, however, we never exclude collaborations on a national or international level that broaden this area, as long as they meet our objectives and align with the principles and values that we promote.

ARYAS pursue its goals by planning and organizing multiple learning activities and events such as youth exchanges, training courses, strategic partnerships, creativity and hiking camps, community-building programs, etc. which gather young people, trainers, youth workers, policy makers, experts, and volunteers with different levels of competences and succeed to make them to work together towards common objectives and foster their personal and professional development. All of our activities are designed to promote intercultural dialogue, active citizenship, social inclusion, and sustainable development, while also providing participants with opportunities to gain new skills, broaden their perspectives, and connect with others from diverse backgrounds.

The organization's activities are based on a non-formal education approach, experiential and intercultural learning, social inclusion and active participation.

Activities and experience of the organization

Among the activities carried out by ARYAS association, we mention the following: educational projects for the development of young people and youth workers (e.g. youth exchanges, training courses, seminars, workshops, etc.); organizational development and national and international cooperation activities; awareness-raising and development of public policies (e.g. social and civic campaigns, discussions and partnerships with local decision-makers for community development); sporting competitions and mountain hikes; activities promoting the European Union and European opportunities for young people; creation camps - painting, sculpture, art, and traditional crafts.

The organization is active in the field of youth education both as host and partner. We strive to work on local and international projects and cover a broad range of themes and topics that meet the needs of our target group. The focus of our work is mainly on ecology and sustainability, youth participation, intercultural understanding, active citizenship, sport and healthy lifestyle, community development, art and culture and digitalisation.

Until today, we participated as a partner in more than 40 Erasmus+ projects on topic like – EU citizenship, EU awareness and democracy; inclusion and equity; ICT and digital competencies; health and well-being; environment and climate change; gender equality;

creativity and cultures etc.; established international partnerships with over 50 NGOs and youth informal groups in Europe, and provided the opportunity for over 200 young people and youth workers to participate in training and skill development courses in various fields in an international, multi-cultural and inclusive setting.

As a coordinator, ARYAS joined the Erasmus+ program in 2018, with a youth exchange - PANDA (Prevent And Neutralize Discriminatory Attitude), whose objective was to reduce discrimination among young people. In 2019, we carried out the second youth exchange - PICS (Pictures Inspires Civil Society), a project aimed at increasing social inclusion among young people with the help of photography, completed with a socially impactful photographic exhibition at the Curtea de Argeş Municipal Museum. During the pandemic, ARYAS is carried out 4 international projects - 3 youth exchanges and a youth worker mobility, on diverse topics such as environmental protection (ECONecting the world), human rights in the digital environment (Data Rights are Human Rights), developing the skills of young people with reduced opportunities from the rural environment, through theatre (Strengthening Rural Youth through Theatre), and physical and mental health (Mens Sana - TC) – the last one being implemented, with great success, in the virtual environment.

At the beginning of 2021, ARYAS received the Erasmus+ accreditation in the field of youth with a strategy focused on environmental sustainability and the development of young people in rural areas. In this regard, we have implemented until now two Training Courses and two Youth Exchanges, aimed at empowering young people and youth workers with the skills and knowledge necessary to address environmental challenges and become agents of positive change in their communities.

Last but not least, ARYAS has implemented 2 participatory activities aimed at increasing civic awareness among young people and reducing Euroscepticism. These activities were designed to encourage young people to engage with political and social issues and to become more informed and active citizens. Additionally, as part of these activities, ARYAS organized a visit to the EU institutions in Brussels, which provided participants with the opportunity to learn more about the EU and its role in shaping policy and decision-making. The goal of these activities was to promote a more inclusive and engaged society, where young people feel empowered to make a positive impact and have a voice in shaping their future.

At the national level, the ARYAS carries out a lot of other activities. Since our establishment, we have successfully organized four national painting camps, multiple traditional art exhibitions and dozens of painting, sculpture, art and craft courses for young people in the target group (the majority at risk of exclusion / disadvantaged and rural areas etc.).

Also, together with the volunteers from the team, we work together with young people from high schools and schools in Curtea de Argeş and surroundings - on topics of entrepreneurship, leadership, active citizenship, media, healthy lifestyle, environment, European consciousness, inclusion, human rights, personal development, etc. both online and offline.

In addition to the mentioned activities, we have continuously tried to develop the organizational capacity of the association, thus our youth workers actively participated in the training sessions to continuously develop our organizational skills, learning and teaching methods, knowledge and motivation to carry out effective projects with significant and sustainable results.

Information on the key staff competences and experience

We are a group of professionals, educators and youth workers with experience in community development and educational activities for young people.

Our enthusiastic members and volunteers possess a wide range of qualifications and competences, like (but not limited to): nonformal education training, project management, linguistics abilities, social psychology, statistics and databases, IT & electronics, environment protection, entrepreneurship, EU regulations, Erasmus+ programs, etc.

Victor Drăgan, the president of our organisation, is a graduate of the Faculty of Law, Victor showed an inclination towards volunteering, civic and social involvement since high school, getting involved as a volunteer in ATE „Călțun” - UNESCO Club in Curtea de Argeș. Since then, more than 15 years have passed, during which Victor acquired a vast experience in working with young people, both as a volunteer and as a trainer. He is a connoisseur of non-formal learning methods, acquired by participating in numerous training courses, both in the country and abroad.

Damian Minculescu - Involved in working with young people since 2011, as a volunteer of the Association ATE „Călțun” - UNESCO Club from Curtea de Argeș. He participated in youth exchanges, youth initiatives and trainings under Youth in Action where he developed numerous skills like teamwork, communication, problem-solving, leadership, intercultural competence and many others. Between 2014-2018 he was a volunteer for the Student League Electronists from Bucharest, for 4 years interacted with over 1000 volunteers and was on the team for organizing important events: LanParty 2016/2017, Admission Simulation, Run for Life, PoliFEST, The Bulls Ball. Since 2016 an active member of ARYAS and a trainer for our volunteers. Graduate of Faculty of Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technology at UPB, currently an engineer in the team of a multinational where he interacts daily with people from different international cultures.

Adrian Dobrin is one of the founding members and financially responsible of our NGO. Former Director of the Argeș County Directorate of Statistics, he holds certificates in Training of Trainers, Process Management, Human Resource Management, Risk Management and extensive experience in working with young people and adults. Starting in 2016, he started to be actively involved in volunteering and NGO work, especially in the

field of education, both for youth and adults. During these years, he trained around 400 people on topics such as entrepreneurship, project management, online security and digitalization.

Cristiana Onea graduated from the Faculty of History in 2018 and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in European Project Management at the Lucian Blaga Faculty of Engineering. She has extensive experience working with young people and has participated in various youth development projects, including ecology, history, human rights, digital education, and inclusion. Cristiana has participated in Youth Exchanges and Courses for Youth Workers through programs such as Youth in Action and Erasmus+. She also has experience in media and European funds, having worked as a Consultant in European Funds at SCG Development Consultancy Group in 2018. Her studies and experiences have equipped her with significant knowledge in the field of Human Rights, which she has a special interest in. Cristiana is actively involved in promoting and defending European values, social inclusion, and anti-discriminatory attitudes among young people.

Alexandros Kostoglous is a multi-faceted individual with a diverse range of skills and experiences. As a historian, he has a deep understanding of the past and the ways in which it has shaped the present. As a civic activist, he is committed to promoting positive change in his community, advocating for social justice and environmental protection.

In addition to his work as a historian and activist, Alexandros is also an ecologist, bringing a scientific and sustainable perspective to his work. He has extensive experience working with children, young people, and adults, using non-formal methods such as hands-on learning and interactive activities to engage and educate.

In his work with communities, Alexandros serves as an educational mentor, sharing his knowledge and skills to help others grow and develop. He is dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of those around him, and his commitment to excellence and service is evident in everything he does.