

CALL FOR EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE (EVS)

Through this Call we offer a European Voluntary Service to volunteers and sending organizations in case they should be interested in participating in our project. The volunteer service we offer is related to education, learning, youth integration, group dynamics and others, all of them taking place in Rijeka, Croatia.

In this call we offer one EVS project for up to 5 volunteers and duration of six months. The dates are: from the beginning of June 2015 until the end of December 2015.

The EVS project is summarized in the following table:

Name of the EVS project	International Mobility Campus
Host and coordinating organization	Regional Youth Info Centre Rijeka - "UMKI"
Location	Rijeka, CROATIA
Duration and dates	6 months: June to December 2015
Number of volunteers	1 to 5
Accommodation and type	Yes, shared flat with other European volunteers.
Croatian course	Yes, adapted to the volunteer's level.
Timetable	30 hours, 5 days a week, approximately 6 hours per day; flexible working hours.
Volunteer requirements	<p>We welcome everyone who is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hardworking, • resourceful, • versatile • prone to improvisation, • willing to learn, • taking initiative, • Responsible, • independent, • flexible, • kind, • capable of working in a multicultural, environment and

- with a great imagination
- Volunteers with fewer opportunities (geographical and economic) will be prioritized.

Themes of the EVS project

The volunteer can choose to learn and work in one of five programs and also a possibility to learn and engage in more than one. Volunteers may choose any of the various project activities within our organization. They are divided into five different areas:

1. Regional Youth Info Center – Improve skills such as working with youth, social media, learning how to write articles for Youth info portal, and learning about Eurodesk.

2. Youth Club – working with computers and other technical equipment (projector, scanner...), learning how to give technical support to other young people and transmitting knowledge about it. Meeting volunteers and participating in workshops and lectures. Gaining practical experience on how the library works, supporting youth events.

3. Discrimination within Sports – getting familiar with discriminatory symbols; comparison of football supporters in different countries, gathering additional knowledge about prevention of discrimination and racism in sport, learning useful skills about organizing the Futsal league (20 teams, 5 team members each) and similar sports events on larger scale, becoming a part of a global campaign for football people action week in cooperation with FARE, gaining knowledge of how does an international network such as FARE works across Europe.

4. Youth policies – participation in the organization of the youth conferences in partnership with local authorities and youth organizations, getting information about needs of young people from our local communities, working in developing local youth policies, conducting structural dialog.

5. Social entrepreneurship – inclusion into local community through working with people with disabilities (Multiple Sclerosis). Improving skills in youth work, working with high school students, etc.

The volunteer will also have the opportunity to take part in excursions and, develop their own project with our technical and any other support.

Volunteer application

Send CV, contact details, Motivation letter (in Croatian or English), and Sending organization EI-Reference number to:

umki@umki.hr

Dateline for the reception of the volunteer application: **15 March 2015**. (that day included)

Communication of the selected volunteers: **1 April 2015**



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For more detailed information continue reading;

- a) **About the Host and coordinating organization.**
- b) **About the location: Rijeka, Croatia.**
- c) **About EVS.**
- d) **About the EVS Project.**
- e) **About the selection process.**

a) ABOUT THE HOST AND COORDINATING ORGANIZATION

Regional Youth Info Center Rijeka (Regionalni info centar za mlade Rijeka „UMKI“) is an NGO situated in coastal city called Rijeka, Croatia. The organization was founded 15 years ago and the main goal is to develop and implement projects aimed at improving the totality of life for young people (aged 15 to 30), in general with an emphasis on youth with fewer opportunities, ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities. Furthermore we organize public youth actions; provide youth information and counseling services, online and offline databases (web portal: ngo-portal.eu; support for the visibility of NGOs in Croatia), provide technical assistance and resources for youth projects conducted by youth and youth organizations, discrimination in sport and youth policies on local and national level.

All together we have 9 employees and 10 external associates.

The bodies of the organization are: The Assembly (as the highest body) with 20 members, the Steering Committee counting 3 members, the President of the organization and of steering Committee, the Executive Director of the organization, the Secretary of the organization and Advisory body.

Depending on the needs of the projects, we have short term volunteers approximately 15 - 60 volunteers per year (people with minor physical disability, with mental issues, Roma people, former drug addicts, homeless people, students, minors).

Our organization implements various activities within 5 areas:

We are the first Regional Youth Info Center in Croatia and we helped to establish three youth regional info centers in three different counties; Istra County, Karlovac County and Lika-Senj County. Afterward, with our supervision, they managed to continue establishing local info centers in our region and support of local government based on signed Charter on partnership regarding youth policies with 14 cities within our County and region. For 4 years we are EURODESK multipliers and as members of their network, through our regional youth info portal (www.info-mladi.info), we provide relevant and useful information for young people.



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Youth club is covering vast programs; some of them are EU&NGO library, volunteering club, incubator for youth (organizations) providing technical support (access to free Wi-Fi, scanning, printing, copying), technical support for other NGOs (space, tables, chairs, equipment...), weekly youth radio show SONDA, organizing quality leisure time (yoga, meditation, healthy lifestyles, dancing, art workshops, ...)

Discrimination within sports mainly deals with fight against any form of discrimination, racism and violence. For many years we have been cooperating with FARE and FSE implementing and sharing good practices in that field as national coordinators within their network. In 2013 we conducted a research among students in high schools about their perception of violence in sport. Throughout the entire year we organize a Futsal - indoor soccer league with a goal of supporting and promoting recreation and healthy lifestyle, influencing youth discrimination prevention.

Since 2006 we are actively involved in the field of youth policies and from 2011. in structural dialog throughout our project Let the local voices be heard! Our goal is to provide young people opportunity to actively participate in the democratic life of the community at the local level. Through empowerment of young people as well as decision makers in local government, we are trying to raise awareness about the rights, opportunities and needs of young people across the county. What is even more important is their networking and establishment of local info-centers and youth clubs so that young people can have greater access to activities, planning and decision-making on issues that are directly and / or indirectly related to them.

Within 15 years, since the organization was founded, we had 6 social entrepreneurial projects. Main goal of these projects is to help marginalized social groups, such as people with disabilities, former drug addicts, unemployed young people, and minorities. In the past 10 years, our organization donated over 570.000 kunas to organizations and institutions in need.

b) ABOUT THE LOCATION: RIJEKA (CROATIA)

Rijeka is a port city, an industrial and economical center with the population of 128.624, which makes it a third largest city in Croatia. It is located on Kvarner Bay, an inlet of the Adriatic Sea and on one side has sea and islands, and on the other side there are mountains. Not more than an hour from the city center there are borders with Slovenia and Italy.

In this year city of Rijeka is applying for the European Capital of Culture. In addition to that, this year the city of Rijeka won the title of the most transparent city.

Rijeka is proud on the Croatian National Theatre "Ivan pl. Zajc", first built in 1765, as well as the University of Rijeka, founded in 1973 but with roots dating back to 1632. Since 2010 Rijeka has a University campus.

Apart from Croatian, the population also uses its own unique version of the Venetian language (Fiumano), with an estimated 20,000 speakers among the autochthon Croats and various minorities.

A big impact of Italy and Hungary is visible in every corner of the city, which makes Rijeka a city with very rich history.

The oldest traces of human presence in today's Rijeka area date back to the Paleolithic and Neolithic periods, and the remnants of prehistoric castles (Solin above Martinšćica, Trsatski brijeg and Veli vrh – Gradišće above the Rječina River) to the Bronze and Iron Ages. Such settlement dominated over Rijeka's Bay and protected the port as early as during the period of Illyrian (Liburnian) habitation.

The Romans moved the residential centre closer to the sea, right from the confluence of the Rječina River into the Adriatic, on the site of the present Old Town. Numerous archaeological finds (the foundations of the Roman walls, the walls of buildings, the remnants of the Roman baths, Roman doors) are proof of the urban level of Roman Tarsatica.

Today, Rijeka is a student oriented city with young people who are open-minded and tolerant. Rijeka is also well known for its underground rock scene. In the same street that our office is, there is a famous rock club called Palach. It is called after a young Czech student Jan Palach who burned himself as a sign of protest. Also in the city center there are lots of club's where young people can go hang out and meet.

c) ABOUT THE EVS

Our Regional youth info center can accommodate up to 5 EVS volunteers. It's an opportunity for them to get to know the Croatian culture and traditions as well as the European ones, especially for those who come from other non-European countries.

The volunteers will be accompanied at every moment, and will receive the guidance and counseling of the persons responsible for them in the association. They will be in contact with other young people of our organization. This will help them to integrate themselves in the local community in the best conditions. They will have a mentor assigned, who will help and guide them, as well as other persons (supervisor and coordinator) who will support them in the different projects they decide to participate in.

In case of necessity, the volunteers have the possibility to take an intensive Croatian language course.

The volunteers have a shared flat to their disposition; it is in the city center in the same building as it is the office space of the Regional Youth Info Centre. The flat offers wi-fi internet, individual studios, with a shared kitchen and bathroom. The flat will be shared with young people of diverse origin and occupations.

Before the project realization, we will also contact volunteers frequently to avoid any crisis. They receive information about the AXA insurance. During the activity, they are supported by the tutor, supervisors and program manager. After the activity there will be a session to prepare the evaluation and dissemination of the results as well as to prepare the volunteers for their return trip to their



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countries. We try to foresee crisis and take the necessary measures to avoid them. Usually, crisis can be solved. The aim is always the welfare of volunteers. All crises up to now have been solved favorably and have shown us to avoid new ones.

d) ABOUT THE EVS PROJECT

Project International Mobility Campus is a unique project offering volunteers opportunity to work in diverse, dynamic environment, on various activities using different methods and services, supporting youth and raising quality of life in local community.

The presence of the European volunteers themselves, contributes to the tolerance and awareness of youth towards foreign nations, and supports the very idea of the European Voluntary Service.

Our plan is to host 1 volunteer per program, who can either work during the project in that particular area, but is possible for all volunteers to rotate in order to gain experience in all 5 programs, or a field in which we work. We can host up to 5 EVS volunteers.

1. Regional Youth Info Center - Improve skills such as working with youth, social media, learning how to write articles for web portal, learning about Eurodesk, radio show, public speech etc.
2. Youth Club – working with computers and other technical equipment (projector, scanner...), learning how to give technical support to other young people and transmitting knowledge about it. Meeting volunteers and participating in workshops and lectures. Gaining practical experience on how the library works
3. Discrimination within Sports - getting familiar with discriminatory symbols; comparison of football supporters in different countries, gathering additional knowledge about prevention of discrimination and racism in sport, becoming a part of a global campaign for football people action week in cooperation with FARE, gaining knowledge of how does an international network such as FARE works across Europe
4. Youth policies - participation in the organization of the youth conferences in partnership with local authorities and youth organizations, getting information about needs of young people from our local communities.
5. Social entrepreneurship - inclusion into local community through working with people with disabilities (Multiple Sclerosis). Improving skills in youth work and working with high school students. Learning how to organize the Futsal league (20 teams, 5 team members each) and similar sports events on larger scale.

For the European volunteer service, the volunteers can choose in which of our projects they want to participate in, taking into account their motivation and interests.

Work plan for volunteers is: 30 hours, 5 days a week with flexible working hours.

If they wish to have specific working hours, it is also possible, as long as they finish their task for that week. Weekly volunteer schedule in the attachment!

Example of workweek of a volunteer

One workweek of a volunteer who is for example working on project which is in the social entrepreneurship (the goals of the project are raising awareness and informing high school children about the multiple sclerosis illness, promoting the organization that works with disabled people and also promoting volunteering in the local community. Our partnering organization trough this project wants to achieve sustainability.).

Monday	Working in the Info Center, occasionally on info stand on Korzo (main pedestrian street)
Tuesday	Managing organizations social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, web portal, Youtube)
Wednesday	Working in the Youth Club (for example: EU&NGO library)
Thursday	Working on a radio show (going to the radio station)
Friday	Preparations for Futsal league

Volunteers will also have their own supervisor, with whom they will work every day, who will give those tasks, and all the questions related to work, they will discuss with their supervisor

For the language support, the volunteers will have Croatian language course, and organized thematic evening connected to the Croatian culture and customs, as well as also cultures and countries from which volunteers come...

Also volunteers will have an opportunity to organize their own events and develop small projects on the topics they are interested in, with all our help and resources (for example: if volunteer would like to organize an art show, our organization would help them with finding the best gallery for exhibitions, we would also help with promotion, printing flyers, etc.

e) ABOUT THE SELECTION PROCESS.

Open to any adult young person, the selection process will be transparent. We have an open call through e-mail, and European channels (Salto, Otlas, Eurodesk). Candidates shall send a CV, motivation letter and contact details to umki@umki.hr before the 15 March 2015 (that day included). It may be written in Croatian or English.



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A multidisciplinary team integrated by mentors, supervisors, present volunteers and directives will assess the merits and motivations of each candidate, and will select the most appropriate one for the vacancy. We follow the rule that EVS should be a unique enriching experience for the volunteer as well as a contribution for the project.

The selected volunteers will be contacted and the definite resolution communicated the 1 of April 2015.

Volunteers with fewer geographical or economic opportunities are a priority.