

## ABOUT ACT

Association Communities for Youth is a NGO acting in City of Bailesti South West Oltenia region of Romania. ACT mission is to develop, implement and support youth development programs built around the concepts of lifelong learning, mobility and associativity. ACT works to empower young people to participate actively in society to improve their own lives. The aim of this empowerment is to establish a wide-based community movement which encourages the positive involvement of young people in solving issues which affect them, treating them as resources, not as problems.

- [Our EVS Database Entry](#)
- [Our Facebook Page](#)

## Open Call for the - Language ACTS - *group EVS project*

Through this **Open Call** the organization Association Communities for Youth - **ACT** is looking for **Volunteers** for the **Language ACTs** project

Type of project: Mobility for youth – **European Voluntary Service**

Venue: City of **Craiova, Dolj county**, South West part of **Romania**

EVS Stage Duration: **01-February-2018 – 01-August-2018**

How many volunteers: **5 volunteers** in total coming from Italy, Spain, Germany and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Profile of the Volunteer we seek:

- Aged between **18 to 30 years**
- **active, open-minded, creative, innovative, responsible and motivated volunteers**
- The volunteers who apply for this project need to **like and be willing to work with youth** for 6 months.
- The volunteers of this project should, above all else, show willingness to **learn** and see their **EVS experience** as a **learning process**.
- **Basic level of English** (being able to make herself/himself understood by the others – able to communicate).

TL;DR - This is a long read, here is the shortest possible version:

*You will be a volunteer and work with youth for 6 months in Craiova, Romania.*

*All expenses are covered by us and you will learn a lot and have lots of fun.*

## What will I DO in the Language ACTs project?

The project will consist of a 6 months EVS group activity whose objectives overlap those of the overall objectives of the project. The EVS activity comes within the context of ACT strategy to expand inter-institutional cooperation which develops synergies between formal and non-formal education. This will lead to a strengthening of the quality of educational act that institution provides while generating personal development opportunities for the beneficiaries and volunteers. The activities of the EVS come in direct response to the proposed objectives of the project. The daily activities that will be organized and implemented throughout the project will directly contribute to the development of skills, competences and attitudes for both the volunteers (through the process of planning, preparing, implementing, working with professional support) as well as the young beneficiaries (as a result of the educational nature and objectives of each non-formal activity).

The activity is set to take place in :

- Henry Coanda Theoretical high school
- CN Nicolae Titulescu

### GENERAL OBJECTIVE

**Develop language competences and intercultural awareness for both volunteers and beneficiaries by using non-formal methods.**

The implementation phase of the project will be structured in 3 main phases or activities: Preparation, Language and culture development programme and Evaluation, the main activity being the formal Language and culture development programme.

**Phase1:** The first phase will take place in the first 2 months of the project in which ACT organizes and prepares the project implementation team, coordinates the pre-departure training; identifies and selects the volunteers; preparation & training mentors; settles details with local partners.

**Phase 2.** Language and culture development programme

This project activity will be the core of the project and consists of a 6 months EVS stage for 5 volunteers who will be working on language development in 2 high schools from Craiova and will overlap with the volunteers' EVS stage. It will start with a 3 weeks long Capacity Building programme. Week 1 will focus on games that stimulate the team building process and get to know each other, project understanding (objectives, roles, responsibilities, activities,

rules to be followed) non formal education training(animation module), discovering Craiova (places to shop, cultural landmarks, public transport).The second week will be dedicated to thematic trainings (Language and communication, youth work, challenges in working with the beneficiaries, best practice examples, needs analysis) and workplace induction(visiting and understanding the institutions and their missions and activities, getting to know the staff, roundtable discussions, discussing with the target group, needs analysis application). The third week will be dedicated to job shadowing (following and observing different staff of the institutions in action, learning by observation while getting adapted to the institution) and developing operational planning (operationalizing the long term objectives, milestones, scheduling, etc.)

The program to be implemented will be:

**1. Promoting Interculturality programme:** will contain activities such as cultural presentations, workshops on traditional arts&crafts, traditional dances and music

**2. Multilingualism development programme:** as language clubs in the intuitions and schools that use non-formal methods (games, workshops, movies, songs, role-pays etc.) to help the participant learn or strengthen their ability to speak other languages (English, Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese)

The 2 programmes will be implemented in the 2 partner schools after the regular school program has finished. The main method used for the 2 programmes will be the initiation, organization and assuring an activity program for Language and culture clubs where students will come and do different non-formal activities with the volunteer in order to learn about other cultures and improve their language skills. There will be 5 such clubs :

1. Intermediate English language and culture club- for those who already have a good level of English

2. Beginners English language and culture club- for those who are just starting to learn the language

3. Intermediate Spanish language and culture club- for those who already have a good level of Spanish

4. Beginners Spanish language and culture club- for those who are just starting to learn the language

5. Beginners German language and culture club- there will be no intermediate club for German since no students are advanced enough for it

All of the programs and activities will take place after the normal school schedule has finished.

**3. Evaluation and follow-up** phase will take place in the last month of the project and will be aimed at evaluating the project objectives achievement, the impact of the activities and planning the follow-up activities to the project. In this phase the organization will evaluate reuniting staff, volunteers, mentors, staff of the institutions and other stakeholders.

The above mentioned activities are the general overview but **each volunteer has the opportunity to propose, implement and carry on new types of activities bases on previous experiences, personal**

preferences, skills and abilities and well as have direct control over the methods used to implement the activities.

## What will I learn in the Language ACTs project?

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Our methodology of learning by doing or experimenting learning , places the volunteer at the center of his/her learning process and encourages commitment to it. Each volunteer will have a personalized development plan that targets personal skills as well as professional skills, a mentor to help guide the volunteer and a counterpart to guide him in working with the target group in the working institutions.

For the volunteers we aim to contribute to their P&P development, targeting the acquisition of the following competences:

Professional development:

- learn how to identify personal needs of beneficiaries and institutional needs and plan accordingly
- learn how to lead and organize language and culture clubs
- learn specific youth work methods and non-formal teaching methods
- build up skills in the area of youth work and non-formal method. Achieved through planning, designing and implementing activities and programs with the support of ACT and the professionals from the institutions.
- practical skills gained from working directly with youth along side professionals from the partner institutions.
- Learn and develop competences such as planning and evaluations, working with deadlines, working in the NGO sector, social communication learned practically by working together with the staff of ACT in developing plans(short term, long terms),
- learn how to use non-formal games and methodologies to facilitate development in others
- learn to use animation and games to keep youth motivated and engaged while also teaching them something
- learn how to work with different stakeholders with different profiles and objectives
- Gain community management skills by forming and activating clubs in the field of languages and culture
- learn to speak and understand Romanian Language but also other foreign languages(of their peer volunteers) – done directly by weekly language tutoring , indirectly by contact with target group, friends etc.

Personal development:

- live and practice the core EU value
- learn how to interact and manage in another culture while in a multicultural environment.
- gain and develop skills such as team work, leadership, interpersonal communication, planning, goal setting and working with deadlines by working, planning and evaluating activities in an intercultural, highly interconnected and participatory managed team which will create the proper setting for acquisition of this skills.

- learn how to be more tolerant, flexible and adaptable - living and working together with others and also their type of work will require the volunteer to develop such abilities aided by the mentors
- develop their self-confidence, reflection, and increase their personal autonomy.

All throughout the learning process and the project **you will be assisted by the ACT team** and a **personal mentor** in managing what, when and how you learn all these skills.

At the end you will receive a **Youthpass certificate** which is a **European Instrument for recognition and certification of skills** acquired in EVS

## Practical Arrangements & Financial aspects

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Travel: ACT will purchase **flight tickets** while the Sending Organisation will to make sure that the volunteer is well informed, has all documents and gets safely on board.

Local transport: will be **covered by ACT**, upon arrival they will receive info on how to use public transport, a map of the transit lines etc.

Accommodation: ACT will host the volunteers **in rented apartments** in the **city of Craiova**. Each accommodation will assure **good living conditions** (private beds, equipped kitchen and bathroom, heating system, running cold/ hot water, Wi-Fi).

Working programme: working hours are flexible and adapted to the schedule of the target institutions and is usually **3-4 hours/day in with the youngsters and 1-2 hours/day for preparing the activities**.

Each volunteer is entitled to receiving **2 free days/week** (typically weekends but in case that an activity requires work on the weekend the volunteer will be free in the next days) and a total of **12 days of vacation in the project** that you can use as you want.

Language support: The volunteers receive Romanian language lessons **2 sessions per week for the first 4 months and 1 session per week** for the rest of the project.

Communication: each volunteer will receive a **Romanian SIM cards** for mobile phones which will be recharged monthly

Financial aspects: International travel, local transport, accommodation and utility fees, monthly communication costs, costs related to activities **are covered directly by ACT**.

**Monthly food allowance: 120 euro/month**

**Pocket money: 60 euro/month**

## What support will be available during your EVS?

The mentor will be responsible for **the general personal support of the volunteer**. They are in charge of **solving practical problems** arising being the "first line of support" available. They will be the **volunteer's go-to person for any personal problems** as well as being responsible for **guiding the volunteer** through the **learning process**. The mentor will be there to help you identify **learning needs** and **opportunities**, help you **plan** your learning process and help in the **self-evaluation**.

The counterparts (staff from the schools – **teachers/professionals**)-that will be **supporting the volunteers in the actual implementation process of the activities**. They will provide the volunteers with professional support in delivering their activities.

**Additional support** will be offered by ACT in the form **Preparation, Adaptation and Training programme** which is a programme designed to transmit all the necessary skill and abilities for the project focusing on skills and abilities building programme, providing them with methods, tools and materials that will support and facilitate their activities in the project.

## Have we caught your attention? Here`s how to apply!

1. Prepare a **CV**(preferably using the europass model [here](#)) and a **motivation letter**
2. Contact one of our **partner sending organisation** from your corresponding country:
  - **Association Building Bridges Cultural– Spain** – [asociacionbb@gmail.com](mailto:asociacionbb@gmail.com)
  - **Center for Education and Development – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** - [lazar\\_friends@hotmail.com](mailto:lazar_friends@hotmail.com)
  - **Jugendwerk der AWO Württemberg – Germany** - [tekla.fodor@jugendwerk24.de](mailto:tekla.fodor@jugendwerk24.de)
  - **La Vibria Intercultural – Spain** – [info@vibria.org](mailto:info@vibria.org)
  - **Associazione Culturale Link – Italy** - [link@linkyouth.org](mailto:link@linkyouth.org)
3. We will have a **Skype interview** with you
4. We announce if you have been selected and we prepare the paperwork

If you are interested and want more information you can also **CONTACT US AT**

Email: **[iovu.marius.act@gmail.com](mailto:iovu.marius.act@gmail.com)**

Phone: 0040 769 433 989