



Erasmus+



Infopack for the youth exchange

*“Socialize your culture
2.0”*

11th -18th September 2015

Vasto (CH), Italy

Welcome!

Reading these lines means you are interested to be participant of the *International Youth Exchange* “*Socialize your culture 2.0*” organised within the framework of the European Program “Erasmus+: Youth in Action” supported by the European Commission. This Youth Exchange will take place in Vastp, Italy from 11th to 18th September 2015. During this days, we gather 25 participants coming from : *Italy, Croatia, Romania, Cyprus and Slovakia*, in Vasto, Italy.





Description of the Project

Socialize your culture 2.0 is a youth exchange under the Key Action 1 of Erasmus+:youth in action programme which will make youngsters reflect and share about the use of social networks and digital devices for educational purposes, hoping to promote intercultural learning and culture mash-up, for mutual understanding. The project aims to enlarge the use of social media, as good practices in education and peer learning, enhancing several educational processes and flow of information. We also want to use it as a tool to reflect on cultures and to create a fairytale with intercultural features from legends and traditions, to be disseminate in English in every country, to promote it as common language for communication in European Union. The project starts on 01 February, until 01 November 2015 and it will include 6 days of activities in May related to social media and intercultural interaction, where youngsters will learn by doing the use of different software (as freeware ones), devices and media, getting a lot of new features of European cultures. This youth exchange will gather 25 youngsters from 5 youth organization active in the social field from European Union: Italy, Croatia, Romania, Cyprus and Slovakia for some activities hosted by Connect association in Vasto, Italy. Using non-formal education methods and social media education practices, this group of young people will have the great opportunity to cooperate, develop intercultural attitude, reflecting on their potential, acquiring news skills and competences in ICT, learn and share ideas, become more creative and improve their personal and cultural experiences. They will work together on their idea of culture, sharing traditions and legends, producing digital material about cultures and mash-up, preparing an intercultural fairytale in English to be disseminate as good practice for children and youngsters. The project is disseminating itself thanks to digital outcomes and constantly using several social networks and medis, through different devices, highlight the development of digital competences. As outcomes they will have graphics, videos, picture presentation, fanpage, facebook groups, pinterest and a e-leaflet with the project description and the intercultural fairytale. We hope that schools will spread and share our practices with social media education, even proposing them workshops on social network use for several educational purposes.



Methods

The project explores **non-formal education methods and social media tools** to support participants in the learning process, in the beginning with information and online interaction among participants till the meeting days that includes a wide range of activity such as:

- energizers, ice breakers, getting to know each others, social games, outdoor activities, working in small groups, round table, team building activities to build group dynamics;

- cultural nights to discover more about other cultures and countries;
- three types of learning and technologies used, picture your country, Intercultural learning workshop; what about social media?; Reflection on culture; “A country for all”; photo and video sessions; workshop on traditions and myths.
- Erasmus + presentation, discussion on future projects in order to build partnership and cooperation among *NGO*;
- reflection groups, youth pass session and evaluation to reflect on their own learning and get a feedback of the project;



Final Result

Participants will interact on social network most of the time, sharing their presentation, pictures, video and so on. They will prepare all together, with the help of the facilitators, an intercultural fairytale based on different legends and myths of European culture to be mashed up during the activities.



Partners

Italy – Connect association

CONNECT is a youth no-profit association, born as informal group of young volunteers that wish a better society. It promotes youth mobility, non-formal learning, art and culture solidarity, inclusion and active participation in the decision-making process. All our volunteers are interested and experienced in visual, crafting and performing arts both at local and international level. Our association wants to give youngsters the opportunity to discover languages, cultures and countries through exchanges, seminar, events, expo and volunteering to foster social inclusion. Our main aim is to involve young citizens, particularly minorities and migrants, in local, national and European projects, using sport, nature, creativity and non-formal education as tools to help their personal development and to raise awareness of European citizenship values such as cultural diversity, tolerance, ecology, peace, democracy, human rights. Connect works mostly with schools and social services where we propose non-formal education activities and seminars to spread knowledge about civil rights and to promote all European programs but our volunteers are also active members of the Youth Council, so we work in cooperation with the municipality and the Youth Information Centre. We are a group of young motivated people, active in the social field and we take advantage of different activities such as crafting workshops, art expo, creative recycling, tandem appetizers, forum theatre, time banking, environmental campaign, street performances and flash mobs.

Croatia – Udruga gluhih i nagluhih Nova Gradiška

Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Nova Gradiška is a voluntary social and humanitarian, cultural, educational and recreational non-partisan and non-profit organization that brings together all the hearing impaired (deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind), as well as parents of deaf children and adolescents, and promote all aspects of quality of life of hearing impaired persons, in the exercise and protection of their individual and collective interests.

The main objective of the Association is to bring together deaf and hard of hearing people, parents, of children and youth hearing impaired in order to improve their social position, promoting quality of life for deaf and hard of hard of hearing people and the protection of interests. The association acts to overcome the communication barriers that occur in the life of deaf people. Participates in the organization and development of all forms of social life and system of care for deaf people, so they could achieve their rights and obligations, all in the field of universal human rights.

Romania - Asociatia EUVOLUME ROMANIA

The Association aims to identify, debate, analyze and solve specific matters of our community by developing special strategies and programs, training and enhancing citizens associative and professional skills those willing to interact with civil society in Romania, as well as improvement of cooperation between NGOs, central and local public authorities, business area, also other organizations providing activities that might contribute to Brasov county in terms of economic, social, educational, environmental and cultural progress, both countrywide and abroad. We have organized local and international trainings in various fields and Summer camps for youth. Our organization offers general help and advice on matters affecting other organizations; it promote and encourage creativity, diversity, and knowledge propagation among young people by means of educational and cultural exchanges countrywide or abroad for the community development benefit; Inviting and involving young people in association's projects, that's the mission of building a strong, participatory civil society based on engagement and solidarity, culture and art, on democracy and human rights, cooperation and mutual respect.

Cyprus – PlanBe, Plan it Be it

“PlanBe” is a Non Governmental, Non Profit Organization based in Nicosia, Cyprus, managed by a team of youth workers.

Among the main aims of “PlanBe” is contribution to the positive social changes in the society by promoting effective communication, intercultural and intergenerational dialogue, facilitating

understanding among people and establishment of harmonic co-existence. “PlanBe” has been established to support young people from our town within the framework of non formal education. Together with European volunteers we are creating a platform for young people to help them to reach their goals. We are working with and for the youth. We encourage their involvement by facilitating innovative free time activities, stimulating their creativity, developing different skills and sharing information. We support youngsters to use and develop their capacities, and to actively participate in the construction of a united Europe to create one European platform for informal cooperation.

The mission of the organization is to develop non-formal education, entrepreneurship, creativity, environmental consciousness, foster democracy, human rights, to develop solidarity and tolerance among youth. An important priority for “Plan Be” is to give access to all people, including young people with fewer opportunities and fight against discriminations. Furthermore we encourage young people to be active European citizens and to adopt a healthy life style by being involved with sports.

Slovakia - STEP - Society for territorial progress

STEP – Society for territorial progress is association of (not only) young people, an NGO devoted to support regional development of Upper Zemplin region, Slovakia, and to support multicultural communication of young people in various spheres of life. STEP conjugates various kinds of people from every age level, mostly between 16-25 years. These people dedicate their free time, knowledge and attitude to various activities aimed to support tourist traffic, environmental protection and general development of their home region as students, volunteers or regional activists. STEP takes part in various youth projects (mostly youth initiatives and youth exchanges) as hosting but also sending organization. Our NGO cooperates with municipalities of Upper Zemplin region and with LAG Pod Vihorlatom in lots of activities for youth, to help them spend their free time with sport, tourism, and other activities supporting their healthy life style.



Participants

4 participants from each country, aged 18-30 + 1 group leader without age limit

The project would involve young people with fewer opportunities, particularly youngsters from rural areas because it's very important to reach them with information about opportunities and rights given by European programs and it helps the process of enforcement of social cohesion.



Working Language

Working language of this youth exchange is **English** ! Your English doesn't need to be perfect neither is ours! Better a little English than no any language communication at all !



Cultural Night

During the international night you will have the pleasure to promote traditional food, drinks ,music, flags, etc. This something should not be expensive, but something typical and which would allow you to give us an idea about your culture.



Facebook

You can find the official Facebook page of this project here:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Socialize-your-culture-20/835276139892964?fref=ts>

The facebook group of the project is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1148318238515648/>

The official page of our NGO:

<https://www.facebook.com/connectassociation>



Youthpass

Please don't forget to tell us before coming here if you want to receive a YOUTHPASS Certificate.

More about the Youthpass Certificate you can find here:

<http://www.youthpass.eu/en/youthpass/>

Something about Italy



Italy is a unitary parliamentary republic in Southern Europe. To the north, it borders France, Switzerland, Austria, and Slovenia along the Alps. To the south, it consists of the entirety of the Italia Peninsula, Sicily, Sardinia—the two largest islands in the Mediterranean Sea—and many other smaller islands. The independent states of San Marino and the Vatican city are enclaves within Italy. The territory of Italy covers some 301,338 km² (116,347 sq mi) and is influenced by a temperate seasonal climate. With 60.8 million inhabitants, it is the fifth most populous country in Europe, and the 23rd most populous in the world.

Environment

After its quick industrial growth, Italy took a long time to confront its environmental problems. After several improvements, it now ranks 84th in the world for ecological sustainability. National parks cover about five percent of the country. In the last decade, Italy has become one of the world's leading producers of renewable energy, ranking as the world's fourth largest holder of installed solar energy capacity and the sixth largest holder of wind power capacity in 2010. Renewable energies now make up about 12% of the total primary and final energy consumption in Italy, with a future target share set at 17% for the year 2020.

Climate

Thanks to the great longitudinal extension of the peninsula and the mostly mountainous internal conformation, the climate of Italy is highly diverse. In most of the inland northern and central regions, the climate ranges from humid subtropical to humid continental and oceanic. Conditions on

peninsular coastal areas can be very different from the interior's higher ground and valleys, particularly during the winter months when the higher altitudes tend to be cold, wet, and often snowy. The coastal regions have mild winters and warm and generally dry summers, although lowland valleys can be quite hot in summer. **Usually in September the temperature is around 25-18 °C.**

Culture

Italy did not exist as a state until the country's unification in 1861. Because of this comparatively late unification, and the historical autonomy of the regions that comprise the Italian Peninsula, many traditions and customs that are now recognized as distinctly Italian can be identified by their regions of origin. Despite the political and social distinction of these regions, Italy's contributions to the cultural and historical heritage of Europe and the world remain immense. Italy is home to the greatest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites to date, and has rich collections of art, culture and literature from many different periods. The country has had a broad cultural influence worldwide, also because numerous Italians emigrated to other places during the Italian diaspora. Furthermore, the nation has, overall, an estimated 100,000 monuments of any sort (museums, palaces, buildings, statues, churches, art galleries, villas, fountains, historic houses and archaeological remains).

Location



Vasto (Greek: Ἰστώνιον; Latin: Histonium, Istonium, and Histonios; formerly also,

Guastaymonis, Il Vasto, and Il Vasto d'Ammone) is a town and comune on the Adriatic coast of the Province of Chieti in southern Abruzzo, Italy. The population is now just over 40,000.



Accommodation

Participants will be accommodated in small shared houses, in intercultural rooms, divided by gender. The houses will be close to the activity location which is our youth center. A catering will take care of the meals and coffee breaks, please write in the application if you have any allergies, medical requirements or food issues. More information will come once we confirm all the participants.



Your contribution

Each participant will have an active role in the project, according to their willingness to help and their skills, being involved in reporting, logistics, video and photo, leisure time etc.

Each national group will run energizers for at least one day of the project, that means that each group should prepare at least 4 energizers before the arrival, in order to be ready. In case you need help, you can always refer to <https://www.salto-youth.net/tools/toolbox/>

Each group also needs to arrive here with a written legend or myth for their own cultures, translated in English.

WARNING: the project is about social network, so please bring AT LEAST ONE LAPTOP per national group!



Travel cost and info

Italy: self-funded

Croatia: 80 €

Romania: 170 €

Cyprus: 170 €

Slovakia: 170 €

The amount of money allowed doesn't mean that you should spend 'it all, but this is the maximum that can be reimbursed. All participants should try to find the cheapest travel route. The reimbursement of the travel costs will be done upon receiving all tickets and boarding passes.

Please remember that the reimbursement can only be done if we receive all of the original tickets, bills and boarding passes!

The nearest airports are **Rome Ciampino** and **Rome Fiumicino**.

From Rome to Vasto (bus)→ **Di Fonzo**, **Prontobus** and **Di carlo**

Details from Rome Fiumicino to Vasto:

- **DiCarlobus**, Fiumicino Terminal “C” : Round-trip ticket 37,00 €
http://www.passucciviaggi.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=234&Itemid=226
- Rome Fiumicino to Termini (central station) with **Terravision bus** (http://www.terravision.eu/rome_fiumicino.html) 4€. At Termini Station take the metro B up to Tiburtina (ticket 1,50€). Near the Tiburtina Station there's a Bus Station, there you can buy a DiFonzoBus two tickets, Rome-Vasto and Vasto-Rome (it hasn't a round-trip ticket) 18€ + 18€. For the timetable click here <http://www.difonzobus.com/english/orari-autobus.php?partenza=Roma&destinazione=Vasto>

Details from Rome Ciampino to Vasto:

- **Prontobus**: direct bus Ciampino - Vasto 30€, info at <http://booking.prontobusitalia.it/public/ricerca.jsf?partenza=11&arrivo=3&data=28092013>
- Rome Ciampino to Termini (central station) with **Terravision bus** (http://www.terravision.eu/rome_ciampino.html) 4€. At Termini Station take the metro B up to Tiburtina (ticket 1,50€). Near the Tiburtina Station there's a Bus Station, there you can buy a DiFonzoBus tickets, Rome-Vasto and Vasto-Rome ticket (it hasn't a round-trip ticket) 18€ + 18€. For the timetable click here <http://www.difonzobus.com/english/orari-autobus.php?partenza=Roma&destinazione=Vasto>

Something you shouldn't forget

All of your personal belongings and necessary stuff you think you cannot live without! and...

- Swimming suit
- warm clothes and comfortable shoes
- towels
- personal cosmetics(soap,shower gel,shampoo,sun creme)or you can buy it here
- laptop, camera, SD card, cables and charger;
- travel insurance and European Health Card
- Passport or ID
- Food, drinks and everything needed for the cultural night presentation
- your enthusiasm and intercultural spirit!

Looking forward to meeting all of you soon!!!
Greetings from Italy



For further information please contact:
Desiree: <https://www.facebook.com/desiree.pelliccia.3>
+393405671067
connectassociation@gmail.com