



Education and Culture DG

'Youth in Action' Programme



Paths to International Cooperation in the **youth field**

SALTO-YOUTH
SOUTH EAST EUROPE
RESOURCE CENTRE



SALTO-YOUTH
EURO MED
RESOURCE CENTRE



SALTO-YOUTH
EASTERN EUROPE AND CAUCASUS
RESOURCE CENTRE



Exploring global paths

In today's globalised world, increased international cooperation is essential to meet common challenges. As an active global player, the EU attaches great importance to establishing good relations with non-member countries in all fields with a view to promoting peace, stability, security, human rights, democracy and the rule of law beyond its borders.

In this global perspective, young people have a key role to play in shaping the EU's future and its relations with the neighbours and the rest of the world. The Youth in Action Programme has been designed to stimulate their sense of active citizenship and participation in democratic life as well as their spirit of solidarity and understanding.

Covering the period **2007-2013**, the Programme offers **opportunities for mobility and non-formal learning** by supporting a large variety of activities, such as youth exchanges, transnational voluntary service as well as training and networking for youth workers and youth organisations.

Developed after a large consultation with different stakeholders in the youth field, this Programme wants to be a response to evolutions in the youth sector at European level... but to be really adapted to the reality of young people today it could not be solely confined to the EU borders!

The «Youth in the World» action encourages a greater openness to the world, thus giving an increased international dimension to the Programme. This action seeks to promote cooperation between young people and youth organisations across the borders of the European Union as a means to foster intercultural dialogue, mutual tolerance and solidarity, to break down prejudices and stereotypes, and to build up societies based on common understanding and respect. This action supports projects in cooperation with Partner Countries setting the spotlight on its neighbouring regions: Eastern Europe and Caucasus, the Mediterranean region and South-East Europe.

Three regional SALTO Resource Centres have been set up by the Commission with a view to promoting awareness of the Programme and helping project promoters find partners and develop quality activities in the above-mentioned areas. On their initiative, this brochure was developed in order to provide interested players with an overview of the opportunities for international cooperation that the Youth in Action Programme opens up.

Let yourself be carried through this journey, take the time to explore the various opportunities and challenges that it offers, enjoy the lively testimonies of previous project promoters and beneficiaries and be inspired!

Pascal LEJEUNE
Head of Unit
European Commission
Directorate-General
for Education and Culture
Unit Youth: Programmes



The European Neighbourhood Policy

"The core principle of the European Neighbourhood Policy is very simple - we want to extend the prosperity, stability and security enjoyed by EU members to our neighbours... We share practical interests, ideals, and aspirations, and we face common challenges like security, environment, jobs and migration. We want a relationship which better reflects that".

Benita Ferrero-Waldner, *European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy*

Ever since the European Union (EU) went through the enlargement of 2004, relations with neighbouring regions have been its main external priority. Together with the Stabilisation and Association Process, the European Neighbourhood Policy is the EU's answer to the challenges and opportunities created by the changed political context.

Contrary to the Stabilisation and Association Process, whose ultimate goal is to prepare the Western Balkans to the EU membership, the European Neighbourhood Policy remains distinct from the process of enlargement. This, however, does not prejudge, for European neighbours, how their relationship with the EU may develop in the future, in accordance with Treaty provisions.

«The future of the Western Balkans is within the European Union. (...) Preparation for integration into European structures and ultimate membership of the European Union, through the adoption of European standards, is now the big challenge ahead».
EU-Western Balkans Summit Thessaloniki Declaration, June 2003

Through the European Neighbourhood Policy, the EU offers its eastern and southern neighbours a privileged relationship, building on a mutual commitment to common values and avoiding the creation of new dividing lines. On the basis of these common values, neighbouring regions are invited to move beyond existing cooperation and to deepen economic, political, cultural and security ties to strengthen stability, security and well-being for everyone concerned. The international cooperation dimension of the Youth in Action programme contributes to achieving the goals of the European Neighbourhood Policy in the «people-to-people exchanges» area. The Programme supports

projects that encourage mobility, exchange, dialogue and cooperation among young people, youth workers and organisations across Europe and beyond.

The Programme encourages young people to develop an understanding of Europe's cultural diversity and its fundamental values. It also contributes to strengthening civil society in all the countries concerned, by reinforcing youth cooperation, promoting the recognition and value of informal education, and allowing young people and youth organisations to acquire the skills and competences they need to engage in their societies as active players.

Stabilisation and Association Process

Countries involved: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia including Kosovo under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

Ultimate goal: Preparing for EU membership.

Founding act: European Council in Feira in June 2000, confirmed by the European Council in Thessaloniki in June 2003.

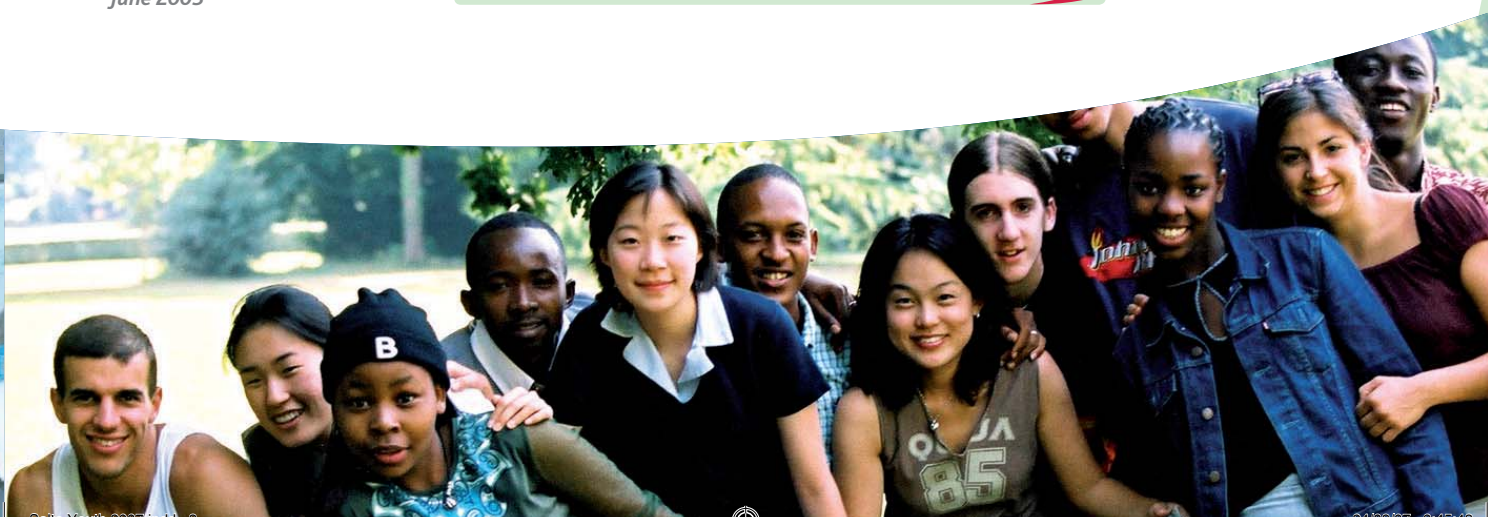
European Neighbourhood Policy

Countries involved: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine¹.

Ultimate goal: Establishing a privileged relationship between the EU and the countries concerned, building upon a mutual commitment to common values.

Founding act: Commission Communication on Wider Europe in March 2003, followed by a more developed Strategy Paper on the European Neighbourhood Policy published in May 2004.

¹Although Russia is also a neighbour of the EU, relations with Russia are developed through a Strategic Partnership covering four "common spaces".



Youth in Action at a glance

Duration: 2007-2013

Budget: EUR 885 million
for seven years

Target group: 15-28 years old
(in some cases 13-30), youth
workers and youth organisations

Geographic reach:

- Programme Countries :
the 27 EU Member States,
Iceland, Liechtenstein,
Norway and Turkey
- Partner Countries:
Eastern Europe and Caucasus:
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus,
Georgia, Moldova, Russian
Federation, and Ukraine.
**Mediterranean Partner
Countries:** Algeria, Egypt, Israel,
Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco,
Palestinian Authority of the
West Bank and Gaza Strip,
Syria, Tunisia.
South East Europe: Albania,
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia,
Former Yugoslav Republic
of Macedonia (FYROM),
Montenegro, Serbia.
**Other partner countries
of the world** having signed an
agreement with the EU relevant
to the youth field.

5 Objectives:

- promoting young people's
active citizenship
- developing solidarity
and tolerance
- fostering mutual
understanding
- developing the quality
of support systems for
youth activities and
youth organisations
- encouraging European
co-operation in the
youth field



5 Actions :

- **Action 1** - Youth for Europe
(supporting youth exchanges, youth initiatives and youth
democracy projects)
- **Action 2** - European Voluntary Service
(encouraging voluntary activities abroad to the benefit of
local communities)
- **Action 3** - Youth in the World
(exchanges, training, networking and cooperation with neighbouring
countries and other partner countries of the world)
- **Action 4** - Youth Support Systems
(promoting the development of exchange, training, networking and
information schemes)
- **Action 5** - European Cooperation in the youth field
(supporting youth policy cooperation development at European level)



For more information: <http://ec.europa.eu/youth>



The SALTO Resource Centres

8 SALTO Resource Centres situated in European cities :

- Support project organisers and National Agencies
- Promote co-operation
- Improve quality of projects
- Provide youth work and training resources
- Organise training and partnership building activities

Each has a priority area in which they work :

Cultural Diversity

Inclusion

Information

Participation

Training and Cooperation

The three regional SALTO

Eastern Europe and Caucasus

EuroMed

South East Europe

The three regional SALTO centres promote co-operation between the Programme Countries and the EU's Neighbouring Partner Countries.

Main aims are :

- To contribute to peace and stability at the borders of the enlarged EU and beyond by enhancing intercultural dialogue, mutual understanding and tolerance among young people ;
- To contribute to strengthening democracy and civil society in the regions by facilitating the integration and active participation of young people, and by encouraging the development of youth structures.

For further information visit www.salto-youth.net

Support
Advanced
Learning
& **T**raining
Opportunities



Youth Exchanges

Youth Exchanges provide unique opportunities to focus on various themes while creating an atmosphere of understanding and respect between cultures.

Youth exchange projects bring together groups of young people from two or more countries, allowing them to visit each other and work together within common fields of interest. The inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities is encouraged as a cross-cutting priority of the Youth in Action Programme.



Who is concerned ?

A project can last between 6 and 21 days and can involve from 16 to 60 participants. As a general rule, all young people between 13 and 25 who are resident in one of the participating countries, are eligible to take part, whatever their educational background or previous experience. In some cases, exceptions are foreseen to involve young people aged 26-30.



Projects can be based on a wide range of themes. They should reflect the interests of the young people involved and be in line with the general themes of the Youth in Action (YiA) Programme. All projects should offer non-formal learning possibilities for young people that have been well thought through and incorporated into the day-to-day programme. All the elements of the project should fit the overall theme, and projects should have a lasting impact, not only on the young participants, but also on the hosting and sending communities.

A partner group can be a non-profit organisation, a local or regional public body or an informal group of young people.

Group leaders take responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the projects. It is very important though that the young people themselves are involved in all stages of the project, from planning to implementation and follow-up. There should be a balanced number of young people in each of the groups. The number of Programme Countries and Partner Countries should also be balanced. Each exchange must involve at least one EU Member State, but it can take place in any of the participating countries, except for Mediterranean Partner Countries.

Themes:

Society, cultural understanding, acceptance of minority groups, inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction and heritage and environmental protection, etc...

An intercultural dimension & exciting opportunities

Youth exchange projects are great ways of developing youth work in local communities. They add an intercultural dimension and provide exciting opportunities for young people. Exchanges can prove especially motivating for young people who, for a variety of reasons, feel excluded from society. Meeting young people from other countries widens their horizons and gives them an impetus to see things from a different perspective. There are already plenty of examples of successful projects that have had a profound influence on the personal development of their young participants. A young person, especially from a difficult background, can rediscover a purpose in life and find new ways of participating in society.



Examples of Youth Exchanges

A youth exchange brought together 60 deaf and hard of hearing young people from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Portugal, Serbia, Montenegro and Slovenia for ten days. The exchange took place in Kotor, which is a historical town on the coast of Montenegro. A major goal of the exchange, which the participants achieved, was the joint preparation of a theatre performance.

«It was great to see how connected we became during those days, the individuals were so different and yet we acted as one, as if we had known each other for years. We all agreed that we had to nurture our acquaintance. Ideas about future meetings flourished... We took so many experiences with us, positive thoughts and above all the knowledge that we had experienced this beautiful week and that we had done something good, something that will live on within all of us». (A participant from Slovenia)

A Georgian organisation and British group initiated a multicultural youth exchange project called "Europe Meets the Land of Medea - A Youth Exchange against Stereotypes and Xenophobia to Promote Intercultural Understanding" in Kobuleti in Georgia. The project aimed to promote intercultural understanding and involved six groups of young people from Ukraine, Georgia, Russia, Great Britain, Estonia and Germany. Each group consisted of four participants and one group leader.

Based on the legend of Medea from Greek mythology, the participants discussed the origins and consequences of xenophobia and stereotypes towards foreign nations. In so-called "Cultural Discoveries", organised by the youngsters, they showed the other participants their national habits, customs and traditions, to raise awareness about and deepen understanding of cultural differences.

"Getting the participants to organise themselves was a central element of the exchange. It contributed to the participants' responsibility and their ability to handle problems independently, as well as encouraging them to present their own opinions and to respect and to accept the opinions of other people. It supported the personal development of the young people, promoted tolerance and diminished prejudice". (A participant from Georgia)

A youth worker from Northwest Germany organised a youth exchange for 16 young people from different Euro-Mediterranean countries under the title "Meet history - understand the present - improve the future". A central aim was to bring together young people not only from different countries but also from the three different religious cultures of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Participants from Egypt, Israel, Palestine and Spain spent a fortnight together tackling racism, xenophobia and intercultural learning as well as learning how to improve mutual respect through intercultural discourse. Their efforts were rewarded with a «EuroMed Youth Award» in Cairo.

«For me this youth meeting means that never again will I think about Palestinians as I had thought of them in the past.» (An Israeli youth in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Hamm during the official reception of the city of Hamm)



«For the first time in my life I have the hope that a peace still one day can be possible.»
(A Palestinian youth in the final evaluation)



European Voluntary Service (EVS)

To discover another culture and acquire new skills !

EVS projects give young people the chance to live and work as volunteers in other countries for up to 12 months.

The voluntary activities benefit local communities in the host countries, but they also have clearly defined educational benefits for the volunteer.

Volunteers often work with groups of people like children, teenagers, disabled people, immigrants, the elderly, the homeless and other minority groups. Projects can also be cultural or related to the environment.

Who is concerned ?

EVS is open to all young people between 18 and 30 from a Programme Country or Partner Country whatever their educational background or previous experience. In some exceptional cases, young people aged 16-17 can also be admitted.

Participation is free for the volunteers who also get board and lodging, insurance cover and an allowance for the duration of the project. The inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities is encouraged as a cross-cutting priority of the Youth in Action Programme.

A personal enriching experience

A young person can get a lot out of voluntary service in another country. By living and working in different environments volunteers discover a lot about themselves while learning to adapt to different cultures and acquiring new skills. Voluntary projects are also important for the local host communities. Volunteers should not replace paid staff, but their contributions should benefit the organisations and people involved. A volunteer from another country also brings an intercultural dimension to the project, which can lead to new developments in the local community.

Each EVS project can involve between one and 100 volunteers

Individual EVS activities involve one volunteer, one sending organisation and one host organisation, whereas group EVS activities can involve up to 100 volunteers, several organisations and be organised at the local, regional, national or international level. One of the organisations involved coordinates the project and submits an application on behalf of the partnership. Applications can be submitted to National Agencies in the Programme Country, or to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency.

EVS projects have to involve at least one EU Member State, and the number of volunteers and partner organisations from Neighbouring Partner Countries cannot exceed the number of volunteers and partner organisations from Programme Countries.

A database with all the accredited host organisations is accessible online and gives potential volunteers an idea of what EVS can involve. Host organisations are contacted with the help of a sending organisation. The organisations then take care of all the technicalities and paperwork for the volunteer.



Examples of EVS projects

A young woman from France volunteered in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. She worked in a project helping refugees in the Prespa region of south-western Macedonia. 52 refugee families live in a former hostel by the Prespa Lake. They are ethnic Macedonians from Albania, who had to leave the country at the beginning of the 1990s because of political and economic problems. Most of them have been in Prespa for over ten years, but their living conditions are still very difficult and have not really improved during the time they have been there. Although they finally received Macedonian citizenship in 2004, they do not have what it takes to start a new life as Macedonian citizens.

The volunteer worked with a group of local and international volunteers to raise awareness in Skopje and Macedonia, especially among young people, about the difficult living conditions of the people in this community. The volunteers worked with the local authorities of Skopje and Resen and the business sector of Macedonia to provide clothing, food and other supplies, as well as spending time with the refugees and playing with their children. The volunteer found personal contact with the refugees the most important aspect of the project.

«In addition to bringing clothes we were able to have longer talks with some of the people living there and to ask them questions about their background, their situation here in Macedonia, and their feelings and hopes for the future. This part of the action was without doubt the most interesting, since it allowed us to understand their situation more clearly and to establish real relationships with them. It was certainly also an important moment for them since, as a man I interviewed explained to me, it is very rare for somebody to actually ask about and listen to their story and situation here, although they have a lot to say».



A young disabled volunteer from a minority in Armenia went to Vilnius in Lithuania to work with orphans. His tasks involved working with groups of children from 9-15 in a Vilnius orphanage. The volunteer was responsible for organising leisure time activities for the children; assisting in the preparation and organisation of the orphanage's entertainment and educational projects; accompanying the children on different trips and participating with the orphans in municipal and national entertainment events.

Through constant communication with Lithuanian children and the orphanage staff, playing national games, singing songs and telling stories, the volunteer got to know Lithuanian culture and discovered new elements of his own culture by looking at it from another perspective. The volunteer had language lessons with a private teacher and the other volunteers. He had a mentor who met him regularly, supported him with practical issues and arranged free time and cultural activities to make it easier for him to integrate into the local community.

"Any person involved in EVS has the opportunity to become stronger on a personal level, and to become more self-confident and independent. As an EVS volunteer you also learn that it is important to take personal initiative, to understand the values of solidarity, volunteerism and respect of intercultural differences and to actively contribute, with your own knowledge and skills, to making changes on a local, national or international level."

A 25-year-old Portuguese volunteer went to Jordan for his EVS project "Follow the Women". The project was part of a movement to raise awareness about the current situation of women and children in the Middle East, as well as providing support for them. One reason the volunteer was attracted to the project was because of the opportunity to learn more about the political situation in the Middle East, at the same time as playing a role in an ambitious peace project. "Follow the Women" was a way of experiencing new cultural, religious and social environments.

"My involvement was as being "deep inside" the project and I lived it intensely. I feel privileged to have been able to participate in the project from its beginning to its end".



Training and Networking activities

To develop a future cooperation between partner organisations.

Cooperation and partnership, training measures and the exchange of good practice are the key terms for the development of youth organisations, civil society and those involved in youth work.

The Youth in Action Programme offers various possibilities for projects that promote the exchange of experiences, cooperation and training in European youth work. These projects are also valuable for advancing and developing the cooperation of participating organisations and increasing the quality of the activities supported by the Programme.

Priority themes include the strengthening of civil society, citizenship and democracy; the fight against racism and xenophobia; inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue; conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction; the active role of women in society; minority rights; regional cooperation, and heritage and environmental protection.

Projects can include activities like job shadowing, feasibility visits, evaluation meetings, study visits, partnership-building activities, seminars, training courses and networking projects.



They are for young people but also for those working with young people. So, there are no age limits for participants and up to 50 can participate, depending on the nature of the project.

A well-structured project programme that reflects the project's general themes must be submitted with the application.

Training and networking projects are very important for developing future cooperation. They allow partner organisations to learn more about each other and to explore the possibilities for project development.



Different criteria apply to different types of projects, but each project has to have at least one EU Member State involved. The number of Programme Countries and Partner Countries involved should be balanced, and for most projects a minimum of two Programme Countries and two Neighbouring Partner Countries must be involved. Job shadowing projects and feasibility visits may involve only one Programme Country and one Neighbouring Partner Country.



Examples of Training and Networking Projects

An Albanian organisation hosted a study visit about the social inclusion of minorities into society for 14 young people in Tirana in Albania. Partner organisations worked with minorities in Belgium, Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania. They visited different Albanian youth organisations, participated in discussions and exercises and developed ideas for future projects.

«We knew that many prejudices existed about our country, and this made us feel more responsible. Curiously, we started to see our city in a different way before the study visit. We wondered whether some specific construction work would be finished in time. It was a really great experience to participate in the study visit, and I hope there will be more in the future.» (Albanian participant)

«Tirana itself is a very enchanting city with its very own personality. I will never forget the warm hearts of the people we met and their soft and calm ways of talking. I strongly hope to come back to this city one day and I am sure that some people I got to know, I will meet again, not merely as participants but as friends.» (Belgian participant)



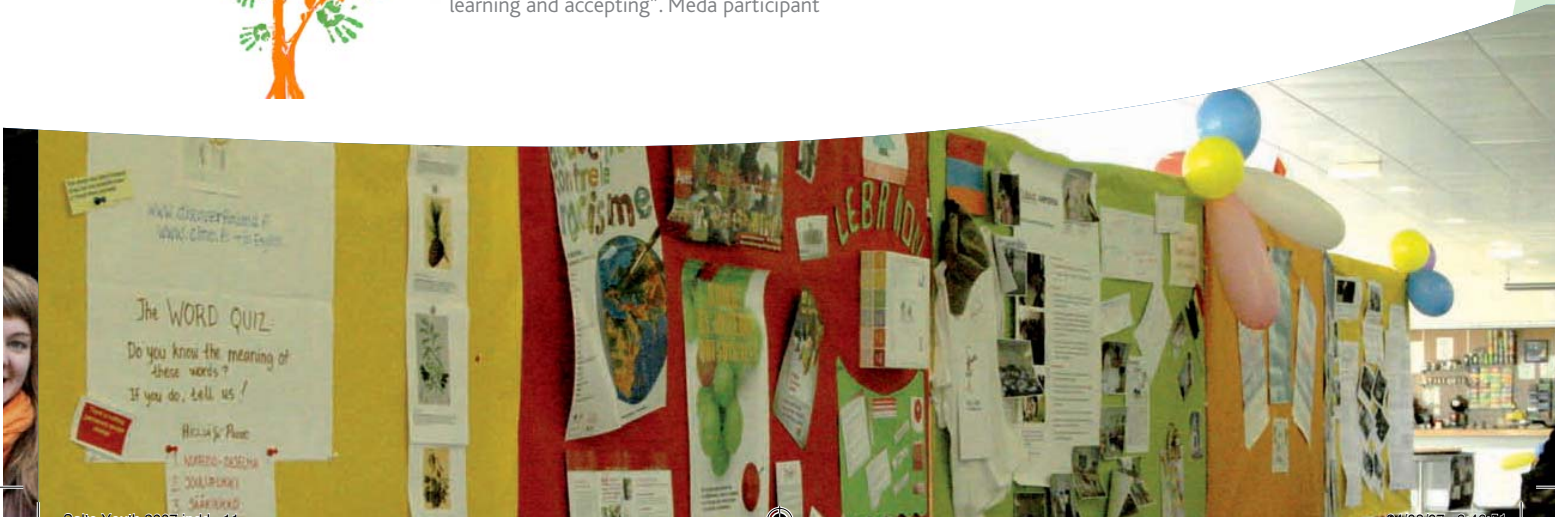
Non-governmental organisations from three EU Member States (France, Germany and Spain) and three EECA countries (Belarus, Ukraine and Armenia) organised a feasibility visit in Marseille in France. The visit was to establish contacts between the 11 leaders and project managers from different organisations, as well as to discuss and prepare a seminar and other projects in the frame of the Youth in Action Programme. During the visit they discussed and developed youth projects, which will use educational tools and methods that promote intercultural learning and civil education. Participants had the opportunity to meet the head of the French National Agency and ask questions about the Youth in Action Programme. Following the visit, participants prepared and applied for several common projects.

«When you say Europe, you think about a huge variety of nations, countries, cultures. This continent is a unique pot and cross-point for so many different people. We should remember that there is many great places and people, who live since ever in Europe, but never in European Union. You can feel the European cultural diversity especially GOING BEYOND the Union borders.» (Russian youth worker)

In a world where human interaction is always increasing, the peaceful and democratic management of conflicts is crucially important. A seminar titled "Conflict Management and Peace" took place in Ankara in Turkey and involved 35 young people and youth workers from 11 different European and Mediterranean counties. The seminar aimed to improve participants' knowledge of conflict resolution and taught them the ways of communicating and negotiating with others. Those running the seminar asked participants to develop a solution to a real-life problem, which allowed them to experience the process of conflict resolution including negotiation and effective communication. There was also some role-playing to encourage participants to develop a feeling of empathy for others. The project evaluation was an integral part of the seminar and was carried out at different stages.



"We were like trees, we had solid roots in our civilization, culture and background, with a big ability of opening to others, of sharing, meeting, learning and accepting". Meda participant



South East Europe

"We knew that many prejudices exist about our country, and this made us feel more responsible. Curiously, we started to see our city in a different way. It was really a great experience, and I hope there will be more in the future".

The SALTO South East Europe Resource Centre (SALTO SEE) promotes cooperation between Youth in Action Programme Countries and the Western Balkans.

We aim to

- Provide information about the possibilities for **cooperation** between Programme Countries and Partner Countries in South East Europe ;
- Offer help finding partners for Youth in Action **projects** involving Programme Countries and Partner Countries in South East Europe ;
- Coordinate and organise **educational activities** ;
- Produce, collect and disseminate relevant **information** and materials for cooperation in this field ;

- Promote the **visibility** of ongoing cooperation between actors from South East Europe and Programme Countries ;
- Provide support and expertise in all issues related to involvement in and the **promotion** of Youth in Action co-operation with South East Europe.

A close work with the National Agencies

The SALTO South East Europe Resource Centre works with National Agencies to organise **seminars and training activities**. Seminars run by the Centre bring together people working in the

youth field in South East Europe and other countries in Europe. They help to develop partnerships for future co-operation ; in particular the development of common Youth in Action projects, such as Youth Exchanges, European Voluntary Service and Training and Networking projects. They also aim to give participants the information and skills needed to implement such projects. Since 2006, the Centre has been accrediting EVS organisations in South East Europe and from 2007 onwards the Centre will be responsible for coordinating EVS training in South East Europe.



Our Publications

A monthly **E-Newsletter** with information about the Centre's activities and recent developments in the field

A **magazine** about youth work in and in partnership with South East Europe – SEE YOUth ! – with articles on past or ongoing youth projects, background information and reflections

Country profiles

Reports of activities organised by the Centre

A partner organisation's database

The Centre maintains a database of potential partner organisations from South East Europe and a partner searching forum, both of which are published on the Centre's website. The Centre has also established contact with 16 organisations in the region that promote the Programme and provide information about it.

"Any person involved in EVS has the opportunity to become stronger on a personal level, and to become more self-confident and independent. As an EVS volunteer you also learn that it is important to take personal initiative, to understand the values of solidarity, volunteerism and respect for intercultural differences and to actively contribute, with your own knowledge and skills, to making changes on a local, national or international level".
(Slovenian volunteer in Serbia)



Eastern Europe and Caucasus

«Eastern Europe and Caucasus is an extremely important region, not only because of the great amount of people living there, but mostly because there is no Europe without its Eastern part. As we say here, Europe has a left and a right lung, and it NEEDS both to breathe peacefully.»

The SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre (SALTO EECA) supports the cooperation within the YOUTH in ACTION Programme with Neighbouring Partner Countries from the Eastern Europe and Caucasus Region.

- To raise **visibility and awareness** about Youth in Action Programme opportunities in Eastern Europe and Caucasus;
- To promote **cooperation** with EECA Partner Countries through youth organisations in Programme Countries;
- To support National Agencies with developing contacts, creating **partnerships** and fostering **expertise** in cooperation with the EECA region.

You are welcome to visit our website www.salto-youth.net/eeca and to use our Support Service www.salto-eeca.eu

In order to build an efficient platform for cooperation between Programme and neighbouring EECA Partner Countries, as well as to strengthen existing partnerships, the EECA Resource Centre has various activities, forms of support and tools on offer.

Looking for partners ?

- The Contact List contains the addresses and fields of interest of NGOs from the EU and EECA. www.salto-eeca.eu/contactlist
- The EECA Forum is a space for project proposals, the exchange of experiences, reports and photos from various activities. www.salto-eeca.eu/forum
- Partnership-Building Activities are organised at regular intervals.

Want to learn more about EECA ?

- The EECA Manual has 7 country profiles. www.salto-youth.net/eecamanual
- Short Study Visits can teach you the basics about the region.

Want to know how to organise a successful project ?

- EECA publications include newsletters, leaflets, colourful magazines "Youth in 7" and training tools. www.salto-youth.net/eecapublications
- There is a Network of Multipliers involving youth workers from EECA countries, who promote and support YiA Programme activities. www.salto-youth.net/eecamultipliers
- Informational seminars and training courses provide all the information you need to run your own project.

Visit the weblogs of EVS volunteers on projects in EECA countries at www.salto-eeca.eu/evs

I really like living here very much. First you come with the feeling that everything will be very different and not like at home but nothing differs so much that you can't cope with it and mainly things don't differ at all. In the short time I have been here I have met so many nice, interested and interesting people and seen so many things and learned so much about everything here that I didn't expect before." (Austrian volunteer in Ukraine)

"I think my project is very useful. Through my project they learn English; they are able to spend their time effectively by playing various games, drawing and so on. They always express their satisfaction and it really encourages me to work with them and to help them." (Finnish volunteer in Azerbaijan)



Euro-Med

Bringing both sides of the Mediterranean closer: the challenge of the EuroMed cooperation

The SALTO EuroMed Resource Centre supports cooperation between European and Mediterranean countries in four ways :

1. Training Opportunities & Events



The SALTO EuroMed Resource Centre works with National Agencies to propose

innovative thematic training courses on EuroMed Youth priorities. These include the fight against racism, the place of women in society and minority rights among others, and allow participants to integrate these priorities into their own projects.

"Contact Making Seminars" build real partnerships between MEDA Countries and Programme Countries, and "Short Study Visits" present youth work in the region.

2. Dissemination of Good Practices



The SALTO EuroMed Resource Centre compiles and disseminates educational good practices in training and

youth work to create a common memory. It:

- Coordinates an on-line "Toolbox" offering users access to different training tools and documents www.salto-youth.net/toolbox ;
- Collects "Bringing both sides together" educational training courses reports

- Publishes the "Meet' In EuroMed" magazine biannually
- Organises a "Tool Fair" every year to give youth actors the chance to share their good practices and to increase their knowledge of newly developed educational tools.

3. Support to Networks



The SALTO EuroMed Resource Centre supports the network of National Agencies, Euro-Med

Youth Units and Multipliers of the YiA Programme with:

- The dissemination of information about relevant issues through the website
- The dissemination of educational good practices in youth work through newsletters on "EuroMed Cooperation". Newsletters and magazines are also distributed to all partners, both institutional and non-governmental.

Moreover, the SALTO EuroMed Resource Centre responds to particular requests from Euro-Med Youth Units and National Agencies and offers opportunities for job shadowing.

4. Partnerships



The SALTO EuroMed Resource Centre works in close partnership with several European and Mediterranean institutions. This includes work with:

- The Council of Europe's European Youth Centres, which have working groups on quality standards, valuation and validation of the knowledge acquired during training www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Co-operation/Youth
- The European Commission and Council of Europe's «Training for European youth activity leaders», which includes two publications on youth and training: «T-Kits» and « Coyote» www.training-youth.net
- The European Commission and Council of Europe's «Euro-Med Cooperation in training»
- The Euro-Mediterranean Youth Platform www.euromedp.org
- The European Youth Forum www.youthforum.org
- The Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures www.euromedalex.org
- EuroMed Youth Units www.euromedyouth.net



Participants' point of view : Euromed in one word or idea ?

"The future" "Intercultural learning" "A bird – to fly from one civilisation to another. It transcends geographical and cultural borders." "Discovery of people, cultures. A world beyond the world we live in" "Cooperation, development and peace"





For more information about the Youth in Action programme, please consult the Programme Guide, which can be downloaded from the European Commission website: <http://ec.europa.eu/youth>. The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, the SALTO Resource Centres and the National Agencies can also provide further information. Their contact details are also available on the youth website.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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