

# I imagine

LECCE - ITALY  
15.01.2019 - 16.10.2019 (9 months)

Volunteering Activity (European Voluntary Service) on:

**INTEGRATION**

**EU CITIZENSHIP**

**INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE**

with the support of:



Erasmus+



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### THE PROJECT IN SHORT

“You are going to live a 9 months experience in Lecce, in the South of Italy supporting the work of SEYF for the integration of refugees and young people in the local community and for the promotion of european citizenship and cultural events among local young people.

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

## WHO WE ARE



**SEYF – South Europe Youth Forum** is a network of youth organizations based in Italy and spread all over the European Area. The aim of SEYF is the promotion of cooperation at international level and to facilitate access to opportunities at European level, as well as learning mobility and European cooperation.

SEYF mainly works in the fields of Culture, Youth & Sport, Environment & Territory, Inclusion & Human Rights, Education & Training.

The innovation of SEYF network consists not only in its capacity to be collector and promoter of contacts but in its making itself a social network for the promotion of relations among individuals participants and organizations in a logic of communication in step with the times.

Today SEYF gather in a strong cooperation more than 30 organizations from different countries. The main goal, shared by all partners, is to work for social and human development, to help in bringing forward positive change and social cohesion in a world that respects human rights and democratically involves all human beings in their personal development.

The Italian base of SEYF takes place in the Province of Lecce (and coordinates an international web network called "SEYF.EU"). At the moment SEYF is also settled on the Maltese Islands with the organization SEYF Malta.



## THE PROJECT

**IMAGINE** is a European Voluntary Service project that will be held in **Lecce**, a city 10 km far from Lecce from 15th January 2019 to 16th October 2019 . The project will involve 2 volunteers between the age of 18 and 27 years from Spain.

**ORIGINS OF THE PROJECT**

The project is a follow up of previous experiences based on the fight and prevention of episodes of intolerance, racism and populisms that is keeping growing.

It is becoming more frequent, due to the economic crisis, a general disinterest to the European values and to the active participation in society.

Integration does not have the desired impact in small communities and often it degenerates into episodes of discrimination, not participation, cultural against young migrants who are being hosted in the local reception centres.

In the meanwhile, SEYF is currently managing several small Centers for Refugees and Asylum seekers in Montesano Salentino, Alezio, Santa Cesarea, Alessano and Otranto.

In our centers, we work on mobility, human rights and culture and we try to stimulate active participation of young people through intercultural dialogue and through the organization of activities in cooperation with local organizations.



Upon these lines, SEYF and its partners have decided to promote the project IMAGINE for setting good practices of integration, Culture and European Citizenship through the use of intercultural dialogue and artistic expression, in order

to convey messages of integration with an innovative, participatory and empathetic approach: this will happen by collecting stories of local people, setting up activities for fostering integration and active participation of young people and local minorities.

The success of this action and all the tools that will originate out of this project will be shared at Euro-Mediterranean level, and will be used by all partners as an example of good practice that can be easily replicated, spread and presented in other local communities.

## OBJECTIVES

Through the sharing, monitoring, analysis, evaluations, the anecdotes of experiences, knowledge and best practices, the project will stimulate the volunteers to the tendency of a fully participatory approach.

The main objectives are:

- **To stimulate a more European cultural environment into the community**



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of LECCE and in the local communities where the Refugees centers are hosted, through the creation of intercultural activities such as Human Libraries, Intercultural Nights/Aperitives, Media/Blog/Social Coverage,

Linguistic Tandems with Refugees hosted in the communities, Photo Exhibitions, European InfoPoint on EU opportunities and other activities related to the theme that will be suggested by the volunteers, with the scope to recognise the value of good integration practices and an alternative growth for the local and international community;

- **To build interactive informative moments for fostering a stronger sense of European Citizenship** within the young local community, following an empathetic approach with the use of non-formal and intercultural dialogue by creating activities for involving local young people as main characters of all the actions.

Through these activities, volunteers will raise awareness about the diversities of people in the current European Social context and will enhance the sense of in-

tegration and tolerance amongst the local community.

• **To support local and international movement of opinion for the promotion of Human Rights and Youth Rights** through practices that are easily replicated, spread and presented in other local communities.



### METHODOLOGIES

The methodologies used for **Imagine** meet the requirements of non-formal education of the Erasmus + program: The young volunteers will be able to learn and experiment with new methodologies for the involvement and animation of the local community, and will discover motives and stories related to the hosted migrant's community: the participants will be the main actors of the exchange and will be

able to learn, assess and become aware of the dynamics of inclusive participatory processes.

Volunteers will be the protagonists and will become messengers of the real meaning of being inclusive and an active European citizen in new realities, away from the main circuits, where people have different conceptions of their role in society.

## WHEN AND WHERE

## WHEN



The project lasts 9 months.

**STARTING day:** 15th January 2019.

**ENDING day:** 16th October 2019.

**TOTAL DURATION:** 9 months

**TRAVEL DAYS:** the project foresees 2 travel days (come/back): 14/01/2019 (arrival day) and 17/10/2019 (departure day).

Any different schedule can be planned together with the Hosting Organization.

## WHERE

Participants are going to live in a multicultural context of the South of Italy.



Volunteers are going to live in **Lecce**, a nice city in Salento, in the Province of Lecce only 10 km far from the sea. Activities are going to be implemented in the Office managed by SEYF, close to the city Centers, and in the different centers for refugees of the Province of Lecce.

Participants will fall in love with Salento, in the unspoilt 'heel' of the country, for its great weather, beaches and party atmosphere. Lecce is well known for its Movida, has a warm youth community and student life.



## PROFILE OF THE VOLUNTEERS

\* Aged between 18 to 27 years;



\* active, open-minded, creative, innovative, responsible and motivated volunteers;

\* Volunteers need to have a genuine interest in learning to work with young people and minorities, non-formal activities, interculturality, traditions and cultural customs and other similar topics and be willing to learn and expand their skills;

on these issues. – This will consist the main selection criteria for the project;



\* pro-active attitudes and dynamic persons are welcomed;

\* able to work in multicultural teams, tolerant and openminded;

\* Any experience and/or educations in non-formal education, communication or animation skills and artistic/digital competences (basic, not professional) will be a plus so be sure to mention them in your CV/motivation letter. (However this is

not a main selection criteria).

\* The volunteers of this project should, above all else, show willingness to learn and **see their Erasmus Plus experience as a learning process.**

\* Basic level of **English** (being able to make herself/himself understood by the others – able to communicate).

Any other language such us Italian (mainly ) or French (secondarily) would be welcomed and taken into consideration.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Our learning methodology is completely focused on the experiential education and on “learning by doing” methodologies: volunteers will have the possibility to get in contact with the practical applications of the knowledge to be acquired while having a professional working besides the volunteer and providing feed-



back. For the volunteers we aim to contribute to their Personal and Professional development targeting the acquisition of the following competences by the volunteers:

- \* Learn about other cultures, intercultural learning process, values, principles, traditions and customs and learn how to operationalize them(break them into more understandable components);
- \* Learn how to interact with young people and minorities activities suitable for their daily life and able to empower them in their new life;
- \* Learn Italian: Free Online Linguistic Support from Erasmus Programme will be provided for each volunteer.
- \* Learn how to interact with local people, in order to foster and stimulate integration
- \* Learn how to plan and implement activities

for local young people such as language courses, musical events and so on;

- \* Learn from the cultures of the other volunteers as well as learning and being fully immersed in Italian culture;
- \* Learn how to disseminate and multiply information and how to manage blog, social media and other communication tools;
- \* Learn how to implement a long term activities programme for migrants and Italian young people;
- \* Learn by practice how to work in teams, divide tasks, manage deadlines, ad-

minister finite resources, work with people, plan and evaluate, make long term plans, organize events etc.

- \* increased sense of tolerance and understanding;
- \* increased self-awareness about own culture;
- \* learn how to prepare, implement and evaluate a non-formal educational activity;
- \* learn about project management, community facilitation, risk management, fund raising and effective public communication;
- \* learn about the European values and principles;
- \* Learn how to communicate and work with youngsters and with migrants;
- \* Learn about the ERASMUS+ programme, with a focus on Volunteering projects, learn about the management of such projects;
- \* Learn to use animation and different non-formal methods as a tools to attract and work with youngsters, migrants and asylum seekers;
- \* Develop a network of contact persons and institutions that can support your future personal/professional growth – by working within an NGO the volunteers can learn how such an organization works and have the knowledge to open one themselves;
- \* Learn about and gain competences specific to the use of specific methods, tools and practices used in social/youth/cultural work;
- \* 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 live on your own in a foreign country and develop personal skills such as cooking, take care of house chores, manage a personal budget, learn to live with others and accommodate for each other's differences etc.
- \* learn how SEYF works in an international context at local level;
- \* Make new friends.

**... and much more :-)**



PRACTICAL  
ARRANGEMENTS  
& FINANCIAL  
ASPECTS

**TRAVEL:** Participants will purchase tickets in previous agreement with SEYF. After the presentation of all the original tickets and invoices SEYF will immediately reimburse the participants.

Upon the support received by the Erasmus Plus Programme, travel costs are covered until a maximum of **275,00 €** per participant from Spain.

**LOCAL TRANSPORT:** costs of getting to the workplace (if applicable and needed) will be covered by SEYF, upon arrival they will receive info on how to use public transport, a map of the transit lines etc.

**ACCOMMODATION:** SEYF will host the volunteers in a flat in Lecce, as previously specified. The accommodation will assure good living conditions (private rooms, equipped kitchen and bathroom, heating system, running cold/ hot water, Wi-Fi).

**TRAINING:** participants will attend specific national training session organized by the Italian National Agency for Youth foreseen in the Erasmus Plus Programme.

**INSURANCE:** participants will be covered for free by the European insurance Cigna for the whole project period.

**WORKING PROGRAMME:** working hours are flexible and adapted to the schedule of the Centers and in line with the needs of local NGOs.

Anyway, it is usually 30 hours/week plus moment for italian classes, party, fun. 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 days of vacation in the project that you can use as you want. Anyway, any change or plan will be discussed in advance with volunteers.

**LANGUAGE SUPPORT:** The volunteers will learn Italian. In particular, they receive

a free licence of Online Linguistic Support ([for more info click here](#)).

**FINANCIAL ASPECTS:** International travel, local transport, accommodation and utility fees, monthly communication costs, costs related to activities are covered directly by SEYF within the frames of the the Erasmus Plus programme.

**POCKET MONEY:** 150 euro/month to the volunteer for additional personal expenses, issued monthly.

### **WHAT SUPPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING YOUR VOLUNTEERING PROJECT?**

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 selfevaluation.

The counterparts (staff from SEYF, Centers and local organizations) 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 SEYF 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.

A blue speech bubble button with rounded corners and a tail pointing towards the bottom right. The text "TAKE PART!" is centered inside the bubble in white, uppercase letters.

TAKE PART!

For participating please:

1. Please fill the form: <https://goo.gl/forms/Y9BUXOUmBgokSiv13>
2. Please email us at the email address: [mobility@seyf.eu](mailto:mobility@seyf.eu)



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CONTACT US AS YOU MAY NEED!

For more information feel free to contact us to:

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