

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS
PARTNERSHIP PROJECT



ESCall for Open Youth Work In Estonia



EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS



Association of
Estonian Open
Youth Centers

Looking for long term ESC volunteers!

The NGO Association of Estonian Open Youth Centres (AEYC) is a nationwide umbrella organisation which was founded on November 9th, 2001 with the aim to connect Estonian youth centres from all over the country. Currently, the association has 88 members with 255 youth centres. AEYC has been coordinating volunteers since 2015.

The ESC Volunteering Partnership project "ESCall for Open Youth Work" aims to promote opportunities and improve the quality of international youth work, to develop respect and tolerance, to support social and cultural diversity, and to improve competencies for international and multicultural activities and societal life among young people, youth workers, and community members.



A bit about Estonia

- The official language of the country, Estonian, is the second-most-spoken Finnic language.
- 2005 - the first state to hold elections over the Internet
- 2014 - the first state to provide e-residency.
- Estonian citizens receive universal health care, free education, and the longest paid maternity leave in the OECD.
- The sovereign state of Estonia is a democratic unitary parliamentary republic divided into fifteen counties.
- Estonia, officially the Republic of Estonia (Estonian: Eesti Vabariik), is a country on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea in Northern Europe.
- The territory of Estonia consists of the mainland and of 2,222 islands in the Baltic Sea, covering a total area of 45,227 km².
- One of the world's most digitally-advanced societies.
- With a population of 1.3 million Estonia is one of the least populous members of the EU, the OECD, the Schengen Area, NATO, and from 2020, the United Nations Security Council.
- It is bordered to the north by Finland, to the west by Sweden, to the south by Latvia, and to the east by Russia.

What is open youth work?



Open youth centres are professional non-formal educational environments providing a diverse variety of services and activities to local young people aged 7-26. Youth centres follow the principles of open youth work. Youth centres are accessible for diverse opportunities such as socialising, leisure time and hackathon space for young people to support their ideas.



Youth centres have the capacity to work with youth from different backgrounds and be socially inclusive. They are flexible in their activities, introduce different perspectives, and develop critical thinking and tolerance. Youth participation starting from the grassroots level is a key to social inclusion and to mutual dialogue to support the youth.



Volunteering

During the volunteering service, the participant will be involved in the daily activities of the youth centre and will be provided opportunities for initiatives and collaboration with associated partners in the hosting community. The participant will be able to co-create their own volunteering journey and contribute with their own ideas and skills.



Volunteering conditions

Our hosting organisations are in search of volunteers who can present some experience in working with children and young people or have high motivation and a sense of initiative to contribute to youth work activities.



General conditions

Volunteer will be granted

- International transportation reimbursement (to the max. amount)
- Henner insurance
- 5€ pocket money per day
- 6€ food allowance per day
- Accommodation
- Work-related transportation, if needed
- OLS Estonian language course (English optional)
- On-arrival and mid-term training with the National Agency
- Two annual meetings with other international volunteers
- Work-related training and preparation at the youth centre
- Tutor to instruct you at work
- A life full of new experiences!

Working language

English and Estonian

~ Estonian language lessons provided by OLS platform

~ Speakly language lessons

Selection process

Interviews will be carried out with all of the candidates after they have applied.

Vacancies will be filled as a result of the ongoing calls as soon as the hosting organisations have selected a suitable candidate.

The sooner you apply the better your chances!

Read about Elena's experience in her experience in Keila.

We are looking for you 🙋 if you are

- Able to support and stimulate different types of leisure activity, from indoor to outdoor activities.
- Ready to take some initiative over time to contribute to the activities of the youth centre.
- Competences in artistic expression and/or experience in sports or music field are very welcomed.
- The true will to overcome the possible language barrier with the children and to learn Estonian.
- Willing to live in Estonia, to experience the local life, culture, and Nordic climate.
- preferably engaged for 12 months, but shorter term also possible.
- Willing to work with young people aged 7-26 years old.
- Able to communicate in English.
- Aged 18 - 30 years.

You are likely to have the best volunteering experience in this project if you're motivated towards social and youth work. For the roles you must be sociable, proactive, open-minded, tolerant, creative and self-reliant. Through a strong commitment to the tasks, you're ready to challenge your interpersonal skills, resilience and other features according to the specific tasks you'll be assigned to.

In order to participate, you must be legally resident in the EU Member States or the Partner Countries listed in European Solidarity Corps FAQs, accessible [HERE](#).



Placements looking for a volunteer I

Jõgeva Open Youth Center

Our youth centre aims to create a safe, inclusive environment that supports young people's creativity and identity development. We provide opportunities for young people to actively engage in meaningful free-time activities and encourage them to participate in society. We are also new in mobile youth work.

Our youth center has nine regional activity points across Jõgeva municipality: in Jõgeva town, Siimusti, Vaimastvere, Jõgeva alevik, Laiuse, Kuremaa, Palamuse, Torma, and Sadala.

more information



Kohila Noortekeskus

Kohila Open Youth Center offers an exciting opportunity for young people to engage in a vibrant community, explore their passions, develop new skills, and make lasting connections. Join us and be a part of creating a positive impact in a welcoming and inspiring environment!

more information



Placements looking for a volunteer II

Tõrva Kogukonnakeskus

Tõrva Open Youth Center operates as a community hub, integrating youth work, culture, and sports to provide diverse opportunities for young people and the broader community.

[more information](#)



Jõhvi Open Youth Center

Jõhvi Municipality is local parish government, located in eastern Estonia. Jõhvi Open Youth Centre is the main place offering youth work services in the area. It's a place where young people can spend their free time, take part in workshops, organize events, and work on projects.



To become a volunteer in Estonia,
tell us about yourself and your
motivation to be part of the
project HERE.

*See you
in Estonia!*

