

SKILLING YOU(TH) SOFTLY

INFO – PACK

Erasmus+ Youth Exchange

“Skilling You(th) Softly”

Leptokarya, Greece

24/05 – 1/06/2022



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



WHO WE ARE

Youthfully Yours Gr was born in 2011 by a company of friends interested in Non-formal Education, Youth Work & European Mobilities. YYGR is a Non-profit Organization (NGO) from Thessaloniki, Greece, being active on local, national & European Level, interested in Arts, Environment, Democracy, Unemployment, Sustainability, Creativity and Entrepreneurship, Volunteering, European and Balkan culture as well as urban and regional activities. YYGR promotes friendship, peace and respect for human rights while battling racism and xenophobia. Voluntary mutual help on the above matters is the subject of our meetings and also of our activities.

YYGR aims to encourage young people to participate in European/International training/exchange/ESC etc. programs, in order to build a stronger future for our country, acquaint the versatile colorful world we are living , free of xenophobic attitudes, with hope for friendships that will last for a lifetime. Therefore, the Organization is composed of young volunteers that promote, organize, manage and support projects and ideas that can have a positive impact on the youth and also society as a whole.

Main activities of our organization :

- Hosting and Participating in Erasmus+ projects
- Sending ESC organization
- Local street Actions
- Presentations of European opportunities
- International Nights
- Webinars on Digital Tools
- Artistic/Up-cycling/Recycling Workshops



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[Youthfully Yours Gr](https://www.facebook.com/youthfullyyoursgr)

or visit our website

<http://youthfullyyours.gr/>





DESCRIPTION OF THE YOUTH EXCHANGE

The main theme of the project is set out from the title of the project: give youth the opportunity to experience the impact of soft skills. The choice of the theme was made after research and facts emphasizing the gap between the skills that employees possess and the abilities that employers are looking for. After a thorough analysis of the gap, we gathered with our most trusted partners to illustrate how we can foster young people with a set of transversal skills. Non formal education, one of the main assets in Erasmus+ programme, provides the necessary challenging and creative environment together with strong educational activities followed up with reflection. Through this project we will try to get young people understand the difference between hard skills they learn at school, university etc and the soft skills which are not necessarily taught in a specific framework and format but are considered as experiential learning.

The activities of the project are designed accordingly to highlight the particular skills we aim for participants to develop. Based on the group stages of Tuckman, we will start a journey of forming a group dynamic that will perform with synergy after the cooperation and integration of the team. Some of the thematic the project will approach are problem solving, public speaking, conflict management, time management, empathy, communication and many more. The type of the activities introduced are simulations, specifically designed games, debates, small group activities, role-playing, outdoor activities and mindfulness.



OBJECTIVES

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- To foster mutual understanding of soft skills and their role in employability of young people.
- To give knowledge regarding soft skills and their characteristics.
- To give opportunity to participants to practically experience soft skills development and understand their relevance in the working environment.
- To improve the international competences of participants by working in an international context and environment.
- To boost participant's personalities with key competences that will help them to work more efficiently.
- To make them more familiar with transversal skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, leadership, time-management, Emotional Intelligence, Conflict Management, Critical thinking, Adaptability.
- To improve those cross-competences of participants and experience new methods which can be transferral to life.
- To give the chance to young people to experience a different way of learning, experiential learning where they will take initiatives.



PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

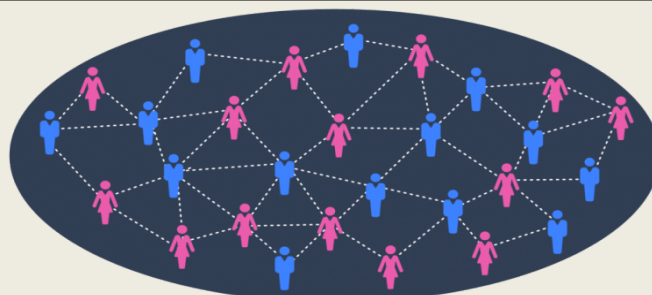
The participants, 5 per country (4 participants + 1 group leader), will be:

- between 18-25 years old (the group leader should be between 18-35 years old);
- interested in personal development through non formal education;
- motivated to learn more about learning through experience;
- willing to broaden their perspective on their european citizenship;
- young people with limited access to educational courses and from rural areas;
- able to communicate in English at a moderate level (Participants with limited knowledge are also welcome if they are willing to try to improve themselves before and during the activity dates)



PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Country	Legal Name
Greece	NEOI ELLADOS SE EUROPAIKI DRASI
Slovakia	YOUTHFULLY YOURS SR
Italy	ASSOCIAZIONE ATTIVA-MENTE
Portugal	ASSOCIAÇÃO CHECK-IN - COOPERAÇÃO E DESENVOLVIMENTO
Poland	STOWARZYSZENIE EUROPE 4 YOUTH
Spain	ASOCIACIÓN EUROPA 2020





TRAVEL BUDGET

360 EUR per participant	Portugal, Spain
275 EUR per participant	Italy, Slovakia, Poland
20 EUR per participant	Greece

- This activity will be carried out thanks to the co-financing received from the Erasmus+ programme. We have received a certain amount of money for travel reimbursement, which depends on the amount of kilometers it will take you to travel from your home to Leptokarya. Keep in mind that if the tickets cost more than the allocated amount, we will not be able to cover the difference and it will be your own financial contribution.
- Reimbursement will be given only on the basis of an existing ticket. No advance reimbursement for future tickets will be given. If participants pay for their ticket with a credit card, they are requested to bring along the confirmation of payment (i.e. credit card slip and/or bank statement).



- Reimbursement of travel costs will only be done upon full attendance of the program and presentation of all original (+return tickets) tickets, receipts, invoices and boarding passes.
- The travel costs will be reimbursed in the partner organization account after the mobility and dissemination (local actions) made by participants, based on the documents provided by participants.
- All participants must **receive verification** from the organizers before buying any tickets. **Participants should choose the cheapest means for their traveling. No taxi or first class and business class tickets can be reimbursed.**
- Reimbursement will be done in EURO. Your local currency will BE calculated according to the exchange rates on the day of the purchase and you will be reimbursed to that exact amount.



ACCOMMODATION

Our Youth Exchange will be hosted at the Hotel “[Great Alexander Strand](#)”

You will be sharing room(s) with another 2-3 persons of the same sex & different nationality. All rooms have either baths or showers. Towels and shampoo will be provided. Please remember to bring your personal hygiene items! There is free WiFi in the hotel.



SESSION ROOM

Sessions will take place inside the hotel and, depending on the weather, outdoors.



INTERCULTURAL NIGHT

Please bring typical food and drinks from your countries! We will have only 1 traditional evening (the exact date will be mentioned in the final version of the infopack). Unfortunately we don't have the budget to reimburse you the expenses made for the things that you are bringing, but try to be creative and funny! You can bring typical costumes, leaflets, posters, flyers, food, sweets, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks etc. There is no possibility to cook or heat food, so try to keep it simple. Also, you can show videos, photos, sing music and dance traditional dances from your countries!

THE FOOD

There are three daily meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner & 2 coffee breaks) provided by the organizers. If there is any special nutrition need or allergy please specify in your Participation form. Be prepared for typical Greek dishes, as the Mediterranean diet is one of the most famous and tasty ones. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will take place in the restaurant of the hotel.



HEALTH INSURANCE

Health insurance will **NOT** be provided or reimbursed by the organizers. All participants are required to purchase health insurance individually, or get the free of charge formulary E-111 from your national social security that covers medical costs around EU member states ([European Health Insurance Card](#)).



TRANSPORTATION TO ACCOMMODATION

- The Project will take place in [Leptokarya Pierias](#) about 1:30 h away from Thessaloniki to the West - South. The program provides accommodation and food (3 meals) during the project.
- The organizers will reimburse 100% of your travel costs from your home city to the venue and back, according to the rules of Erasmus+ program, as mentioned in details below.
- The airport is International Macedonia Airport (SKG) that has a lot of connections to many European cities, so it shall be easy for you to find a flight from and to your country
- A private bus will be hired for the transportation of the participants from the Airport to the venue. More information on the meeting time and place as well as on the price of the bus ticket will be announced soon. The private bus costs for each participant will be calculated along with the rest of the transportation cost (approx. 30 €per person for the bus ticket).
- Those of you who are planning to stay in Greece outside project dates **you need Youthfully Yours's approval first**. We kindly ask you to email us with the travel options as soon as possible.

Arrival day: 24th of May before 18:00 PM

Departure day: 1st of June after 12 AM

Tickets for travel outside the official travel dates purchased **without** Youthfully Yours's approval may not be reimbursed.

- In case you arrive early and you want to go visit the city, get the bus No 01N which is right outside the arrivals gate and it will take you to the city center. The cost is 2€ for one route(have exact money for the machine in the bus as it does not give change and you can buy only 1 ticket at a time) or buy it before entering from the nearby ticket kiosk. The bus runs every 30 minutes and it usually takes more or less 35 minutes to get to the center depending on traffic.

- We suggest you get off at Aristotelous square (name of the bus stop Plateia Aristotelous). For your way back, you take the same bus (01N) from the same street (Egnatia) only on the other direction but just to be safe you should check the bus stops (as it doesn't stop on all of them) or ask any of the polite youngsters that are filling the streets of Thessaloniki.

Please keep in mind to look for the cheapest transportation means possible! In the case that your travel costs exceed the amount allocated for you, you will have to pay it on your own to the full.

WEATHER

We recommend you to bring clothes which you consider as the most comfortable for you, for the temperature from 10 to 30 Celsius. Sometimes it's raining in the region of Leptokarya, so please bring umbrellas/raincoats.

We will update you with another info pack containing all the information about what to bring with you.

ABOUT GREECE

If you want to know more about our country here are some useful links:

<http://www.visitgreece.gr/>

And for Thessaloniki:

<http://www.thessaloniki.travel/index.php/en/>

<http://www.greecetravel.com/thessaloniki/>

Covid regulations: Always check a week prior to your flight the regulations applied for traveling to and from Greece.

<https://travel.gov.gr/#/>



Please contact us if you have any queries in the meantime.

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