

## OUR COMMUNITY

This project is a youth exchange bringing together 32 participants from 4 countries to a small city of Trofaiach in Austria to promote human rights and peace building. Young people participating at this youth exchange from four countries - which are representing the cultural diversity in Europe: Lithuania, Turkey, Macedonia and Austria - will be discovering that despite the differences in the language, religion and culture, humanity unites them all.

The project is entitled "OUR commUNITY" as a community represents besides the family the basic unit of our societies. We believe that if we are aware of our own role and contribution and we help to foster peace, mutual understanding and tolerance within a community, then peaceful, inclusive and more tolerant societies are possible.

Based on the concept of a community, participants will learn in a playful way about racism, xenophobia, stereotypes, prejudices, acceptance, inclusion, participation and diversity as an opportunity for mutual enrichment. During the youth exchange they will be able to create their own communities but also decide in what kind of communities they would like to live and what their contribution can be and will be like in the future. In the creative part of the YE, they will have the opportunity to express their own opinion and feelings about communities and diversity through art.

By using non-formal learning methods participants will be:

- breaking stereotypes of different cultures;
- reflecting on differences in cultural behavior;
- learning how to express views/feelings/criticism/point out problems through art;
- raise awareness of the inequalities in society;
- developing skills of observation;
- developing skills for democratic participation, communication and co-operation.

During the workshops participants will interact with each other, give their input, brainstorm, make presentations, represent their country, discuss the themes, present their point of view, experience and learn new methods etc.



## WHERE

Activities take place in Trofaiach – in Schloss Stibichhofen. There are big rooms in two floors with about 10 beds in each room. On every floor there is a bathroom and toilets. We will have a washing machine. **THERE ARE NO TOWELS!!!**



You can reach Trofaiach by bus from Leoben (departures every half an hour from the train station starting at 4.43 am). Please check [www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at) for Leoben train connections. **In case you travel by train, please book the tickets in advance because of the lower price.**

### Reminder

Please, **keep all your transport tickets** (as well as boarding passes, in case you have to travel by plane.) Do not make any reservations/booking and payments before we approve. Some websites have more expensive tickets, and we recommend [www.momondo.com](http://www.momondo.com) for the flights tickets, and [www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at) for the train tickets. However, please contact us when organizing your travel and we will help you booking the most convenient option.

## WHEN

Between 27<sup>th</sup> of August and September 4<sup>th</sup> 2017. These are the travel dates, and you should be there before 4pm on the 27<sup>th</sup>, and you can leave in the morning on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Exceptions for the arrival in case of limited possibilities with planes and trains are possible. Departures earlier than 4<sup>th</sup> are not possible.

## WHO

We invite 7 participants and 1 leader who are legally resident in the partner country, interested in the subject and aged **between 18 and 25 (leader 20+)**. The teams should be compound of people who have at least intermediate understanding of the English language. The gender balance is important for the project, but not the crucial selection factor.

All the national groups will also be cooking at least one evening and prepare full dinner for all the others. Meanwhile, there will be stories late in the evening next to the campfire, singing and dancing...

Every participant will receive the Youthpass Certificate.

Youthpass is an opportunity to officially demonstrate active participation in a project. It can be used when applying for a job or for further education and training.

## PROGRAMME

The usual daily structure:

Breakfast 8:00 – 8:45

Workshops, morning session 9:00 – open end, but maximum till 12:30. The length of the workshops depend on the group.

Lunch 13:00 – 15:00

Workshops, afternoon session 15:00

Dinner 18:00

Evening programme: 19:00

## COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Travel reimbursements will be made accordingly to the rules set out in the new Erasmus+ programme guide. Please note that the lump sums given per country and participants will not be reimbursed, but the actual costs for the travel (if your country is entitled to up to 275 EUR, your travel costs however were 190 EUR – you will be reimbursed with 190 EUR and not 275). Transfers between countries if one has more costs and other less is possible in order to have everybody reimbursed 100% of their travel cost.

Board and lodging (breakfast/lunch/dinner) are fully covered.

**Costs connected to the food brought from each country for the national dinners will be reimbursed, but please contact the organizer before buying anything, as most of the ingredients can be found in Austria.**

**We need the original bills for any sort of reimbursement.**

*We advise participants to be in possession of a European Health Insurance Card or travel insurance if your country is not member of the EU.*

*For any further info contact:*

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