# Welcome to our Youth





24-30.09.2021 – Struga, North Macedonia



## **About the Project**

The project <u>'Adventure Venture-</u>" is a youth exchange project that aims to reflect environmental issues through venturing the "adventure" of our vast beautiful and sublime nature, where positive energy, and joy grows more by sharing it with others and the environment.

The essence of the project is to increase awareness of youth that they need to show love to the environment in order to win it back. First of all starting by the smallest habits of throwing plastics and garbage to garbage and recycle bins only and to bigger habits as actively volunteering on cleaning the environment and decreasing the chances of climate change. The project aims to promote environmental inclusion and building network among youth from different countries, through youth exchange. One part of the population is being isolated and they are not very active because of so many factors such as jobs, games, movies and social-media, therefore they are not aware of their slightly connection with the world. In order to care about our environment, surrounding nature we need to understand its worth and its impact in our lives. The networking and active participation is one of the most efficient processes that one organization or a person has to be involved if wants to achieve and change something.

The project will be held in **Struga, city in North Macedonia**. Arrival day is **24<sup>th</sup> September** and Departure on **30<sup>th</sup> September 2021**. You can stay **few days** before or after the project on your personal expenses.

## Objectives of this Youth Exchange

- To provide participants with the necessary skills, knowledge, and attitudes on the inclusion of young people in activities which are connected to environmental issues;
- To share experience and examples of good and bad practices by methods of nonformal education and learning from each other;
- To spread the information among young people how to prevent pollution;
- To find ways how to solve environmental problems in each country;
- To share opinions, approaches, experience, and information on environmental situation and issues among participating countries;
- Promoting healthy lifestyle activities for young people, in terms of environmental protection;
- Increasing the awareness about environmental pollution and its effect on our health;
- Empower young people in active citizenship taking responsibility in their countries and participating in the decision-making process regarding the protection of the environment;
- To give young people an example of cooperation on the international level and encourage them to undertake similar activities in the future;

## Methodology of the project

- Main principle and methodology during the deployment of this action will be the norms of non-formal education. Thus, participants are going to be introduced by the new methods of learning, creative and persuasive, in a way where non-formal learning is intertwined with outdoor activities.
- 32 youth leaders and workers from Lithuania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Romania and North Macedonia will cooperate through different outdoor workshops to achieve one common goal.
- The main objective of the project is to draw attention to the problem of maintaining a clean environment through physical activities. During these 6 days of youth exchange, participants will have the chance to discuss current issues, share ideas how to preserve environment clean, to simulate simple steps that will help towards reducing the impact of negative factors, which is caused by counterfeiting of secondary raw materials.

## Participants profile

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- Participants of this youth exchange will be between 18 30 years old and the leaders will be +18 years old.
- Each country will be represented by 5 participants (4 participants and 1 leader)

'AdVenture' project will make participants understand to appreciate everything that surrounds us (environment, people, animals and all the living creatures). To connect and encourage each other how to prevent pollution, to spread information about the environmental problems to the local community. The networking and active participation is one of the most efficient processes that one organization or a person has to be involved in order to achieve and change something.

## Working language

The working language during the program will be **English**, so it will be better if partner organizations will send participants who will be able to **speak English**.

## YouthPass

YouthPass is certificate of Erasmus+ Program, which is used as a tool to recognize nonformal education and achievements of participants through different programs where they take part. Each participant of our youth exchange, who would attend all workshops and respect group rules, will receive YouthPass at the end of our project.







### transport

Accommodation and meals will be provided by the organizers within the timeframes of the event, which will be specified in the draft program. Accommodation and training venue will be in the <u>Camping Scout</u> in Struga, North Macedonia. Also be prepared for camping!



**Important:** there is NO ATM or Shop at the venue. There are a restaurants, shops and cafeterias nearby but they might accept only cash, so please bring a sufficient amount to last the whole week. In urgent cases, the organizers will be able to provide some supplies.



*Weather:* During the end of September, it should be between 15 and 30 degrees Celsius so please take clothes appropriate for these temperatures. It is also possible that it will rain. Keep in mind that you are near the lake and at nights might get cold! After all, please check the weathercast before leaving to the project and before packing!

## **∀<u>Travel</u>**



You must make your travel arrangements. You must travel in the most cost efficient way available. In case you need help or assistance for your flights, bus tickets, we are more than happy to help you with anything you need. As a suggestion: We do have many flights via Wizz Air, Austrian Airlines and Turkish Airlines. The closest airport to Struga is **Ohrid St. Paul The Apostle Airport** in case you have hard time to find a flight to this airport then you can book your flights from **Skopje International Airport**. From Airport to city center it takes around 30-40min and there are buses almost after each flight available to take you to city center or main bus station which costs 3-4€ (180den) and then you can check this site for the bus schedules from Skopje to Struga <u>https://www.balkanviator.com/en/bus-timetables/skopje-mkd/struga-mkd/</u>. For cheap flights you can check these sites: You can check sites: <u>https://www.kiwi.com/en/</u> and <u>http://www.azair.cz/?lang=en</u>

We strongly suggest our participants from Romania, Bulgaria and Greece to use the bus as the main mean of transportation for faster and easier way to reach your desired destination. If you need help, we can assist with this as well. You must provide details of your travel plans to us for verification and approval: <a href="mailto:ngo.eunoia@gmail.com">ngo.eunoia@gmail.com</a>

After going back home, you should keep the original boarding passes, invoices and any other documents for your travel.



**Important:** Since Struga is 2-3h away from Skopje, you will need to take a bus from Skopje to Struga and vice versa. It is important that you arrange your flight and arrive in **Struga before 16.00 on 24**<sup>th</sup> **September 2021.** This bus will cost you 15€ per person for a return ticket.



#### Travel insurance & European Health card & COVID Test

Travel insurance is obligatory and European Health card is recommended, both are participant's own responsibility. We do suggest you do any kind of COVID test at first f good, it might be asked in the border and for the safety of other participants in tr

## **∀ <u>Partner Countries</u>**

<u>Country</u>	<u>Partner</u>	Participants per country	<u>Travel</u> limit per participant	Contact of partner
	Youmore Morcelli Giovani	<u>4 + 1</u> (Participants <u>+ leader)</u>	<u>275</u> €	istitutomorcelliano@gmail.com
	Association of Ruse in help for society and young people	<u>4 + 1</u> (Participants + leader)	<i>180 €</i>	associationofruse@gmail.com
	SEA Greece	<u>4 + 1</u> (Participants <u>+ leader)</u>	<u>180</u> €	karagiannigeorgiae@yahoo.com
	Druskininku jaunimo uzimtumo centras	<u>4 + 1</u> (Participants <u>+ leader)</u>	<u>275</u> €	projektai@juc.lt
	Eunoia	<u>4 + 1</u> (Participants <u>+ leader)</u>	<u>20</u> €	ngo.eunoia@gmail.com
	YouthLand	<u>4 + 1</u> (Participants <u>+ leader)</u>	<u>180</u> €	youthland@yahoo.com

We strongly suggest you for any kind of question or doubt to ask your sending organization! Also, wait for approval of your tickets before you purchase them!!!

## ∀<u>Reimbursement</u>



Organizers will reimburse 100% of eligible travel costs up to the limit. The travel expenses will be reimbursed after participants provide their original tickets and fill their personal report from European Commission. Reimbursement will be done by bank transfer in Euro to the sending organization's bank account. If you bought your ticket in your local currency, which might be different from EURO, we will calculate your travel costs according to the exchange rates from official European Commission web site:

#### www.ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro/index.cfm?Language=en

For now, and the same most probably will be in September too, to enter in North Macedonia you DON'T NEED PCR TEST! However, in case you might need a PCR test in future, the tests are not refundable.

Note that, only participants attending the entire youth exchange can be reimbursed. The Commission solely reimburses public transport costs.



Very important: your tickets are an essential part of accounting of the project that we must keep and present to the Erasmus+ National Agency, the main funders of the youth exchange. Therefore, if you cannot provide your original tickets, receipts, insurance and invoices clearly stating the travel agency, your name and the exact costs of the tickets, we will not be able to reimburse you. Please DO NOT BUY any tickets before approval of the organizers!

## **∀**<u>Currency</u>

**The currency in North Macedonia is Denar.**  $1 \in \ 61.35$  *Denar! However, do not worry for this; we will help you if you need to change money. In addition, while in Skopje or Struga there are many change offices to change the money so feel free to change the money there. Try not to change a lot of money in Airport as the rate it is a little bit lower than the normal one.* 

## ✓ <u>Getting Ready</u>

- Comfortable clothes and shoes for workshops, we will organize indoor and outdoor activities depending on weather, (sport wear, slippers, sneakers). We also plan to organize a hiking trip so be prepared for it too! In addition, bring swimsuit because near we have a lake where you can swim.
- Traditional food, drink and souvenirs for intercultural night activities.
- It would be nice to prepare some interesting presentations of your country and sending organization but try to avoid YouTube videos. You can teach your songs and dances to all participants when you will have the stage.
- NGO's materials (Logos, videos, promo-materials, etc.) please inform your participants about the organization and provide them with supportive materials.
- At least one laptop per national team is needed! Some workshops will need a laptop to do the work properly!
- Camera, Go Pro or any other accessories that you might have including musical instruments as more than welcomed! Let's have an unforgettable AdVenture!!!



# YOUTH EXCHANGE BY EUNOIA

# GET READY SOON!

AdVenture is happy to welcome you on board!

# SEPTEMBER 24 - 30, STRUGA OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Co-funded by the Erasmus Programme of the European Union





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