

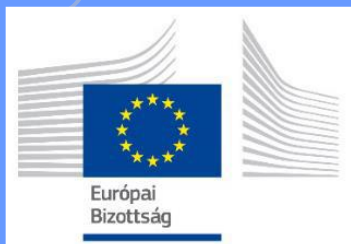
# Social Opportunities of Students

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Booklet



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„Contents of the project do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Commission  
or the Hungarian National Bureau, whose responsibility do not cover the scope of the  
project.”



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## The ERASMUS+ Program<sup>1</sup>

Erasmus+ is the European Union's program for education, training, youth and sport for the period of 2014-2020. It integrates seven different programs within the EU into a more complex system, providing a strong network of cooperation amongst every branch.

The current program has a budget of 14.7 billion euros and supports numerous projects throughout the continent. Thanks to a more simplified code on finances, organisations can apply for the grant easier – thus, nearly 4 million European citizens could benefit from the program.

Almost 10% of the youth is eligible to apply, which means that over 500.000 young applicants can take part in the program.

According to the program, the most important aims of any project should include the following: developing key competences of the youth; increasing their presence in the democratic public life and on the job market as well; activating intercultural communication; encouraging social accepting and solidarity; forging a strong relationship between youth and the job market; improving youth work conditions; supporting youth policies; distribution of results; increasing visibility and broadening capacity for youth living in countries outside of the EU.



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<sup>1</sup> Source of pictures and text: [www.eplusifjusag.hu](http://www.eplusifjusag.hu)

In Hungary, the Erasmus+ program's education and training chapters are coordinated by Tempus Public Foundation, while NCSSZI Erasmus+ Youth Program Bureau is the office for the youth chapter.

Applicants are welcome to apply in the following three categories of Erasmus+:

- Mobility of Individuals (KA1),
- Cooperation for Innovation and Exchange of Good Practices (KA2),
- Support for Policy Reform (KA3).
- Applicants may apply in three subcategories within the KA1 – Mobility of Individuals category:
  - Mobility for youth workers
  - European Volunteering Service
  - International youth exchange programs



The program called „INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE” targets youth between the ages 13-30 and gives the chance to participate in a training program that is at least 5 and at most 21 days long. The main aim of the program is to let the youth participate in a training that deploys various non-formal learning methods to improve their competences in various fields, depending on their field of interest.

- Youth realise projects and prepare them before the youth exchange program jointly.
- The exchange program offers an opportunity for participants to get to know new cultures, customs and ways of living, thus enabling them to strengthen their competences and improve their solidarity and democratic moral code.
- A project can be realised with a bi- or multilateral cooperation between different EU and outside of EU countries, and it has to take place in one of the participating countries.



## Participating organisations

### Kárpátkanyar Egyesület

The Kárpátkanyar Union is a new organisation which was founded by ardent young adults in 2015 Sepsiszentgyörgy to protect their environment, and the most significant values of the Kárpát-medence. Our members before this work at other organizations as volunteers. They didn't give up these jobs, but they thought the earned experiences will more effective in a collective organization.

Our members have wanted to make a collaboration for the karpatian and karpat-medence's tourism, cultural, social, educational, gastronomy, charitable and environmental protection activity improvement, popularization, organization.

Our main aims to protect the natural and constructed values in this regio. And also to protect those people's identity who live there, to get know with others more about the several ethnic groups' culture, therefore they might be closer for a greater purpose. We think it is important to assure some possibilities for the poor, help them, support them, and also make awareness raising campaigns.

More over our main activity to organize several trips for to get more knowledge about our home. This has other goals too for example to activate the citizens mainly the youth, and to interpret those countryside values which can disappear without encouragement. And it's also support the traditional agriculture, local production which they can acquire during the programs.



## **Luminosos, n.o.**

Luminosos n.o. is a non-profit organisation founded in 2008 with the aim of helping Bodrogköz and the Ung region to make significant societal, social and cultural progress. Their main activities include the organisation of English language courses (for every age group at every level), the organisation of seminars and conferences, tender monitoring/ writing/ implementing, counselling in EU training programs and tenders. They also closely cooperate with European host institutions participating in the Life Long Learning – Leonard da Vinci program, plus they function as an ECL regional language centre. The organisation has been working with and for the youth for long years, keeping a close eye on their job market opportunities, while also trying to insure their future, be it their homeland or abroad. They have many years of experience in organising youth exchange programs. Luminosos have organised an Erasmus+ program in Slovakia in 2017, and they also participated in several other programs as partner organisations, both of which providing the necessary amount of experience needed for organising a youth exchange program.



## **Fundacja Szkoła z Kultúra- 'Szkoła z Kultúra' Foundation**

“Szkoła z Kultúra” is a foundation started back in 2015. Its main aim is to support educational activities in the schools of Jablonka, with a particular focus on culture and sport. This also motivates and supports students to take part in volunteering work.

Students collect donations, clothes and food for those in need. However, the aim is not only to help people but animals as well. Youth taking part in the project are truly involved in the issue of animal rights and they would also like to share their experiences with youth from other European countries.



The school also organises events themed around ecology in order to raise the youth's awareness about humanity's impact on the environment (global warming, pollution etc.). Personnel actively engaging in the work of the foundation are teachers of the school complex. Many of them teach subjects related to a specific profession (economy, cooking, architecture etc.). Apart from implementing their lesson plans, every teacher of the school complex plus those teachers who take part in the work of Szkola z Kultura Foundation educate their students and raise awareness to topics such as animal rights and the fight against animal cruelty.

One of the team leaders in the project is an English teacher who is also responsible for maintaining cooperation with other countries' organisations, and who has taken part in numerous professional trainings which focussed on issues such as the improvement of youth employment and finding partners for future projects.

## II. Ferenc Rákóczi Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute

II. Ferenc Rákóczi Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute has grounded for 18 years, chosed by the students on a democratic election, which is independent from polotical parties and works as an youth civil service, its activities are for the society.

Main tasks:

- They stand for the students' interests regional,national , at the Institute, at international services
- make and support culture, youth, travel-connections home and international civil services in addition make partnerships with other services( educational institutes)
- support cultural, professional, public and sport activities to the institute's students, also support the traditions and make new ones
- coordinate the life of the institute, for instance.: to give information about competitions, scholarships, jobs for students and other oppportunities.
- make chance and opportunities for the youngsters, in this way we can support their lives
- moreover, make cultural events for example proms, parties, and other events (freshmen camp, student days, prom)



- The HÖK's activities are extensive and their partnerships are strong. Their members, volunteers and the youngsters have large potential. Their numbers are increasing, their potential, connection and experiments are diversified. These youth arrive several times in Hungary and they have opportunity to know more about the Erasmus+ programs.

### **Kárpátikum Közhasznú Alapítvány**

Eger-based Kárpátikum Közhasznú Alapítvány was founded in 2006 and currently has 5 affiliates in other counties apart from the headquarters. Its projects focus on the following areas:

Researching and spreading the innovative methods of regional development. Helping closing up those regions lagging behind socially and economically by applying well-known and well-working examples from the



European Union in local environments and also by mobilising the youth and strengthening their social responsibility.

Forming a nature- and society-friendly mindset within the communities in the Carpathian basin; strengthening a sense of national belonging. Both aims revolve around activities focussing on training and motivating the youth.

The organisation has already realised several, mainly sustainability related programs: popularising renewable energy sources, training regional developers, developing underdeveloped local regions, supporting cross-border Hungarians, photo contests, popularising environmental protection and organising camps.



## „Social Opportunities of Students”

On the exchange program's 9 days there were 50 participants, 10-10 members from each organisations. All of them have economical or geographical disadvantages, however they are interested in the problems which are related to the youth and they wanted to be active and find solutions to these problems.

They participated as volunteers in the exchange program. We have the same purpose due the exchange program that means we want help these youth to make their future plans. We have the opportunity to get to know more about school-leaving what can be the reasons of it. What can be the reasons and the consequences. The unemployment is a tremendous issue in the poor European regions. We want to mention distinction of those who have less than others. They have to cope with problems at work and with the society because they come from these background. We want to explore these problems and find solutions for that they can cope with these in the highschool or at the university or when they start to work somewhere. May the society won't make distinguish between them because of their religion or skin colour. The project help them to learn self-sufficient thinking, better problemsolving competences and make their own visions.



The program's thematic included team building, getting acquainted with each other, creativity developer tasks. They have after that more professional and groupworks which are connected to the exchange program's main theme. The main point were that we use to the formal and non-formal learning methods. The gastronomical and cultural programs also took place everyday. The participants can acquire the European Unio's main competences and after these programs they can get individual certificate..

## The main skills which can be acquired due the project

Due to exchange program the youth got profitable knowledge and experiences that they can use this in the future. We want to ensure formal and non-formal methods with these they can get some important competences and develop their knowledge and use this knowledge. We achieved some competence's development with these formal and non-formal methods. The programs tried to affect these main competences.

In the project we talked about some tremendous problems which are causing unemployment in some European country, the youth who are leaving their school (free willing or not), and also those social problems which can appear in the schools or at their work place. The main goal was that the participants can recognize these problems and try to find solutions for it.

The natural science and technological skills for instance the knowledge of the situation. With this we are capable to exploring the reasons of the unemployment and locating it on the maps. In addition our other goal was to train these youth. They can make better decisions in their lives..

Indirectly the digital competences are also improved: we used laptops, projector or video camera. The participants got to know some computer programs which can be useful in the future for them with these their willingness is increasing that they use these technologies themselves and in team works.



The learning of learning appears when we did team programs. All of the freshwater youth got a volunteer who helped to make the task with his/her own methods. The accomplished participants can help a lot.

Development of interpersonal and national competence: Youth arriving from different countries was cooperating with one another over the course of the exercises, furthermore we visited each

location together. We spent the whole week in an intercultural environment where we could talk about the laws and customs of different countries.

Youngsters coming from a variety of backgrounds applied the method of acceptance effectively, friendships were made without any kind of discrimination. Achieving common goals and effective cooperation contributed largely to strengthening this competence.



The development of business competence was done in several ways. On the one hand, youngsters became more open to innovations and their ability to put their own ideas into practice and think and plan in correlations was developed. On the other hand, they became more success oriented and learnt how to use innovations, changes and opportunities

provided by external conditions to their advantage.

Cultural competences were developed with the help of participants with different cultural backgrounds and by getting to know each other's culture and customs.

# Program

## 1. Day

The participants arrived early in the morning then they took their accommodations and registered. Someones greeted each other as old friends and the new ones started with debut.

After the shortly greeting we tell the program plan. Everyone got the plan for the 9 days and we chosed who are responsible for keeping the youth in groups in addition keeping the rules. After that we played games which help to get to know more about each other. The day ended whit music and the first collective cooking.



## 2. Day

Morning after the breakfast we presented the EU system first. We talked about who work this system, of its institutes, of some notable dates, treaties and sights. We wanted to emphasise these infromations so we made a quiz about the EU.

After the lunch we talked about the system of ERASMUS+ and showed some video from early exchange programs. With this we can presented the atmoshpere and joy of these programs. Then we talked about the advantages and opportunities of Youthpass certificate after that the next stop were reflection and blogwriting.



In addition we played games to help the participant become one team. End of the day they were chatting with each other to knew more about the members.



### 3. Day

On the third day begun with the exchange programs's topics and we deeply discussed these topics. We mentioned that the early school-leaving, talked about the unemployment, and those social conflicts which are connected to these youth. These conflict have a tremendous impact on these people and on their future and consciousness.

All of the project partners made presentations about their country's education. They talked about school-leaving, and the reasons of it. They also made a questions which are related to their topics.



The „What do you think about school-leaving?“ program element was succesful. The round table's main goal was that the youth could tell their opininons about school-leaving and thos social problems which appear because of it. They could use their own experinces.

After that they made posters in mixed groups, and showed solutions for early school-leaving. They tried to show why education is important.

After the reflection the romanians youth made a culture night and represented their significant products.



#### 4. Day

On the next day the participants talked about the importance of education. The program reached the main goal because they get important informations. After that we mentioned the current systems of education, in addition which subjects are less important and which ones need bigger attention.

After the lunch we concerned the opportunities which can help to study but not in a formal education system. The sections of the Erasmus+.



After the short guide they had to planned where they would travel whit the program's opportunities. In groupworks they figured out what things could be useful for them. This element improved their creativity and actuated them to find effective solution.



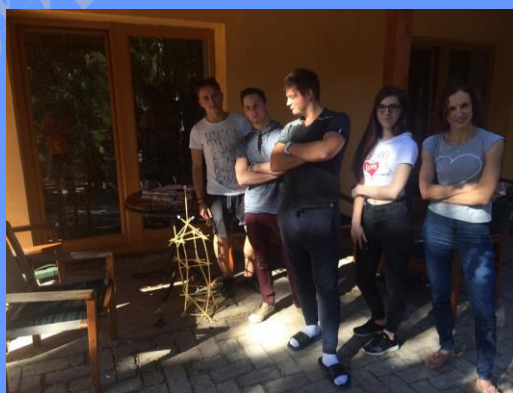
Through the 'learn from each other' task they created groups then they collected characteristics,activities which they could learn from each other.In some cases this list included a lots of things. After the reflection the slovakian youth took their cultural night.

## 5. Day

After the breakfast we represented the advantages of learning a profession and what are their opportunities if they go to higher education. We got a picture of their opinion about their opinion of higher education and branch of business. According to them what can be the bigger chance or better option for them.



Then on the round table they planned their future jobs. The participants worked in pairs and they had to find a job which is fitted to their personality. This supported to get to know each other. This could be useful for example when they want to find a job. Before the lunch the energizer's main goal was learning a dance.



After the lunch they visited the university of Eger. They got some information about the school. The end of the day was the group of Ukraine's cultural night.



## 6. Day

On the next day we started with the topic of unemployment. Firstly, we talked about it generally then the partner organizations presented the unemployment rate in their country. The next topics were poverty and those reasons what cause it. The participants created groups and solved a quiz. As an interactive element they should mark on a map the poorest countries and regions in Europe.



In the afternoon we processed the theme of over consumption and wasting lifestyle. We talked with the youth about the prime cost of products and the amount of basic commodities. Our goal was that they get information about the economy, some procedures etc.



Last but not least the participants should make a poster with the message of chariness and importance of it. When they finished 1-1 youth talk about these topics and their poster in a few words.

We made the learning journal after that was the Polish cultural and product exhibition.

## 7. Day

On the seventh day they worked in groups. The goal was that they could recognize their opportunities in East-, Central-, West- Europe. They tried to collect their opportunities and find opportunities to each other.

After that the youth made a future vision for themselves. We tried to help them imagine a future job position for themselves. After the lunch we played situations with them. They could imagine themselves in several situations for instance situation between a boss and an employee.

Their communication and leader skills improved through this game. In addition they discussed what problems and conflicts can appear at your work place. They mentioned the problem of sex and age. Women earn less money than men for instance in several countries.



After the dinner the hungarians represented their culture with traditional hungarian products.

## 8. Day

The youngsters started the day by forming groups and working on collecting professions that there is a shortage of and ones that they consider popular. The exercise went well, they used all their creativity to create their posters and video messages.



In the followings the youngsters got acquainted with the first steps of starting a business and the further stages in the form of a short quiz. Therefore, their business competence and skill to initiate were developed.

The afternoon started with a planning exercise. Participants worked in mixed groups and established a fictive business from a given amount of money using knowledge acquired from the previous exercise. Each group member could feel themselves important as they played the role of people in different positions of the business.

In order to relieve the hardships of the exercises the participants made a trip in the near of their accommodation.



On the last night a dance competition was held where youngsters performed some of their favourite dances that they had learned over the past week. This competition was quite successful.



## 9. Day

On the last day everyone had the chance to evaluate the happenings of the past days in the form of a final meeting. New information was summed up, funny moments and the harmony of new tastes were talked about, and the unforgettable moments of the common exercises were remembered.



After lunch, the participants discussed how they plan to spread the results of the project, and the idea and structure of the presented journal. Before farewell the ideas of the next exchange program were mentioned, and the last group photos were made. Finally, everyone left with aching heart but new knowledge, information and great experiences.



Finally, we can say that the exchange program had a tremendous effect on every participant. The Facebook group is still very much active since then, the photos made over the course of the exchange were shared, and interesting articles are still being shared and commented on.

## Gallery









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