



Practical Guide for partners Infopack for participants

WHY? I CONTEXT

The project's idea was born during another youth exchange, which aimed to promote young people's active participation in the European Parliament 2019 elections, when, during a session, we have debated the way how social media and fake news may influence decisions (of people or the decision makers) and how much important is for young people to develop critical thinking skills and their social responsibility online, but also to develop specific competences to fight the hate speech and fake news online.

The project is focusing on the online radicalization of young people and the increasing number of hate speech cases online and offline, because of fake news and misinformation. In the same time, most of the time, the victims of hate speech online are the young people with fewer opportunities (especially young people from different minorities). The high levels of hate speech in public space and the cyberbullying have a profound impact on the self-esteem and self-confidence of young people, which leads to further stigmatization and exclusion. As a result of discrimination and marginalization, many young immigrants or part of national minorities face self-segregation or they start hiding and denying their ethnic and cultural identity because they want to be accepted by the majority.

WHAT? I PROJECT'S MAIN OBJECTIVES

To develop critical thinking skills, social responsibility online and the ability to identify fake news and hate speech online among 40 young people from 10 countries, during a 11 days youth exchange.

To raise the participation level of 40 young people from 10 different countries in fighting the online hate speech and fake news, by involving them in planning and implement one international awareness and informing campaign about the negative effect of hate speech and misinformation online upon the immigrants and young people from different minorities.

To promote the European values as tolerance, acceptance, equality, non-discrimination and cultural diversity and to develop the social inclusion opportunities for 20 young people with fewer opportunities which have faced cyberbullying because of their origin.

WHEN? I PROJECT'S CALENDAR (UPDATED)

Preparation phase: 01/11/2019 — 31/01/2020 | 25/05/2021 – 08/09/2021

Participant's selection: 01/02/2020 — 28/02/2020 | 25/05/2021 – 30/06/2021

Participant's preparation: 01/03/2020 — 19/03/2020 | 01/07/2021 – 08/09/2021

Youth Exchange: 20/03/2020 — 01/04/2020 | 09/09/2021 – 21/09/2021

(9th of September – Arrival Day & 21st of September – Departure Day)

Youth Exchange's evaluation phase: 01/04/2020 — 15/04/2020 | 21/09/2021 – 30/09/2021

Follow up and final evaluation: 15/04/2020 — 15/06/2020 | 01/10/2021 – 31/10/2021



WHO? I PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE

The young people participating in the youth exchange must be pupils, students or NEET young people, interested in the project's topics, who would like to develop their critical thinking skills and to actively get involved in fighting fake news and hate speech online, but to be able to do this, they need to participate in this project so they can develop specific competences and a proper motivation to become (all) human rights online activists.

From each country there will participate also 2 young people with fewer opportunities (young people facing exclusion and cyberbullying because of their origins).

The group leaders must be youth workers (volunteers' coordinators, facilitators, trainers etc.), part of the partner organizations, with a high experience in youth working and European projects (especially youth exchanges).

Each partner will be represented in the Youth Exchange by 4 young people with the age between 18 and 30 years old and 1 group leader with the age above 18 years old.

HOW? I PROJECT'S MAIN ACTIVITIES

The project's main activity is a youth exchange with participants from Partner countries to be held in Slanic Moldova, Romania, between ~~20th of March and 1st of April 2020~~ **9th of September 2021 (Arrival Day) & 21st of September 2021 (Departure Day)**, with the participation of 40 young people with the age between 18 and 30 years old and 10 group leaders with the age above 18 years old, from 10 different countries: **Romania, France, Albania, Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Italy, Turkey, Estonia and Greece.**

iTHINK is a carefully planned social inclusion project, which aims to contribute to the personal, professional and social development of 40 young participants, of which 20 with fewer opportunities by developing a safe environment and facilitating the involvement of all young participants in all project's phases.

During the youth exchange we will organize: teambuilding sessions; working sessions aiming to develop the young people understanding about inclusion and exclusion; a World Café aiming to identify the challenges online of the young immigrants or young people part of national minorities; working sessions about the advantages and disadvantages of using social media, rights and responsibilities online, GDPR, internet threats and online misinformation, including fake news; training sessions, games and exercises meant to develop critical thinking skills to develop critical thinking skills among the young participants; a street debate about fake news in Bacau; training sessions about online campaigns and how to fight hate speech online, including media literacy and how to develop social media content; working sessions to develop visual tools to fight fake news and cyberbullying online; an intercultural visit to Brasov and Bran (Dracula) Castle; sharing, reflection and evaluation sessions.

Before the mobility, the young people will document the causes and effects of cyberbullying and fake news online in their own country; they will prepare the intercultural evenings and some of the sessions that they will facilitate during the exchange.

After the mobility, they will organize different follow up and dissemination activities aiming to fight fake news and misinformation online.



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Albania QUENDRAT YOUTH FOR SOCIAL CHANGES

Bosnia and Herzegovina BOSNIAN REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION FOR VALUABLE OPPORTUNITIES BRAVO

Cyprus PLAN BE PLAN IT BE IT

Estonia SEIKLEJATE VENNASKOND

France EN ROOT

Greece HELLENIC YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Italy INVENTARE INSIEME (ONLUS)

Republic of Moldova ASOCIATIA OBSTEASCA ALTERNATIVA

Romania ASOCIATIA PENTRU DEZVOLTARE ACTIVA ADA

Turkey WORLDEST ORGANIZATION



PARTNERS' TASKS

To establish a contact person and to select an experienced group leader from your own organization.

To identify, select and prepare the young participants participating in the youth exchange (including through planning meetings with them).

To support the group leader and the young participants in establishing their travel plan.

To get involved in establishing the code of conduct and to be sure that all actors involved (contact person, group leader, participants) are assuming it.

To inform the young participants and the group leader about all the project's details.

To get involved, together with the project's team, in the activity planning process, establishing the safety and protection measures and to adapt them at the target group.

To get the parental agreement for the underage participants.

To share the tasks and responsibilities within the national groups and to support the young participants to fulfil them.

During the youth exchange (through the group leaders): to facilitate and to monitor the participants' learning process, the conflict management and risks management, to adapt the working sessions according to the young participants learning needs and objectives, to collect the young participants' feedback, to support the participants, to get involved in all logistic preparations, to ensure the participants' preparation, to fill in the group leader's report on the mobility tool website, etc.

To ensure the project's and Erasmus+'s visibility through publications, articles, social media or other dissemination channels during the entire project's life cycle.

To coordinate the travel (and visa) costs reimbursement.

To organize (together with the young participants) the follow up and dissemination activities (more details in the next pages) where to share the project's results.

To monitor and to evaluate the entire project, its results, short and long term impact.

To make a short report at the end of the project.

To respect the deadlines and to work together with the coordinator to reaching the project's objective's.

Other tasks related to the project implementation process.

PARTNERS' RIGHTS

To receive anytime information about the project's implementation.

To give feedback to the Coordinating organization and the other partners.

To be "visible" during the project and to be recognized as a partner during the entire project's implementation, including on publications or other dissemination materials.

To get involved in all project's implementation phases.



The project's main activity is a youth exchange to be held in Slanic Moldova, Romania, between **9th of September 2021 (Arrival Day)** & **21st of September 2021 (Departure Day)**. Please remember that all the participants must arrive in Slanic Moldova (Bacau County, Romania) NO LATER than 9th of September 2021, at 23:59 (Romanian time, GMT+3) and must leave from Slanic Moldova (Bacau County, Romania) NO SOONER than 21st of September 2021, at 00:01 (Romanian time, GMT+3).

A normal day structure by hours:										
08:30 - 10:00	10:00 - 11:30	11:30 - 12:00	12:00 - 13:30	13:30 - 15:30	15:30 - 17:00	17:00 - 17:30	17:30 - 19:00	19:00 - 19:30	19:30 - 20:30	21:00 - 22:30
Breakfast	1 st working session	Coffee break	2 nd working session	Lunch break	3 rd working session	Coffee break	4 th working session	Reflection groups	Dinner	Evening activity

DAY	1 st Working session	2 nd Working session	3 rd Working session	4 th Working session	Evening activity
Arrival day 09/09/2021	Participants' arrival				Get to know each other games
1 st Activity day 10/09/2021	Project's presentation & Get to know each other	Expectations, Contributions, Fears & Group rules	Erasmus+	Youthpass Certificate	Teambuilding games
2 nd Activity day 11/09/2021	Inclusion, Exclusion, Segregation, Integration and Assimilation	World café: Migrants and minorities challenges online	How inclusion and exclusion works	How discrimination works	Intercultural evening (1)
3 rd Activity day 12/09/2021	The advantages and disadvantages of social media	My rights online GDPR	Social media and online threats	Moving debate: Freedom of speech or hate speech?	NGO Fair
4 th Activity day 13/09/2021	Online misinformation and fake news	How to recognize fake news	Training session: Critical thinking	Self –assessment: Critical thinking skills	Intercultural evening (2)
5 th Activity day 14/09/2021	Games and exercises to develop critical thinking skills			Street debate: How it works	Free evening
6 th Activity day 15/09/2021	Street debate in Bacau: How fake news influence our lives and decisions?				Intercultural evening (3)
7 th Activity day 16/09/2021	Tools to fight online hate speech and misinformation	Training sessions How to build a successful campaign			Cinema night
8 th Activity day 17/09/2021	Training session: Working with different software and tools to create media content			Developing content for my campaign	Romanian intercultural evening
9 th Activity day 18/09/2021	Developing content for my campaign				Flash mob preparations
10 th Activity day 19/09/2021	Trip to Brasov and Bran Castle Flash mob in Brasov Hate speech in NOT art				Free evening
11 th Activity day 20/09/2021	Follow up: Campaign planning		Youthpass self-assessment	Evaluation	Youthpass ceremony
Departure day 21/09/2021	Participants' departure				

INTERCULTURAL EVENINGS: The intercultural dimension of any international project it is very important, as it is a great opportunity for the participants to present their country, national food and drinks, traditional songs, dances, but also the people's lifestyle, way to communicate and so on. Thus, in 3 evening, between 21:00 and 22:30 we will organize intercultural evenings. In each evening, 3 national groups will be responsible to present their country.

NGO FAIR: In the evening of the 3rd Activity Day, there will be an activity called NGO Fair. It is a partnership building activity. During this session, you (every each national group) will have to present your sending organization. You can bring electronic presentations (even if we will not use video projector for this activity) but also flyers, brochures, or any other promotional materials you would like to share with the others. The activity will be organized as a Fair, where each organization will have its own corner and all participants will move around to find out information about the other organizations.



Every each partner will be represented in the Youth exchange by **ONE GROUP LEADER**, who will join and be in charge of the 4 young participants from his/her country.

ABOUT THE GROUP LEADERS

It is very important for you, as partner, to choose wisely the group leader, as he/she will have a very important role during the entire project, especially in participants' preparation and during the youth exchange.

The group leaders must be youth workers (volunteers' coordinators, facilitators, trainers etc.), part of the partner organizations, with a high experience in youth working and European projects (especially youth exchanges).

The group leader must be above 18 years old.

Recommended group leader's profile:

Has interpersonal and communication abilities;

Has a strategic thinking and is focused on results thinking;

Has a positive and supporting attitude;

Has Team spirit;

Pays attention to details and promotes a positive attitude among the participants;

Has coordinating, planning and organizing abilities;

Has English speaking skills (at least medium level);

Has experience in volunteering, non-formal education and youth working;

Is a good mediator;

Has facilitating abilities;

Has evaluating abilities.

The deadline to communicate us the group leader name and contact details is

1st of February 2020

1st of July 2021



ABOUT THE YOUNG PARTICIPANTS

Number and age of participants: Each partner will be represented during the youth exchange by 4 young participants with the age between 18 and 30 years old and a group leader.

Participants' background: The 4 participants from every each group should be young people interested in the project's topics, motivated to participate in the youth exchange by the learning process and also opened to get involved in the dissemination and follow up activities.

The young people participating in the youth exchange must be pupils, students or NEET young people, interested in the project's topics, who would like to develop their critical thinking skills and to actively get involved in fighting fake news and hate speech online, but to be able to do this, they need to participate in this project so they can develop specific competences and a proper motivation to become (all) human rights online activists.

Gender balance: It is important that in the participants' selection process to take into consideration also the gender equality criteria. It is recommended that your group to be composed by 2 male and 2 female.

Participants with fewer opportunities: Taking in consideration that Erasmus+ is a program that develop opportunities also for those with fewer opportunities, this project it is a good opportunity for you to involve also the youth workers with fewer opportunities from your own organization.

Thus, we highly recommend you that at least 2 participants from every each national group to be with fewer opportunities (financial difficulties, geographical difficulties, special needs etc.)

- ❑ **Disability** (i.e. participants with special needs): young people with mental (intellectual, cognitive, learning), physical, sensory or other disabilities etc.
- ❑ **Health problems:** young people with chronic health problems, severe illnesses or psychiatric conditions
- ❑ **Educational difficulties:** young people with learning difficulties, early school leavers, lower qualified persons, young people with poor school performance etc.
- ❑ **Cultural differences:** immigrants, refugees or descendants from immigrant or refugee families, young people belonging to a national or ethnic minority, young people with linguistic adaptation and cultural inclusion difficulties etc.
- ❑ **Economic obstacles:** young people with a low standard of living, low income, dependence on social welfare system, young people in long-term unemployment or poverty, young people who are homeless, in debt or with financial problems etc.
- ❑ **Social obstacles:** young people facing discrimination because of gender, age, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability, etc., young people with limited social skills or anti-social or high-risk behaviours, young people in a precarious situation, (ex-)offenders, (ex-)drug or alcohol abusers, young and/or single parents, orphans etc.
- ❑ **Geographical obstacles:** young people from remote or rural areas, young people living on small islands or in peripheral regions, young people from urban problem zones, young people from less serviced areas (limited public transport, poor facilities) etc.
- ❑ **NEET category** - young people not in employment, education or training.



PARTICIPANTS' SELECTION

Every each partner organization it is in charge with the selection of its participants. We, Active Development Association, as the hosting association, will help you (if needed) in the selection process. We will also supervise the entire selection process, taking care of the fact that the selected participants will meet the participants' profile for this project.

We highly recommend you that in the selection process to take into consideration the following aspects: candidates' learning needs (how this project can solve their needs), their learning objectives (how this project meets their learning objectives), their expected learning outcomes (if the project meets them), age (between 16 and 30 years old), gender (to ensure the gender balance within the group), motivation (their motivation to participate), their availability to participate in the youth exchange (it is mandatory to actively participate during all the youth exchange's activity days) and after, in the dissemination and follow up activities. Of course, you can have your own criteria, but please do not forget to take into consideration the participants needed profile.

We also attach to this info-pack an application form for the participants. All selected participants must fill in this application form because it contain important details that we help us preparing everything related to the Youth Exchange.

The deadline for sending us the participants' application forms is 1st of July 2021.

PARTICIPANTS' PREPARATION

The participants' preparations should be done at three main levels, after the selection process:

Logistic preparations: First, the group leader should inform the participants about all the project's details. Second, He/She/They has to help them to establish all the logistic details regarding their travel to Romania. This will include: travel plan, buying tickets, medical insurance, and visa (if it is the case) etc. He/She/They should also check if the participants understood all the details regarding the exchange.

Learning process: The group leader should help the participants to establish their personal learning objectives. He/She/They is also in charge with monitoring and evaluating participants' learning objectives. He/She/They is in charge with tasks sharing within the national group. They need to ensure that all the participants from their group are aware about the learning process and that the training course is a learning experience.

Social and cultural level: The group leader should know the young people from his/her/their group and to facilitate the cooperation, dialogue and teambuilding within the national groups before the youth exchange. They have to promote tolerance and solidarity within their groups and to inform the participants about the cultural differences, the cultural context within the project will be held, but also about the group rules/code of conduct.



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

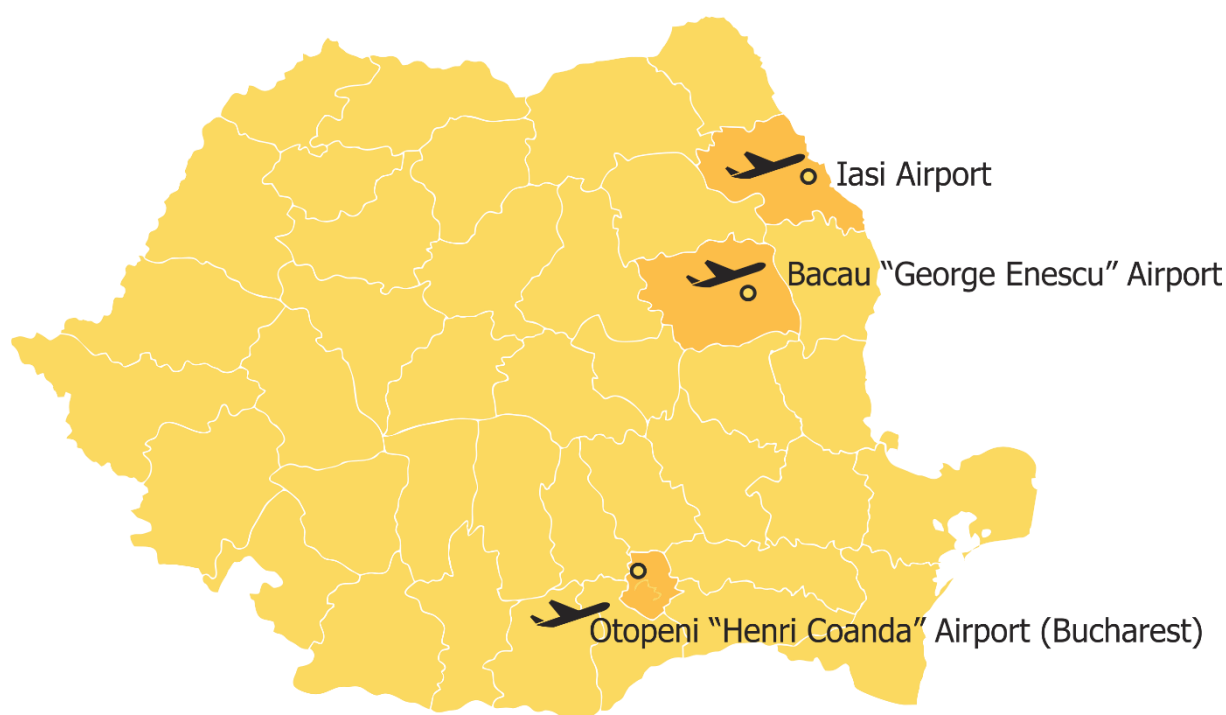
From your country to Romania

If you choose to travel by plane, you can search for flights to Otopeni Airport (Bucharest) or to Bacau Airport, which is the closest city to Slanic Moldova, the place where the youth exchange will be held. It is better if you land in Romania (in Bucharest) in the morning on **9th of September 2021** and you depart from Romania in the evening on 21st of September 2021, as the youth exchange will be held in Slanic Moldova, Bacau county, and you need to take into consideration the internal travel, from the airport to the place where the project will be held.

You can check for the tickets, but before buying them let us know about the price and the full schedule of your travel. Just after our approval you may buy your tickets.

The deadline for the participants to buy their travel tickets is 15th of August 2021. On 15th of August 2021 we will open the call for participants outside the consortium (the partner organizations) if there will still be free places. If you need help in the selection process, please let us know in time.

At the same time, when buying the tickets, if it is possible, we highly recommend you to acquire also an extra service/option which allows you to change/reschedule the flight in special cases.



INTERNAL TRAVEL | How to get to Slanic Moldova

For your trip from Bucharest to Slanic Moldova, we will rent a bus to bring all participants from Bucharest/Otopeni Airport straight to the hotel in Slanic Moldova on 9th of September 2021 and then, from Slanic Moldova to Bucharest/Otopeni Airport on 21st of September 2021. The rented bus will leave on 9th of September 2021, first from Bucharest Gara de Nord (the main train station) and then from Otopeni Airport. We will have volunteers waiting for you in 2 different meeting points, at both, Gara de Nord and Otopeni Airport. Most probably the rented bus will leave from Gara de Nord around 5 pm and then from Otopeni Airport around 5:30 pm, but we will decide together the departure hours taking into consideration the participants' travel plan and when they will land in Bucharest.

If people are landing earlier (in the morning or about lunch time) they can visit Bucharest city. To arrive from Otopeni Airport to Gara de Nord (the main train station) people should take the bus no. 780. More details about the trip from the airport to the city you can ask at the airport information point. Also, at Gara de Nord (the main train station) there is a place where people can leave their luggage.

VISA

If for travelling to Romania, you need a visa, please let us know as soon as possible as to be able to help you with the visa procedures.

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

The accommodation is 100% covered by Erasmus+ Programme, between 9th of September 2021 (Check in after 14:00) and 21st of April 2019 (Check out before 12:00).

During the Youth exchange participants will be hosted at [Pensiunea Poiana Verde](#) from Slanic Moldova. The rooms will be shared between 2 or 3 people. Some of the rooms have 3 beds, others TWIN beds and a couch, others have a matrimonial/shared bed and a third bed, a matrimonial/shared bed and a couch or just a matrimonial/shared bed. If you want to share the room with someone in particular, please let us know in time.

The food and coffee breaks are 100% covered by Erasmus+ Programme.

There will be three meals per day (breakfast, lunch and dinner) and 2 coffee breaks per day. On the arrival day it is included just the dinner and on the departure day it is included both, breakfast and lunch. It is very important to tell us if you have any allergies or if there is something that you do not eat, if you are vegetarian or vegan, have a diet, etc. This is why it is important all participants to fill out carefully the application form and to not forget to send it to us before 1st of July 2021.

If any participant wants to stay longer in Romania, this is possible up to 2-3 days before and 2-3 days after the mobility. Still, all costs related to the extra days (for food, accommodation, trips, local transportation or other type of costs who were not made for the project) must be covered by the participant himself/herself.



OTHER INFORMATION/LOGISTICS

We highly recommend you to have a medical travel insurance before coming for your staying in Romania. The medical help might be expensive here if you do not have a travel insurance. If you are part of the European Union, we highly recommend you to take the European Health Insurance Card, a free card that gives you access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in any of the 27 EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland under the same conditions and at the same cost (free in some countries) as people insured in that country.

The travel insurance cost it isn't an eligible cost for the project budget so it cannot be reimbursed. We also recommend you to have with you your personal medicines (during the activities we will have a First Aid Kit and some general medicines in case someone ask for it).

Please bring comfortable warm clothes. The average temperatures are usually oscillating between 15 and 25 Celsius degrees during the day and 5 and 15 Celsius degrees during the night for the period when the project will be held. We will give you further information about the weather as the youth exchange gets closer.

Also, please bring your favourite music and anything else you consider necessary, including slippers, hairdryer (not all the rooms have an hairdryer) etc. At the hotel, there is internet access and towels. We also recommend some of the participants to bring a laptop.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: To be able to cover the costs for the accommodation and food, participant needs to sign at the end of their mobility a participant statement and the participants' list. A participant aborting his/her/their mobility (leaving earlier) means covering the accommodation and food by himself/herself for the days he misses, as there is signed an agreement with the hotel and there are involved some costs meaning that we still have to pay for the days remained from the project. Also, at the end of the mobility, each group leader must fill in the individual report, on Mobility tool website in maximum 30 days after the mobility ends, according to Erasmus+ rules.

COVID-19 IN ROMANIA

Travel restrictions:

Anyone considering travel to Romania should check the latest information from the local authorities regarding requirements for international passengers arriving in the country.

Here you may find what are the countries on the RED, YELLOW and GREEN list: <https://www.cnsrbt.ro/index.php/liste-zone-afectate-covid-19/> (the list is updated regularly - each week).

- Anyone arriving to Romania from Red countries, will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Arrivals from Yellow countries must quarantine for 14 days, unless presenting negative test results.



- Arrivals from yellow and red countries must present a negative PCR test, no older than 72 hours.
- Anyone arriving to Romania from Green countries, will not be required to self-quarantine.

Exemptions from quarantine:

- People that are fully vaccinated (10 days and more after the second dose of the vaccine – if a second dose was required);
- People who had been infected with SARS-COV-2 in the last 90 days – with medical evidences: a positive RT-PCR test at the date they received the diagnosis & the hospital discharge ticket or a test proving the presence of IgG antibodies performed with a maximum of 14 days before coming to Romania.
- People who come to Romania from countries / territories of epidemiological risk but who, before arriving in Romania, have spent the last 14 consecutive days in one or more countries / territories without epidemiological risk;

Official measures against COVID-19 in Romania:

- Wearing a mask is mandatory in public spaces indoors. It is mandatory outdoors in places of larger gatherings (bus stations, markets, concerts etc);
- It is mandatory to keep a distance of 1.5 meters with other people;

You may find attached the code of conduct and some of the group rules we will follow during the exchange.

Other aspects:

- Public transportation in Romania is operating.
- Restaurants, cafes and bars in most of Romania are open, under capacity limitations and social distancing requirements.
- In high-risk areas, restaurants, cafes and bars are open only for outdoor seating, takeout and delivery.
- Non-essential businesses and attractions in most of Romania are open, under capacity limitations and social distancing requirements.
- In high-risk areas, spas, swimming pools, theaters and cinemas are closed.

Further information about restrictions on passengers entering Romania is available on the [Reopen Europe website](#). For passengers travelling from countries outside the EU/EEA, entry into Romania is possible for EU/EEA citizens and for those who meet the requirements for an exemption under the current regulations. Further information is available on the website of the [Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#).



TRAVEL COSTS

Travel costs are budgeted according to Erasmus+ conditions, using the distance calculator from the city where each sending organization it is registered to the city where the mobility will take place.¹

Between 10 and 99 KM:	20	EUR per participant	Romania
Between 100 and 499 KM:	180	EUR per participant	Republic of Moldova,
Between 500 and 1999 KM:	275	EUR per participant	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Italy, Turkey
Between 2000 and 2999 KM:	360	EUR per participant	France

The amounts above represents the maximum amount that may be reimbursed for one participant, depending by their sending country. According the Romanian National Agency rules, the reimbursement of the travel and visa costs will be done after the activity in the bank account of your sending organization, per national group and not individually, based on all travel documents in original.

Still, if any participant request the travel costs to be reimbursed in his/her/their own bank account, this is possible, only if that participant agrees to pay the bank transfer tax.

DOCUMENTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

For the reimbursement of the flight ticket:

- The electronic ticket with the travel plan or the e-mail confirmation of your flight (the e-mail received when the ticket was bought);
- All boarding passes;²
- An invoice from the travel agency/website/airlines company from where the flight ticket was bought.³
- The payment confirmation: If you paid through bank (credit card, bank transfer, online payment etc.) you need a bank extract or a printed statement released by your bank showing the payment/transaction.

For any other travel tickets (busses, trains, ferry etc.):

If you buy your tickets from an office, in cash, then you need the ticket in original, with the price on it or the ticket and a receipt (if the ticket has no price on it).

If you buy your tickets online, then you need the electronic ticket and the payment confirmation (same as above).

Invoices must be released by official travel companies/offices and not by the sending organizations. The invoices released by any sending organization does not count, as the sending organization is not a travel agency.

NOTE: Only the original travel documents are taken in consideration for the reimbursement. Please be sure that you have and bring all the requested documents with you in Romania during the activity, as without them we cannot make you the reimbursement.

NOTE: Aborting the mobility/leaving earlier means not receiving the return travel costs.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/tools/distance_en.htm

² The return boarding passes can be send after the project, by post.

³ The e-mail confirmation of the flight is not replacing the invoice.



REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

Step 1: All the return documents (return boarding passes, return bus tickets, etc.) or any other missing travel documents will be send by all participants by post.

Deadline: 05/10/2021.

Step 2: We will collect all your travel documents from you (including the return ones) and we will centralize them in one reimbursement document for every each participant. Then, we will send this reimbursement documents back to you, by email to sign them (also your sending organization - as the receiver of the reimbursement - will sign and stamp them).

Deadline: 25/10/2021.

Step 3: Your sending organization will send us by email the reimbursement documents, signed by all participants and by its legal representative.

Deadline: 28/10/2021

Step 4: After receiving the signed reimbursement documents we will make the money transfer through bank in the bank account of the sending organization or in the bank account of the participant if he/she/they requests this and agrees to pay the bank transfer tax.

Deadline: 31/10/2021

The deadlines can suffer changes, depending on how fast you send the documents. It can be much earlier, but not later than 31/10/2021, when the project officially ends and no payment is eligible anymore.



DISSEMINATION AND FOLLOW UP

All participants and partners must get involved in the dissemination and follow up activities as this is one of the selection criteria. The dissemination activities aims to share the project's results among other beneficiary or target groups.

Before the youth exchange: The partner organization and the selected participants should promote the project on their Facebook page, website or other communication own dissemination channels.

We will send you soon the official poster of the project and the information you already have it here.

During the youth exchange: The partner organization and the selected participants should upload photos from the activities on their Facebook page or on other social networks or dissemination channels.

After the youth exchange: The partner organization and the selected participants should write an article (a small report) and publish it on their blog, site or other dissemination channels (as newspapers, etc.), but also to organize three type of dissemination activities:

a. Know-how transfer activities/smaller training courses: Between 1st and 31st of October 2021, each national group must organize a know-how transfer activity in their local community. At the activity must attend at least 15 other young people/ The activity may happen online or offline. Also, during the activity, you can share the project's results.

b. To implement a local campaign about Fake news and misinformation online through different methods between 1st and 31st of October 2021 (including organizing a street debate, informing activities in schools – if possible, or just online activities: sharing articles, sharing the project's results etc.

PROOFS OF THE DISSEMINATION AND FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES:

It is mandatory to all activities to make participation lists⁴ and take photos from the events.

It is very important that all participants to be involved in the dissemination and follow up activities after the youth exchange. Also, you must send us proofs (pictures or links), a small report (what happened, when happened, where happened and who participated) and a scanned copy of the participation list.

Deadline: 31/10/2021

⁴ The participation lists should contain the following columns: First Name, Surname, E-mail, Date of birth, Hometown, Role (Youth worker, Volunteer, Decision maker etc.) and Signature, but also the date and the location of the event.



ABOUT SLANIC MOLDOVA

The place where the project will be held

Slanic Moldova is situated on the eastern slope of the Eastern Carpathians (the mountain Nemira) at a height of 530 m on the valley Slanic. The city takes place in a depression covered with deciduous and coniferous forests. Slanic-Moldova, a city in eastern Romania (Bacau County) located Slanic River (a tributary of Trotus) at Nemira Mountains (Eastern Carpathians), elevation 530 m, in a valley surrounded by forests of beech and fir, the 84 km southwest of the city of Bacau (Bacau county).

Slanic Moldova is the place to relax and recharge your batteries; it is nature itself around you and delight your eyes. What you want more than to feel the mountain air as you purify the body, to the steps you walk on trails and paths that open up new horizons ... more modern, brighter, closer to your soul, to live and breathe in a beautiful mountain landscape in which to rediscover that communion with nature to heal itself using power or beneficial to the many springs renowned for their curative effect?

ABOUT BACAU

The place where some of the activities will take place

Bacău is the main city in Bacău County, Romania. At the 2016 national estimation it had a population of 196883, making it the 12th largest city in Romania. The city is situated in the historical region of Moldavia, at the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains, and on the Bistrița River (which meets the Siret River about 8 kilometres (5.0 mi) to the south of Bacău). The city is about 300 kilometres (186 miles) North of Bucharest. It is served by Bacău International Airport which provides direct links with the Romanian capital, Bucharest, and with 10 cities in Europe.

If you get to Bacau, make sure you don't miss the Precista Church, built by the son of Stephen the Great at the end of the 15th century, or the ruins of the Princely Court in its vicinity. There is also the modern art Roman-Catholic Cathedral, the biggest church in Moldavia with over 70 metres height. The Ethnographic Museum in Bacau displays the ethnographic areas of the region, while the History Museum houses an important collection of antique objects from the ancient Dacia.

Bacau has several shopping centres available throughout the city, and there are also available plenty of places to buy souvenirs, the most common being related to Romanian folk. Apart from the occasional events that take place in Bacau, there is always a theatre or a cinema to go to for entertainment, as well as art exhibitions. Nightlife in Bacau has a lot to offer on its own. Bacau has something for everyone, like bars and clubs, discos, or even casinos.

Also, in 2017, Bacau was the Romanian Youth Capital and it is one of the most active cities in the field of youth working.

ABOUT BRASOV AND BRAN

The places we will visit

Brasov is up there with Sinaia and the surrounding mountain resorts as the most visited city in Transylvania, Romania, and this is something that's not in vain. Brasov boasts everything from dynamic modern city life to old world charm and fascinating scenery. Also, it's pleasant to have some of the extras as well, including some of the best cleanliness records in the country, great transport and great food. Even though it's a bit overpriced for Romanian standards, especially in the high season, Brasov is definitely worth it. As some people say, "Why bother coming to Romania if you're not going to see Brasov?"

Bran Castle, situated near Bran and in the immediate vicinity of Brasov, is a national monument and landmark in Romania. Commonly known as "Dracula's Castle, it is marketed as the home of the titular character in Bram Stoker's Dracula. The castle is now a museum open to tourists, displaying art and furniture collected by Queen Marie. Tourists can see the interior individually or by a guided tour. At the bottom of the hill is a small open air museum park exhibiting traditional Romanian peasant structures (cottages, barns, etc.) from across the country.



ABOUT ROMANIA

1. Romania's famous Peles Castle, located in Sinaia mountain resort, was the first completely electrified castle in Europe. The electricity was produced by the castle's own plant.
2. The Voronet Monastery, located in north-eastern Romania, is also known as the "Sistine Chapel of the East". Its frescoes feature an intense shade of blue also known as the "Voronet blue".
3. The Astra Museum in Sibiu is the largest open-air museum in Romania, and the second-largest museum of this kind in Europe.
4. Romania not only has rich gold resources but also hosts Europe's only museum dedicated to gold.
5. Romania joined NATO in 2004 and the European Union in 2007
6. Bucharest's Palace of Parliament, also known as the People's Palace, is the world's largest civilian building with an administrative function and the second-largest building in the world after the Pentagon in the US. It covers some 330,000 sq.
7. Timisoara, in western Romania, was the first city in Europe to have electric street-lighting (1889).
8. Bucharest was the first city in the world illuminated by oil lamps (1895).
9. Romania is home to Europe's largest population of brown bears. According to a 2014 wild animal census, Romania's forests are home to some 6,000 bears. That is why, in some mountain areas, you may see bears searching for food through garbage dumpsters.
10. The Carpathian Mountains are home to one of the largest virgin forests in Europe.
11. The Danube Delta is the second-largest river delta in Europe and the best preserved on the continent. The delta hosts over 300 species of birds as well as 45 freshwater fish species in its numerous lakes and marshes.
12. The famous British auto show Top Gear shot one of its episodes on Transfagarasan in 2009, naming it "the best road in the world".
13. Romania is the twelfth largest wine producer in the world and the sixth largest in Europe.
14. Romanians enjoy some of the fastest internet speeds in the world. According to the Ookla Net Index, nine cities in Romania are among the top 15 cities in the world with the highest download speed of fixed broadband internet connections.
15. Romania has one of the happiest and unusual cemeteries in the world. The Merry Cemetery, located in the village of Sapanta, in Maramures County, became famous due to its colourful crosses and the satirical poetry written on them.
16. Romania also hosts some spooky places. One of them is the Hoia Baci Forest, also known as Romania's Bermuda Triangle. Several paranormal activities and unexplained events allegedly took place there: from ghost and other unexplained apparitions, to UFOs sightings.
17. Romania inspired Bram Stoker's novel Dracula and Jules Verne's The Castle in the Carpathians.
18. Romanian Nadia Comaneci was the first gymnast to receive a perfect score of ten in an Olympic competition. She made history in Montreal in 1976.
19. Romanian Nicolae Paulescu discovered pancreatine, later named insulin.
20. Petrache Poenaru was the Romanian who invented the world's first fountain pen.



ABOUT US

THE HOST ORGANIZATION



Active Development Association aims to initiate, promote and implement sustainable and active development measures regarding the quality of life, seeking to build a responsible and active society in terms of cultural, educational, social and environmental development.

We are focusing on 4 different fields:

1. International mobilities (exchanges) of young people and youth workers (both hosting and sending) aiming to develop the young people from our community and the youth workers from our NGO and the region. So far we have implemented more European projects, founded even through Youth in Action Programme, even though Erasmus+ Programme, in 5 main fields of action: entrepreneurship & career guidance (7 projects), youth policies, youth participation and European citizenship (14 projects), cyberbullying, critical thinking, fake news and internet safety (4 projects), discrimination, exclusion and inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities (including minorities, refugees and immigrants) through different methods (including performing arts, policies or campaigns) (7 projects) and environment and health (6 projects).

2. Structured dialogue, youth policy and civic engagement projects and activities in order to empower the young people from our local community, to facilitate their communication with the decision makers and last but not least to have a contribution in the decision-making process, especially in youth policies.

3. Gheraiesti Park Festival – An open park type festival we are organizing each year in Bacau, Romania to raise awareness about environment, the park development needs and the local community around the park challenges. During 2 – 4 days we are organizing different educational, sports and cultural activities in the park aiming to raise awareness upon this park so the local authorities to keep investing in it. Usually, every year more than 2000 people, especially young people, from Bacau and the villages around, are participating.

4. European Youth Village program, the European Youth Capital alternative for rural areas and small cities, a program which we are coordinating at European level. The EUROPEAN YOUTH VILLAGE program aims to create dialogue between the community members and the institutional actors of the village and to encourage the initiative from young people to the rest of the stakeholders involved in the process, developing new opportunities for young people, by young people. Therefore, through this project, we aim to offer a positive model of community organization for young people in rural areas, which can be replicated at international level, to bring to light the problems, needs and challenges of these young people and to address in a strategic way, but also to create development opportunities for young people from rural areas, IN THE RURAL AREAS, on four main pillars: education, training and professional development of young people; culture, diversity and intercultural dialogue; volunteering, participation and inclusion; and decision making, youth policies and cooperation. Through this program we aim to develop the rural youth sector by activating and enhancing the cooperation between the young people from rural areas and the decision makers, while also developing and strengthening the public youth policies at local, national, and international level.

Depending on our projects and activities we have three different categories of target groups:

- Young people between 15 – 30 years old in general and from rural areas in special.
- Young Teachers, young Museum workers and young Library workers
- Public Authorities.



In the last 3 years our activities were focused on people from rural areas including vulnerable categories of young people affected by unemployment, exclusion and other difficulties. Also, since 2020, we are part of the Romanian National Council for Youth, a consultation mechanism of the Romanian Ministry for Youth.

We are working on all level of intervention with focus on community organizing and education. Active Development Association (ADA) is active in creating opportunities for young people, with a focus on those from rural areas and from vulnerable discriminated minorities. We are also involved in environment education & citizenship by raising awareness (through an annual festival) about the importance of preserving our community green parks for a healthy lifestyle. Our NGO is involved in organizing international youth mobilities in which young people and also youth workers have opportunity to develop their skills and competencies in a variety of topics, from lifestyle to social inclusion and entrepreneurship.

So far we have implemented more European and local projects, founded even through Youth in Action Programme, even though Erasmus+ Programme:

Implemented activities on Youth in Action programme:

So far we have implemented more European projects, founded even through Youth in Action Programme, even though Erasmus+ Programme, in 5 main fields of action:

I. Main topic: Entrepreneurship & Career guidance

1. **Youth.ways** - YIA - Action 1.2 - Youth initiative (2012)
2. **Find Your Way** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Youth Exchange (2015)
3. **Find Your Way 2** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Youth Exchange (2016)
4. **Find Your Way 3** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2017)
5. **Young entrepreneurs** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2019)
6. **Green entrepreneurs** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2020)
7. **Get inspired** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2020)

II. Main topic: Youth policies, youth participation & European Union

1. **A different kind of education II** - YIA - Action 5.1 - Structured Dialogue (2012-2013)
2. **Acting European** - YIA - Action 5.1 - Structured Dialogue (2013-2014)
3. **Acting European 2** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Training course (2014)
4. **Acting European 3** - Erasmus+ KA 3 - Structured Dialogue (2015-2016)
5. **Structured Dialogue Support Group** - Erasmus+ KA 3 - Structured Dialogue (2016-2017)
6. **Power of youth** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2019)
7. **National Youth Village Romania - Erasmus+ Ka3 - Structured Dialogue (2018-2019)**
8. **You(th) decide** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2019)
9. **Youth for democracy** – European Solidarity Corps (2019)
10. **BUILD** - Erasmus+ Ka1 – Training course (2019)
11. **Structured Dialogue Support Group 2.0** - Erasmus+ Ka3 - Structured Dialogue (2018-2020)
12. **Solidary in #Sascut2019, the European Youth Village** - European Solidarity Corps (2019-2020)
13. **Ring the changes** - European Solidarity Corps (2020)
14. **European Youth Village- Erasmus+ Ka3 - Structured Dialogue (2018-2019)**
15. **Feeling European** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2020)
16. **Bridges** - Erasmus+ Ka1 – Training course (2021)
17. **Focusat pe transport** – European Solidarity Corps (2021)

III. Main topic: communication, critical thinking, cyberbullying fake news and internet safety

1. **Connect yourself** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Youth Exchange (2014)
2. **Safe Link** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2016)
3. **iTH!NK** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2020)
4. **Connected through empathy** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2020)



IV. Main topic: Discrimination, exclusion and inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities (including minorities, refugees and immigrants) through different methods (including performing arts, policies or campaigns)

1. **Arts Included** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Youth Exchange (2016)
2. **Non Formal Education in Action** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Training Course (2017)
3. **Inclusion through Arts** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2017)
4. **Inclusion+** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Training course (2017)
5. **Tolerance+** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2018)
6. **Embracing the colours** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2019)
7. **Reputation** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2020)

V. Main topic: Environment and health

1. **Together for Gheraiesti Park** - YIA - Action 1.2 - Youth Initiative (2014)
2. **Gheraiesti Park Days 2** - Erasmus+ KA 3 - Structured Dialogue (2015)
3. **Environment and inclusion through Junior Ranger Camp** - Erasmus+ KA 1 - Youth Exchange (2015)
4. **Environment and Inclusion through Junior Ranger Camp 2** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2016)
5. **Find Your Balance** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2017)
6. **Creative Health** - Erasmus+ Ka1 - Youth Exchange (2018)

LOCAL & NATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

At local level we are organizing weekly different thematic workshops with the young people from our local communities aiming to develop key competences and European awareness among them.

In the same time, in 2017, together with other organizations from our city we have founded a Youth Federation, which became one of the most important stakeholders at local level in the field of youth. Thus, through Bacau Youth Federation we are coordinating and implementing our advocacy strategy at local level.

In the context of the European Youth village program we aim contribute to the realization of the vision of young people from the rural communities, and especially to develop opportunities for the young people from rural areas, in the rural areas, our efforts focus on four main directions:

- Developing strong and involved rural youth communities through the European Youth Village program and increasing the celebrating the young people, the educators and the success stories from the rural areas at the Rural Youth Gala.
- Connecting young people from rural areas to each other and increasing their representation at national level by developing the RITM Network, the first National Informal Network of Rural Youth (and hopefully to extend the network at international level).
- Developing the youth sector in rural areas by establishing the first Romanian federative structure dedicated to support the non-governmental organizations working grass roots with the young people from rural communities.
- Influencing and developing public policies in the field of youth, which are relevant for young people in rural areas, to pursue their development and to contribute strategically to solving the problems that young people from the rural communities are facing.



AWARDS:

In 2013, our project "A different kind of education 2" was among the finalists at National Volunteers Gala for the Best volunteering project in education field. "

In 2014, our project Acting European 3 - was named the "Best volunteering project in youth field" at National Volunteers Gala. Also in 2014, 2 of our volunteers were named best volunteer in the youth field and best junior volunteer.

In 2015 our project Gheraiesti Park Days 2 was one of the finalist at National Volunteers Gala for the best project in youth field and in 2016, the Romanian National Agency for Erasmus+ (ANPCDEFP) awarded us (for this project) the title of best project in structured dialogue field (a best practice example) at Public Participation Awards.

In 2016 two of our volunteers were among the finalists at the National Volunteers Gala.

In 2017, our project Structured Dialogue Support Group - was named the Best volunteering project in the youth field at National Volunteers Gala. Also, at the same gala, two of our volunteers were among the finalists.

In 2018, our project Acting European 3 received from the European Commission the title of "Success story", being recognized as a best practice at European level in Structured Dialogue projects, the only such title for a Romanian organization so far.

In 2019, our project Solidary in #Sascut2019, the European Youth Village was named the best volunteering project of 2019 from Bacau County.

In 2020, our project "Youth for Democracy" was awarded during Salto Participation and Information Awards, category "Promotion and Outreach".

In 2021, our project "National Youth village – Romania" the Romanian National Agency for Erasmus+ (ANPCDEFP) awarded us (for this project) the title of best project in structured dialogue field (a best practice example) at Public Participation Awards.

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Dear participants,

My name is Victor TOMA, I am the legal representative of ADA (Romania), your host organization, but also this project's coordinator. First of all, I want to wish you a warm WELCOME in our project **iTHINK**.

During the implementation of the entire project our team will try to do their best and give you all the support in the preparation, implementation and dissemination of the project.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. We are looking forward to meet you!

Dear partners,

Thank you for all your efforts to support this project and help the participants. We are really grateful and you hope to have a fruitful and sustainable collaboration.

Best regards and warm hugs,
Victor TOMA
President of Active Development Association

