



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

[Link to application form](#)



Infopack | Peer learning & Partnership event

**ESC
EXPERTS
MEET IN
LEIPZIG**



**CONNECT
SHARE
INSPIRE**

04/05/25 - 08/05/25

LEIPZIG (GER)



Co-funded by
the European Union



Stadt Leipzig
Amt für Jugend und Familie

About "CONNECT, SHARE, INSPIRE"

During the 4 day programm, we will work together on our ESC skills. We exchange **best practices**, work on **typical problems** and use **practical examples** to improve our methods, processes and reflect on ourselves. Additionally, we gain an insight into the work of mentors, coordinators and volunteers in Leipzig.



The training course also offers time to get to know each other and to exchange experiences. This should generate the basis for future partnerships in the field of the European Solidarity Corps. We will focus on long-term projects (>2 months), but also want to give space for short-term and ESC Teams.

Training goals

- Learn about experiences in the establishment of ESC projects of other organisations and experts (both for newcomers and experts)
- Learn from experts from Leipzig (mentors, coordinators, volunteers)
- Learning and deepening of knowledge about long-term **ESC projects** and **ESC Teams**
- Building partnerships between the participants to create permanent hosting and sending capacities
- Better handling of problems during volunteer management





Target group



- Coordinators, responsables, experts of ESC project
- Mentors / Tutors of volunteers
- Other interested people working in ESC projects or want to get started
- Newcomers are very welcome and we make sure we have a good mix of different levels of experience



Furthermore, the participants...

- have at least some basic ideas about ESC and long-term volunteering (hosting and/or sending)
- are motivated to learn more about ESC and its implementation
- are willing to participate in the entire program
- are supported by an organization or informal group to realize ESC project(s)
- have a sufficient command of the English language
- are minimum 18 years old

Apply now !

To apply for the training, you have to be **resident in one of the Erasmus+ Program countries (All EU member states or North Macedonia, Serbia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Türkiye)**. Also, you need to have a sending organization (check info box). In case you don't have one, we'll support you in finding one.

The participation fee is **100,00€** and has to be paid in advance via bank transfer. The fee covers accomodation, meals and all program-related costs.

Please fill out the application form by **March 1st at the latest**. You will be informed of our selection by March 7th.

What is a sending organization?

A sending organization is a partner organization of the host organization. It supports the participants in the preparation and follow-up of the project and is the point of contact if problems cannot be resolved on site with the host organization. Each sending organization must be registered and have a valid OID number.

Participation without a sending organization is not possible! In case you don't have one, you'll need to find one. Let us know, and we will support you through our network of partner organisations in Europe.

[Link to application form](#)



Venue / Accommodation



Leipzig, situated in the eastern part of Saxony, is a city with a rich historical heritage. The town combines history and culture while offering a peaceful, charming atmosphere.



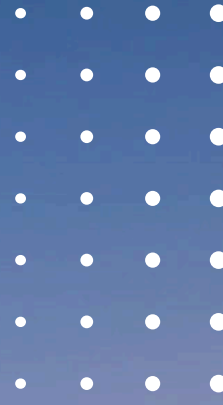
Premier Inn

You will be accommodated in single bedrooms in the **Leipzig City Oper Hotel**, which is located close to the central station. Breakfast will be taken at the hotel.

The training course will take place in the seminar rooms of VILLA, who are in 15-minutes walking distance from the hotel. The seminar rooms are barrier-free and equipped for seminars. Lunch and dinner will be provided.



Program



SUN
04.05.

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- ✓ Kick-Off
- ✓ Getting to know each other

MON
05.05.

Workshop Day

- ✓ Introduction/ Expectations
- ✓ Sharing of ESC- Experience
- ✓ Best Practices

TUE
06.05.

Discovery Day

- ✓ Expert interview (mentors, coordinators & volunteers)
- ✓ Field trip: ESC volunteers in action and their environment

WED
07.05.

Partnership Day

- ✓ Problems, Obstacles and possible ways to ease them
- ✓ Partnership building
- ✓ Free Time in Leipzig
- ✓ Farewell Party

THURS
08.05.

- ✓ Breakfast

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About VILLA



VILLA is a modern youth, cultural and social institution close to the center of Leipzig. With over 100 events and courses each week, it offers a wide range of activities for every age group (from early music training with toddlers to back schooling for senior citizens) in a variety of genres.

The centre has five differently equipped event rooms, a media lab, a self-help bicycle-repair centre, a café, a band practice room and a sound laboratory. The eight-member 'Europe team' forms the core of the VILLA's international youth work and has been implementing various ESC and Erasmus+ youth projects for almost 20 years (Youth/Professional exchanges, youth participation & solidarity projects)

European Solidarity Corps projects in VILLA



We have been active in the ESC and EVS since 2001 and are one of the largest organisations in the Saxony region that accept and send volunteers. We host 2-3 volunteers in our organization and are also the coordinating organisation for 14 partner organizations in Leipzig and the region. In total, we are responsible for up to 23 volunteers per year. We have two groups per year, which start in March and September. In addition, there are around 15 - 20 sendings, although we have worked less with permanent partners so far. Once per year, we organise a **volunteer team** (workcamp) with a focus on inclusion. Our volunteering positions are mainly in child care and youth work, but we also work together with a object theatre, the city library and a residential group for people with mental disabilities.



Travel costs & Reimbursement

Your travel expenses can be reimbursed up to a maximum fixed amount (see table on the right). To calculate your distance, please **use only** the EU Distance Calculator.

Travel distance	Green travel	Non-Green travel
10 – 99 km	56 EUR	28 EUR
100 – 499 km	285 EUR	211 EUR
500 – 1999 km	417 EUR	309 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	535 EUR	395 EUR
3000 – 3999 km	785 EUR	580 EUR

Hints for travel reimbursement



Origin: The starting point and end point of your travel is usually your place of residence. If your travel does not start from or end at your place of residence, please prove to us that the cost of your ticket is no more expensive than if you had travelled from or back to your **place of residence (city)**.

Green Travel: Green Travel is defined as a travel that use low-emissions means of transport for the **main part of the travel** (>50%), such as bus, train, bike or car-pooling. The decisive factor is the number of kilometres travelled, not the travel time.

Travel arrangement: Please arrange your travel based on economy class / 2nd class tickets. Please **do not book any tickets before you got our confirmation of participation**. If you need help or advices, please contact us. All selected participants will get more detailed travel advices after the date of selection.

Travel days: In order for us to recognize your travel documents, you must arrive no more than 3 days before the official arrival date (18.11.) and depart no later than 3 days after the official departure date (24.11.).

So you are welcome to use the time before and after the project for free time. Please note that we cannot provide food and accommodation for these additional days.

Travel receipts: Please provide us with your complete original travel receipts. Copies and Scans are not permitted. Digital receipts can only be accepted if there are no physical travel receipts.



Facilitators



Philipp Niese | Team lead (DE)

Philipp coordinates the seven-member Europe-Team which implements several Erasmus+ and ESC projects. Since 2001 he is involved in the implementation of around 100 ESC activities, organised several youth exchanges with Northern Ireland and coordinated political education in VILLA. He is experienced in the application, monitoring and administration of ESC projects in both formal and practical implementation.



Johanna Strobel | ESC Coordinator (DE)

Johanna has been working as an ESC coordinator in the Europe-Team of VILLA since 2023, where she coordinates around 40 volunteers per year. She also brings a lot of experience in obtaining the Quality Label. Before that, she was involved in a youth exchange program at a secondary school in Leipzig. Prior to that, she has also been supporting a state-funded student exchange program in Bavaria since 2017, which she continues to run as a freelancer.



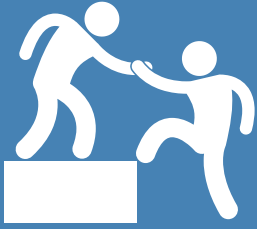
Meliha Kuyulu Rost | ESC Coordinator (DE/TR)

Meliha is one of the ESC coordinators in the Europe-Team of VILLA. She did a year of ESC volunteering 3 years ago and since April '24 she has been working as a coordinator, bringing together the practical and theoretical knowledge. Together with Johanna, she coordinates around 40 volunteers per year. Since October '23 she has also been coordinating a youth participation project which has reached 250 young people in Leipzig.



Silvan Carius | Coordinat., Trainer (DE)

Silvan is a full-time project coordinator for European youth projects at the sociocultural center "Die VILLA". He has coordinated, managed and accompanied more than 50 Erasmus+ Youth Exchanges since 2018 - most of them with a focus on young people with fewer opportunities. He advises other youth work organizations and helps them to get their projects off the ground. He passes on his experience in training courses and knows the challenges in international youth work.



Support / Contact

If you need support or if you have further questions, please contact Johanna, Meliha or Philipp.



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Jahr für Europa

