



Youth work essentials+

Enhancing learning in activities with and for
young people

Slovenia, 23.11 - 3.12.2023

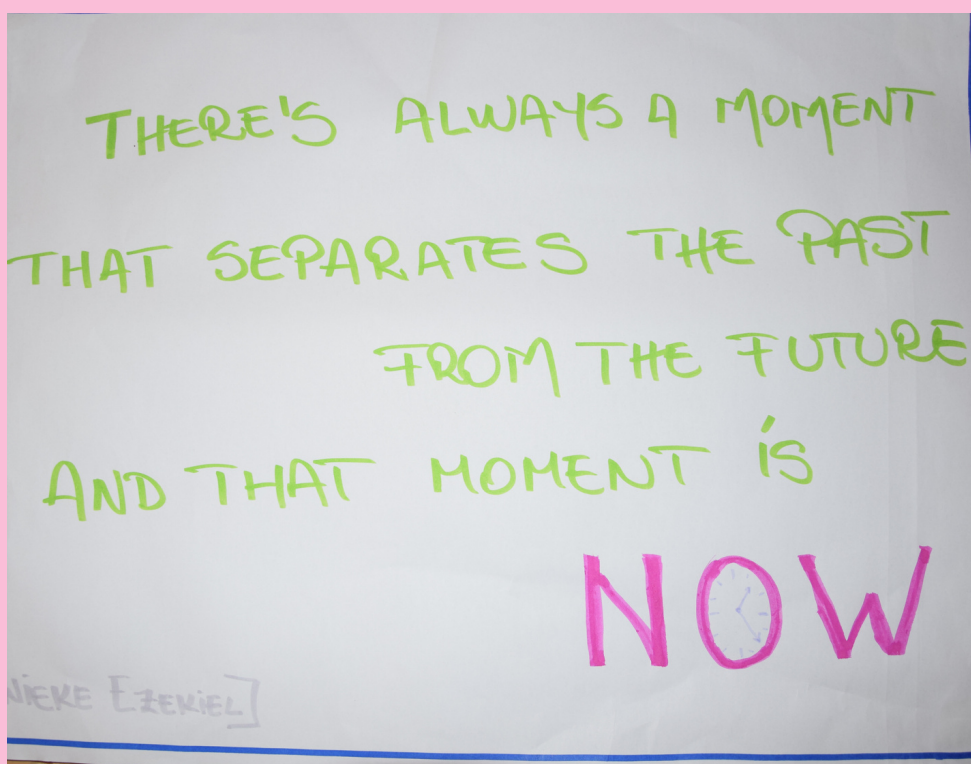


The hosting organization

Društvo Lojtra is a young organisation, active in the field of youth work and sustainable development. The main motivation for our actions comes from our belief that meaningful experiences change lives. They definitely changed ours! Youth work just offers the perfect setting to design, implement and evaluate life changing experiences. And working with young people is so fun!

We believe in non-formal educational approaches such as experiential and participatory learning. Regular reflections and evaluations assure that the learning processes actually happen.

We are constantly learning, making friends around the globe, we are included in matters, which affect our values and we are nurturing respectful and responsible behaviour towards others, the community, nature and ourselves. We are somewhat crazy and we are enjoying it! We believe the future is bright!

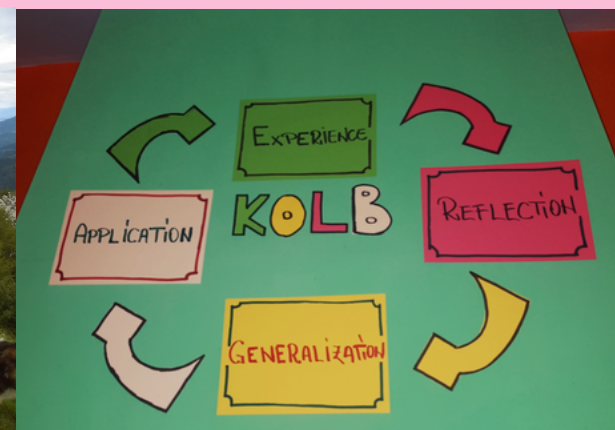


Webpage

FB

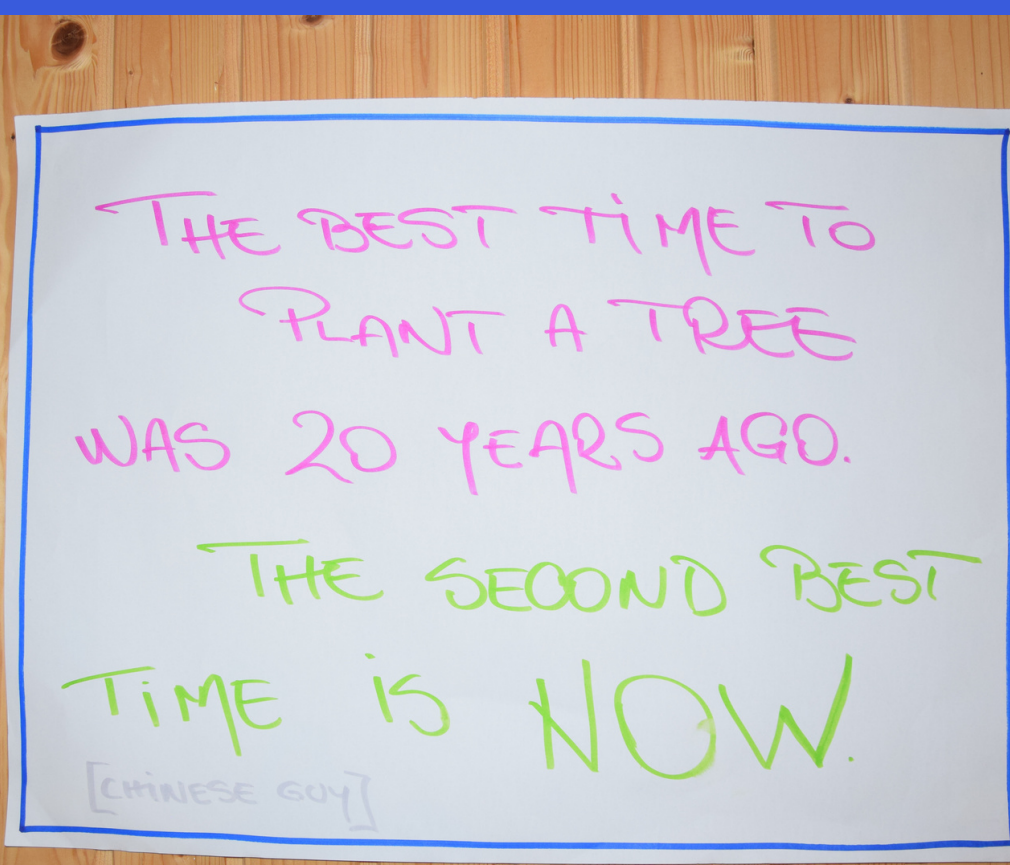
Youtube

#LOJTRA
.....
prostor za raziskovanje



Local context

Slovenia is on the 38th place in Europe regarding the size of the country. You would need around 3 hours of driving to come from wherever you are to wherever you want to go. Our neighbouring countries are Hungary, Croatia, Austria and Italy. Slovenians are known as a kind but a bit reserved nation. One of the things we are proud of is our landscape. You can swim in the sea, stand on the peak in the Julian Alps, explore caves, swim in lakes, observe our agricultural areas, get lost in the forests or visit spa centres within one day. We are the only country in the world that has love in its name: sLOVEEnia. We are a young country (got independent in 1991) with our own language, culture and history.



Story of the project and our work in Lojtra

During our 10 years in Youth work through Lojtra and much more as individuals composing Lojtra's team, we have hacked the recipe for impactful work with young people in our local community and internationally.

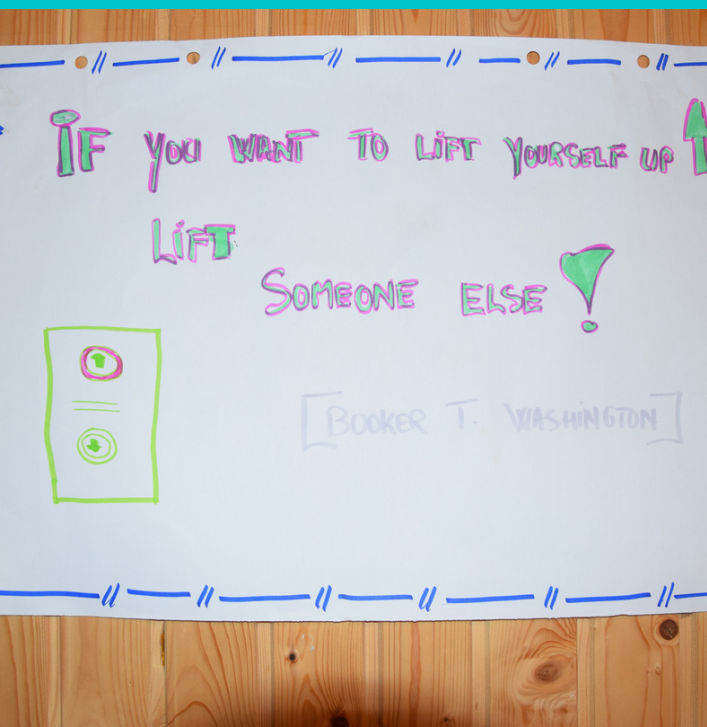
Continuous Work with local and international youth

Our Active citizenship programme for local youth in cooperation with local schools were part of success stories in the publication called Youth sector in schools. It was also listed as a good practice in the field of global learning by GENE. But most importantly, third year, third group of active young people, changing their local communities is being engaged in the programme. We have been one of the first Erasmus+ accredited organizations in Slovenia, in the field of youth. We regularly work as mentors, trainers, organisers, participants,... in our and other familiar organisations.



Approaches that support us in working with youth

We have received a global UNESCO APCEIU award for our methodology of creating learning spaces on the streets, involving theater, exhibition, role-play, etc. Street animation and theater in youth work are two of the approaches we use regularly when working with young people. Outdoor education is another important pillar of our work, through community gardening, adventure education and forest pedagogy we are exploring the vast potential that working in nature has on youth and YW. Our ESC project Care for beings, Earth and Fair share received Key to solidarity award in 2019. Sustainability is an intertwining approach in everything we do.



So why Youth work Essentials+?



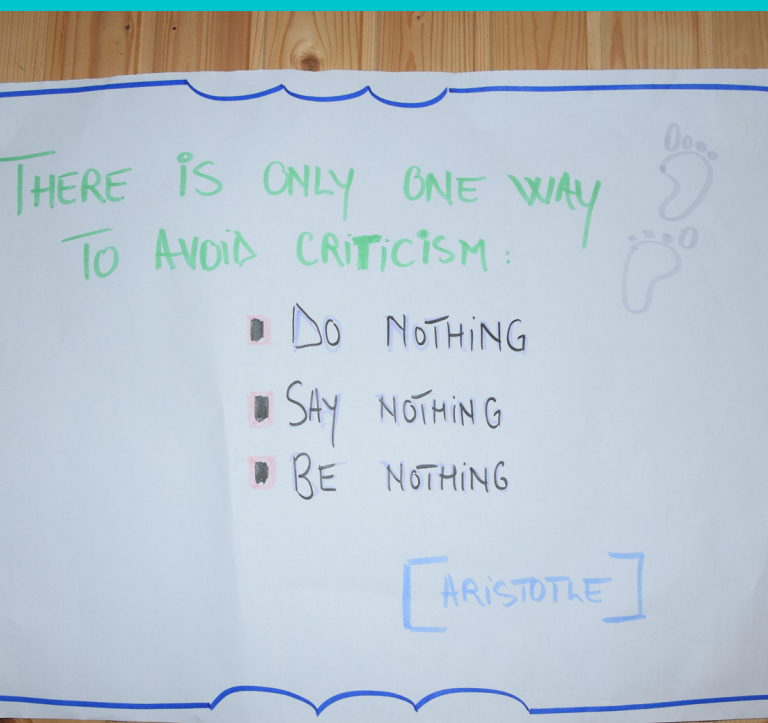
So why Youth work Essentials+?

After a successful implementation of many trainings, seminars for exchanges of good practices, youth exchanges, local trainings for educators etc. we have prepared a programme, which in a nutshell, combines our experience from years of working with youth, focuses on essential elements, that (should) be part of any youth work process and offers some very useful, fun and meaningful approaches that can support you in your path as a youth worker.

After completion of the training:

- you will have an overview of what are the prerequisites for meaningful youth work
- you will become equipped with new approaches to carry out successful youth work activities in your environment.

There will be 4 trainers present. Some from the beginning, some will join later to dive deeper into a specific topic we will work on. All the trainers are experts with many years of experiences from youth work.



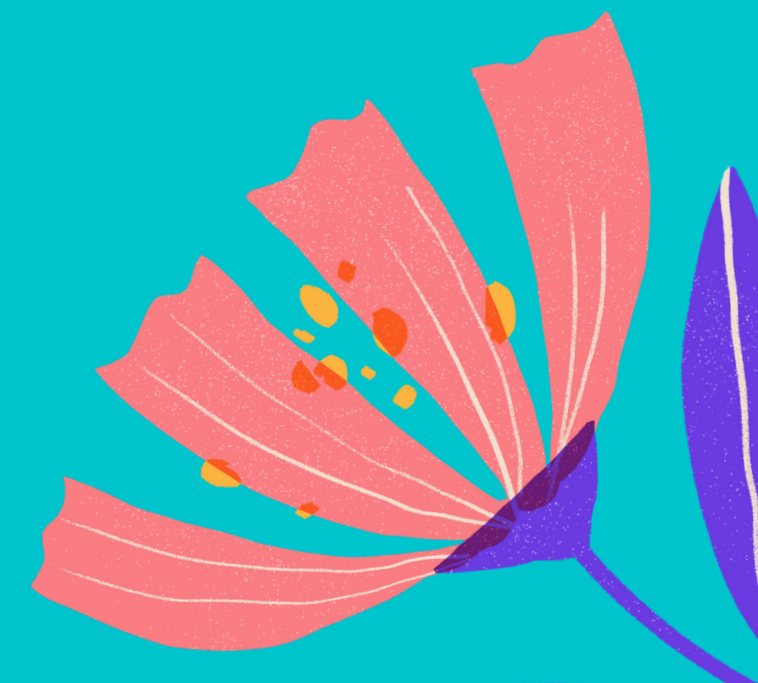
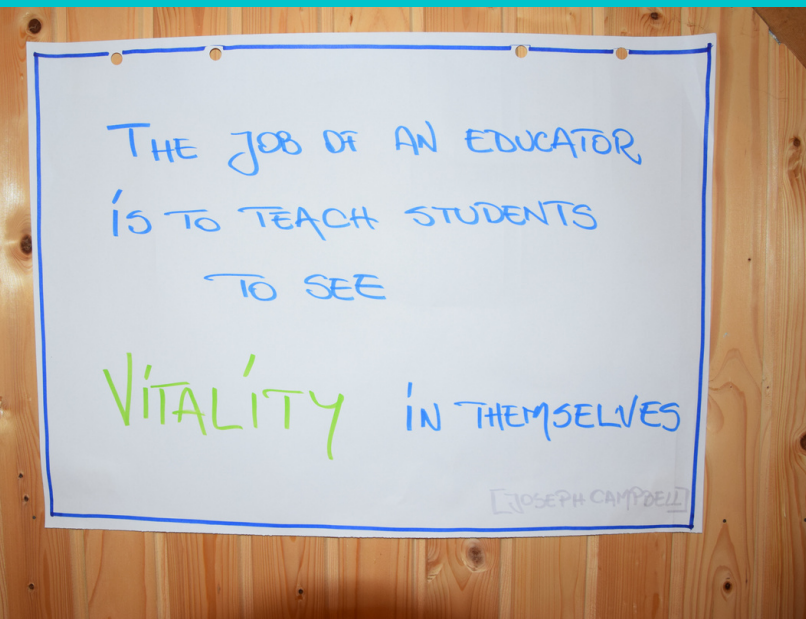
Now more about the concrete aims and objectives... →



Aim of the project: Equip participants with knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours to insert and accelerate learning in their own youth work practice.

We will reach this by working on the next **objectives:**

- Build a common understanding of youth work and non formal education in the Erasmus+ framework.
- Present, experience and discuss different learning models.
- Explore intercultural context in youth work.
- Design, implement and reflect a pilot youth worker activity (in groups).
- Dive into 4 different areas which will enhance quality and learning potential in one's youth work practice. Those areas are: outdoor youth work, youth work with young people with fewer opportunities, non violent communication in youth work, useful tools and materials for youth workers.
- Open space for sharing our knowledge, methods, experiences.
- Get to know each other and talk about the future projects we want to do together.



Participants

Each partner is invited to send 3 participants to the training course. They need to be gender mixed. The age limit is 18+.

The participants:

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Need to have at least some experiences in working with young people.
- Fluent in English.
- Willing and committed to work hard (about 8 hours per day).

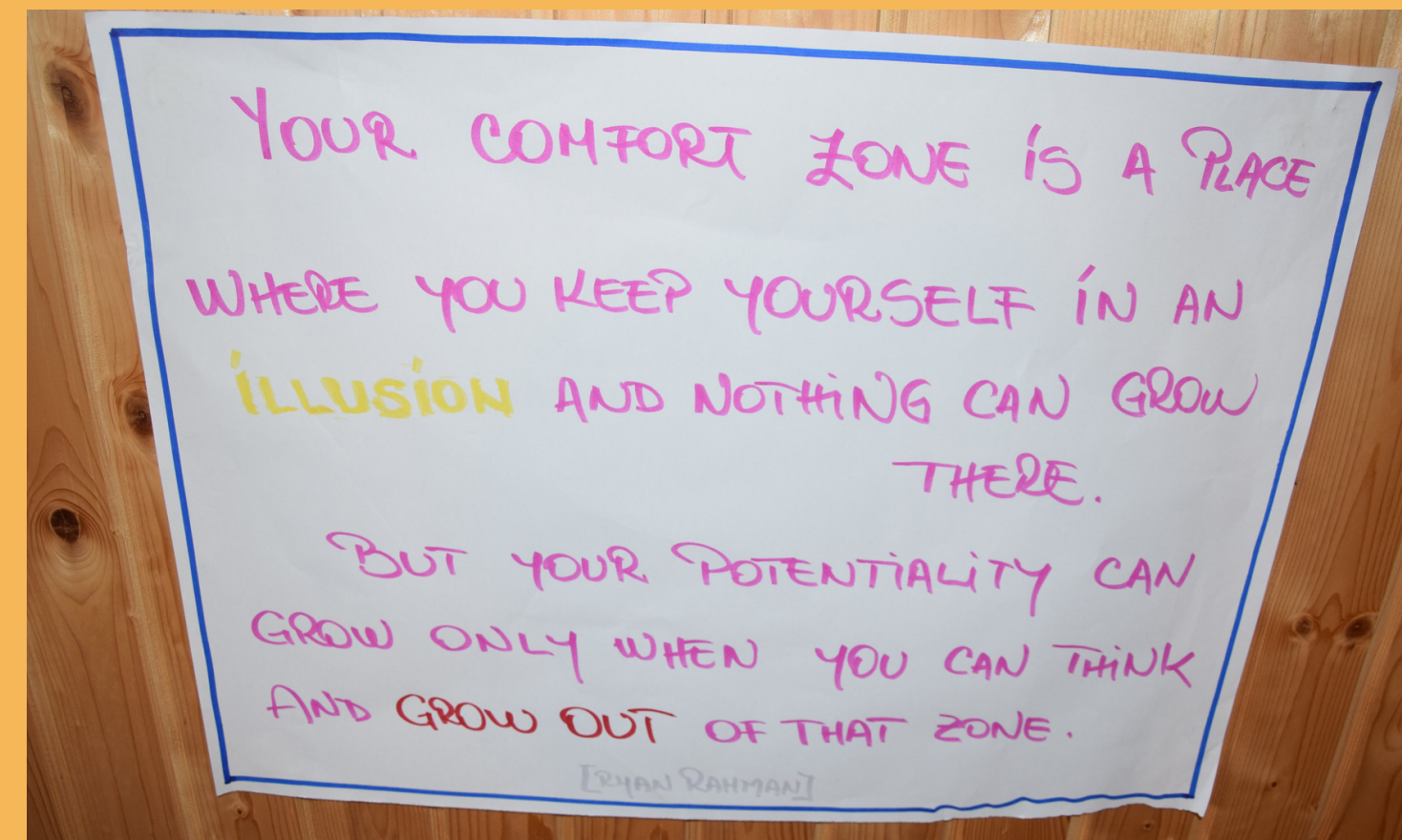
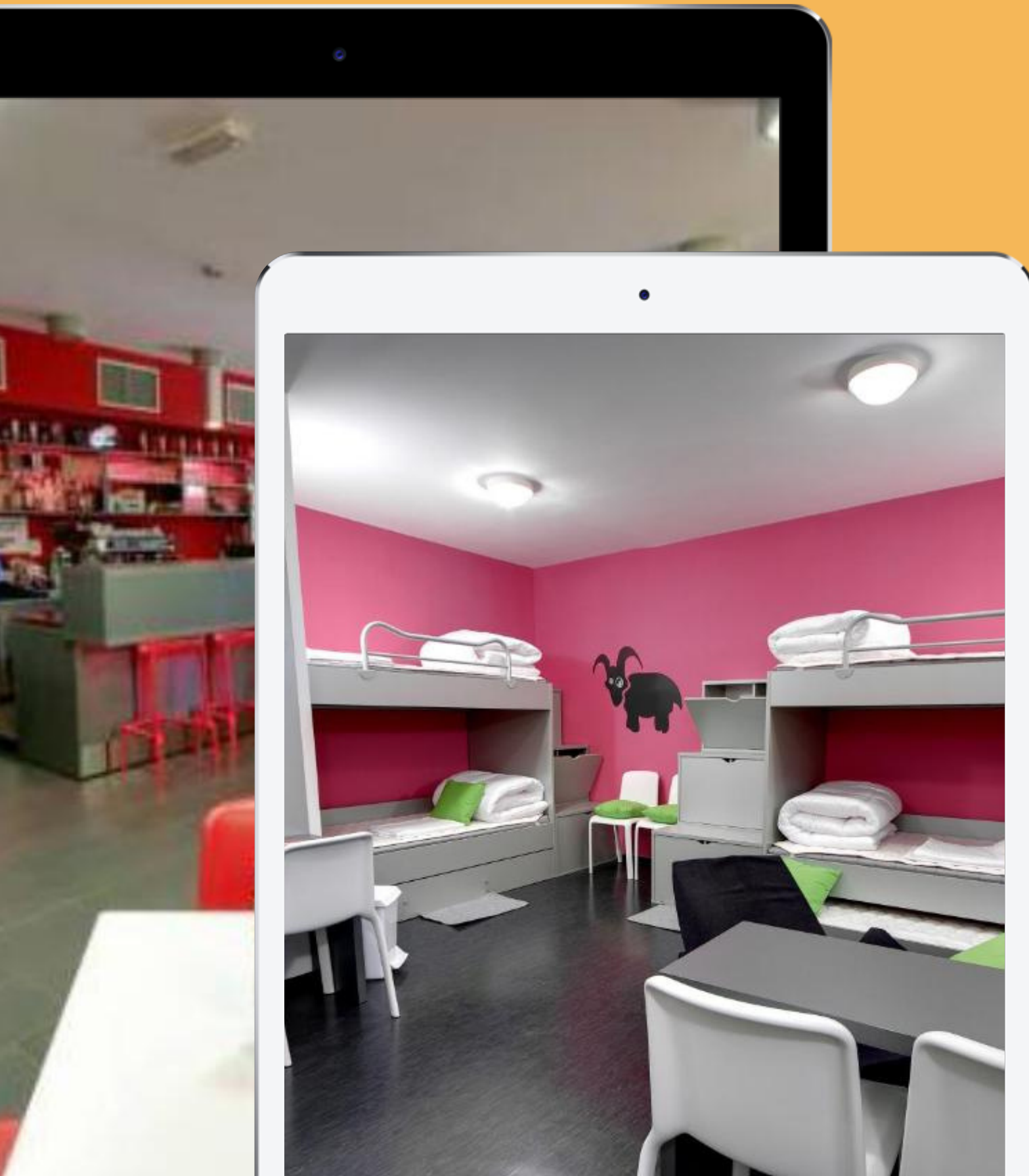
Participation from beginning till the end is mandatory, absence without prior agreement with the organisers leads to expulsion from the programme and cancellation of the reimbursement of travel costs.



Venue and accommodation

We will be staying in the youth hostel in Brežice, in the rooms up to 6 people per room. Rooms will be divided by gender. Bathrooms and toilets will be shared among all the participants. Beddings will be provided by the hostel.

Location of the hostel.



Travel and financial details

The project is financed by the Erasmus+ program. 100% of food (3 meals and 2 coffee breaks per day), accommodation, educational program, working materials will be covered.

Regarding the Erasmus+ rules, we are able to cover the traveling costs up to:

10 – 99 km: 23€

99-500 km: 180€

500- 2000 km: 275€

For longer distances check the Erasmus+ program guide or write to us.

The distance is calculated with the help of an EU [distance band calculator](#). The distance is calculated from the headquarters of each partner organization to the venue.



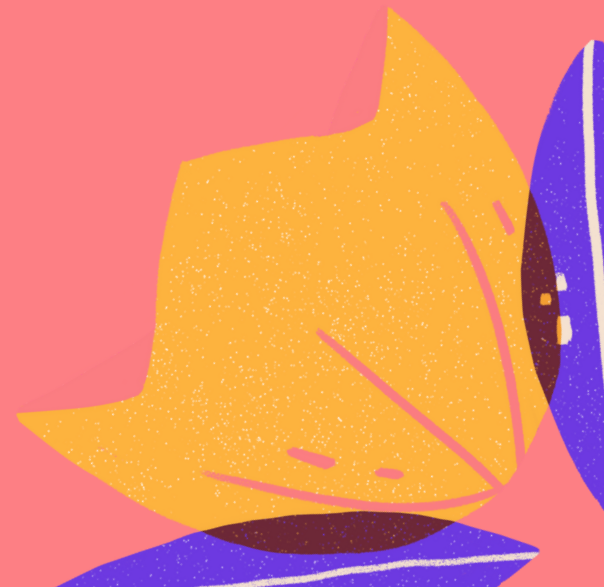
NEVER LEARN
ANYTHING BY TALKING.

I ONLY LEARN THINGS
WHEN I ASK
QUESTIONS

If you are willing to travel, using transports which are »greener« (not flying), please contact us and we will find some extra funds to cover that kind of a travel, since the Erasmus+ program is making that possible.



Reimbursement of the travel costs will only be done upon the full attendance in the Erasmus+ activity and presentation of the original tickets with boarding passes and receipt/invoices. You will have to send us the original tickets and boarding passes proving your trip back home from Slovenia to your country. We will be able to reimburse you after we will receive all the documents (invoices and boarding passes).



Arrivals and departures

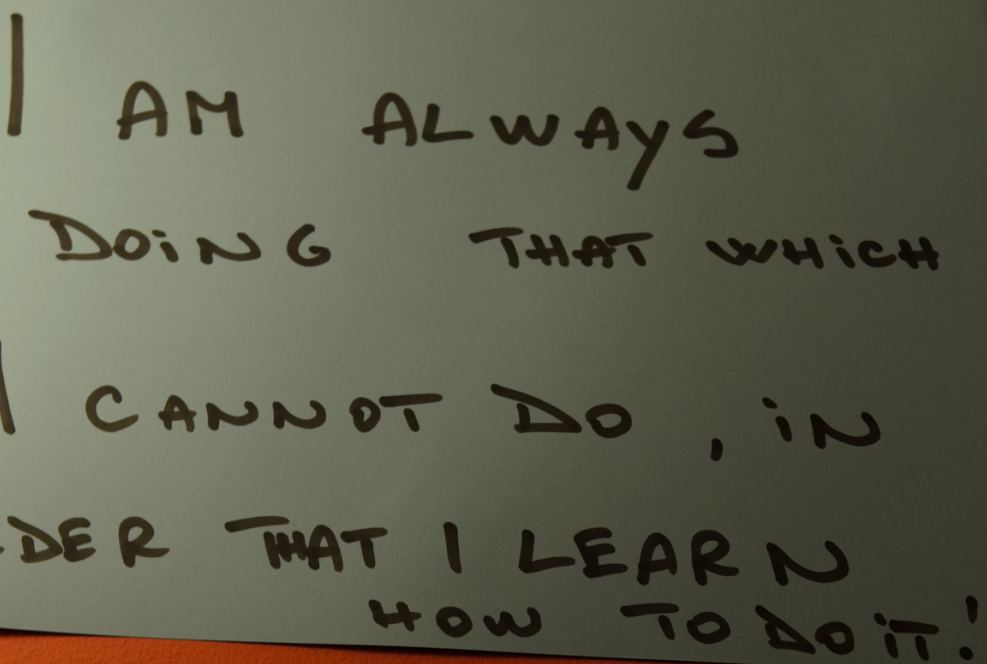
Arrival day: 23. 11. 2023.

Departure day: 3. 12. 2023.

Deadline for buying the tickets is 1.11.2023. If you will need any help with organizing your trip, please do not hesitate to contact us. After buying please, send us the scans of the tickets. Reimbursement will be done in EUR, regardless of the currency indicated on your ticket and receipts/invoices.

You can travel to Slovenia and Brežice by plane. Closest airports are in Ljubljana or in neighbouring countries: Trieste or Venice in Italy, Zagreb in Croatia or Graz in Austria. We would strongly recommend to travel to Zagreb, since the airport is just 45 min from our hostel. To travel from any airport, the easiest way is to book Goopti shuttle.

We can always help you to arrange transfers from the airports to our venue. Please do talk about your traveling plan with us and together we will find the easiest solution.



I AM ALWAYS
DOING THAT WHICH
I CANNOT DO, IN
ORDER THAT I LEARN
HOW TO DO IT!



What to bring with you?

- Good mood, openness and respectful attitude.
- General information about your organisation.
- Food and drinks for the international night (there are 10 partner countries involved so bring something small just to try the taste of your country ;)).
- Medications (if you need them).
- Comfortable clothes. Do not forget that we will also go outside and November can be chilly in Slovenia. Towels will be provided by the hostel. We will also do a bit of walking in the nature, so sneakers are recommendable.
- Personal hygiene accessories.
- Board games, instruments and anything else that will make you feel comfortable during the free time and will not disturb others.



I AM NOT A PRODUCT OF
MY CIRCUMSTANCES.

I AM
A PRODUCT OF MY
DECISIONS.

[STEPHEN COVEY]



Insurance

Each participant is responsible to arrange his/her own health and travel insurance for their stay in Slovenia. We strongly recommend to have a travel and health insurance during the project dates to avoid any troubles. It is not that expensive, yet worthy. In addition, the European health card is also an option.



IN YOUTH WE
LEARN

IN AGE WE
UNDERSTAND