



Virginia Hernandez Alonso

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● ABOUT ME

I am a Spanish Sign Language interpreter with 15 years of experience; a projects manager and a freelance trainer with 7 years of experience, advocating for the inclusion of people with diverse abilities; supporting the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy, upholding youth workers and young people (with diverse abilities and/or in exclusion risk) in their personal and professional development.

● WORK EXPERIENCE

01/2017 – CURRENT Europe

PROJECT MANAGER FREELANCE/VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS

- Design, implementation and management of Erasmus+ projects (KA1 and KA2) and of the European Solidarity Corps.
- Having the responsibility of contact with partners and manage the partnerships, organising meetings and keeping notes with significant and relevant information.
- Management of the budget following the rules of the programmes founding the activity.
- Disseminating the project's implementation and its results properly in different platforms and media, as well as other stakeholders.
- Reporting with all relevant information, following the rules of the programme founding the project.
- Collaborating with different teams within the organisation and the project.

Some of the organisations I have worked for: Arkhe (Spain), La Maraña de Guadalajara (Spain), Mille Cunti (Spain), Generation Europa (Austria)

Business or Sector Other service activities

07/2017 – CURRENT Europe

TRAINER (NON FORMAL EDUCATION) FREELANCE

Non formal education trainer and facilitator in the youth field at European level for youth workers and trainers

- Designing educational programmes based in competences development (ETS competences model)
- Creating inclusive and accessible learning spaces based in universal design
- Holistic approach towards the learning process and the group of learners
- Evaluating and reporting accordantly
- Collaborating effectively in teams with other trainers and facilitators
- Flexibility adjusting to different training settings, teams and topics

Some of the trainings I have facilitated:

- "Inclusion... work in progress" KA1 training course on inclusion and accessibility in European youth work (Lilaz, Portugal)
- "CompetencesLab for inclusion" KA1 competences based training course on inclusion and accessibility in European youth work (Generation Europa, Austria)
- Three editions of EXIT (Experimental learning for inclusion) (JINT Belgium NA, Latvian NA, Arkhe Spain)
- "Butterfly Effect" KA2 cooperation partnership; creative ITC in education (Mille Cunti, Spain)
- "Training of trainers for inclusion" KA1 Erasmus+, training course for youth workers. (Foro Joven Toledo, Spain)
- "Make it accessible" KA1 Erasmus+, training course for youth workers. (Matadero Lab, Spain)

06/2006 – 01/2020 Toledo, Spain

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER JUNTA DE COMUNIDADES DE CASTILLA-LA MANCHA

Experience:

- Sign language interpreter in different areas of life, performing interpreting services in the medical, social, economic, legal fields, etc.
- Long experience interpreting on TV, related with political issues;

- Interpreting in formal education (primary and secondary school, VAT) for deaf students;
- Extensive experience interpreting in the artistic field, especially poetry, collaborating with the Voix Vives international poetry festival, in its ten editions.

Through it:

- Deep understanding of communication barriers and skills to overcome them;
- Understanding of educational issues for students with diverse abilities;
- Collaboration with different professionals in diverse fields (teachers, doctors, lawyers, etc.) and adapting to different levels of communication;
- Managing stress and complex situations successfully and able to balance afterwards;
- High understanding of the importance of team work and collaboration when working in teams of interpreters.

● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

09/2017 – CURRENT Alcorcón, Madrid, Spain

SPANISH SIGN LANGUAGE AND DEAF COMMUNITY Universidad Rey Juan Carlos

Website <https://www.urjc.es> | **Field of study** Social sciences, journalism and information

09/2004 – 06/2006 Salamanca, Spain

SPANISH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION AND GUIDE-INTERPRETER FOR DEAF AND BLIND

Instituto de Enseñanzas Aplicadas de Salamanca

Website <http://www.ieasa.org>

10/2023 – 04/2024 Vilnius, Lithuania

YOCOMO TOT SALTO Training and Cooperation

11/2021 – 06/2022 Various seminars

TRAINING OF TRAINERS SALTO Training and Cooperation

11/2012 – CURRENT Various European locations

ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSES FOR YOUTH WORKERS Various organisations

● LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **SPANISH**

Other language(s): **SPANISH SIGN LANGUAGE**

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
ENGLISH	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

● DIGITAL SKILLS

MS Office 365

Ms Office 365 | Microsoft Excel | Microsoft Office | Microsoft Powerpoint

Social media management

Instagram | Twitter | Facebook

Google and Outlook

Google Drive | Outlook, Onedrive

Online meetings management

Virtual team work (MS Teams) | Zoom | Skype

Other tools to work online

Canva, GoConqr, Padlet, Miro.

● **MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS**

Management and leadership skills through volunteering

During my youth I was member of a youth organisation for 8 years in which we, as youth, were invited to a high level of involvement in the organisation's activities. I was member of the board for 3 years and took part in the organisation committee of local running events with more than one thousand participants, football and basketball tournaments, music festivals and theatre plays. In those years I got my first experiences managing teams and collaborating between different groups of people.

Later on I could make use of these skills, and develop also leadership skills, volunteering in a youth organisation for youth with diverse abilities, CECAP joven Toledo, in the organisation of the annual event DIVERSITAS, coordinating a group of youngsters in different performances .

I have developed a high capacity for managing time, teams and finances through the various Erasmus+ projects in which I have worked in recent years.

I am able to take initiative and propose creative activities and projects in line with goals and values

As a leader I am able to delegate tasks to other people, when working with a common goal I am resolute but welcoming other opinions and points of view; I am open to reevaluate methods and strategies when is needed, and adapt accordantly. I can see the strength of the team members and support each individual on using them for the benefit of the tasks and the team. I am able put in practice this skills implementing and managing projects, establishing realistic goals and deadlines.

● **ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS**

Time and tasks management

For few years I combined a full time job with freelancing as a trainer in my holidays and free time and studying in the university. I manage to go through this time without burning out or stressing thanks to a good time management, having clear the time I had for each task and the deadlines for projects, papers and exams. Nowadays I apply this skills to my work.

I learned to organise the different tasks and prioritise the most urgent and important, making sure that the final result was the best possible one in each case. I am not a perfectionist, but I care about the results as much as the process.

When working in different projects at the same time I am able to focus in one thing at a time, having clear goals, taking care of the process, the communication with partners, participants, clients and stakeholders on time, reporting when needed, etc.

I am able to make well use of the time and advance tasks when it is possible, in this way I do not waste time and I can avoid being overwhelmed when deadlines are coming

● **COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS**

High communication and interpersonal skills

Due to my work as a Sign Language Interpreter I have learned to adapt my language to different communication skills, working with young people in informal situations or interpreting for political authorities. I am also able to analyse the situation and the non verbal communication of the persons involved in the interaction, adapting myself to different contexts.

Working in an educational center and developing activities with children and young people, I have acquired high communication skills with them, being able to involve them, motivate them and connect with their needs.

Working in international and intercultural contexts as a trainer and projects manager have provided me with skill to understand the influence of the culture and identity in the communication styles.

● **VOLUNTEERING**

2004 - 2020

Diverse experiences volunteering

- National Organisation of the Blind, Spain. During my studies in Salamanca (2004-2006) I volunteered for ONCE accompanying blind people (mostly elder) in some daily life activities. I also joined the hiking club, guiding blind people in weekends hiking trips.
- CECAP Joven Toledo, Spain. From 2011 until 2015 I was a volunteer in the youth department of CECAP, a youth organisation for people with intellectual diverse abilities. We organised activities in which young people was interested on, camps in the mountains, support in trainings, etc. I was also part of the organisation of the annual DIVERSITAS during those years.
- Matadero Lab, Toledo, Spain. From 2016 until 2020 I was a volunteer in the cultural organisation Matadero Lab, in which all the staff were volunteers. I supported the youth area of the organisation as a volunteer youth worker with a group of 20 youngsters from the city.
- Medicos del Mundo, Toledo, Spain, 2018-2019. For 9 months I was a volunteer in this organisation supporting professionals in many local seminars (3 or 4 days duration each) with migrant women in vulnerable and/or gender based violence situation. This activities were supported by the regional Women Institute and the Ministry of Wellbeing and Social Affairs.