

# ICE

**International Cooperation Evolution: Programme + EECA Countries**

**Partnership Building Activity**

**Poiana Negrii (Vatra Dornei), Romania**

**03-11 October 2015**



*Fundatia Umanitara*  
**Friend's Society**



**Erasmus+**

## About the organizers:

**Friend's Society** is a member of **D.G.T. (Do Great Things) Network** and its main targets are high-school and university students, young entrepreneurs and disadvantaged young people in Romania.

We work with volunteers from all universities in Bucharest (especially the Academy of Economics, the largest economics university from South-East Europe) and other major cities and we generally collaborate with youngsters all across Romania.

Briefly, D.G.T. Association is a non-governmental organization that was born from the passion of a few youngsters who wanted to take action and make a change in the society they were living into. D.G.T.'s founding members have also the desire to give back all the things they have learned and experienced during previous years of volunteering.

D.G.T.'s mission focuses on national and international networking among young people, students, trainers and teachers of different nationalities, cultures and backgrounds. It tackles topics such as inter-cultural exchange, non-formal education, ecology, climate change, sustainable development, European citizenship and international politics (geopolitics). All these are added to facilitate the accumulation of experience by young people, through voluntary activities, allowing them to put into practice the theory learned in school.

To see more about our older projects, please visit [www.dgtassociation.ro](http://www.dgtassociation.ro)

## About the project:

Organizations from Arab Mediterranean countries and from the Eastern vicinity space made significant progress in youth work, they have experience with the old programmes before Erasmus+, but the fast and sometimes radical changes through which the communities where they activate have been through lead to some changes and new attitudes that we don't understand from our perspective of programme countries. The project ICE – International Cooperation Evolution aims to stimulate cooperation and international partnerships between youth organizations from the programme and the ones from the partner countries (according to Erasmus+ Guide 2015) by offering a learning environment that will facilitate the exchange of knowledge, ideas and good practices, as well as the development of new mobility projects together in the future.

The objectives of ICE are:

- To organize two international meetings during September-October 2015, each reuniting 10 youth organizations (5 from programme countries and 5 from partner countries) and 34 participants (youth workers, trainers, youth leaders, project managers).
- To promote cooperation in youth work at international level by exchanging knowledge, ideas and good practices on the whole duration of the project, in the light of openness and tolerance
- To sketch minimum 5 ideas of future Erasmus+ projects through brainstorming and group work of the participants and to develop them in the e-forms at the time of the activities, at each of the 2 international meetings. The projects will be applied at various National Agencies, depending on the availability of the partners involved (the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2015 and first deadline of February 2016).
- To create online resources in order to be used in common by all the partner organization but not only: Facebook group (for real-time communication); Wordpress blog (to publish tailored relevant information, at all stages of the project); Google Drive database (to transfer know-how about methods, ideas for activities, common sketching of projects).

This mobility is a contact making seminar for partnership building which will take place in **Poiana Negrii, Romania**, between **03 and 11 October 2015**, bringing together 34 participants which will represent organizations from 10 countries: **Romania, Belgium, Italy, Poland, Macedonia, Russia, Moldova, Georgia, Ukraine and Armenia**. Each partner organization will send **3 participants**, selected from its youth workers, youth leaders, experts and close collaborators. The host organization will include in this mobility 7 persons, from which 4 participants, youth workers and youth leaders of the organization, and 2 experts and 1 facilitator which will ensure the specific content of the sessions in the programme of activities, as well as the learning environment and the integration of the group. **The main aim of this seminar is to constitute sustainable partnerships between organization from the programme countries and the ones from EECA countries (Eastern Europe and Caucasus areas).**

The methods applied in the two mobility of ICE are: integrative (stimulating the group cohesion), creative (stimulating the artistic sense and non-formal expression), open space (stimulating free and voluntary expression of the participants), debate (stimulating the constructive exchange of ideas and arguments), learning by doing (stimulating the capacity of the participants to manage real-life situations), reflection and self-reflection (stimulating a better awareness of the participants towards the learning process), evaluation (stimulating the participants to give feedback).

## Transport:

You will arrive in Bucharest at the **Henri Coanda Airport (OTP)** <http://www.bucharestairports.ro/otp/index.php>. Use the buses **783 (Unirii Square)** and **780 (Gara de Nord – main train station)** to go to the city (you have non-stop ticket office in the station at the airport) or the train that will take you to **Gara de Nord – main train station** (via a shuttle bus). At the airport everything is quite easy to figure out and buses to the city are functioning non-stop even through the night. As a piece of advice, **don't** change too much money inside the airport because of the bad rates (5-10 euro is more than enough to get your whole group to the city!) and **don't** take any taxis, especially if the taxi driver approaches you in the Arrivals Hall!

The arrival day to Bucharest **must be 03 October at maximum 18:00 in the evening!** If for some reasons you cannot manage to find tickets with arrival in the morning or in the after-noon please email us and we will find a solution for you! The arrival hour is like this because **we need to leave for Poiana Negrii in the evening around 22:00** and we will travel through the night in order to get there very early in the morning, on **04 October!** You can also **arrive 1 or 2 days earlier** to visit Bucharest, **on your own expense.**

**The meeting point for the departure to Poiana Negrii** will be in Bucharest and set later on.

The departure back to Bucharest **will be on 10 October in the evening**, so make sure you have flights that leave around **11:00-12:00 at the earliest on 11 October**, because we will, again, travel through the night and probably reach Bucharest around **7:00-8:00** in the morning on **11 October!** You can also stay in Bucharest **1-2 days later** and visit, **on your own expense.**

**You need to send us by email (or bring with you) all original receipts, invoices, e-tickets and boarding passes! We strongly encourage you to buy flights that have the possibility to do online check-in and in this way you will be able to give us the return boarding passes as well, without sending them to us by post when you return home!** Of course, if for your airline is not possible, you still need to send us the boarding passes by post after the project. It is very important to have **all** your travel and financial documents with you **for each person**, otherwise the reimbursement is not possible! **Reimbursement will be done by bank transfer in the account of your sending organization, according to the rules of Erasmus+**

The amounts of money for **travel**, per person, per country are as following:

<b>Country</b>	<b>Maximum reimbursement</b>
Italy	275 €
Poland	275 €
Macedonia	275 €
Belgium	275 €
Russia	360 €
Moldova	180 €

Ukraine	275 €
Armenia	275 €
Georgia	275 €

**\*30 euro / person from the travel costs is needed to cover the bus transport from Bucharest to Poiana Negrii and back and it will be retained at reimbursements.**

**\*\*We do not cover taxi or private car transport costs.**

### Participants:

We need **3 participants** from each of the mentioned countries: **Italy, Poland, Macedonia, Belgium, Russia, Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia**. All participants must be **over 18 years old** and there is **no upper age limit**.

### Very important requirements:

**-Fluency in written and spoken English** because we will work a lot in English during the programme and also the future projects will be written in English;

**-Real experience** with youth projects and youth work. Experience in project writing and management of projects in Youth in Action, Erasmus+, EuroMed Youth, ALF, etc is considered an advantage.

**-Connection with the sending organization.** We want as our participants: staff members, trainers, leaders, project managers or volunteers in your organization. **It is very important that the people coming to the project to be part of your organization because in this way your organization will benefit from the projects written during the event, being an official partner in many of them.**

### The location:

We will stay usually **2-3 persons in one room**. It may be possible to have two persons in one bed because some rooms are designed as matrimonial rooms ☺ but rest assure that the beds are big enough and each of you will have own sheets.

There is signal for mobile and **wi-fi internet** connection throughout the establishment.

We will have our meals at the restaurant of our accommodation, serving **fresh eco products** from the country side. Here is a link to the website of the guesthouse: [www.pensiuneapoiana.ro/](http://www.pensiuneapoiana.ro/)

**Attention:** We will be in the middle of the Romanian mountains in a place that serves traditional Romanian food. For vegetarians/vegans might be hard to adapt because here most

meals contain meat and cheese products. We will surely have a vegetarian menu, but please come with an open mind because you may need to eat a lot of potatoes, bread and polenta ☺ (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polenta>). We will have many typical Romanian meals with **meat**, but all the products served are from ecological farms and households in the area. Drinking alcohol (outside of the activity schedule) will be permitted and we will show you a variety of homemade typical Romanian drinks of the area.

**Unfortunately there is no possibility to offer halal meat in the region. If you are eating halal you must mention this in the application form before the project and we will consider you a vegetarian.**

If you wish to learn more about the region you can check the following links:

[http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vatra\\_Dornei](http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vatra_Dornei) - city of Vatra Dornei

[www.calimani.ro](http://www.calimani.ro) – region of Calimani Mountains

[www.inbucovina.ro](http://www.inbucovina.ro) – Bucovina region



**All photos here were taken by participants in our projects in 2014, without editing ☺**



## What to bring:

- **Typical food and drinks from your countries!** We will have **traditional evenings** during the project and basically every evening will belong to a different country. Unfortunately we don't have budget to reimburse you the expenses made for the things that you are bringing, but try to be creative and funny! You can bring typical costumes, ornaments, leaflets, posters, flyers, food, sweets, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks... and so on! There may be the possibility to cook something using the kitchen of the establishment. **Also, you can show videos, photos, sing music and dance traditional dances from your countries!** We are counting on you to make these evenings as interesting as possible and promise to help you in any way that we can!!! Here are a few examples from our past projects to trigger your imagination:



- **In October weather can be rather cold in the mountains!** Prepare for temperatures between **25 Celsius or more during the day and as low as 5 Celsius during nights.** For those of you used to a more Mediterranean climate, **please bring a set of winter clothes!** ☺
- Towels and whatever you need for taking shower, washing, etc;
- **Good shoes** for outside. We will be in the mountains, so in case we might make a trip in some day, it's good to be prepared.
- **Research about the situation of youth work and the impact of youth projects in your home regions.** It would be wise to look into the matter before coming to Romania and during the work sessions explain and give practical examples from your countries.
- Although we can't reimburse you the cost of health insurances, we strongly encourage you to make one! Romania is an EU member state, so an insurance for traveling here should be cheap and easy to make.

For more general details about Romania you can check out the following links:

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romania>
- <http://www.romaniatourism.com/>

Our currency is the Romanian Leu (RON): 1 Euro = 4.44 RON (in June 2015)

### Contact:

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We are looking forward to see you in Romania ☺