

SHIFT



PROJECT



NON - FORMAL EDUCATION PROJECT
ABOUT MEDIA LITERACY FOR TEENAGERS

C · R · A · I · O · V · A

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ABOUT ACT

FIRST ACT:

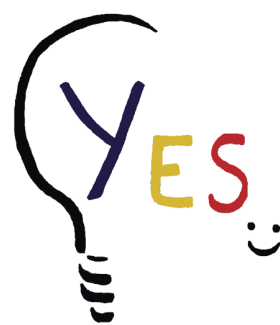
In September 2017 our first project was launched in Bailesti, a small town one hour far from Craiova.

General objective: Provide opportunities for social and personal growth of the target group along community youth development by forming local "communities of interest" that aggregate young people around common interests. The project focused in three main subjects: sports, culture and active citizenship. These activities were based in a non-formal education.



LANGUAGE ACT:

Develop language skills and intercultural awareness for both volunteers and beneficiaries by using non-formal methods.



YES PROJECT:

To increase self-employment (entrepreneurship) and employment on the labor market for 150 pupils from grades 9-12 from 5 high schools.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY UPGRADE:

Providing opportunities for the personal and professional development of volunteers and target groups using volunteerism and non-formal education by implementing activities that integrate the positive developmental principles of youth into the formal education system and promote greater awareness of volunteering.

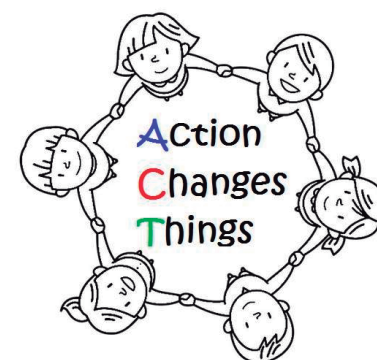


SECOND ACT BAILESTI:

The project is designed to be the continuation, improvement and expansion of the pilot First ACT project that aimed at creating, activating and maintaining communities of interests formed based on shared interests in sports, foreign languages, culture and active citizenship.

ACTION CHANGES THINGS:

Provide opportunities for social and personal growth of volunteers and target group along with organizational and community sustainable development and strengthened international partnerships by bringing added value to existing activities and development of the new ones.



ACT TOGETHER:

The general objective of this project shall be the creation of a local volunteers database of young people interested in doing volunteering both at local level as well as international level.



We are a part of the European Solidarity Corps voluntary service. We are 10 volunteers from Spain, Georgia, Denmark, Italy, France and Estonia.

The project takes place in the local high schools of Craiova during 6 months, from August 2019 to January 2020.

OUR AIM

Our goal is to enable the students to practice their skills of critical thinking and gain a thorough understanding of the landscape and methods of modern media.

Our aim is to explore different forms of media, to gain knowledge of the ways in which media functions and increase awareness of the possible risks associated with social media.

We want to discuss and learn about the ways in which we can consume and interact with the various features of media.

PROGRAM

The project consists of a series of non-formal education sessions on topics related to media literacy. We will facilitate a variety of fun and engaging workshops that involve interactive presentations, games, discussions and energisers.

TEAM SHIFT PROJECT

MIRIAM - Estonia



First week in Craiova was a very memorable time for its intensity of new experiences. Each and every day I met new people, learned something about another culture, and tried to understand as much as possible about Craiova and about Romania. I was flooded with ideas and inspiration for the project we were about to start. And all this in 37 degrees of heat! Where I'm from, the warmest summer days barely reach 27, so the change in the rhythm of daily life was a big one. Although my brain felt overloaded with new information, every single day I found myself thinking:
YES! I'm so grateful that I'm here!

LEVAN - Georgia

My first week in Craiova was very surprising and unexpected, because it was my first project. Despite of the fact that it is just a week for being here, I learned a lot of interesting facts about different cultures. I met volunteers from other projects as well, so we will be many here and make memorable days ! I believe the future and hope that everything will be as beautiful as it seems so far.

My first week in Craiova was very surprising and unexpected, because it was my first project. I learned a lot of interesting facts about different cultures. I met with volunteers from other groups and projects, which added even more interest to the time I needed to spend here and I am very pleased. I believe in the future and hope that everything will be as beautiful as it was here.



SAMUEL - Italy

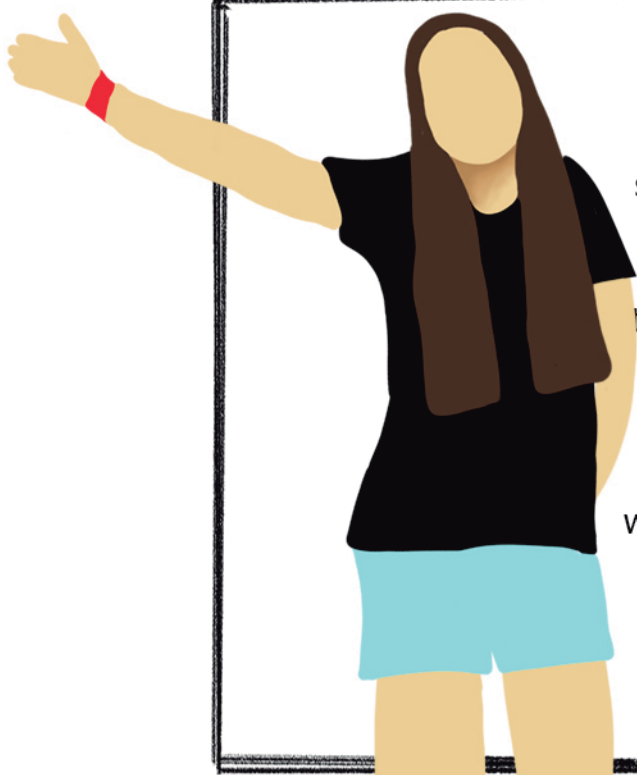
So, yeah, pretty much the same story. I arrived in August, it was hot as hell and everything was really tiring due to the heat. Apart from this detail, a good amount of the people I met during this ESC were kind, open and changed my life turning it in a melting pot of opportunities, languages and wonders. Some people I met here will always have a tiny significant place in my heart.



SABINA - Spain

Every time I have come to Romania I have been on holiday to spend a summer month, but this time I have come to stay to live for 6 months. I have come with the idea of soaking up this culture. From the first moment Craiova and my colleagues have welcomed me with open arms.

Romania is full of surprises to give us, every morning when I wake up I know that a new adventure is coming. We are all full of enthusiasm to start working together in this new Project and collaborate with our ideas.



THÉO - France

So, basically this is not my first long term experience abroad. But this second EVS put a lot of new expectations but fears and worries before my arrival. It was so a huge new experience, full again of meeting, new culture, new habits and Romanians' way of life. I had much difficulties to adapt to my new team, the project and the new environment. But now, week after week, with the on arrival training, I began to enjoy more these unique moments with people, way of life and other facts. I'm really optimistic and excited about the next.



TEAM SHIFT PROJECT

GIACOMO - Italy

A small city, in the middle of Romania; here's what I knew about the place where I would have spent the next 6 months; I would have known the rest very soon.

But I understood one thing since the first moments, that is the importance and the value of the idea of community, of staying together: tens of guys, of young men and women from every corner of Europe, and beyond, united by a strong passion of stepping up their game, making experiences and living special instants to carry for the rest of their own lives, with enthusiasm and fun, side by side with a friend, a neighbor or a companion. Because, at the end, the most important thing I learned in these first days is that "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main".



TAMTA - Georgia

The first week which I spend here is full of discoverings, nice emotions, surprises and of course, great meals! People are very warm and helpful, city is green and ecofriendly . I am very excited to create an unforgettable adventures here!



ALBERTE - Denmark

The first days were full of new impressions and I started to experience the cultural differences, both coming from Romania but also from my new roommates. We met all together at a project done by another group of volunteers at a bar. Here I met many other foreigners and learned about different languages. I realized that everybody involved are both curious to gain new knowledge but also to teach people through own experiences. People are welcoming and because of games and team building exercises we quickly got to know each other. Working in the ACT office is really hot and I'm trying to adjust to the heat.



LOUISE - France

My first week here was a bit complicated. New city, new languages, new heads and in addition I was really hot. All the people I met talking to me in a broken English and I didn't understand much. But one thing stored from them, from them all kindness and warmth. We were all in the same boat. We were all volunteers and we were all in a country that was not ours. Completely lost I was very happy to have the former members of the association to guide me and to show the city, show the places that will become our dens over the months.



LAURA - Spain

The first impression that I had when I arrived in Craiova was that the organisation was like a family, because in the middle of the night they came to the airport to pick me up. When I arrived to sucpi flat and I saw the paper in the door in which was written "Welcome Laura" I felt that the people which I had to live with were loving. The first week, sucpi flat were in the on arrival so for me was really sad because I was alone, but when they came everything changed and step by step we became a family.



TOPICS OF OUR WORKSHOPS



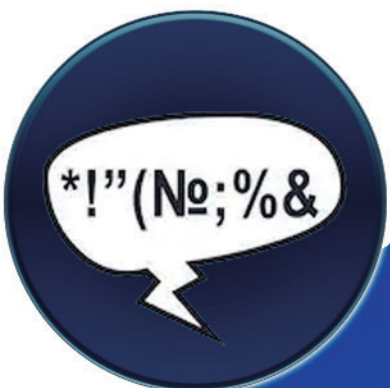
What is media and media literacy?



Fake news



Relation between fake news and modern democracy



Hate online Speech



Privacy and media footprints



The effect of social media on the mental health

PROJECT PARTENERS

Matei Basarab High School

Teoretic Henri Conandă

Scoala Generala nr. 21

Marin Sorescu Art School

National Pedagogical College Ștefan Velovan

Energy Technical College

STUDENTS

We have been developing our project with different students that are from 13 to 19 years old from 6 different schools. All of them have different points of view about life, what they want to work in... but all of them have something in common; they are living in 2019.. What's means that they are connecting 24h with internet, they are living in a moment in which everything has to happen now and here, so, we are trying to teach them how to use the internet s tools in a right way.

WORKSHOPS

1 Workshop: Introduction

Objective:
Introduce
the project to
students

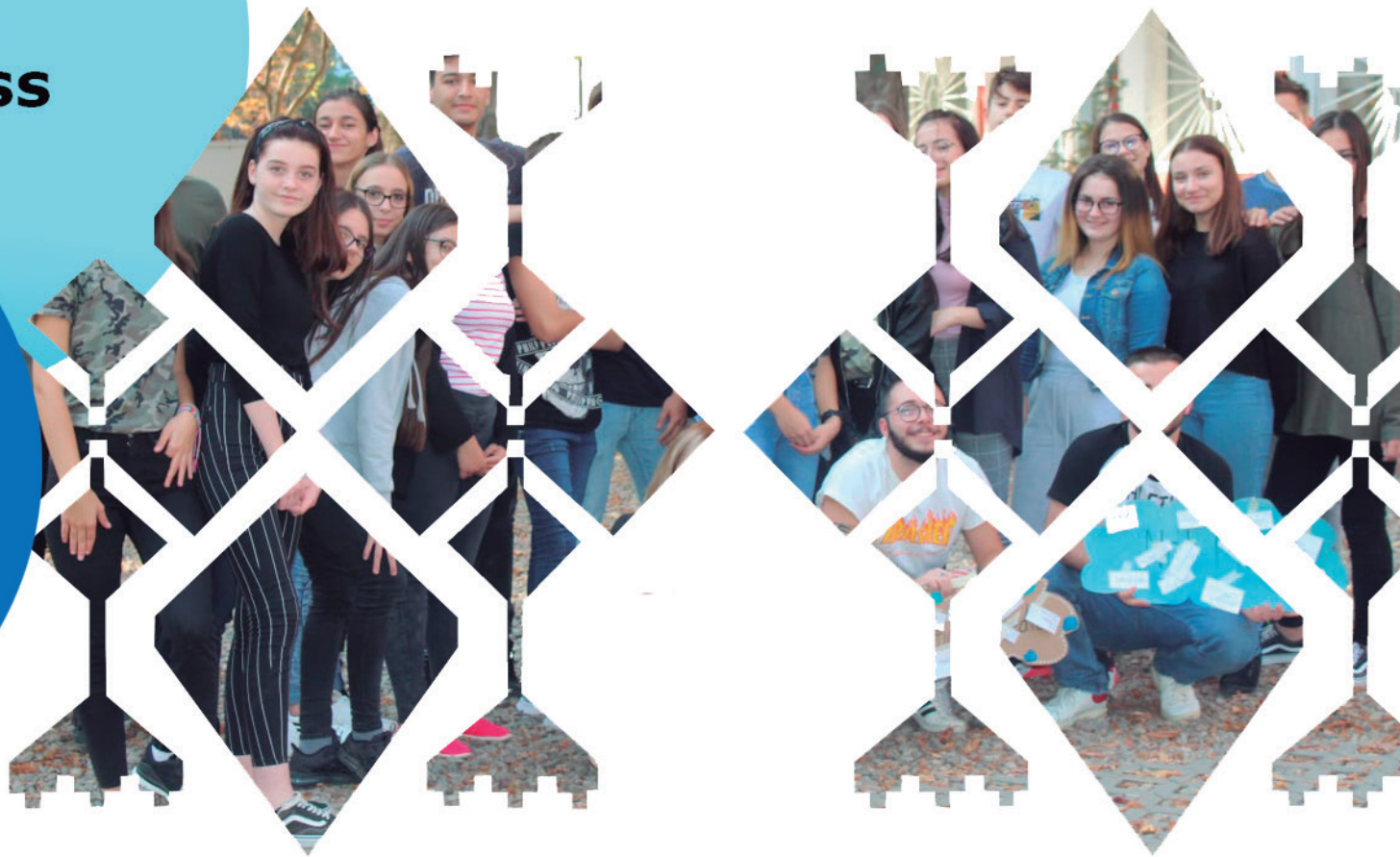
We started our project by creating a workshop where we presented the project itself. This included presentation of the team and the various themes which were to be discussed during the following 8 weeks.

In order to integrate the pupils into the project and to make them invested in the activities we designed this workshop in the same format as the rest of our workshops: through non-formal activities. Games, oral and visual presentations were the methods used to explain the frame of our project to the students, and the various themes addressed.



2 Workshop: Cultural Awareness

Objective:
Introduce
the nationality of
each
volunteer.



At the request of the students, we created this workshop to introduce, in a brief and amusing way, the nationalities presented in our team. Through games, quizzes and slideshows, we were able to interact with the students while allowing them to learn more about our origins.





3 Workshop: Traditional media vs. social media

Objective:
To highlight the
differences between
traditional and
social media

During this workshop, we introduced what media is, the different types of current media and their different ranges, influences and audiences. We designed a game in which the students had to create their own definition of media and through debriefing we formed an overall definition of the term media.

To explain the difference between traditional and social media we produced two cardboard clouds and the students had to distinguish the difference by adding correct words onto each cloud.

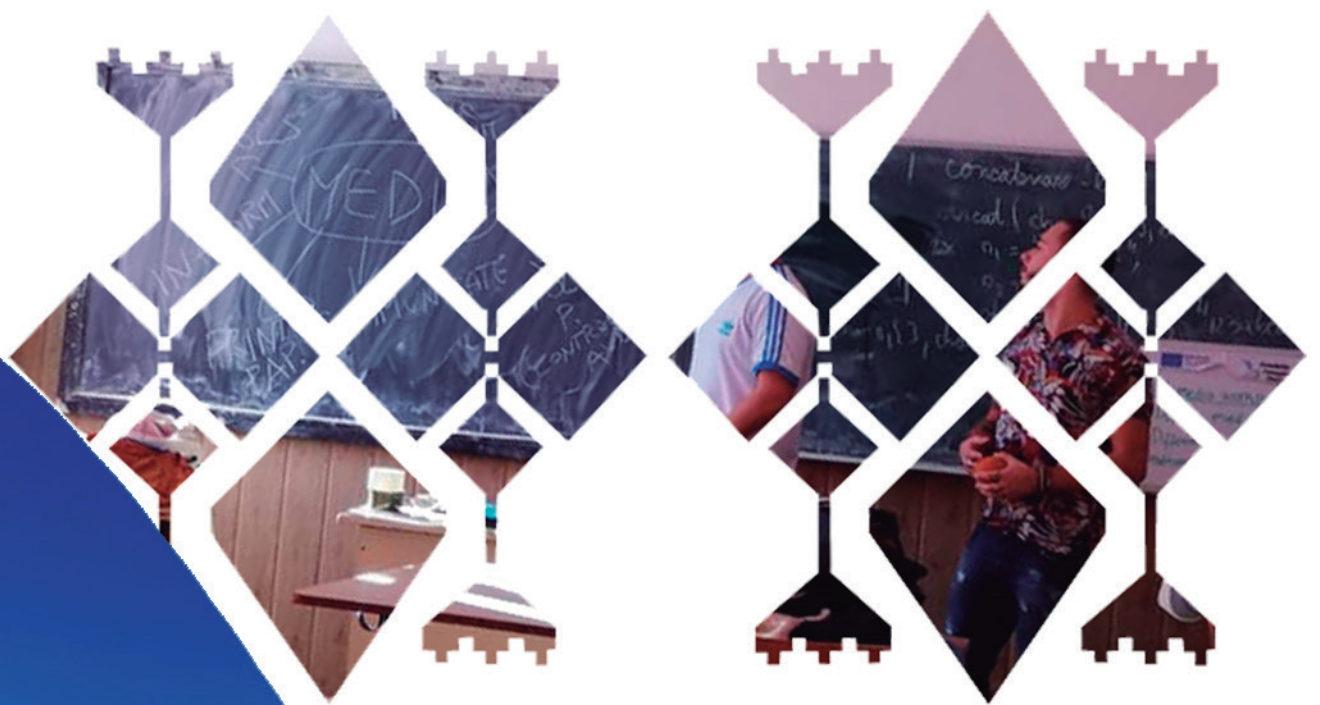


Objective:
To recognize
different types of
journalists and
to discuss the
question
of framing

4 Workshop: Framing theories/ Professionals journalism vs. citizen journalism



Through a game of "five differences" the pupils manage to understand the difference between professional and citizen journalism. While the to understand the theory of framing, the students had to immerse themselves for fifteen minutes in the shoes of a journalist and write an article with the help of the five W's+H, allowing them to understand the different views on the same actual fact.



5 Workshop: Fake news

Objective: Manages to make the students understand what fake news is and the tools to recognize them



To develop the students critical thinking towards news we simulated journalists in a TV reading out loud two different news stories. The students had to discuss which one they thought was fake and which was real.

To debrief we made a mindmap with the key signs of how you can tell fake and real news apart, things such as sensational titles, good sources, doubtful authorship, lack of detail and dates.



Objective: This core activity aims to give an overall view of the basic mechanisms in a modern political campaign

6 Workshop: Fake news and democracy

During this workshop we wanted to simulate a modern election. The students were assigned the roles of politicians, journalists, lobbyists and voters. According to their group they worked with either political campaigns, speeches, news stories or oriented themselves in the field of politicians. In the end everyone votes and one party ends up winning the election.





7 Workshop :Hate speech online

Objective: to create awareness about hate speech and teach about how you can recognise hate speech online

By making a brainstorming mind map we made the students reflect upon the words like cyberbullying, hatred and hate speech. In groups the students had to write down their thoughts and solutions revolving around these topics on big pieces of papers. We also showed a video where an actor did a social experiment about hate speech and discrimination. In the closure activity they had to write a message to somebody who is or has been bullied.



To show students how easy it is to gather information about other people we made them collect as much information about each other by only using google and social media. We also presented the topics data and metadata to make them aware of these facts and how many footprints we leave on the internet. At last we also explain what the terms and conditions on social media consists of.

8 Workshop: Privacy and media footprints

Objective: Spread the word about privacy when using the web and to be careful when using social media.



9 Workshop: Social life and mental health

Objective: Make students aware of the mental impact of the social media

This workshop we have divided into two as the first part of the workshop consists of showing 40 minutes of a Black Mirror episode. We wanted to make them think about how dangerous it can be with a society focused on points and superficial points. We also create a link to the real world.

VOLUNTEERING LIFE

ADAPTATION

Slowly but surely you start to have a day-to-day life as a volunteer. Everything isn't new and unexpected anymore. Now you can focus on adapting to your surroundings and this will make your EVS less complicated as you find your place in the puzzle.

In response to the cultural shock, the adjustment period is essential. This is the moment when you start making compromises with regard to your expectations and the reality of life in the country in order to continue in better conditions the volunteering

ADJUSTMENT

HONEYMOON TIME

You just arrived to the place you'll work and stay at for the following months, this time is called the honeymoon time.

This time you feel curious, attracted towards all the new opportunities and people you face and all is peace and harmony. Right now it will feel like a bed of roses and you feel energetic and excited to start working on your project.

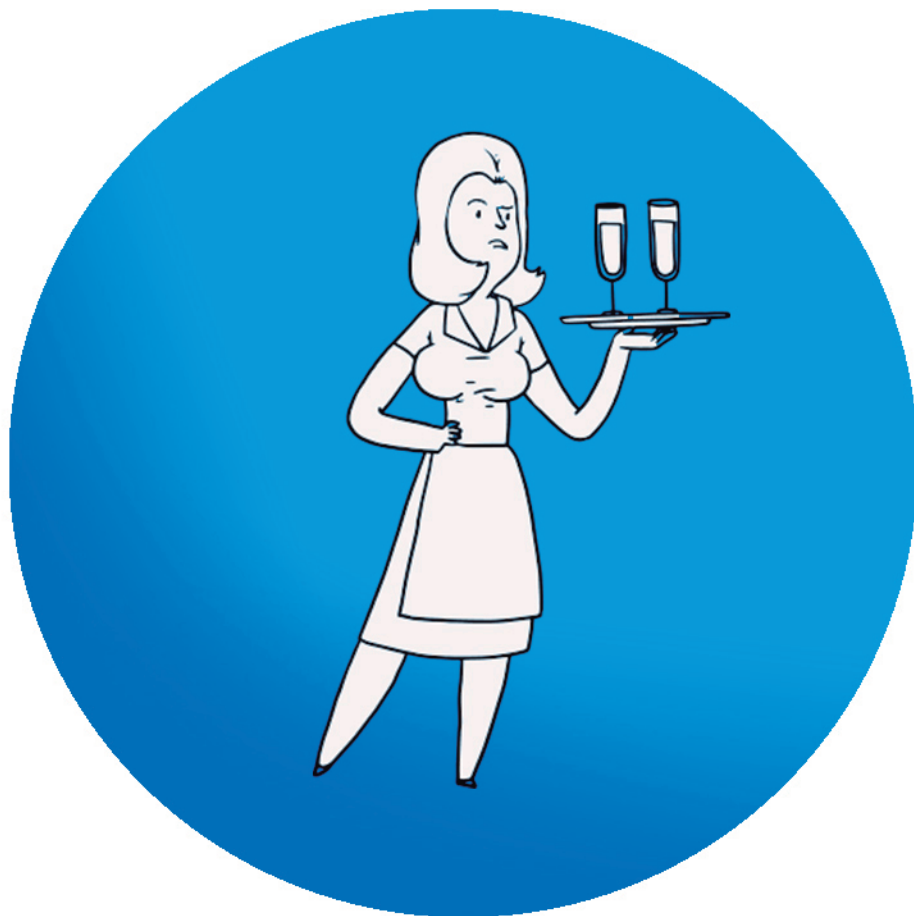
In this period you are forced to face actions and behaviours which can seem weird and maybe even rude. This can be a challenging part and it happens because you are in a different country while also working with people from multiple different cultures.

CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURAL SHOCK

Pay attention to the cars!

Yes, indeed one of the things that can shock upon arriving is the driving of the Romanians. Horns, anger, no respect for pedestrians... A little time of adaptation is needed!



Service... forget your habits about service. Speed and friendliness are not the watchwords in Romania although there are some exceptions. Do not be shocked if ever a waitress blows in response to your order.

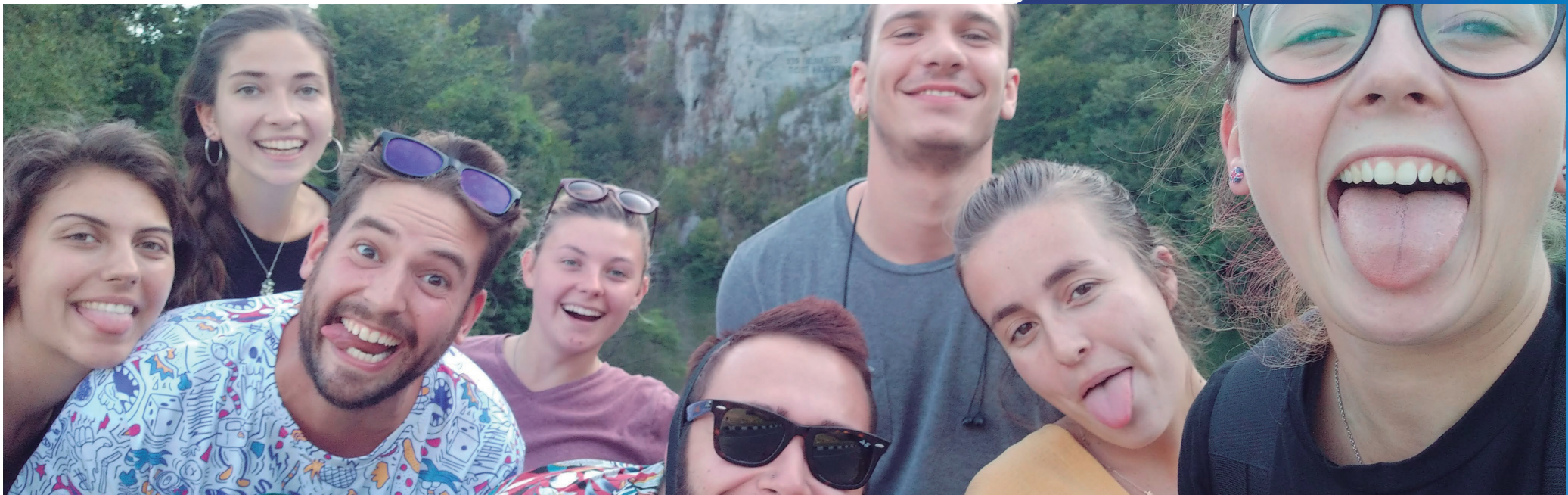
The animal condition. Yes, animals are not the focus of the Romanians. You can thus cross in the streets abandoned dogs and cats.



CAPACITY BUILDING



One of our first weeks here was dedicated to capacity building - learning about non-formal activities, getting to know each other, as well as the organisation, and exploring Craiova. This week was especially important for team-building. With the support of our coordinators and mentors we started to get to know ourselves and each other, to explore our characters and also to trust each other. These processes were facilitated by a variety of different games, energizers and activities, which created a relaxed and open atmosphere where we could share our fears, expectations, dreams and worries.



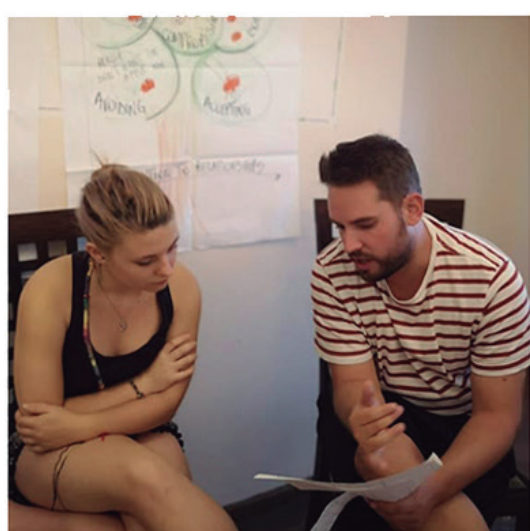
ON ARRIVAL TRAINING

In Bucharest 25-30 August



We had two trainers who incorporated a lot of non-formal education into our training. During each of the five days of training we started off by doing energizers and small games.

For each session there was an objective. To reach this, we played games or completed challenges which led us to think of the meaning of the specific game. The group dynamic during the training was very lively. We had many simulation games that allowed us to put ourselves in others' positions and gain awareness of others' needs. As a result of the arrival training, the group was transformed into a Team, where everyone is able to express, speak, listen and make decisions.



The first impression we had of Bucharest was, let us say, "audacious": our train dropped us off 500 meters away from the station, in the middle of the railway tracks, together with our luggage. But from this detail, we could understand that the city which would host is characterized by curious and strong contrasts. During the training course, we did not have much time to visit Bucharest, but we did manage to catch a glimpse of the main character of the place by walking around its streets and observing its people. The capital of Romania has two souls - one "antique", beautiful and elegant, which is why the city used to be called "Paris of the East", and the other stronger and "rough", legacy of the soviet era, which had partly destroyed and buried the previous history. In conclusion, a city full of almost violent contrasts and juxtaposing stories

MID TERM

1ST
POINT

Meeting in the middle of your project

2ND
POINT

Moment to take for yourself and for your team

3RD
POINT

Is in the mountains, in the wonderful Brâso, a place where you can breath fresh air, meditate and enjoy your colleagues company from all over Romania

4TH
POINT

Throughout the guide of experienced mentor, you will reflect on your past, how is your present going and the choices for your future

5TH
POINT

Free accommodation in the Hotel and free food!

6TH
POINT

Change to get acquainted with the other projects and enrich yourself with more ideas and ambitions

7TH
POINT

Discover another part of Romania: all offered by European Union!

8TH
POINT

Meeting other people will also give you the chance of having connections in new parts of Romania and the globe

9TH
POINT

Gather new energizers and ideas

10TH
POINT

Take free days and use them to discover more places using Braşov as camp base

EVENTS

VOLUNTEER FESTIVAL

Piata Shakespeare / William Shakespeare Square

The volunteering festival was a huge gathering of the volunteers and organisations of Craiova. The aim was to promote voluntary work to Craiova, but also to encourage the relations and cultural exchange between all the volunteers.

VOLTAIRE FESTIVAL

Parcul Nicolae Romanescu / Romanescu Park
October 9th, 2019

The event was organised by the students of Voltaire school, who invited us to network and introduce our project and European Solidarity Corps to local students. Several schools and student groups had their stands offering games and activities ranging from crafts to kickboxing! Our group chatted to students about volunteering, made some chalk art.



WHITE NIGHTS/ NOAPTE ALBA

Location: Casa Studentilor

This event was held so people could get to know more about volunteering and the opportunities connected to this. More than 30 organisations took part, resulting in loads of different entertainment such as traditional Romanian dance, a flash mob, musical performances, games, exhibitions and contests.

YOUTH EXCHANGE

Location: Research Hub of Applied Science Incesa

Our team was invited to introduce our project to a little group of young people who were on a youth exchange in Romania. We talked with the students about our personal experience of doing a long term project and what we had encountered so far during our time in Craiova.



FUTURE VOLUNTEERS

TIPS FOR FUTURE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering is an extraordinary activity, an experience like a tornado, which passes and overwhelms you, in a vortex of emotions and fun.

If it is true that nobody can be fully prepared, it may be helpful to check some little tips from someone has already travelled this journey.

yes

Follow “The Philosophy of Yes” – It is normal to be scared, confused or doubtful, but don’t worry and try to experience as much as you can! !



Feed your Wanderlust Gene

If you are volunteering abroad, it means you are already open to different cultures, but the challenges are not over yet: travel in every free day you have!



Not all roads lead to Rome!

You will face different challenges; sometimes, you will not understand how the local people act; but, please, don’t judge! Maybe, it is possible to reach the same objective following different roads!



Changing poison into medicine!

It could be possible your project will sometimes disappoint you. But you can always take the benefits of this experience and you can use this time to develop thoughts and dreams.



“Fill your paper with the breathing of your heart” – Ok, maybe not so dramatic or poetic! But writing can be an important tool to overcome bad moments or hard times.

SHIFT



PROJECT

