



APPETISER

An introduction to international youth work
Training Course

Info Pack for Participants

'Appetiser'

An introduction to international youth work



Dear participant of 'Appetiser',

First of all we would like to congratulate you for being selected to take part in this *unique* training course

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We hope that you are motivated and looking forward to meet with the others that will join this training course.

We would like to provide you with some information that will guide you in your preparation for the training course. In this document you will find:

- ✓ some background information about '**Appetiser**'
- ✓ daily programme of **Appetiser**"
- ✓ the latest information on the new "Erasmus+: Youth in Action" Programme and European Solidarity Corps
- ✓ list of things to bring with you

All this information should help you understand what **Appetiser**" is all about! Still, in case you have any questions, please contact the organisers of this training course.

For now we say:

"See you soon!"

The '**Appetiser**' trainers' team



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT 'APPETISER'

WHY APPETISER?

At first you might have a thought that it is a culinary training we are inviting you to!

No, it is not! But you might feel hungry after our '**Appetiser**'! Hungry for new activities, new possibilities, hungry for more!

The name of this training course represents the entire idea – to motivate ("appetite") people to expand their activities internationally! The idea for '**Appetiser**' was born in **2004**, where the need for new beneficiaries in the EU "**Youth**" Programme (now 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action') was expressed. We think that there are many

Be hungry and eat your trainers with questions! They are there for you!

Inga, Lithuania

youth leaders and youth workers around Europe, who organise great activities for young people in their town or in their country, but they do not spread their ideas at European level. Thus "**Appetiser**" is nothing more than a space for these people to *meet, share* their experiences, gain *knowledge* and *confidence* to organise *international* projects.

Specific aims and objectives were set for '**Appetiser**':

- To *give a strong positive* first experience of international youth work and motivate you to use 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme
- To *taste* non-formal and intercultural learning
- To enjoy the *first* intercultural youth project experience
- To *exchange local* youth activities in the international context
- To explore *possibilities* of support available for international youth activities offered 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme.
- To analyse *examples* of successful international youth projects
- To see how to *benefit* from international context in participants' local work practice.

First '**Appetiser**' was held in *Malta*, in **2004**. Since then appetisers took place in more than half of the current EU member states as well as Turkey and Norway. In feedback on the previous '**Appetisers**' from National Agencies of the current Erasmus+: Youth in Action Programme, it truly showed that participants were appetised, as these agencies saw that most participants indeed got active with the programme, by applying grants of that programme.

The current 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme will run for seven years more! (2014-2020)

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WHAT IS APPETISER?

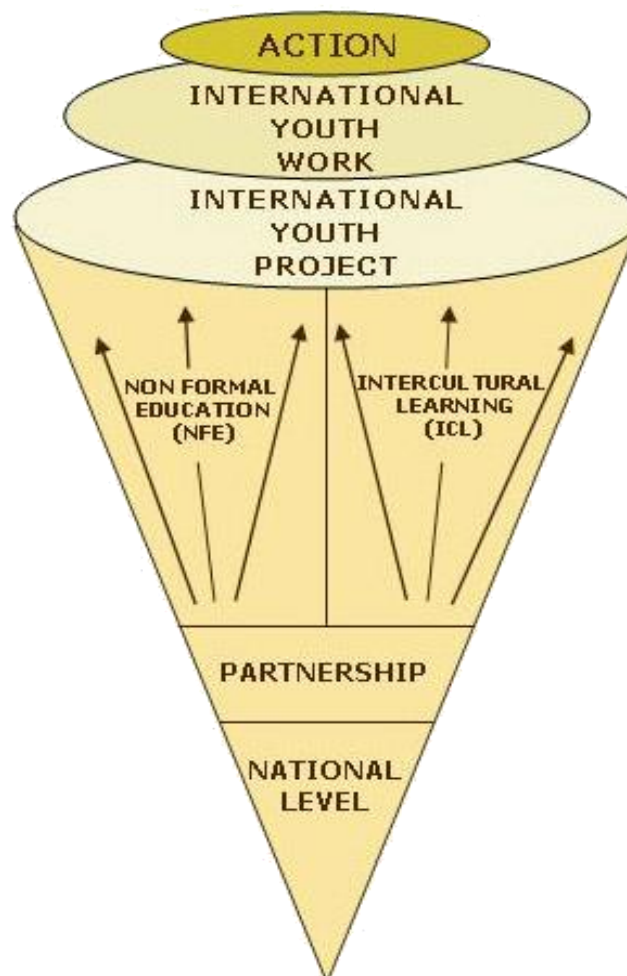
As you might have understood already, '**Appetiser**' is a training course, where we will provide you with an opportunity to learn what to consider when organizing an international youth project.

Each '**Appetiser**' within the last 10 years has been developed further based on the feedback received by the participants, but the main idea remains the same. Below you can see an ice cream-type scheme, which, actually, is the model we will be following during the training. Probably you will not find a restaurant where ice cream is included into the menu of *appetisers*, but we think that this dish is very motivating!

Take the maximum out of it! It's a lifetime experience you'll never forget it!

Nada, Romania

Shortly, topics written in the 'ice cream' are the ones we are going to work on during our training course. As you can see, we will very much focus on *non - formal education/learning* and *intercultural learning*. They are two big pillars of international youth work. You might be questioning yourself, what exactly do they mean, but this is exactly the reason you are coming to '**Appetiser**'! There are more interesting things to say about this "ice cream", but we will reveal the whole secret in our meeting!



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PROGRAMME OF 'APPETISER'

	Day 01	Day 02	Day 03	Day 04	Day 05
09.15 – 11.00	<i>Arrival of the participants</i>	Official welcome & Group Building	Intercultural Learning 'Theory & Practice'	'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' & European Solidarity Corps Programmes, further explained	<i>Departure of the participants</i>
11.30 – 13.00		Introduction of the training course & Small tasting of 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme and European Solidarity Corps		Good practices	
13.00		<i>Lunch</i>			
15.00 – 16.30		Organizations' bazaar	Non-formal education/learning	The value of international youth work	
17.00 – 18.30		Sharing of experiences		Youthpass	
18.30 – 19.00		Dessert time		Dessert time until 17.30	
19.30		<i>Dinner</i>			
21.00		Getting to know each other	Intercultural Evening	Dinner out	

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Above is the *day-to-day* program of our training course. As you can see, it will be quite intensive: **3** full working days with not so much free time. But we will do our best to make it interesting and motivating for you. During the programme we will not just provide you with information; we will also invite you to get substantially involved through interactive exercises, simulation games, visual presentations etc.

Make sure that you are able to actively participate during all **3** days.

As the programme will be intensive, we will not provide you with possibility to visit famous places. If you want to see more, please arrange your travel so you can have extra days to see the country. Board and lodging will not be provided for your extra "tourist" days, you will have to take care of it yourself.

All 'Appetiser' participants are entitled to receive a **Youthpass** certificate (for more, visit: <http://www.salto-youth.net/youthpass/> or www.youthpass.eu) for which they will be supported by the trainers in going through a process of self-assessment on their learning outcomes according to the framework of 8 Key Competences (see '**Useful links**' at the end of this document or find more information also in the web sites mentioned above) during the "Appetiser" training course itself. Each day, you will have some time, space, tools and support to reflect on your learning, assess it and make it relevant to your personal, social and professional context.

We would like to draw your attention to the intercultural evening, which might be your first experience. Please see the '**List of things to bring**' further in this info - pack.

LIST OF THINGS TO BRING!

Here is a list of things that you will need during our training course:

<1> Clear information (*in English, if possible*) about the main activities of your organisation, so that you can present it to other participants.

<2> Map, posters, postcards about your country/region/town to be introduced during intercultural evening.

<3> Some typical gastronomic specialities (*snacks and/or drinks*). Please contact other participants from your country to decide on what to bring. Make sure you just bring something to "appetite" the others, not to make them explode; think that others will do the same and it is always a pity to have food thrown away

<4> Comfortable clothes (*you can even bring your slippers!*), because we will do many active exercises.

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INFORMATION ABOUT 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme.

Future 'Appetisers': this training will "open your appetite" and you will scream for more(!) "ice cream"!! ;-)

Matina, Greece

You have probably noticed that until now we have used the name of 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme quite often and maybe you have heard about it from your colleagues or friends. You might be wondering, what it is?

It is a European Union Programme for the promotion of informal & non-formal education/learning and it is a great chance for

young people, youth organisations and youth workers to participate in and organise international youth activities.

Within the Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme, there are Mobility (for young people and youth workers) and Cooperation (Capacity Building, Strategic Partnerships & Policy Development) opportunities available for young people and youth organisations.

This programme is administrated by National Agencies in each programme country (see "Useful links" at the end of this document for the List of National Agencies). You have been accepted and sent to this '**Appetiser**' by the National Agency that is coordinating the Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme in your country.

Not the whole story of 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme will be told in detail in our training course. You will have the chance to contact your National Agency and they will provide you with information in your own language. In "Appetiser" you will have the possibility to come across examples of successful 'Youth in Action' Programme projects.

If you can't wait and are already hungry for information, please visit the official site of 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' Programme, http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm, where you will be able to read more. Or you can visit the web site of your National Agency, where all the relevant information will be presented in your language.

There is also a possibility to watch some videos that introduce Erasmus+ Youth in Action: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBA7I7XjM4C6kWqxAg8MI8w/playlists>

INFORMATION ABOUT 'European Solidarity Corps'.

The European Solidarity Corps is the new European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in projects in their own country or abroad that benefit communities and people around Europe.

The European Solidarity Corps brings together young people to build a more inclusive society, supporting vulnerable people and responding to societal challenges. It offers an inspiring and empowering experience for young people who want to help, learn and develop.

The European Solidarity Corps aims to foster solidarity in European society, engaging young people and organisations in accessible and high-quality solidarity activities. It offers young people opportunities to show solidarity and help resolve challenging

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situations across Europe through volunteering activities, traineeships or jobs as well as solidarity projects based on young people's own initiative.

Watch videos introducing European Solidarity Corps:

https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity/video_en

Please make sure that organisers are aware of your special needs (*dietary, mobility, accessibility of information etc.*) if you have them.

For more information please consult your National Agency or the organisers of **'Appetiser'**.

See you soon!

'Appetiser' trainers.

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USEFUL LINKS

Erasmus + Youth in Action Programme, European Commission

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm

European Solidarity Corps

<https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity/>

Youthpass

www.youthpass.eu or <http://www.salto-youth.net/youthpass/>

Key Competences, User-friendly brochure

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/publ/pdf/ll-learning/keycomp_en.pdf

List of National Agencies

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth/contacts_en.htm

Animated videos about Erasmus+ Funding opportunities for youth

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBA7I7XjM4C6kWqxAg8MI8w>