

## International youth club of Tallinn

### ORGANISATION DESCRIPTION

International Youth Club (IYC) is a non-profit organisation, created to integrate children of Estonia into the European society. The main objective of the club is to provide local children with an environment which enables them speak at least two European languages. The club unites 70 children aged between 5 and 15. The mother tongue of the children of the club is Russian, thus the project is dealing with the integration of ethnic minority group of Estonia.

### Project context

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The staff of IYC consists of two persons.

The volunteer will be based in Tallinn, capital of Estonia, which is located in the north of the country and has a population of 400 000 inhabitants. It is one of the most developed areas in Estonia with a lot of enterprises, businesses, organizations, etc. Governmental institutions and representatives of international organizations are situated here as well.

For detailed information please visit [www.tallinn.ee](http://www.tallinn.ee)

### Proposed Activities

Participation of motivated EVS volunteer is seen as an additional element refreshing the regular work of the International Youth Centre and bringing an additional educational value to the pedagogical process and other activities of the organisation. Another aim of the project is to introduce international dimension to the work of the IYC and to bring elements of intercultural learning to its work promoting the idea of arising of European awareness. In order to ensure intercultural learning the volunteer should be willing to present his/her own country and culture by introducing songs, games and different forms of activities to the children, local personnel and parents. The volunteer should keep in mind that cultural exchange will be an important aspect of this project. The project provides informal language practice for the Russian speaking youth in Tallinn through meeting young people from abroad and having common activities with them.

According to the volunteer's skills and project's current needs priority tasks and a more detailed working schedule will be worked out together with the project leader. It is hoped the volunteer will be able to actively contribute new ideas and impetus whilst providing support and enjoyable company for the young people.

Host project itself provides excellent opportunity for deep intercultural learning as well as experience with work with kids and teenagers to the EVS volunteer. Volunteer can put in practise his/her organising skills and develop them further while organising events and outings for the youth. Volunteer will be supervised by qualified and experienced staff that will support and encourage the new ideas and initiatives of the volunteer. Direct contact with locals the volunteer have an opportunity to get to know local Russian and Estonian culture. It

is also a chance for the young volunteer to develop his/her skills and personality through activities and helping children.

After on-arrival orientation meeting aimed at the integration of the volunteer to local realities and explanation of aims and activities of the host project, the EVS volunteer will be carrying out the following tasks:

- acting as the leader of the teenagers' language projects. He/she can work out the plan of activities for teenagers to be held while they are making their projects (lectures and seminars in the subject of their projects, competitions, projects presentations, team works, round table discussions, etc.) (15%)
- helping local staff in running workshops and various exercises for children (20%);
- playing with the children (15%);
- arrange for their outings, e.g. taking them to the excursions, study visits, picnics (10%)
- presenting his/ her home country and its culture as a part of intercultural learning and involving other foreigners staying with host organization to this work (10%);
- liaise with other youth organisations in Tallinn and develop cooperation from which the organisations could mutually benefit (10%);
- assist the Club in public promotion in Estonia (5%);
- helping to maintain and develop IYC website (5%);
- supporting staff of the club and host organisation in all requested ad hoc activities (10%).

One of the tasks for the volunteer could be to establish contacts with similar youth club organisation in his/ her home country in order to have mutually beneficial and interesting co-operation between the clubs and their members in future (programs of youth exchanges, club-to-club exchanges etc)

Another task of volunteer is to increase international awareness amongst young people, promoting the general idea of voluntary service around Estonia and Europe as powerful tool of non-formal education.

The working hours will be around 35 a week. Volunteer will have 2 days off every week which will normally be on the weekend although some weekend work will be necessary. If so, the days off can be rearranged to be taken during the week.

A typical day could look like the following:

11.00 – 13.00 - work with children: indoor activities, workshops, outdoor activities

13.00 – 14.00 – lunch

14.00- 17.00 - work with teenagers: excursions, study visits, picnics

17.00-18.30 - work with parents: discuss children's progress, presenting volunteer's home country and culture, planning for following day

### **Profile of Volunteer and Recruitment Process**

Volunteer is expected to be positive, open-minded, flexible, friendly, helpful and warm-hearted. He/ she has to be active and creative and be able to work on own initiative. Volunteer also has to be responsible and reliable. He/ she has to be willing to work and stay with children. It is important that the volunteer is motivated and interested in working with teenagers. The project language is English.

Candidates are asked to fill in an application form, which will be the base of the selection. Staff of the project chooses the volunteer, whose profile and interests match the best with the activities of the project.

## **Risk Prevention, Protection and Safety**

The Host organization will ensure:

- 1) that the volunteer work is safe and been assessed for risk
- 2) that every effort is made that project meets high health and safety standards
- 3) that the volunteer is trained and familiar with the volunteering work and have access to adequate safety equipment if needed
- 4) that the volunteer will get all the practical and psychological support from the staff