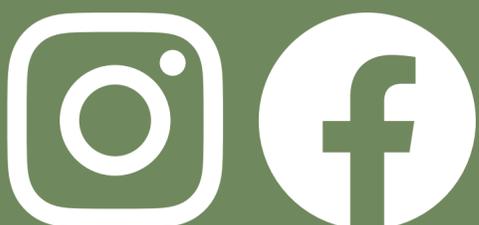


YOUTH ASSOCIATION DRONI NEWSLETTER

*DRONI
NEWS*

april

2022





Topics

*Activities in
April*

Volunteers diary

*Droni members
abroad*

Open vacancies

*Upcoming
activities*



Activities in April

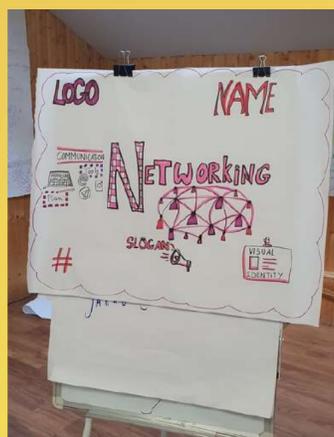
International training/workshop in Rustavi

NETWORKING FOR YOU/TH RIGHTS

Youth Association DRONI organized an international workshop titled **Networking for You/th Rights**. It connected participants from 7 countries: Finland, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Poland, Georgia, Ukraine and Belarus. The main aim of this project is to create an international youth team that will develop a transnational Network of individuals, youth clubs, cafes, social bars, and educational institutions. "Hate Free Spaces" will close their doors to proponents of hate speech and xenophobic propaganda and will simultaneously support spreading the No Hate Speech Movement

To reach this aim, we've set the following objectives:

- to raise awareness about hate speech phenomenon; analyze the situation in the involved countries and the main vulnerable groups and consequences of its acceptance in public space and public discourse;
- to actively engage young people in No Hate Speech Movement by letting them shape and formulate standards of "Hate Free Spaces" and "Hate Free Ambassadors" in their local communities and on an international level;
- tutor participants in developing their own No Hate Speech projects, that will take place in an established network of "Hate Free Spaces" places and therefore proliferate No Hate Speech Movement wider on a local, national, and international level;



Activities in April

ESC CARAVAN ZUGDIDI



Between 14 to 16 April our European Solidarity Corps volunteers together with the team from Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps Informational Center and Youth Association DRONI, organized another ESC Caravan meetings. The Caravan was held at Zugdidi Gymnasium of St. George, Zugdidi Central Library, Student-Youth Palace and the organization "Atinati".

Our team met with over 80 young people aged 13 to 27 years old, with whom we discussed different opportunities of Erasmus plus program and we made workshops about three different topics: human rights, food waste and scavenger hunt about Europe.



Activities in April

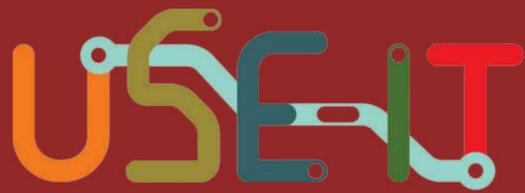
Youth Exchange “NO TO LONELINESS WITH NGO JUTUTAJA”

Youth Association DRONI facilitated a youth exchange titled “No to Loneliness with NGO Jututaja”. The project took place in Bakuriani, Georgia, between 23 - 30 April. The objectives of this youth exchange project were to lessen feelings of loneliness amongst youngsters and elders, while concurrently teaching them about coping mechanisms and social and cultural differences related to eldercare.

Over 30 participants have met to better understand Georgia’s and Estonia’s social, cultural, and governmental approaches to elderly care, and to be able to recognize both of the system’s advantages and disadvantages. The participants have learnt about the importance of having a more understanding attitude towards elders and the topic of aging and the elderly to not be seen as taboo as before. In addition, the participants met to be able to recognize mental health “red flags” in themselves and their loved ones and know where to look for help.



Activities in April



2nd & 3rd workshops

The second workshop of a new USE-IT MAP version of TBILISI on 9 April was all about the outdoor. That means it was based on walking and taking photos! The participants of the workshop were divided into several teams and searched for the new walking paths of Tbilisi. The direction was based on a few topics such as the greenery, nightlife, history and so on. Participants of the third workshop on 19 April were finally choosing a designer for the map! Stay tuned for our next steps!



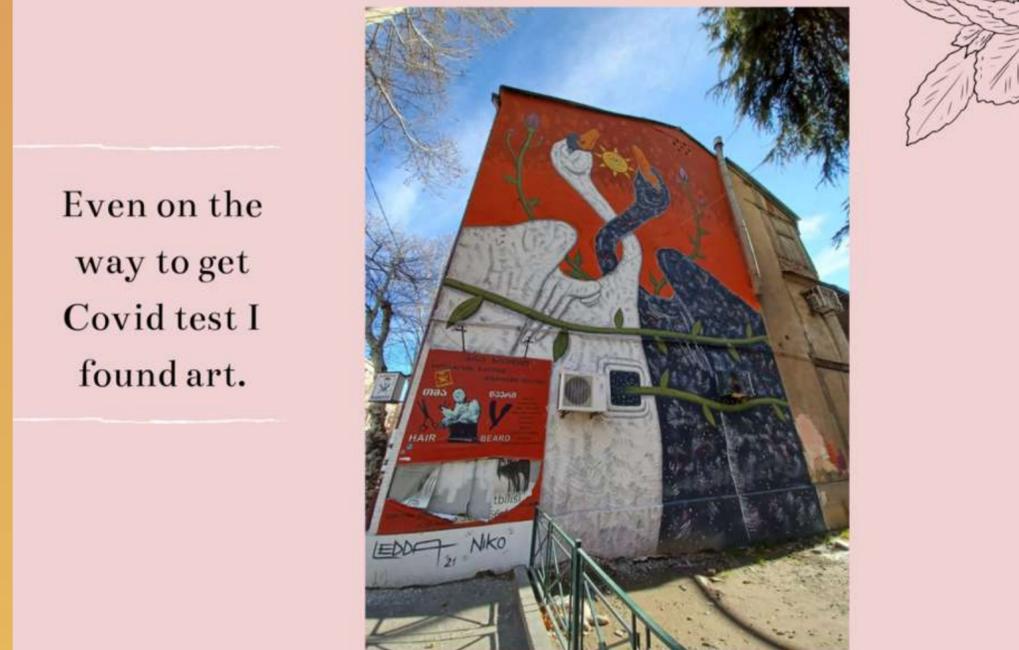
... and we said goodbye to Marina, ESC volunteer from France...



Volunteers DIARY



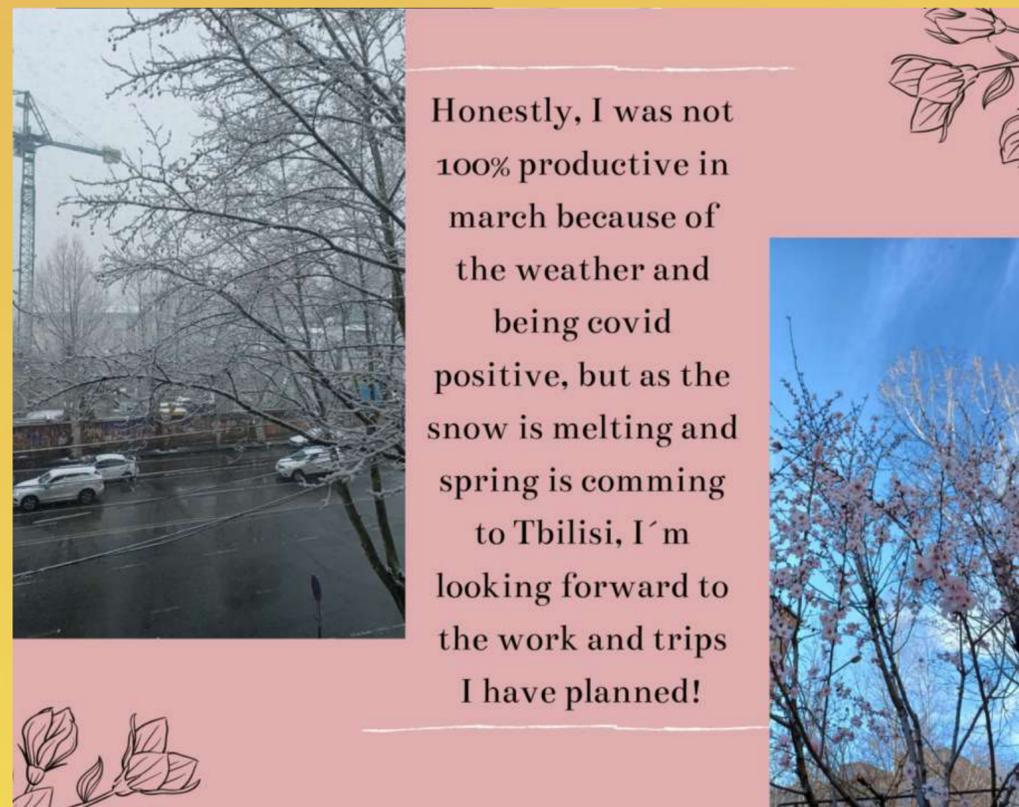
During the project about media literacy did I not only learn about information security but also that cat fur gets everywhere.



Even on the way to get Covid test I found art.



Before baking, properly check if you use the correct cream to not have the wrong one as I had ... but the lime cheesecake was yummy anyway!



Honestly, I was not 100% productive in march because of the weather and being covid positive, but as the snow is melting and spring is coming to Tbilisi, I'm looking forward to the work and trips I have planned!

DRONI members abroad

Dilijan, Armenia

On the 1st of April, the Erasmus + Youth Exchange "Healthy Lifestyle via sport" kicked off in Dilijan, Armenia. The project aims at exchanging knowledge between youth from different countries by preparing sessions for each other on topics that will be assigned beforehand. The project's central theme is a healthy lifestyle, starting from sports to mental health.



REPORT FROM GEORGIAN TEAM

"We have always been interested in a healthy and active lifestyle, learning outdoor activities, connecting with nature, and so on. We were very happy to find a youth exchange project for people like us.

Doing and showing presentations on such interesting topics as drug addiction, team building, healthy and active life and etc. We expected to meet people who has the same interest and We were also excited about the mixture of counties involved in this activity: Armenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, and Georgia. The program was led by every participant country. It was all a great mixture of non-formal education that was happening outdoors as well.

The project was from the beginning based a lot on sharing our personal stories, the challenges we face in our lives, and the changes we would like to make but sometimes it is hard to take the first step. We had an amazing experience hiking. We walked to the village Gosh. The road was for professionals but we all made it. Also, we had an activity that required us to involve villagers in our actively. We were playing our national games and were asking people to join us. It was an amazing experience.

In the second half of the project, we made some presentations. The presentations were on the prevention of healthy living and its disruptive pacts like drugs, alcohol, and so on. "AM-Healthy lifestyle via sport" gave us lots of new methods for dealing with our own challenges, seeing them in a positive way as something that can develop us as a person.

This project helped us to see a bigger picture of the situation around us. We shared knowledge, experiences, activities, and energizers that we will definitely use in the following projects. This project really inspired each and every one of us".

DRONI members abroad



Yerevan, Armenia

“Participation and Citizenship” is an international project which took place in Yerevan, Armenia from the 4th of April until the 13th of April and we would love to share with you a small blog, which wrote a participant from Georgia.

“It was an interesting experience, my first time in Armenia for a training course which turned into discovering neighbor country’s culture deeply. The first thing that comes to mind are trainers – they managed well to adjust the program for all age groups represented. Other staff members were also nice, always ready to help. Being able to communicate in Russian made some aspects different, I had a more cultural exchange with locals because of this.



We had guest speakers from the government, and the discussion was deep and interesting, but I wish that we knew the topic before – in order to prepare for/about it. After all, I’m satisfied – learned and experienced a lot”.

What March was like for our ESC volunteers abroad?

Hello!

This month was better, I would say.

We helped Ukrainian people somehow, especially children.

Other thing goes routinely, Weather condition is getting better. But sometimes it’s still winter. New girl has arrived, she is nice.

We are making trips and also planning a new ones.

MARIAM BARBAKADZE
ESC volunteer in Poland



I am Mariam from Georgia and it's the first month I am in Finland, in Vanhamaki. this is an amazingly beautiful and quiet country, the place where I am reminded me of the pictures drawn in children's books. Birch trees, big snow, beautiful wooden houses, lakes wherever you go, and people who are always ready to help you.

As for the project, its goal is to promote a good and equal life and a safe environment.

I work on an organic farm and prepare organic products such as dried herbs, berries, vegetables, as well as juices, and jams. I am glad to be a participant in this project because, I think that by producing organic products we help both the environment, animals, other living species, and our own health. This project gives me a lot of experience.

MARIAM SAMADASHVILI
ESC volunteer in Finland



DRONI members abroad



I have been in Turkey for several times, but it is my first time in Gaziantep. I have already spent one month here, but there is still a lot to discover. (Especially amazing meals!). If the world was a house, Gaziantep would be a kitchen. Cooking and eating is an Art here. This city is very different from others and you can enjoy every single detail of it.

Every activity is quite interesting and enjoyable at the same time. My favourite ones are "speaking club" and visiting high school. In the "Speaking clubs" we discuss very interesting topics, such as cultural differences, politics, economics and so on. When I first saw Hasan Kalyouncy university, I could not believe my eyes. Even they have their own TECH park and solar panels.

My Turkish is not very good, but can you imagine how happy I am when I can ask whatever I want? In addition, I have Turkish classes and it helps me a lot to improve my skills. And the last but not least, volunteering in Gaziantep gave me an opportunity to visit majestic places. I have read "Euphrates" only in my history books, but fortunately, it has become reality to be the part of the history and see Rumkale with your own eyes.

Anywhere you go, you are never alone, because the symbol of Gaziantep "Gossip Girl" is everywhere and she/he (We do not know exactly) is looking at you!

I hope the next month will be full of adventures too. To be honest, I am already in love with this city...

TAMARI KALABEGASHVILI
ESC volunteer in Turkey



Hello,
my project in Slovenia comes to its end, after nine months of learning a lot of interesting and new things. During this month I participated in the opening of the library. We helped to arrange 50,000 books and DVDs. Also, we did not forget about nature, we helped to plant 105 trees. We also took part in a hike with Caritas. We have created a video with volunteer support for Ukraine.

PERIDE NURMAGAMEDOVA
ESC volunteer in Slovenia



The month of February in Turkey, specifically Gaziantep was very interesting and exciting. First of all, I tried to teach Turkish children more about Georgia, my friends and I made a presentation about our country, which highlighted the diverse culture of Georgia. It should be noted that the children really liked the presentation and expressed a desire to definitely want to travel to our country in the near future.

I visited the Zeugma Museum, which is the largest mosaic museum in the world. The museum's Hellenistic Greek and Roman mosaics are focused on Zeugma, which is said to have been founded as Seleucia by Seleucus Nicator, founder of the Seleucid Kingdom after serving as a hetairoi military officer in the army of Alexander the Great. If you travel to this city, be sure to taste Baklava, Doner and Turkish ice cream, Dondurma.

I also visited Mardin, Mardin lies at the heart of the homeland of Syrians (Süryaniler), an ancient people who trace their origin to the Akkadian Empire, established in Mesopotamia around 2200 BC. Again I recommend if you are looking for new challenges in life the European Solidarity Corps projects are definitely for you.

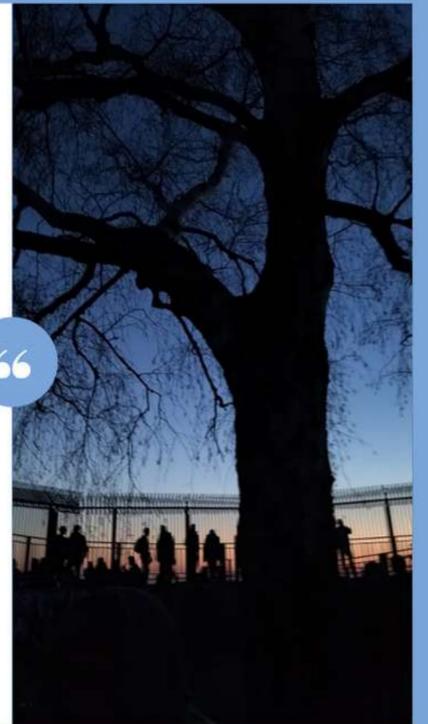
NATA JACHVADZE
ESC volunteer in Turkey

The sunny march in Berlin was very nice. After long winter and cold weather, spring brings a good mood and a lot of energy.

In the middle of March, I had a Seminar for volunteers in Alfeld. Small beautiful town close to Hanover. We discussed our projects, shared experiences, and try to solve each other's problems. It was a lot of fun.

After that GEB hosted a students group from the Czech Republic. For the group, I prepared the session, which aimed to develop time management and creativity. During the week we saw different museums and historical places in Berlin.

SALOME KAKABADZE
ESC volunteer in Germany



Hello!

My name is Miranda Kobalia. I am from Georgia. I am 24 years old and graduated from Caucasus International University with a degree in International Relations. My hobbies are music, hiking, reading. In my spare time I like to play the piano, I also like to listen to music, watch interesting films, read books, learn new languages, etc.

I decided to come to Austria and volunteer at InicativAngola because I wanted to gain new experiences in my life. When I got to know the values and the idea of the organization InicativAngola, I liked it very much and I wanted to be part of it for a year. One of my favorite things about volunteering here is that I meet so many people from different countries with different cultures.

I love to share the culture of my country with others and on the contrary I want to get acquainted with the culture and language of others. In addition, learning the German language motivates me to be part of this beautiful country with its rich culture for a year. I expect this volunteer year to make me more experienced, motivated and educated. And last but not least I would like to thank the InicativAngola group and my sending organization Association Thank you Droni for choosing and supporting me as a candidate for this project.

MIRANDA KOBALIA
ESC volunteer in Austria

Visiting Gaziantep is one of the best decisions I've ever made. People are very friendly here. They want to help you and get you more interested in their city and culture. There are quite good universities. Visiting them for different activities is very enjoyable for me. It's very important to share your culture and knowledge about many things, so talking with students about different and interesting topics is really valuable for me. For example, students told me that they have this mythical creature, half snake and half woman – Şahmeran. The tale of Şahmeran is still popular in eastern Turkey.

Volunteering is a great opportunity to discover new things. For example, I visited Mardin, which is located in southeastern Turkey. This city has very unique architecture and there you can buy Telkari. Telkari is a kind of filigree work made from silver and gold wire. The art of telkari was developed and practiced by the Syrian community in and around Mardin and Midyat.

I also visited Şanlıurfa, which is located in the middle Euphrates region of southeastern Anatolia. This city has a very interesting history and so specific bazaars. The pool of Abraham is my most-liked place there. It is forbidden to catch or eat fish in this pool because they are believed to be holy.

As you see, I'm very excited about Turkey, its culture and historical places here. I hope another month will be as much interesting and amazing as the previous one.

NATIA GOJORASHVILI
ESC volunteer in Turkey



Open Vacancies

ESC project in Estonia
shorturl.at/cgxyG

2 ESC projects in Poland
shorturl.at/gsulU
shorturl.at/bmMV6

3 ESC projects in Lithuania
shorturl.at/nuzM6

ESC project in Slovakia
shorturl.at/hilRS



Upcoming Activities

EUROPA FAIR 2022

*Promoting
Volunteering*



Youth Association DRONI together with Info Center of Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps in Georgia and NGO Youth for Peace and Equality is going to organize a public visual exhibition to celebrate Europe Day. The aim is to provide information about EU programs, ESC volunteering, Erasmus+ youth and the opportunities offered by the European Union in general.

In order to raise awareness, the attending community will have the opportunity to talk to people experienced in the field and get the necessary information from them. The project's main goal is to create an environment where the present community will be able to receive interesting and valuable information about international projects from the first source, both verbal and visual.

The event will take place on 9th of MAY, in Deadaena Park, Tbilisi.