

Echoes of Past Wars

28th November – 6th December 2017, Larissa,
Greece

Info Pack

Erasmus+ Youth
Key Action 1: Mobility for young people
Youth Exchange



We are very glad that you have decided to be part of this project! We are looking forward to meet you!

Please join our facebook group! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/486903234990207>

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About “Echoes of Past Wars”

George Santayana said “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it”. Especially in light of the Refugee Crisis of 2015 and the resurgence of xenophobic, far-right movements across Europe in its wake, it has become increasingly clear that the lessons once learned in the horrors of past tragedies such as World Wars and Civil Wars are yet to be understood by broader parts of today's European population.

Syrian civil war, an ongoing and with an unsure future and end war, can't leave EU unaffected. A high number of Syrian refugees entered EU to seek refugee status. Some countries, cities and people welcome refugees in their everyday lives. On the other hand, many countries and people are skeptical about the increasing number of refugees in their countries. Extreme political movements are getting more and more popular in many European countries, especially among young people. People seem to ignore their recent history and their own fights for democracy and human rights.

The idea of EU was born out of the necessity to create a common space to avoid tragedies that shaped European past, and had repercussions globally, from the 30year war in the 17th century to the destructive 20th century World Wars. In addition to that many countries faced Civil Wars inside their borders that proved to be even more devastating in their results. Dealing with the past is a way to understand the present and create the future. Our idea for “Echoes of past wars” is to use the recent rise of xenophobia, right-wing, anti-minority sentiments in Europe as an occasion to re-evaluate the methods and methodologies of remembrance work and how the lessons learned from Civil Wars can be better anchored in today's European societies and young people's lives.

Young people will get involved in this project by learning events that are history for them, events that will help them to understand their present and to give a common shape to their future together. Young people by remembering dark periods of theirs and other EU countries and more specifically periods that their own countries were facing civil war conflicts, will be able to understand the Syrian civil war and its repercussions in the European Refugee crisis. The three countries participating in this youth project, Italy, Spain and Greece have faced a civil war in their recent history which shaped their countries in a dramatic way. This project encourages the democratic and civic participation of young people in order to make them play an active role in the democratic public life of their country and help in strengthening our European awareness. It will allow young people to develop competences and skills, to become aware of the refugee situation in EU and strengthen values like solidarity among them and among them and the refugees.

“Echoes of past wars” is a 9-day (7 working+2 travel days) and 3-country (Greece, Italy and Spain) youth exchange (Key Action 1 Erasmus+) project aiming to bring together young people, to follow national “footprints” of civil wars in their EU countries and to define common values of freedom, democracy and respect of human rights. By understanding significant historical events chosen by the youngsters in each participant country, young people will try to develop critical thinking skills and be more able to understand the changes in their societies, which are or becoming “immigrant societies”.

Objectives:

- Strengthen solidarity and foster better understanding by exchanging country specific important historical events connected with civil wars and their impact, which will help participants connect more with the current refugee crisis
- Make an active step for young people to pass from passive remembrance to active participation to civil society and to promote opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement as well as common values of freedom
- Increase awareness among the youngsters about refugees, asylum seekers and migrants by both visual narratives and material, as well as a visit in a refugee camp (Koutsohero, Larissa)
- Create social connections and foster intercultural dialogue among the migrant and refugee youth with local and south-european youngsters aiming at breaking possible stereotypes and prejudices, through an open intercultural event and a photography exhibition
- Inform participants on the Erasmus+ Youth, giving special focus on active inclusion of youth

Activities:

- Getting to know each other and team building activities
- Search about their own history and get general information about partners' history
- Discuss about the collected information and find out whether any stereotypes in connection with partner countries, people exist or not and where these come from
- Local visit to a refugee camp
- Taking pictures and organize a photography exhibition

Methods:

- Experiential learning: the so-called "learning from experience" i.e.: role games, physical activities and so on;
- Cooperative learning: participants working together but divided in small groups to reach common goals;
- Open Space Technology: an interactive method of development of ideas to follow up projects and actions;
- Peer learning

-Photography workshop led by a professional

Participants

Number of participants:

9 young people from each country and 1 team leader for each team without age limits (in total: 30)

Profile of participants:

- Young people between 16 and 26 years old
- To have personal interest in history and international affairs
- To have personal interest in photography
- To want to deepen their knowledge about recent European history and understand European refugees crisis
- To have the chance to multiply the outcomes of youth exchange
- To be committed to participate in the whole program (pre and post exchange activities)
- To have at least a basic knowledge of English
- To have willingness to work in an international team

Financial Conditions

This activity is financed by the Erasmus+ Youth program of European Union and it is supported by the Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation (Greece).

Travel costs and accommodation are covered 100% by the program.

We will cover your travel costs, according to the European Commission travel reimbursement, to a maximum per country of:

Greece: 180€ (for distance 100-499km) and 20€ (for distance 10-99km)

Italy: 275€

Spain: 360€

Therefore, if you cannot provide your original tickets, receipts, insurance and invoices clearly stating the travel agency, your name and the exact costs of the tickets, we will not be able to reimburse you.

- **Keep all** the receipts with prices (bus tickets, train tickets, electronic flight ticket, travel agency reservations, etc.)

- **Keep all** your flight boarding passes (outward and return).

Please **DO NOT BUY any tickets** before the final approval of the organizers!

How to get to Larissa?

- **From Thessaloniki's Airport**

Larissa doesn't have an International airport and the closest airport to Larissa, is Thessaloniki's airport. The distance between Larissa and Thessaloniki is about 160km.

From Thessaloniki's airport you have to take the bus number **78** to go to the bus or train station for a bus or a train to Larissa. Whether you go to the bus or train station you will take the same bus (78) from the airport but you will stop to different stops.

By Train

The easiest way to go to Larissa from Thessaloniki is by train. It takes around 1 and a half hour to arrive to Larissa's train station from Thessaloniki. The train ticket costs 14euros and you have discount if you show your student identity card.

You can also see the train timetable online. You cannot buy your ticket online, but there are more than 15 trains everyday coming from Thessaloniki to Larissa and you can easily buy your ticket at the train station.

<https://tickets.trainose.gr/dromologia/>

By Bus

Below you can find the bus ticket costs and the timetable information.

Student discount is provided on all routes (Higher/Technical Education students). It is necessary to display student ID upon ticket issue as well as in case of inspection during the journey.

0% discount Simple:15,30 €

25% Student discount Simple:12,00 €

0% discount Return:23,00 €

25% Student discount Return:17,50 €

Check the timetable and the departure times in the following link:

<http://ktelmacedonia.gr/en/routes/list/tid=24>

The first bus departs from Thessaloniki station on 07:00 and the last one on 22:00.

- **From Athens Airport**

Also you can reach Larissa from Athens' airport. The distance between Athens and Larissa is about 350km. From the airport you have to take the bus X95 arrive to Syntagma (city center) then take a bus or a train for Larissa.

By Train

Athens train station is at Stathmos Larissis metro station (red line). You can book your train tickets online here: <https://tickets.trainose.gr/dromologia/>

Ticket's price from Athens to Larissa starts from 19euros, it depends how early you book your ticket. It takes around 4 hours from Athens to Larissa by train.

However keep in mind that as soon as you buy your ticket online you cannot change the date and the time of your trip especially if you buy a special offer ticket. Also to have access to the cheapest tickets to need to sign up, it is not difficult. Important: you must print your e-ticket and have it with you during the trip.

By Bus

The bus ticket costs 52€ round trip. You have to go to Liossion bus station (go to Attiki metro stop red line, and from there a bus to Liossion bus station, around 5 stops). It takes around 4 hours from Athens to Larissa by bus. Bear in mind that train and bus stations only accept cash.

Both bus or train stations are within 10 to 20 minutes' walk to the activity's hotel and venue.

Accommodation & Activity's venue

You will stay at Dionissos (ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ) Hotel Larissa in the center of the city of Larissa. Dionissos hotel is situated within the pedestrian precinct in the center of Larissa. Participants will share three-bed rooms. Rooms have a private bathroom.

The activity will take place in the same hotel, in a full equipment seminar room. During the activity, you will be provided with coffee breaks (coffee, tea, juices, cookies, fruits) and meals at hotel's restaurant.

Website: <http://dionissoshotel.gr/en/index.php>

Address: L. Katsoni & 23th October, Larissa 41222 (Λ. ΚΩΤΣΟΝΗ & 23^Η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ)

About Larissa

Larissa is located in the center of Greece and it is the fourth biggest city in Greece (approximately 170.000 residents, while the regional unit of Larissa reaches a population of around 290.000 in total). It is a principal agricultural center and a national transportation hub, linked by road and rail with the port of Volos, the city of Thessaloniki and Athens.



Also, Larissa is a major commercial and industrial center in Greece. Legend has it that Achilles was born there, and that Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, died there.

- The river Pinios runs through the north part of the city and it is a meeting point for people who enjoy nature, walking, hiking and biking.
- Larissa is a very youthful and live city, with many cafés, restaurants and taverns, situated by the most part in the pedestrian center.
- Larissa has two large squares (two of the largest in Greece), Kentriki and Tahidromiou Avenue two very popular meeting points for the locals.
- The city of Larissa has a history of 8.000 years, with one ancient theater within its city center (address: Venizelou 80).
- The Archaeological & Byzantine Museum of Larissa contains important collections, from Paleolithic fossils to Byzantine times, Hellenistic and Roman sculptures (address: 31st Avgoustou 1).
- The Municipal Art Gallery of Larissa - G.I. Katsigras Museum has a significant art collection (address: Georgiou Papandreou 2).
- The city is in close proximity of many interesting destinations in the region, mount Olympus, mount Kissavos, Meteora etc.
- The coastline of Larissa's beaches reaches 50km and it is around 40km from the city

Useful Information

Banks

Due to the economic situation, capital controls are imposed in Greek banks since July 2015. Capital controls are valid only for clients that own a Greek bank account. If your credit card is connected with a foreign bank account, you won't have any problem or limit to use it. Have in mind that in Greece it is easier to pay by cash because many restaurants, shops, services etc don't accept bank cards, especially in the country-side.

Currency in Greece: euro (EUR)

Weather

The weather in Larissa in November/December is around 10-14C and during the night significantly lower, at 5-8C. In any case, we advise you to bring some warm clothes with you in order not to feel cold at any time.

Whatever the case, you will know in advance how the weather will look like before you start your trip, if you visit this [website](#), which has really accurate forecast. Don't worry if it is in Greek, it still makes sense with the drawings and the temperatures!

Some Useful Phrases

Hello	Ya (ΓΕΙΑ)
Excuse me/Sorry	Signomi (ΣΥΓΓΝΩΜΗ)
My name is	Me lene (ΜΕ ΛΕΝΕ)
Good morning	Kalimera (ΚΑΛΗΜΕΡΑ)
Good evening	Kalispera (ΚΑΛΗΣΠΕΡΑ)
Thank you	Efcharisto (ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ)
I need help	Chriazome voithia (ΧΡΕΙΑΖΟΜΑΙ ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑ)
I'm looking for...	Psachno ya... (ΨΑΧΝΩ ΓΙΑ...)
Do you speak English?	Milate Agglika? (ΜΙΛΑΤΕ ΑΓΓΛΙΚΑ;)
I don't speak Greek	Den ksero ellinika (ΔΕΝ ΞΕΡΩ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ)
How are you?	Pos ise? (ΠΩΣ ΕΙΣΑΙ;)
I'm fine	Ime kala (ΕΙΜΑΙ ΚΑΛΑ)

DEPARTURES	Αποχόρισις (ΑΠΟΧΩΡΗΣΕΙΣ)
ARRIVALS	Αφίξις (ΑΦΙΞΕΙΣ)

In case of Emergency

Emergency number in Greece is 100 and it can be called for free from any telephone line!

Health Insurance

All the participants should have a European health insurance card.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=559>

Hosting and Partners Organizations

Youthnet Hellas (GR)

Website: <http://youthnet.gr/>

Youthnet Hellas is a non-governmental and non-profit organization that aims to engage young people at local, national, European and international level through activities and interventions. Youthnet Hellas is aiming to promote young people's participation, information, social inclusion, voluntarism and active citizenship.

AID - Alternative Innovative Development (GR)

Website: <http://aid.com.gr/>

A.I.D. is a non-profit organization, which has been established to provide support to individuals and groups that are living in poverty or in exclusion conditions. The organization focuses on actions related to human rights, combating racism and the marginalization of vulnerable social groups by providing educational support services. It is based in Larissa, Greece.

FORME (IT)

Website: www.associazioneforme.com

FORME is a non-profit and non-governmental organisation based in the heart of Palermo, Italy. The aim of the association is the empowerment of individuals, communities and social networks through skills development and through mediation between different sectors. The mission of the organisation is to promote non-formal education as a complementary methodology to formal education, and to bring closer theory to practice: the world of education to the world of work.

Ticket2Europe (ES)

Website: www.ticket2europe.eu

Ticket2Europe is a youth organization based in Pontevedra, Spain. Our target group are youngsters aged 18 to 35 years old who have suffered the stroke and consequences of the recent economic recession period. We strongly believe that working with different programmes and implementing projects will improve their competences and give them more chances to enter the European labour market.

Contact Person

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