

IT STARTS WITH YOU.



GREEN MISSIONS

Long term ESC project

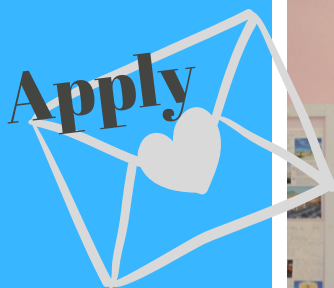
FOR 10 MONTHS
KAZANLAK, BULGARIA

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Project summary

Apply



Dates: for 10 months
01.09.2022 - 01.07.2023

Place: Kazanlak, Bulgaria

Participants: volunteers aged between 18-30 years old, from all EU program countries

Topics of the project: culture & creativity, environment, and natural protection

How to apply: send your motivational letter and CV by e-mail to ydcma2004@gmail.com with the subject "Green Missions"



Hosting organization

"United Avangard Artist" takes part in activities and art forms regarding theater, cinema, photography and music, and also social, volunteer, ecological and community activities. The members always search for new and unusual methods. The organization has won several national awards, including one for the best youth initiative for Kazanlak and an international one from the European Commission for the best short-length movie. In the last years, United Avangard Artist is active with making cinema. The organization makes predominantly shortlength films with great social purposes and themes such as AIDS, drug abuse, ecology, human trafficking, and tolerance. The movie "Tolerance", shows tolerance in different ways and has earned the organization international recognition from the "Fingerprints" contest made by the EU.





Project details:

The project is focused on audiovisual and visual art with social and environmental impact. The volunteers will work together on: Creating short movies. The work will include video editing and filming in cooperation with the local community.

The main activities of the volunteers will be:

- creating short videos that reflect the present situation, eco movies
- creating art installation
- design and art (creating posters or acting...)
- creating a photo-album with art photos that represent topics of the project
- take part to the "Rose festival" 2023 if possible
- promoting European Solidarity Corps programme

Organizing events

The volunteers will regularly work with local institutions like municipality, library, elderly house, daily care center for kids with disabilities and museums to prepare workshops, presentations and other events for the local community. Very popular events are Language cafe or *Bez Pari* (without money), which provides space for the exchange of old clothes, devices, tools, and other things among people without paying for them.

The volunteers will work with professional equipment with the help of experienced mentors. We are searching for creative people with different skills and with experience, who enjoy working as a team on videos, on the website, printed materials, and marketing.



Other projects

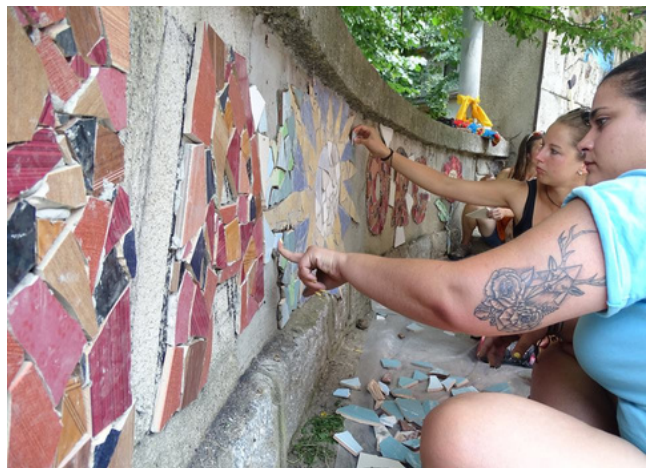
The volunteers will participate in projects of other organizations with similar topics and aims. It might be visiting festivals, eco-villages, repairing a historical church, attending a conference, or acting in a fire theater. The activities are varied and you will have many incredible opportunities to try and experience things you wouldn't even think of.

Traveling Bulgaria

We encourage volunteers to travel, experience Bulgaria from its good and bad sides, and share their impressions through our website theyouth.info and social media. Bulgaria is a beautiful country, which doesn't have the reputation it deserves. What is worse, neither ourselves, locals, know what a treasure we have. Foreigner's opinion can work as a "wake up" impulse.

About Kazanlak

Also known as Kansas city and Valley of Roses, Kazanlak lies in the geographical center of Bulgaria, 200 km east of Sofia and 108 km northeast of Plovdiv.



The beautiful majesty of the Balkan mountains combined with the fertility of the Tundzha river valley.



Damask Rose is one of the most important natural treasures in the region. Kazanlak, the main center for the production of the Bulgarian rose oil (85% of the world's total), is famous worldwide thanks to this traditional activity that is several centuries long. Rose-picking lasts for about a month (from May 20 to June 20, depending on weather conditions) and it is part of the popular Rose Festival.

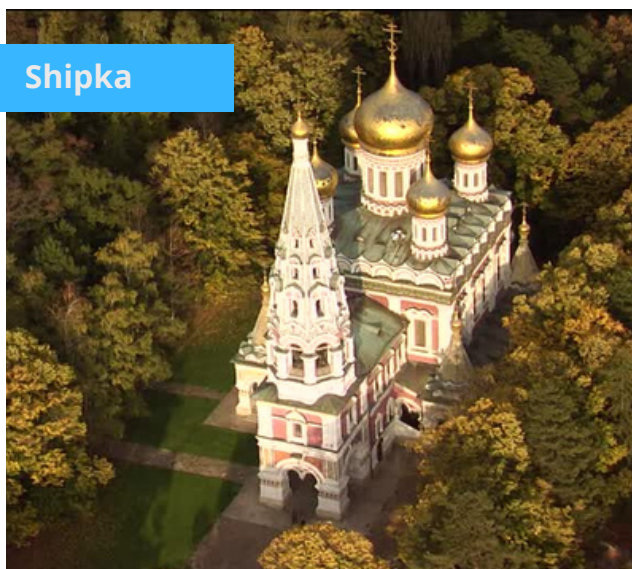


Buzludzha

Kazanlak is among the 15 biggest industrial centers of Bulgaria, also called as city of guns and roses for the Arsenal weapon factory, one of the main employers in the region. The population is around 46.000 people (2014).

Accommodation

All the volunteers will live and share a house/apartment. In case something is damaged or broken, repair costs will be divided jointly by all volunteers.



Shipka

Travel costs

Travel costs are covered by the project regarding the rules of the European Solidarity Corps program and depend on the country you come from. **Keep all the boarding passes and original tickets from your travel!**

The money will be reimbursed to your bank account after the end of the project when the volunteers will submit all the tickets and fill the final report.

Money

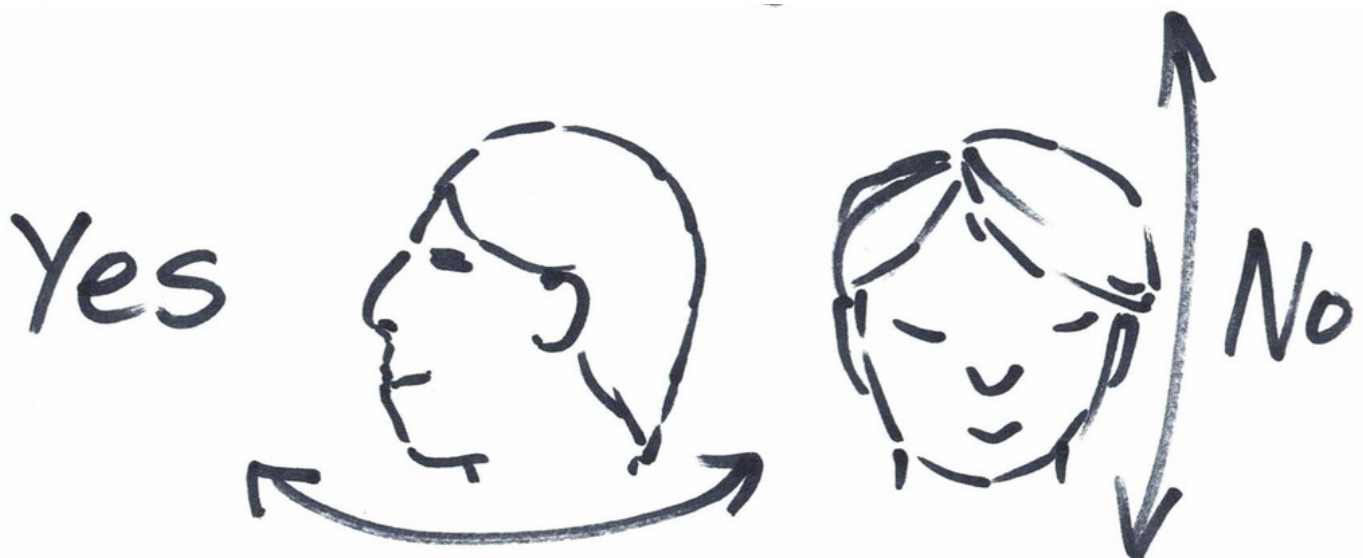
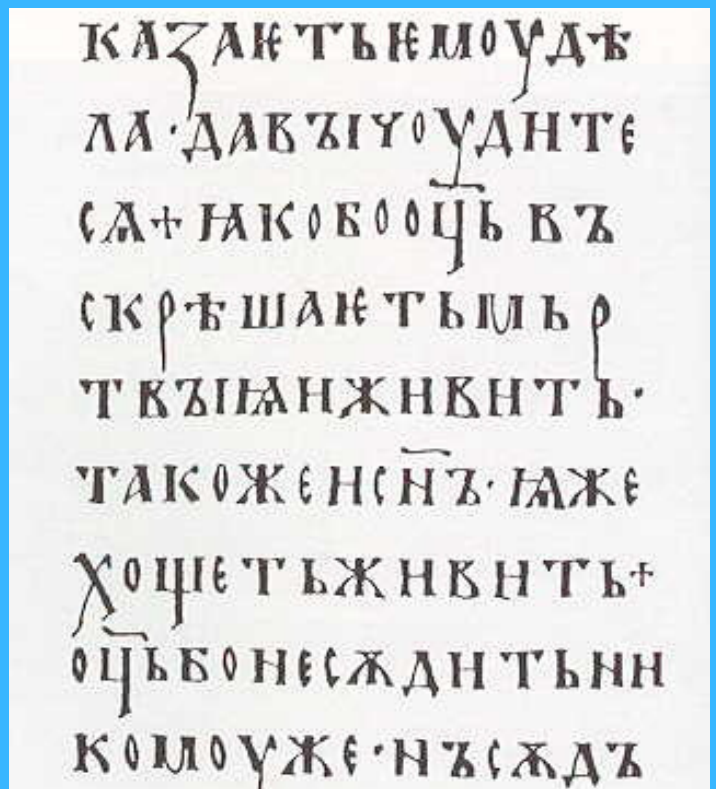
The financial support in the form of **pocket money is 120 EUR per month**.
The amount of **money for food is 120 EUR per month**.

The pocket money will be given to every volunteer on the beginning of every month. The money for food will be provided at the end of every month. The financial support includes weekends, holidays and vacation (20 days for the whole period).

Useful info

Bulgarian is the official language in Bulgaria. The alphabet used is the Cyrillic alphabet so you need to get familiar with it prior to your arrival. You can also remember some important phrases which will be useful. Of course, most young people speak English, at least at a basic level, but keep in mind that people above 50 years old probably will not be able to communicate with you in English, including officers at the ticket desks of train/bus station as well as drivers.

A curious custom: You should be careful when you ask people about the way or something else, because Bulgarians nod their head for "no", and shake their head for "yes", in contrast with the other parts of Europe.



How to reach Kazanlak

If you don't have BGN, take at least 40 leva (about 20 EUR) from the bank machine (ATM) at the airport because you need money for the transport. Changing money at the airport is not recommended.

1) From Sofia Airport to the city center

- Please keep in mind that only Terminal 2 (the newer and bigger) is connected to the metro line. From Terminal 1 you should take a bus to the city center or the free airport shuttle to Terminal 2.
- An individual transport ticket in Sofia (metro, bus, etc.) costs 1.60 leva (BGN). You need to have coins to pay your ticket to the bus driver onboard (drivers usually do not accept notes of 5 leva or more, because they cannot give you change - unless you are 2 people and have to pay 3.20 lev). The price for the metro ticket is the same and you can change metro trains without paying additionally.

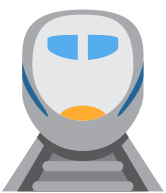


Serdika Station

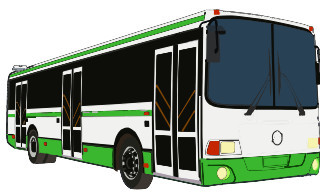
2) From Sofia to Kazanlak

You have two options: you can take a direct bus/train to Kazanlak or you can take a direct bus/train to Stara Zagora and from Stara Zagora a minibus to Kazanlak.

Click to see the timetables:



Train



Bus



Minibus

We will take you from Kazanlak central bus station or train station. Please send me a text message when you are on the bus/train with your arrival time in Kazanlak

Contact Maria Slavova:
+359 899 307 090



St. Ivan Rilski

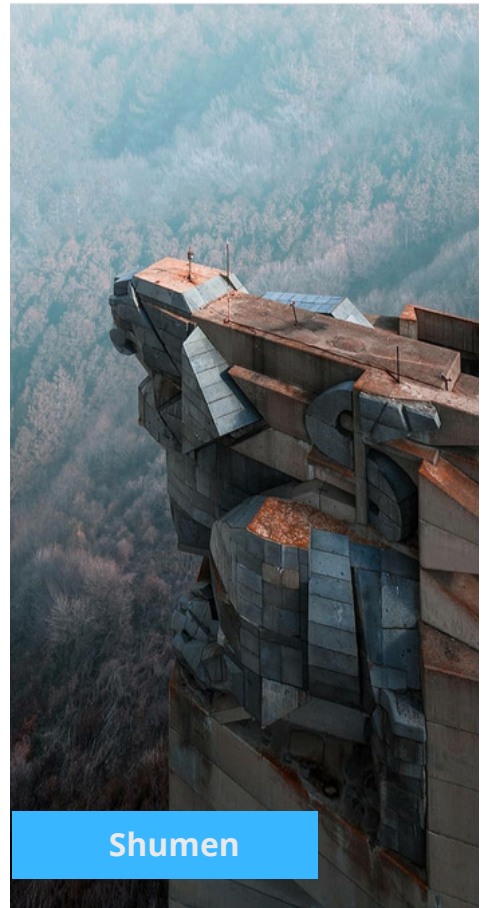
Why Bulgaria?

You may even not know where to find it on a map. And it would be such a pity to overlook this beautiful country. Have a look at what you could experience during your voluntary service.

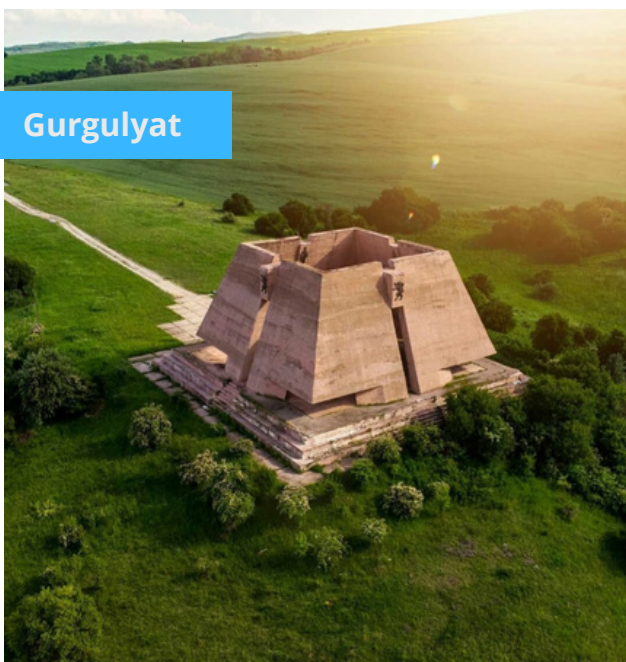
cheap
friendly
traditional



Plovdiv



Shumen



Gurgulyat

Diversity

Bulgaria offers something for everybody: from impressive mountains with wild horses and perfect conditions for winter sports, eco-paths, waterfalls, hot springs, seaside, little picturesque villages, ancient remains of different cultures, socialist monuments, abandoned houses, factories, sometimes even whole villages. There are many places, where the time's got frozen and the nature rules, besides modern big cities full of life and cultural events.



Stob



Rila



Bansko





cheap
friendly
traditional

Kukeri

