

Building Inclusion and Solidarity through Culture and Heritage – *BisCult*

REF. NO. 2024-1-RO01-ESC51-VTJ-000214404

6 month individual
volunteering stages

- National Museum of History
of Romania, Bucharest.



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the European Solidarity Corps program with the sum
of 51,614.86 euro.

Dear Volunteers,

We are excited to welcome you to the National History Museum of Romania to participate in our new European Solidarity Corps project, "Building Inclusion and Solidarity through Culture and Heritage" – BISCULT.

This info pack is designed to help you gain a deeper understanding of the project's objectives, the development of individual volunteering stages within the cultural sector, and the broader scope of the ESC program.

About Your Host and place of activities:

The National History Museum of Romania (NHMR) / Muzeul Național de Istorie a României (MNIR) opened its doors to the public in 1972, standing as a significant representation of the country's cultural and architectural heritage. As one of the most prominent institutions of its kind in South-Eastern and Central Europe, the museum is a national cultural public institution and research organization. The museum is housed in a monumental building located on Calea Victoriei, No. 12, in the heart of Bucharest.

In recent years, MNIR has partnered with various key Romanian institutions, as well as international organizations, ministries, cultural institutions, research centers, and embassies. As a research institution, the museum oversees several archaeological sites, including Micia (Hunedoara County), Tărtăria (Alba County), Ostrov (Constanța County), and many others. Its specialists also work on major archaeological projects across Romania, such as those at Histria, Capidava, and Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa.



Visitors to the museum can explore permanent exhibitions such as Romania's Historical Treasure, the Lapidarium, and a full-scale replica of Trajan's Column. They can also enjoy captivating temporary exhibits that highlight the cultural and historical life of Romania, its people, and events that shaped both Romanian and European landscapes, with displays that extend beyond these borders.



As a public institution, MNIR is dedicated to engaging in unconventional activities that add value to the surrounding communities. In addition to the museum's participation in the ESC program, it has its own volunteers, driven by a shared passion for culture and history, with the number of volunteers steadily growing to 40-45 annually.

Project target:

The primary goal of this project is to create a "safe haven" where participants can explore European and Romanian cultures by learning about and discovering the cultures of their teammates, as well as sharing their own.



This will allow them to observe differences and share the knowledge with both their team and their home communities. MNIR also views this opportunity as an excellent way to broaden its audience and engage more communities in the process of cultural development and learning, through the promotion of culture, diversity, and the sharing of everyone's heritage.

Three main objectives of **BISCULT**:

01

Enhancing both the professional and personal growth of our volunteers by strengthening their competencies in cultural management, the values of non-formal education, and their understanding of Romanian history and culture through multicultural approaches.

02

Expanding the reach of ESC programs by increasing the number of beneficiaries who engage with them, ensuring these programs are widely recognized not only within the museum sector but also across various other public institutions.

03

Promoting greater awareness of cultural diversity within the community through interactions between different groups, fostering support for individual and cultural heritage, and nurturing a shared European identity.

The goal is to engage four volunteers, both Romanian and EU citizens/residents, in utilizing and enhancing their skills through non-formal and informal education methods and tools within a museum setting. This experience aims to teach them how to share cultural and heritage values with beneficiaries, while fostering awareness of solidarity and promoting diversity in a multicultural context.

Project Information:

Name: Building Inclusion and Solidarity through Culture and Heritage

Acronym: BISCULT

Ref. No.: 2024-1-RO01-ESC51-VTJ-000214404

Project Start Date: 1.10.2024

Total Duration of the Project: 14 months

Place of activities: Bucharest, Romania

Duration of Activity: 6 month beginning with the date of the arrival

Period of Activity: 2nd – 31st of August 2025

Format: 2 foreign volunteers (EU citizens/residents)
+ 2 Romanian volunteers

About the activities:

The activities we offer are designed to foster the comprehensive development of our volunteers' skills and learning abilities in areas such as virtual components and digital transformation, sustainable development and climate action through green practices, and civic engagement from a democratic perspective. Additionally, the project will focus on enhancing social and cultural understanding of inclusion and diversity.

At the start of the stage, each participant will receive training on workplace safety procedures, GDPR protocols, and available legal and financial support, should they need it.



What a typical week might look like:

Mo

Deciding on the topics and key activities for the week, gathering general information, and discussing methods for implementation. This will be done by sharing ideas and negotiating roles and responsibilities through brainstorming sessions, round tables, debates, and discussions.

Tu

Acquiring the necessary resources (materials, digital tools, etc.), outlining the week's objectives, and planning their promotion.

We

Promoting the weekly activities through both physical and digital channels (banners, posters, flyers, social media posts), selecting the target audience, conducting a risk management analysis, and handling all logistical tasks.

Th

Carrying out the activity, debriefing all participants, and gathering feedback for future improvements and follow-up actions.

Fr

Disseminating the results and preparing the weekly report for the project team/CPP, summarizing the activities that took place throughout the week.

Throughout the weekly activities and the entire duration of the project, volunteers will receive additional hours dedicated to cultural mentoring, psychological support, as well as evaluation and reflection to aid their learning process.

Applicant's Profile:

- Age between 18–30 years old;
- Knowledge of the English language (mandatory);
- Citizen or resident of a country member of the European Union;
- Motivated and eager to develop both social and professional skills;
- Patient, responsible, creative and open-minded.



Meaning:

- You have completed general education and are eager to develop your abilities in education through cultural projects.;
- You are interested in understanding how cultural and historical landscapes surrounding European values have evolved and developed;
- You embrace intercultural learning, value tolerance and social inclusion, and are committed to promoting cohesion and raising awareness of active citizenship;
- You possess initiative, are communicative, and are always interested in professional growth while being an active part of a team;
- You are driven to improve your skills in project management, while incorporating non-formal education and solidarity into every activity;
- You understand and value the importance of overcoming social, economic, educational, cultural, and geographical barriers through mutual understanding and communication.

Conditions and benefits:

Local Transport: The organization will provide monthly passes for public transportation and will inform the participants of the time tables of these means of transportation.

International Transport: Volunteers will be given 100% the travel cost to and from Bucharest, including the fees regarding visas and accommodation, in accordance with the Erasmus+ calculator.

Accommodation: Participants will have to share a room in a private student complex with 1 or 2 fellow volunteers/students.

Fees: The ESC program is free of charge.

Health Insurance: For the entirety of their stay, the volunteers will be insured. They will also receive instructions concerning the safety and protection around the workplace.

Personal support: Language/psychological support, (consolidated) mentorship and intercultural learning (based on Romanian culture), non-formal methodology learning, marketing trainings and trainings regarding the GDPR policies as well, all provided by the staff members of MNIR.

Allowance: Each volunteer will receive 7 EUR/day for each day of the activity as food allowance and 4 EUR/day as pocket money.

Certification(s): At the end of the stage the participants will receive an official ESC certificate, through which their acquired and developed skills will be recognized. According to the European legislation, volunteering is recognized as work experience!

About the city:

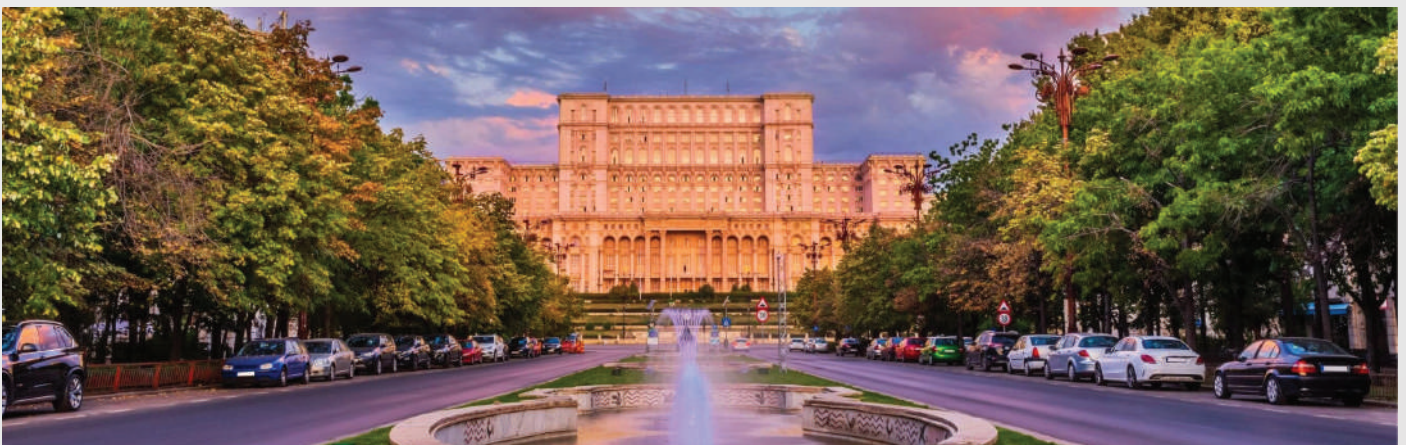
Bucharest is the largest city in Romania and serves as the capital of the country. It is a dynamic hub of cultural and social development, brimming with fascinating places to explore and experiences to enjoy for newcomers.

The city boasts a wealth of cultural sites that showcase Romanian heritage and the historical transformations that have shaped the country over the centuries. Landmark institutions housed in monumental buildings, such as the Romanian Athenaeum, the Romanian Opera, and the National Theatre, represent just a small fraction of what Bucharest has to offer in terms of cultural richness.

For nature lovers, Bucharest is home to several beautiful parks, including IOR, Cișmigiu Gardens, and the Botanical Garden, which are just a glimpse of the city's outdoor spaces.

No visit to Bucharest would be complete without indulging in its diverse culinary scene, offering everything from traditional Romanian dishes to Italian, Asian, Mediterranean, and more. There's something to satisfy every taste, ensuring that culinary curiosities are always fulfilled.

Additionally, a trip to Bucharest wouldn't be complete without exploring its charming Old Town, a vibrant area frequented by both tourists and locals. The historical center is dotted with affordable pubs and restaurants, perfect for enjoying a meal or a night out with friends. In summary, Bucharest offers something for everyone, catering to a wide range of tastes and interests!





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