

H2O

CULTURAL HERITAGE

STRATONI

03/05/2023 - 01/07/2023



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

WHO ARE WE?

UNITED SOCIETIES OF BALKANS (U.S.B.) is a non-profit, non governmental organization based in Thessaloniki, Greece, working in the field of youth mobility, participation and promotion of youth awareness on social issues. It was founded in 2008 by the initiative of a group of active young people, who wanted to address social issues that affect young people in the Balkans and Eastern Europe.



OUR GOALS

The goal of the organisation is the promotion of youth mobility, youth involvement and participation, voluntarism and human rights.

We make it through:

- **Promoting the values of non formal learning, voluntiarism, active citizenship and democracy for the creation of a better future for the European youth;**
- **Involving minorities and immigrants into youth activities;**
- **Building healthy cooperation bridges between countries in the area of the Balkans and Eastern Europe with the rest of Europe;**
- **Using New Media and Citizens' Journalism methodologies to encourage youth expression, to raise awareness of Human Rights and to promote intercultural dialogue;**
- **Utilizing arts as a tool for the cultivation and expression of youth;**
- **Breaking down prejudices and stereotypes among the European countries and amongst youth..**



THE PROJECT

This volunteering activity will be implemented in Stratoni, a village in the Aristotelis Municipality(Halkidiki), in the context of preserving tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Volunteers will need to organize events with music, traditional food recipes and traditional dances from the countries of the volunteers involved, create outputs such as videos, photo galleries or articles related to migrations and cultural heritage, a specific focus is going to be on the common cultural heritage between Greece and Turkey. As part of their activities they will also organize non-formal education workshops with methods to offer an in-depth look in the subject of migrations and cultural heritage to children. They will participate in physically demanding activities to help improve the village's spaces, such as painting sidewalks and local buildings, etc.



VOLUNTEER'S PROFILE

The participants will have to be between **18** and **30** years old and be genuinely interested in the project. The knowledge of the English language is going to be considered since English is going to be the language of communication between the participant and the organisation, but it won't represent a pre-requisite, especially for the participants with fewer opportunities. A very basic knowledge of Greek or English is though required, for them to have at least one communication language to be used in the field and in case of need or emergency. Volunteers' interests preferable need to include history and research, social media content production, video making, photography and writing. Regarding the inclusion of people with fewer opportunities, United Societies of Balkans will guarantee safety and support for the participation of young people with fewer opportunities as it has been coordinating dozens of programs and has extensive experience in working with and for people from socially vulnerable groups.

The program is Volunteer Teams and doesn't exclude you for individual ESC long term or short term.

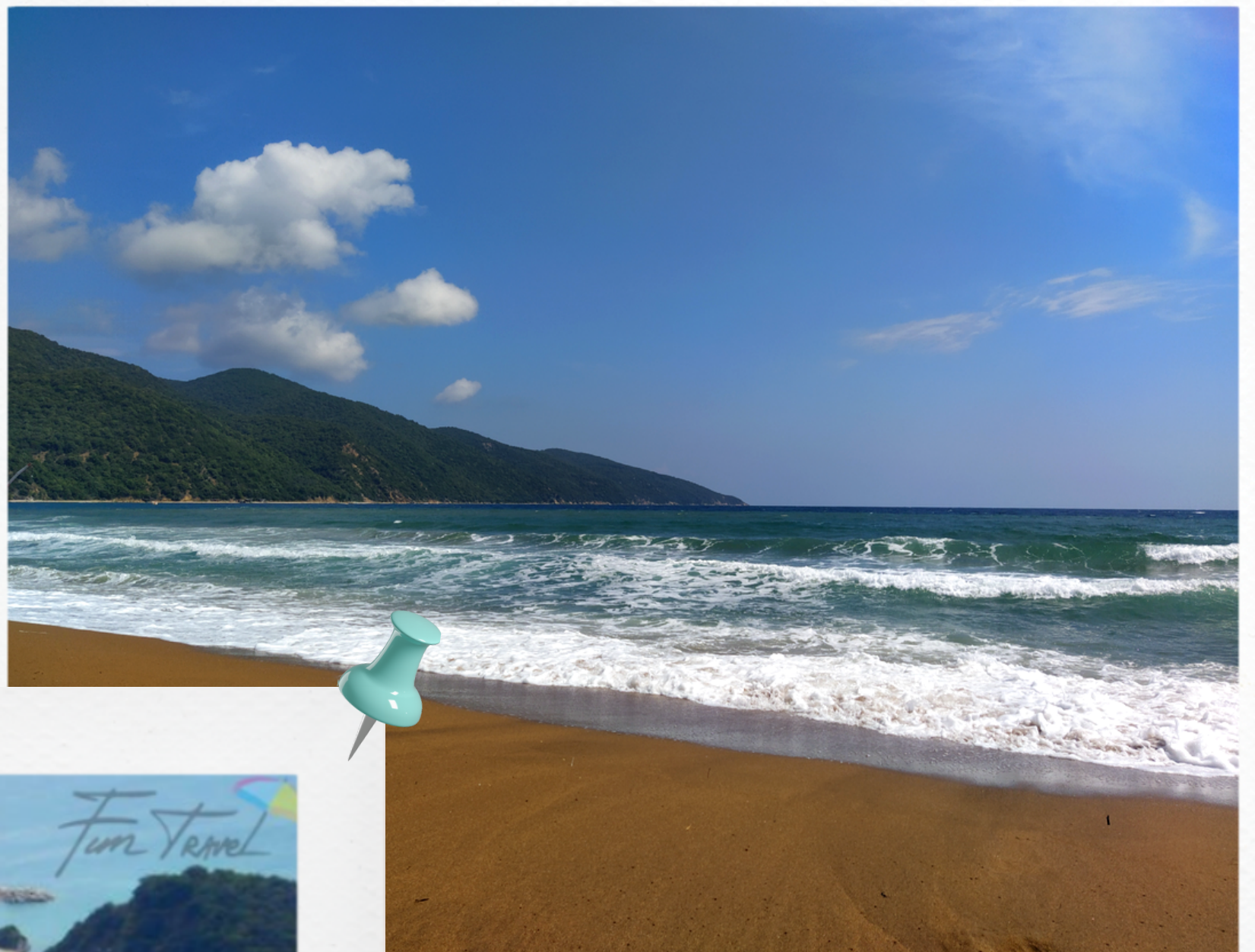
The working program will be 6 hours per day, normally from Monday to Friday. It might be possible that the participants will be asked to work on weekends in case specific events are going to be organised..

In that case volunteers will have extra free days within the week.



ABOUT STRATONI (HALKIDIKI)

Stratoni is a community of 1057 inhabitants in the Municipality of Aristotelis, situated on the northeastern coast of Halkidiki peninsula, in northern Greece. It is mainly famous for its mines as it is surrounded by mountains. Though most of seaside Halkidiki is flooded by tourists each year, Stratoni does not attract many of them, keeping a lower and more quiet profile during the summer. The village became known after colonies of endangered seahorses were found in its waters in 2007, which are unique in the Greek marine habitat and they are strongly protected by environmental and marine life associations.



ACCOMODATION & FOOD POLICY IN STRATONI

During the project, the support organization will provide accommodation at a two-floor seaside community center in Stratoni, which is designed for hosting training teams and furnished with the relevant equipment. It includes common spaces, a kitchen, bathrooms, internet connection, all electronic machines and a spacious green space, and it is a 1-minute walk to the beach.

At the ground floor there is also a big recreational room. Each volunteer will share their bedroom with 5-6 more ESC volunteers on the ground floor and the volunteers will be responsible for their own meals. The second floor of the building will be occupied by other young participating who implement short term training and youth exchanges.

The organisation will provide 150 euro per month as food allowance (and 150 euro as pocket money). They will also be able to cook in the provided kitchen.



INSURANCE & HEALTH

The participants will have a private insurance by HENNER, which covers all their needs for the whole duration of their project. The registration to the insurance is made by the Sending organisation. A network of doctors and hospitals is already available in order to meet all their needs, even the most urgent. The Mentor is responsible for all their issues connected with health and insurance.

YOUTHPASS

Youthpass is the official recognition tool for non-formal & informal learning in youth projects. Through this, participants of Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps projects can describe what they have done and show what they have learnt. Volunteers have to keep a diary of their activities and learning in order to fill it properly at the end of their project. The Mentor is also responsible for the Youthpass and will support the volunteers throughout the process.

TRAVEL & POCKET MONEY

USB will be responsible of the practical arrangements (accommodation, food, tickets, welcoming). The travel costs are covered by the project until a limit based on the distance between Thessaloniki and the hometown of the volunteer. Travel budget per the official regulations:

- **10 and 99KM: 20 EUR per participant,**
- **100 and 499 KM: 180 EUR per participant,**
- **500 and 1999 KM: 275 EUR per participant,**
- **2000 and 2999 KM: 360 EUR per participant,**
- **3000 and 3999 KM: 530 EUR per participant**

The participant need to buy their tickets and will get the refund as soon as possible when we receive their tickets. At the beginning of the mobility period the volunteers will take their individual pocket money, 5 euros per day.

***For the volunteers coming from NON-EU countries the visa costs will be covered.**

!The volunteers MUST arrive on the date specified for each volunteering team: if volunteers will arrive earlier, expenses for accommodation will not be covered.