

EVS project in Macedonia

Youth Entrepreneurs

2016/2017 EVS INFO PACK





About Macedonia:

The Republic of Macedonia, independent since 1991, is located in the Balkan Peninsula. It borders with Kosovo and Serbia on the North, with Bulgaria on the East, with Greece on the South, and with Albania on the West. Republic of Macedonia is a country at the crossroads of eastern and western civilizations. Orthodox, Muslims and in smaller numbers Catholics, Protestant and Jews live here together.

The territory is mountainous, with rivers and three natural lakes.

The population is estimated around 2 million.

For more information visit: <http://www.exploringmacedonia.com/>

About Skopje:

Skopje is the capital city of the Republic of Macedonia. It has approximately 500,000 inhabitants. Situated in northern Macedonia, the city is crossed by the river Vardar, the largest river in the country. Skopje is located at 240 amsl and has an area of 1,854 km². The area of Skopje has been inhabited since 4000 BC: ruins of Neolithic settlements are present in the Kale Fortress.

Most of the ancient buildings of Skopje were built during the Ottoman rule (15th – 19th Century), but nowadays the city has mostly a modern aspect: in 1963, in fact, a massive earthquake destroyed 75% of Skopje. The city center is also characterized by the recent settlement of monument and restoration of buildings in the context of the *Skopje 2014* project.

The main attractions in Skopje are the Stone Bridge, the Old Bazar, Mustapha Pasha Mosque, the Kale Fortress and Sveti Spas Church.

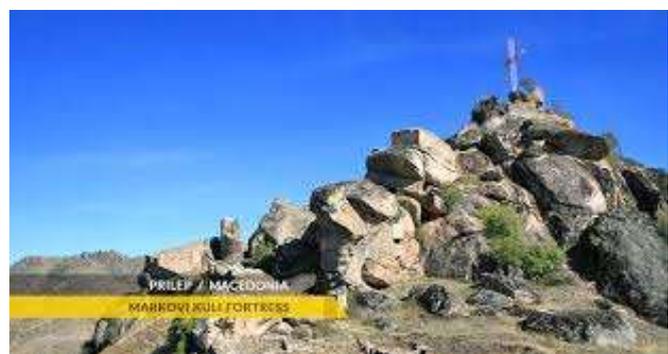
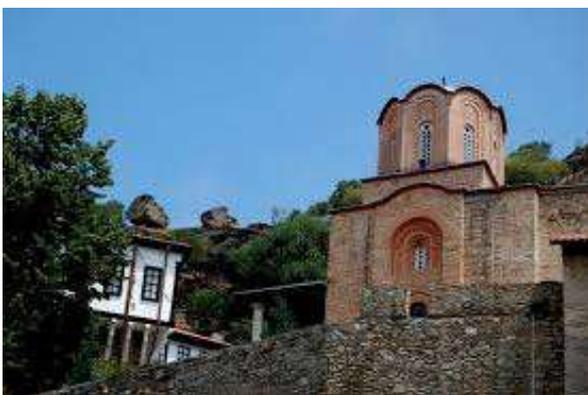


About Prilep:

Municipality of Prilep is located in the central part of the southern region of Macedonia. It covers the Prilep field which constitutes the northern part of the largest valley in Macedonia, Pelagonia. Prilep is located at an altitude of 620-650 meters, and on the hilly slopes up to 680 meters. In Municipality of Prilep, live 76,768 residents of which 73,351 in the city. Most of the residents of the Municipality of Prilep or 70,878 are Macedonians, but also there are 4,433 Roma people, 172 Serbs, 917 Turks, 22 Albanians, 17 Vlachs, 86 Bosniacs as well as 243 inhabitants belonging to other nationalities.

In historical sources Prilep was first mentioned in year 1014. The territory of the city and its surroundings constituted one of the most important strategic, political and military areas of this part of the Balkan. In the Pelagonian parts were situated very important crossroads in the direction of the Aegean and the Adriatic Sea. The important ancient roads Via Egnatia and the Via Militaris had its most natural connection through Prilep. Through Prilep had also passed the shortest caravan-trade route, along which from the direction of the Adriatic Sea merchants and couriers from Venice and Dubrovnik set forth to Thessaloniki. Throughout the centuries, on this area Hellenic, Roman, Byzantine and Slavic culture met and collided.

Based upon the cultural and historical monuments, no less important is the period of the Middle Age. This includes St. Nikola Church, which dates from the 13th century, St. Uspenie na Bogorodica in the Monastery of Treskavec with representative paintings from 15, 16 and 19th century, as well as the Monastery with the St. Preobrazenie Church located above the village Zrze. The most important complex of cultural and historical monuments is located in the city itself, which was the center of wider political-territorial organization and significant political and military residence of the Macedonian king Samuil. The complex of monuments of medieval Prilep covers the area of the rocky hill Markovi Kuli and surrounding areas with the sites Potkuli, Varos and Zagrad. On the hill Markovi Kuli is located one of the five biggest Balkan forts, and it consists of three defensive zones and many towers and gates.



The biggest growth in its medieval history Prilep saw in the last quarter of the 13th and early 14th century. Result of such growth are the important monuments from that period, such as the only site of remains of a Slavic settlement from the 10th century, the Church of St. Archangel Michael with frescoes from the 11th century, as well as the churches St. Dimitrija and St. Nicola in which fresco paintings from the 13th century can be found. In the nineteenth century a trade center with the famous Old Bazaar was formed in the city. During the Macedonian cultural and national revival, Prilep was an important centre of the Slavic or Macedonian literacy, literature and culture. From that period, of particular importance is the educational activity in Prilep carried out by the Macedonian reformers Jordan Konstantinov-Dzinot, Dimitar Miladinov, Rajko Zinzifov, Kuzman Shapkarev and activity of the famous collector of Macedonian folklore Marko Cepenkov.

In the Ilinden period, the city was the centre of the Macedonian national and liberation movement. At that time, Prilep and Prilep region gave tens of revolutionists and fighters, including Pere Toshev, Gorce Petrov, Petre Acev and many others.

On October 11, 1941 in Prilep, with the attack on the Police station, started the armed uprising of the Macedonian people against the fascist occupiers for their national liberation and independence. "Hillock of the Undefeated", as one of the most monumental memorials in which the remains of more than 650 fighters from this region have been buried, is a significant testimony to the massive and devoted participation of the people of this region in the liberation war.

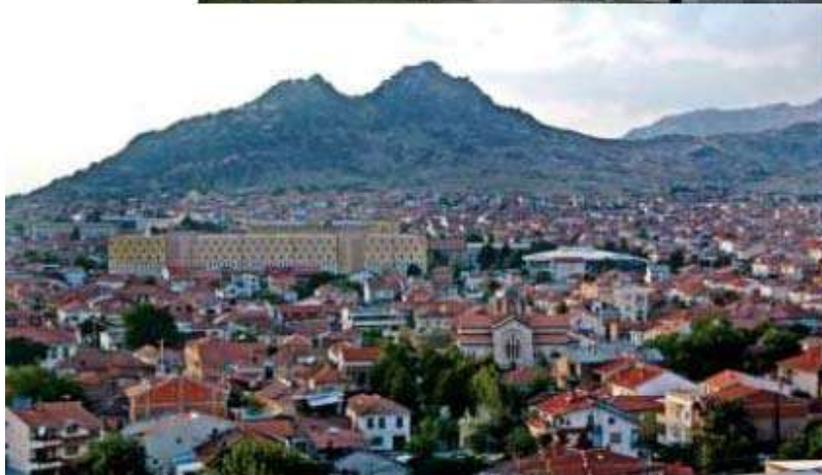
Prilep experienced its most important progress and growth during the post-war free development when it has grown into a significant political and administrative, cultural, educational, scientific and commercial centre in the Republic of Macedonia. Prilep gave the Macedonian literature more than 25 writers, the fine art twenty painters and sculptors and the Macedonian scientific idea more acknowledged scientists.

A result of the evident development is also the activity of the Faculty of Economics and the other two scientific institutions: Tobacco Institute and the Institute for Research of Old Slavonic Culture.

The economic life can be seen from the several industrial branches, such as the the tobacco industry, metal industry, nonmetal industry, chemical, textile and wood industries.

Prilep is a famous world centre for production of quality tobacco, of the type "Prilep", which is especially demanded on the World Market. Prilep is a city where there are mines located of one of the finest marble in the world.

Prilep is a city of tobacco and marble, of rich cultural heritage and history, of national pride and openness to the world, a hero city.



Useful information:

LOCAL TIME:

Macedonian local time is GMT +1.

CURRENCY, ATMs and CREDIT CARDS:

The official currency of Macedonia is the Denar (MKD). Approximately: 1 €=61.50MKD, 1 \$ = 46.00MKD. You can find ATMs outside the major banks everywhere in Skopje. All major credit and debit cards are widely accepted.

Some examples of local prices:

A coffee: 1-1.5 € A beer: 1.5 € A slice of cake in a patisserie: 1.5 € A piece of bread in a bakery: 0.5 €

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY:

The electricity supply in Macedonia is 220 volts, a.c. 50 Hz. Sockets are generally CEE 7/7. Hotels generally provide with adaptors upon request.

SMOKING:

Smoking is not allowed in all indoor public places.

OPENING HOURS:

Shops normally open around 09:00 and close around 20:00.



About SEGA and INFO SEGA:

Coalition of youth organization SEGA

Mission:

The Coalition of youth organizations SEGA works on developing and implementing youth policies in Macedonia as well as connecting and strengthening young people to improve their overall state.

Vision:

SEGA is a sustainable and developed youth organization active at the local, regional and national level, a long-term and serious partner in the implementation of youth programmes along with young people, NGOs, state institutions and the business sector.

Our work has led to an improved overall state of youth, their inclusion in decision-making processes and their use of applicable laws.

Our success is recognized in the promotion of the young people as a resource in the society, ready to answer new challenges. **Coalition of youth organizations SEGA in 2010 opened the first Youth INFO Center in Prilep, and in 2015 opened the Youth INFO Center in Kavadarci:**
INFORMATION AND COUNSELING INFO CENTER INFO SEGA

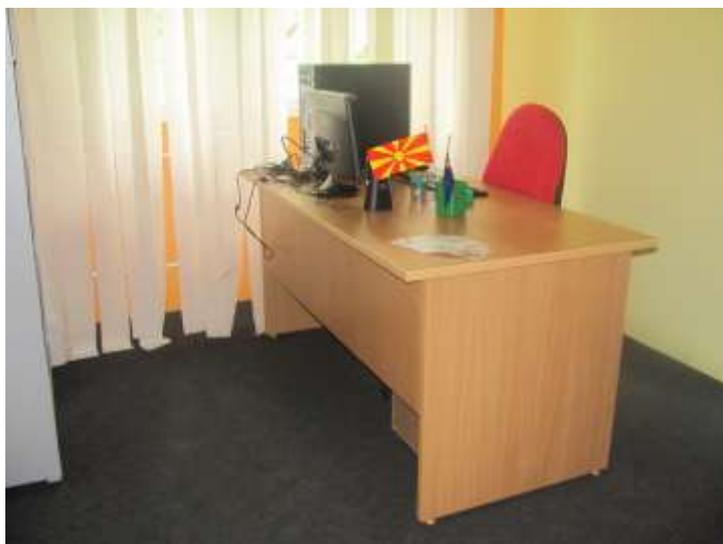


Opening of the first INFO Center in Prilep

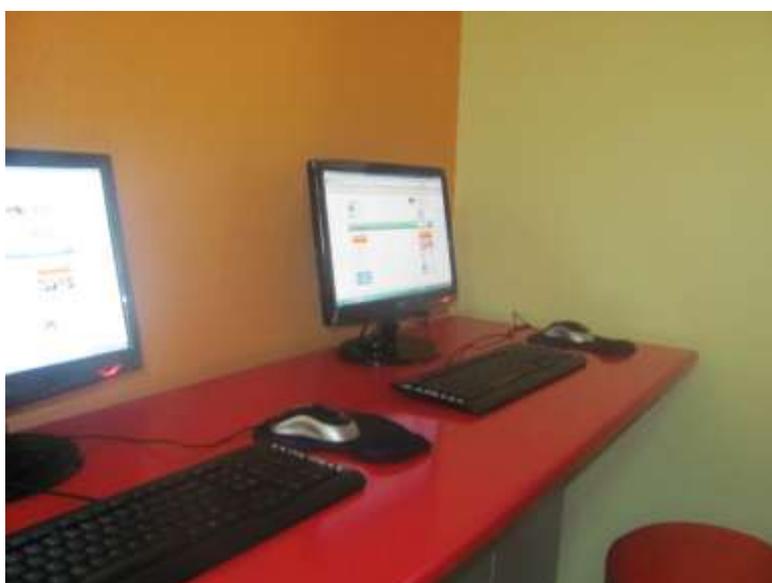


Opening of the INFO Center in Kavadarci

Youth information and counseling center INFO SEGA Prilep:



Младински
Информативен
и Советодавен
Центар
ИНФОРМАЈ СЕ СЕГА !



Activities of EVS volunteers at Information and Counseling Center INFO
SEGA:



French Theater Contest in Prilep: Two EVS French volunteers took participation as actors



EVS volunteers working in the PULSE Radio



EVS volunteers working with children in schools in Prilep

Youth Entrepreneurs

Mission of the volunteer:

The Group EVS project entitled “Youth Entrepreneurs” is a long-term volunteering project involving 3 volunteers from Italy in local youth work activities in Prilep, Macedonia for a period of 12 months starting in September 2016. This project will be a follow up of the previous project “Youth Entrepreneurs Club”. The EVS volunteers will continue the work of the previous EVS volunteers and in that way we are trying to ensure bigger sustainability of the YEC club in order to help young people to face their common problems and to expand this network to the other countries in Europe, taking in consideration that the previous volunteers were from France and now we selected the new volunteers from Italy in order to involve different EU countries.

The volunteers will be actively involved in the developing of the already existing service “Youth Information and Counseling INFO SEGA is a project from devoted to inform, educate and various possibilities available for scholarships, volunteering,

Activity start date: 15th of
September 2016

Activity end date: 15th of
August 2017

events, information for employment, and etc) through providing a direct and on-line contact with youth.

involved in the developing of “Youth Entrepreneurs Club” within the center INFO SEGA. The YIC Coalition SEGA and it is counsel young people about youth (studying abroad, trainings and seminars,

The Youth Entrepreneurs Club (YEC) is a meeting point for all young people who are interested in providing easier placement for them in the labor market; gather information about entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial learning, social entrepreneurship, developing an entrepreneurial project, etc. It has been service for youth in the YIC and it is supported by a group of local volunteers and EVS volunteers. This club is a link between the local volunteers and the EVS volunteers coming from different EU countries to talk about ideas and share experiences. With this club, we want to support unemployed young people and young entrepreneurs by giving them useful information. In the club, the future young entrepreneurs will have the possibility to inform, talk about ideas and opportunities and share experiences or ideas. Also it is very important experienced people to join in this project, people who tried hard and succeeded. It is a big motivation for the young people to listen the experience from the experts.

There are many types of activities where the volunteers will be involved such as sharing information, promotions to the other young people about YEC, running workshops for local young people, researches and surveys, conversations and meetings with local youth, local politicians and authorities, also meetings with the local experts and on-line meetings with experts and politicians from the countries where the volunteers come from etc. Also, the youth included in this club will maintain a separate web page named Young entrepreneurs on which they will share information and ideas.

There will be open space for the volunteers to implement their ideas to improve the quality of the project and encourage more and more youngsters to be active in the services delivered by them. During these experiences the volunteers as well as the youngsters will have inter-cultural learning in order to have a better understanding in each other culture.

The volunteers will carry out following general activities:

The existence of this service for young people YEC, will aim to support unemployed young people and young entrepreneurs by giving them useful information. The volunteers will be involved in creating and developing YEC departments and will do the following activities:

Promotion of YEC at local level – info days, presentations, promotion materials, media activities (short movie about YEC in their countries), advertises on on-line youth Radio, TV shows and etc.

Department “Young entrepreneur’s information”

- What does entrepreneurship mean to young people? – survey among local youth
- Explain the concepts of entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial learning, social entrepreneurship – gathering information for the key terms, experiences and good practice examples which will be published on the local web pages on English (later translated on Macedonian)
- Realization of planed activities of the YEC

Workshops for youth for easier placement in the Labor market including:

- Writing CV
- Motivation letter, simulations for work interviews, career portfolio...
- Developing entrepreneurship ideas

Department “European Youth Community”

- Promoting EVS and EU programs
- Support young people in developing their youth projects

- Conversation and meetings with local youth
- Meetings and conversations with local businessmen
- On – line meetings with experts from the countries where the EVS volunteers come from
- Discovering local culture and the country heritage
- Online promotion of the Macedonian culture in the foreign countries
- Radio shows “Explore Macedonia”
- International dinners
- Promotions in high schools and faculty
- Assist in project development and implementation of project activities
- Prepare articles and reports and update organization web site
- Participate in meetings, promotion and other social events (at least once in a week)
- Organize presentations/workshops to young people (at least twice a month)
- Participate in visits to other organizations and institutions

The volunteers will also be involved in the promotion of their country, language and culture among the partners of the project and the local youngsters. These activities will be done to promote the EU culture only in order to promote cultural diversity and understanding. The volunteers will be involved in all project activities and will have freedom to give/share their own ideas and visions about the ongoing project. The volunteers will have a possibility to use 20% of working time to develop his/her own project. In this project they will be supported by the office staff, the staff of the hosting organization as well as other volunteers

During the realization of the activities the volunteers will have full support from the organization team and the rest of the volunteers. He will have full freedom to bring initiatives and modify the tasks in direction to his/her learning processes.

In coordination with the program manager of the organization and the program assistants, the volunteers will implement the tasks.

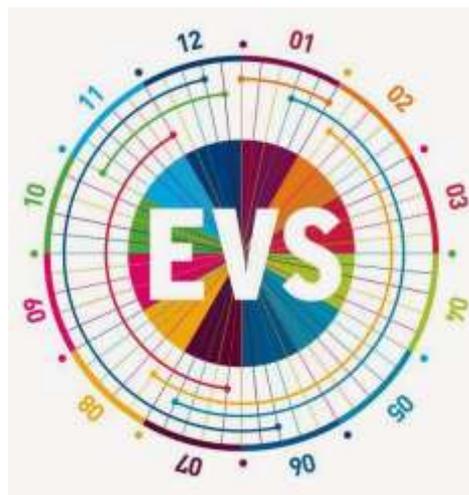
Regarding the working time, working days are Monday-Friday. Saturday and Sunday are non-working days. During national holidays the organization is not working. We will respect and the holidays that the volunteers are celebrating in his country as well. Also the volunteers will have yearly holiday. It is also important to us as host organization but also as for the volunteers to follow and evaluate their learning process. We consider that this is especially important for the volunteers. In this manner person from the staff will conduct periodical evaluation process with the volunteers and will assist him in memorizing his learning process during the EVS. We will decide what methodology to use together with the volunteers.

Volunteer profile:

3 Italian volunteer will be chosen for this project. Three volunteers whose motivation and personal interest suits the most the objectives of the project. The volunteers should be attracted by cultural field and activities. They should be comfortable to work with children and teenagers. The volunteers should have good communication capabilities, able to work in a team, willing to work with young people from different nationalities and religions. The volunteers need to be responsible, diligent, creative, open minded, ambitious, and interested in innovative ways of communication and European citizenship. They should have computer skills in Microsoft Office and using Internet. In EVS programme, young people with cultural differences will have a chance to improve their current situation regarding the unemployment problem. Being a volunteer in foreign country and be a part of an organization that works for youth and youth issues will be remarkable experience for every young person who has fewer opportunities.

People with geographical obstacles will have chances to work out ideas for improving their situation of their place of living. And people with social obstacles will have chances to get involved with other young people and solve the problem with the social exclusion. Socially-excluded young people, who face economic and social obstacles and unemployment, by doing EVS programme they will gain ideas, experiences and ways for self-employment, they will meet other culture, will learn new language and that will dramatically improve their social situation.

For socially excluded young volunteers SEGA will develop a special adapted program to operate with in accordance with their individual capacities and opportunities. We already have an experience working with that target group through a special approach to work. SEGA believes that giving the opportunity to socially excluded young people is of great importance for the active involvement of young people in every sphere of their life.



Practical arrangements:

Travel costs from Italy to Macedonia: 275€ both way

Pocket money: 60€/month

Food money: 90€/month

The volunteers will receive full insurance coverage through EVS Insurance provided by the European Commission. All the insurance documents will be sent to the volunteers by the sending organization. The volunteer's enrollment in the insurance program will be completed before the departure of the volunteers to Macedonia.

Republic of Macedonia has free non-visa entrance for EU volunteers. In the three month gray period after his/her arrival; the hosting organization will be responsible for the application process for issuing/extending a permit for temporary residence in the Republic of Macedonia. The process requires gathering and completing many documents and proofs, and all of them should be legally translated by authorities on Macedonian language. Some of the needed documents will be required from the volunteer before his/her arrival. The visa process for Macedonia in EU countries requires volunteers to go back in their countries and receive the visa in person.

Each of the volunteers will have a different mentor who will be in contact with the volunteers and the time when there will be need. The mentors will adapt the volunteers to the new environment and life in Macedonia in general. These persons were chosen to be mentors because of their long experience as volunteers, knowledge of the previous "Youth in action programme", the new programme Erasmus+, and their experience in intercultural encounters. Mentors and volunteers will have weekly meetings to help the volunteers integrate in local community and to establish contacts with local people and different local organizations.

Twice a week the volunteer will visit Macedonian language courses, the lessons will be provided in Italian-Macedonian. We will also encourage the volunteers to start to learn Macedonian before their departure thanks to online website and support. Part of the project's activities will be led in Italian. However, the main working language at the office will be English, in this context the selected volunteers are eligible to receive linguistic support in English prior to departure or during the activity through the Online Linguistic Support.

Tickets and bills:

When travelling through Macedonia you should always ask for a special bill called “**fiskalna smetka**” (on Macedonian) or invoice. We would also like to remind you to keep your boarding pass and all other travel tickets otherwise we cannot approve your travel cost if you travel by plain. Once again,

Please keep all your invoices/receipts related to your travel!

Weather in Macedonia:

The weather in Macedonia in September is from 20 – 33 Celsius degrees. It also might be rainy. You can check more info before coming to Prilep here: <http://www.ilmeteo.it/meteo-europa/Prilep>.

Accommodation:

The accommodation of the volunteers will be ensured by the hosting organization. The volunteers will share flat with separate bed rooms with all basic needs covered according the standards of living in Macedonia. The volunteer’s accommodation will be near the mentors who are responsible for their learning processes, accommodation and cohesion. The volunteers will have 24 hours full support. In case of dealing with conflicts, the mentors will act as mediators and seriously will find the solution for the problem and conflicts.

Each of the three volunteers will have a different mentor who will be in contact with them and the time when will be in need. The mentors will orientate the volunteers to the new environment and the life in Macedonia in general and will speak with the volunteers about his/her learning objectives. The mentors will help the volunteers to integrate in the local community and to establish contacts with local people and different local organizations.



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More information about the host organization on the following official web sites:

- www.sega.org.mk
- www.infosega.org.mk

More information about successful EVS stories on the following link:

<http://prilep.infosega.org.mk/evs-news>