



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

“Remembrance Trails”
Volunteering Teams in High Priority Areas

Coordinating & Host organisation: FILOXENIA, Intercultural-Environmental Organisation
(www.filox.org)

1st flow ESC Team project dates: May 2023 (1 month)/2.5.-1.6.2023

2nd flow ESC Team project dates: September/October 2023 (1 month)/17.9. - 16.10.2023

3rd flow ESC Team project dates: May 2024 (1 month)

4th flow ESC Team project dates: September 2024 (1 month)

Location: Kryoneri Korinthias, Greece (semi mountainous village/ rural area/ 970 inhabitants)

Partners/countries: Greece, Austria, Finland, Italy, Spain, Turkey

Participant's profile: young people, youth with fewer opportunities, for example minorities/migrants, unemployed/low salaries, temporary jobs; lack of self-confidence; people who have never traveled; low education; learning difficulties; from disadvantaged areas, geographical isolation and rural areas; low/nil English level, though it would be recommended that one of the two country representatives has command of English.

Participants: total 12 persons (2 persons/country, basic level of English recommended) x 4 flows

Project's description:

The village Kryoneri is situated in the centre of the Corinthian province, at the same distance between sea and mountains. It is built like an amphitheater, at 740 meters of altitude and has a panoramic view above the Corinthian Gulf. Mount Vesiza (1.200 m.) overlooks the village and constitutes the natural border with the plain of the Stymfalia lake. From this mountain, the river Elisson spreads and crosses Kryoneri and the evergreen plain, before flowing in the Corinthian Gulf, towards Kiato.

This project “Remembrance Trails”, will take place in Kryoneri Korinthia (Greece), consists from four volunteering team projects, involving 5 European programme countries (Greece, Italy, Austria, Finland, Spain) and 1 of the third countries associated to the programme Turkey.

The volunteering projects will take place during the 4 periods, first between 17.9. - 16.10.2023, the second period during 17.9. - 16.10.2023, the third during 1st -31st of May 2024 and the last one during 1st -30th of September 2024 gathering in these 4 Team volunteering projects 48 young volunteers in total, all of them with less opportunities.

The objective of the volunteering projects "Remembrance Trails", in line with the objectives of the Programme are raising the awareness of and preserving Europe's cultural heritage, 'fostering action, practical activities, debate and reflection related to European citizenship and democracy, shared values, common history and culture' and 'bringing Europe closer to its citizens by promoting Europe's values, while preserving the memory of its past'.

Our main focus in this project is on memory, rural and sustainable development in terms of historic and environmental protection.

Memory and environment as our cultural heritage! The idea of this project is to empower young people and their organisations in terms of Active European Remembrance, social and environmental responsibility.

Volunteers will come in contact with Greek culture and the natural and historic heritage of Greece.

Through a Conflict resolution training they will be trained on:

- respect each other and the cultural and personal diversity of the others
- find solutions when facing problems, difficulties
- The nature and value of teamwork
- Dealing with positive and negative criticism.
 - As the EVS project is more about practical activities, with knowledge basis on the topic of memory, we would like to focus during this- one day Training, planned to be organised at the first half of the project period, to let people reflect about this period of our history, to give them some knowledge and brainstorm about the issues, things that happened and how they see them.

Aim: learning from the past and better future for the next generations, raise awareness against racism, hatred, intolerance.

Background of this project idea: STORY OF LIFE (Kryoneri 1943, 2017)

Travel in time. During the year 1943, Rivka, six years old girl from Volos (Thessalia) came as a refugee with her family in the village Kryoneri (Matsani) of Corinthia. They needed to hide themselves from the Nazis and the Greek partisans helped them. Between October 1943 and October 1944 they have been hiding in local families and in a cave near the village. The villagers were helping them to escape, every time the German army was near. After the end of the occupation by the Nazis, the girl settled with her Greek-Jewish family to Israel.

74 years later, on September 6th, 2017 Rivka returned, with her 70 relatives (children, grandchildren, etc.) from Israel and Athens, to show them this place. Rivka's children had expressed the wish, to learn more about the history of their family. They searched the Greek village near Corinth and on June 2017 they started their travel. The family had decided, that it has been the time to reward the gratitude to the residents of the village. Together with the local authorities they supported the reconstruction of the amphitheater in the village, a cultural site of the local society, as a gesture of their gratitude to the inhabitants.

As Rivka wanted so much to show the cave to her family, it was necessary to clean up the footpath, guiding to the Karamanos cave.

These moments will always remain in the minds and hearts of the youngsters, the Jewish family and the residents of Kryoneri.

This story is a great example of humanity and positive motivation for human actions in 2018 and for the future. We need to keep those "Paths of memory" alive and accessible to all.

To keep the footpath visible and accessible to all people, during the whole year, we need to maintain it and make it environmentally and technically sustainable. Within those team ESC projects we would like to underline this story and topics of memory in our village and in our region.

During those Team ESC projects, young people will help out on the following sectors:

- cleaning up the environmental footpaths around Kryoneri guiding to the Karamanos cave: using new technical tools for cutting grass, bushes and trees and fixing the paths.
- building wooden equipment for the footpath (banks, stairs, etc.), using technical tools.
- developing memory points/panels, constructing signs in environmental footpath;
- developing memory points/mosaic objects in this environmental footpath;
- reusing recycling material for wooden constructions; using technical tools.
- promotion of land tourism's sustainability;
- reusing recycled material for constructions;
- video documentation
- developing of the educational material on Memory education for the schools, young people

And other exciting activities such as:

- get to know our gastronomy and farming culture
- Organic food
- learning of Greek dances
- mountain biking, hiking and open air activities to relax and to get to know each other.

Necessary personal equipment: working clothes (long & short trousers), shoes and sun hut for outdoor work. Working tools and gloves will be available by the organiser.

