

Call for Volunteers from EU27 in the frame of the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) at the “European Youth Meeting and Education Center Weimar” (EJBW), Germany

- **Location: Weimar, Germany**
- **Duration: 12 months**
- **Mobility period: as from now**
- **Deadline: open**

About EJBW

The European Youth Education and Meeting Centre (EJBW) was founded in 1999 as an education and meeting center for young people from all over the world. The key topics that EJBW addresses arise from its remit as a European Institution for civic (youth) education and exchange, the challenges democracy is confronted with in Thuringia, in Germany and in Europe, and the questions posed by Weimar as a place of learning and a place to learn from. The areas in which the EJBW works are:

- Education in Europe and its politics
- Education in history and politics
- Socio-political and civic education
- International youth work
- Human Rights Education
- Thuringia’s “School Without Racism – School With Courage” program
- as the Special Department Coordinator for the “Weimar Local Action Plan”

EJBW has its own institutional structure, which consist of several departments, including pedagogical, marketing and PR, financial, administrative departments, technicians, reception, kitchen and cleaning teams. Totally, there are about 30 employees, who are working constantly to provide the best quality of service. The international profile is one of the main directions of EJBWs educational programs. Within its focus, our team arranges and hosts e.g. bilateral (school) exchanges, international training courses and youth exchanges, seminars for international volunteers (ESC) and educational events in cooperation with our national and international cooperation partners.

The city of Weimar

Weimar itself is the cultural heart of the region. It is diverse from different parts of history, politics and culture – from famous world poets like Goethe and Schiller till the first Democratic Republic of Weimar as well as heritage of National Socialism, including the former concentration camp of Buchenwald, which is located nearby. Adding to that, the city plays a crucial role in cultural, economic, political and social dimensions not only in Germany, but in entire Europe.

Volunteering in EJBW

The volunteers are mostly work in the pedagogical department. We offer the opportunity to get to know the pedagogical work of the EJBW, especially in terms of national & international projects, with all aspects and to participate in it. The volunteers are involved in the daily processes in order to get to know and to shape the EJBW and its structures. The EJBW is offering the following fields of work to the volunteers:

- Working in the pedagogical department: includes contents, leading seminars include. development of concepts and its implementation, gaining knowledge about informal, non-formal and inter/transcultural learning within civic youth education;
- Project management: includes development of ideas, finding partners, development of concepts & project applications (content, finances, resources, applications to youth offices, foundations, Erasmus+), finding participants, press work, organizational work, reports, documentation, publications and accounting;
- Getting to know and contributing to the system “educational institution”: living and working at another venue: organization, procedure, management;
- Youth work in Germany and Europe: Getting to know and dealing with the EU Youth Strategy and its implementation in Germany, implementation of own activities for the improvement of the visibility of Erasmus+/Youth, the ESC and the dissemination and exploitation of project results.

The volunteer

- will work 6 hours per day (average, max 38 hours/week incl. language course), mainly in the morning and in the afternoon, rarely in the evening and on weekends (only in cases of ongoing seminars). The volunteer will have 2 days holidays for each month of ESC work which can be taken freely due to the volunteer's necessities, after agreement with the tutor;
- will be offered a language course corresponding to his individual language abilities and necessities;
- will be supported by all participating partners before, during and after the ESC activity, especially in crisis prevention and management;
- will be supported in questions of insurance, residence permit, travel arrangements, and all the ESC administrative procedures;
- will be accommodated in an apartment belonging to the hosting organization with individual sleeping and shared sanitary amenities. Food (lunch) will be generally available in the cafeteria of the EJBW. It is also possible to prepare an own meals in the apartment like breakfast and dinner.

The ESC program is covering:

- Your travel expenses from where you live to Weimar and back (return ticket);
- All fees for visa and residence permission (if needed);
- Comprehensive insurance (health, accident and liability insurance via CIGNA);
- Free accommodation (a room in an apartment) and food (daily breakfast, lunch and dinner and/or lunch money);
- Pocket money in the amount of 150 EUR per month;
- Participation in an On-Arrival Training as well as a Mid-term Seminar in Germany.

Whom are we looking for

The ideal profile of an applicant should consist from the following skills:

- Proven interest (by combination of school\university subjects or experiences outside, for example in international youth work) in the work and the content focus of EJBW (civic education, European politics and culture, democratic culture, human rights education, historical education, intercultural meetings, international encounters);
- Commitment and experience in international, intercultural or European policy context;
- Interest in working with media (PC, video, photography, music, etc.);
- Good computer skills (Windows, Outlook, Excel) and interest / willingness to gain additional knowledge (Internet Content Management, data management);
- Social skills in dealing with the target groups of EJBW (e.g. empathic behavior towards participants of events, sensibility for group dynamics, etc.);
- Responsibility and awareness;
- Independence;
- Flexibility and readiness in time-consuming projects (being eager to invest your energy and time);
- Basic knowledge of German language and motivation to acquire the necessary working language skills in a language course.

How to apply

If you are interested in being our volunteer, please apply via email and send your application to rebitschek@ejbweimar.de Please, attach your CV and a motivation letter, answering the following questions (max. 1 page):

1. Why would you like to work with us?
2. What skills / interests / knowledge would you like to bring in here?
3. What are your strengths?
4. Do you have your own project or idea you would like to implement in our organisation?
5. When can you come and how long do you want to stay with us?
6. What do you expect from your volunteer year?

If you have any questions, please contact us!