

A Route to Connect Field Study Trip

15 May – 2 June 2017, Slovenia – Croatia – Serbia – Macedonia - Greece

Call for Participants

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This project is only open to participants of countries of the European Union, younger than 30 years.

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Dear friends,

We are opening this call for participants to take part in a field study trip along the »Balkan Route«, the now closed humanitarian corridor that most people seeking refuge use(d) on their way to Western Europe.

The project is organized by Service Civil International (an International Peace Movement) in cooperation with independent volunteers who are working in camps and at the borders. The project is supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe.

The study trip will be part of a larger project, named »A Route To Connect«.

The field study trip will take place from 15th May until 2nd of June 2017. Following the journey you will implement local projects with and for people seeking refuge in your home country.

Those integrational and awareness raising activities will take place during the summer of 2017.

The goals of this project

- We will create social networks between EU citizens and people seeking refuge, like this we wish to reduce the growing isolation they are experiencing.
- We want to hear the stories of people seeking refuge, while they are traveling or living in camps. With those stories we will show the world their reality, through campaigns and online tools.
- Many people seeking refuge, while traveling or staying in camps, start autonomous social and humanitarian activities, helping the people around them. We wish to find and empower these actors.
- Being there we will show people seeking refuge what volunteer work and youth work is all about. We wish to invite many to stay in contact with us and if possible join our volunteer projects.
- Travelling 19 days with us on such a journey, you will become an expert on the issue. We want you to multiply that experience and use all the opportunities you have to create your own, enabling you to act upon the injustices that we will witness.

Where we go? What we do?

In the preparation phase before the journey you will get together with your local team. With them you will already brainstorm, plan or prepare local projects for and by refugees. Then you will join the study trip as a representative of your team.



The journey starts with a three day training in Slovenia, where 4 trainers will join you in preparing the journey. Right after that we travel through Croatia, Serbia and Macedonia towards Greek island Lesbos and Athens. On the way we will be very busy, visiting refugee camps, meeting people seeking refuge on their route, speaking with experts and initiatives working along the Balkan Route.

The last days in Athens we will evaluate the experience and plan the follow up of our common work.

Once back home you will start preparing the local projects with your team.

Who is this trainer team?

Please read more information about the trainers [here](#).

Is this for me?

This kind of journey is not for everyone. The travel is rough. We have a tight time frame. The experiences are traumatic and we expect a lot of engagement from you. You will not rest a lot although we hope to teach you how to be at peace in the worsened crisis.

If you are still reading... here are some more criteria necessary for participants to be selected;

- You will be expected to follow up on the experience and create local projects with a team back home during the summer of 2017 (so we actually expect you to be very responsive and cooperative from May until December 2017)

- You will need to apply through your SCI branch. Ask us if that is not clear, write us here: refugeeinsci@gmail.com

What are the practical conditions?

- During the journey all food and lodging and travels are covered by the project.
- Your travel costs to the venue and back home are reimbursed (paid back) fully, AFTER you provide us with all your travel tickets.

You like it? Want to join?

Then use the [registration form](#) to apply clicking this link by 12 MARCH.

If you encounter any problems on this form please contact Suvi:

campaigns@sci.ngo

Please keep in mind that even if you are not selected for this journey or you do not fit the specific criteria... You are very welcome to get involved and stay connected.

Any more questions write to us:

refugeeinsci@gmail.com

Please find out more information about the project [here](#).