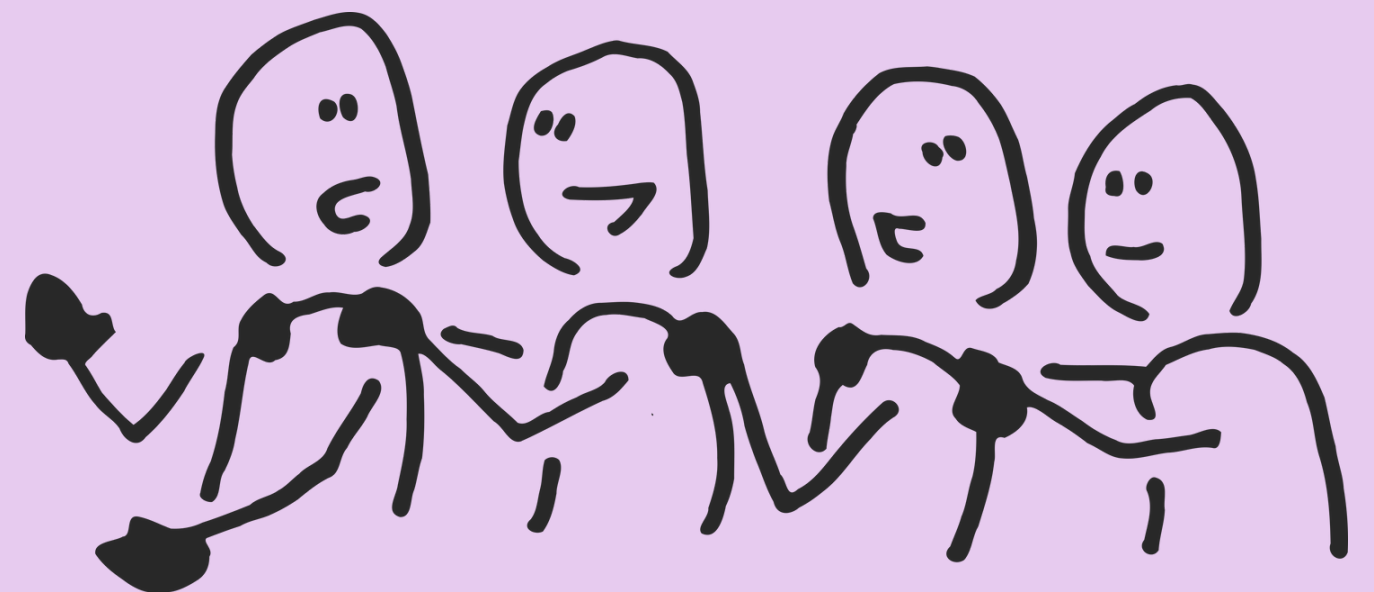


# BRIDGES BEYOND BORDERS: FRIENDSHIP AS A WAY OF RESISTANCE

YOUTH EXCHANGE  
ROME, ITALY  
SERVIZIO CIVILE INTERNAZIONALE  
14-23 NOVEMBER 2025



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# WHAT IS BRIDGES BEYOND BORDERS?

Bridges Beyond Borders is a Youth Exchange project from the **14th to the 23rd of November 2025 in Rome (Italy)** aiming to bring together young people from diverse cultural backgrounds to explore the power of friendship in overcoming barriers and stereotypes. Thanks to creative workshops, intercultural dialogue, and personal storytelling, participants will learn how empathy, open-mindedness, and genuine connections can break down stereotypes and build lasting relationships.

The project aims to explore intercultural understanding, address the topics of ranks and privileges, develop communication skills, and inspire young people to become ambassadors of inclusion in their communities. Towards the end of the exchange, participants will be encouraged to create a collective piece of art symbolising unity and shared experiences, to show that true friendships can transcend borders.

## Objectives:

- Cultivate intercultural awareness and sensitivity.
- Enhance communication and conflict resolution skills.
- Promote European values of respect, tolerance, and solidarity.
- Create lifelong bonds and networks among participants.

# THE FACILITATORS

**MANON**



“Learning by doing is one of my mojos. It was in a bicycle repair shop that I found the right balance and that I discovered non-formal education. It is by exchanging and sharing our skills that we can move forward as a collective. Today, the mutual aid and social network I have on this planet encourage me to believe that we can resist oppression and that we can build our dreams together.”

**LILA**




“With my thesis entitled “The intersection between friendship and activism. Case study: La Città dell'Utopia” (March-July 2025), I believe in the recognition of friendships as essential in political and social life and on the transformative power of friendships in fostering solidarity, group cohesion, and driving social change.”

# WHO IS THIS PROJECT FOR?



We are currently looking for 1 group leader and 5 participants per partner organisation. The ideal participant profile is:

- Aged between **18 and 25** for participants
  - **(For group leaders only) - no age limit**, experienced in youth exchange support, willing to help in the workshop design
  - **Interested** in the topics of activism, relationships, community-building, and resistance
  - Able to communicate in **English**
  - Positive, proactive, and open-minded
  - **Respectful** of diverse lifestyles (vegetarian diet, shared basic accommodation)
  - A strong team player, willing to contribute to **community living**
  - Motivated and committed to following the project **from start to finish**
  - **Resident of Spain, Italy, France or Latvia** (no need to hold citizenship, but you must travel from one of these countries)
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# ABOUT THE VENUE

The Youth Exchange will take place in Rome, at Casale Garibaldi, the building hosting the biggest local project of SCI Italy called “La Città dell’Utopia”. All participants will share a bedroom (bedrooms will be done taking into account **as much as we can** the preferences you shared with us in the google form).

**Address: La Città dell’Utopia, Via Valeriano, 3F, 00145 Roma RM, Italy (close to the Metro B stop Basilica S.Paolo).**

Here you can find a virtual tour of “La Città dell’Utopia” so you can see what to expect and how to get ready for it: <https://youtu.be/MHev2VoBV48>



# FOOD

- Food will be provided **from dinner on 14 November to breakfast on 23 November** (breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided during the 8 days of activity). The food we will provide is **vegetarian**.
- Breakfasts will be **sweet-style**, with cookies, tea, coffee, and jam.
- We'll use **seasonal vegetables** from a local sustainable and solidarity-based producers' group.
- If you forgot to mention any allergies or dietary needs in the Google form, please let us know **as soon as possible**.

# WHAT TO BRING

- Original paper tickets: bus, train, boarding passes
- Sleeping bag
- Towels, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste
- Slippers/Flip-flop for shower and indoor spaces
- Comfortable clothes and shoes for workshops
- Raincoat
- Water bottle
- Anything participants might need away from home (medicines, cigarettes, etc.)
- Typical music, games, food and anything that participants would like to share with the group
- Cash in case of need (using cash is still common in Italy)
- Insect repellent (there are a lot of mosquitoes)



# TRAVEL INFORMATION

We meet on the 14th of November 2025 at 19:30. You're welcome to leave your belongings in the room at any time throughout the day. Reminder: the day of departure is the 23rd of November 2025.

## From Fiumicino Airport (Leonardo da Vinci)

- Follow signs to the train station inside the airport.
- Buy a ticket to “Roma Ostiense” (cost: €8.00). Important: Validate your ticket at the machine before boarding.
- Take the train to Fara Sabina and get off at Roma Ostiense (it's the stop after “Roma Trastevere”).
- Exit the train station and go to Piramide metro stop (line B – blue line).
- Take the metro toward Laurentina and get off at “Basilica San Paolo”. (Ticket cost: €1.50 – coins may be needed.)

## From Ciampino Airport

- Take bus n. 720 to Laurentina metro station. (Cost: €1.50 – valid for both the bus and metro).
- At Laurentina (the last stop on metro line B), take the metro toward Rebibbia/Jonio.
- Get off at “Basilica San Paolo”.

## From Termini Station (train or bus)

- Take metro line B in the direction of Laurentina.
- Get off at “Basilica San Paolo”. (Ticket cost: €1.50)

⚠ Watch out for **pickpockets**, especially in busy stations and on public transport! ⚠



# TRAVEL REFUND

This project is granted by **Erasmus+**, meaning that **all the essential costs of the activities are covered**: accommodation, food, travel costs up to a maximum amount per country.

It is necessary to travel from and go back to the same city of the organisation country. The participant can have a maximum of two extra days of travel in total.

## Maximum travel reimbursement:

Sending organisations	Country	Maximum amount reimbursed
Servizio Civile Internazionale - AGEDO	ITALY	285 € (green travel only)
Eco Fairly	FRANCE	309 € (417 € if green travel)
Bidaia	SPAIN	309 € (417 € if green travel)
3dfriendslv	LATVIA	309 € (417 € if green travel)

# HOW TO APPLY

Follow the link to fill up the google form:

**APPLY HERE**

In the application form, we are curious of your personal experiences, perspectives and reflections.  
As such, we ask you not to use any AI support for the application. Applications will be screened thoroughly, and any applications using ChatGPT or any other AI will be automatically disqualified.

# CONTACTS

For any question reach out to us!

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