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CALL FOR

VOLUNTEERS

INFO PACK



**LONG TERM ESC VOLUNTEERING
JANUARY 2025 - MARCH 2026
2024-1-RO01-ESC51-VTJ-000201364**

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ABOUT US

Local Action Group (LAG) Banat-Vest, also known as Asociația "Grup de Acțiune Locală Banat Vest," is a non-profit association dedicated to fostering rural development within the western part of Timiș County, Romania.



OUR MISSION

Our core mission is to enhance the region's development through integrated local development strategies. We are committed to improving the economic competitiveness and living conditions in our rural and small urban areas, promoting public-private partnerships, and enhancing local governance through community involvement.



OUR ACTIVITIES

LAG Banat-Vest is proactive in developing and implementing strategic projects that enhance local infrastructure, support small businesses, foster tourism, and preserve the cultural and natural heritage of the Banat region. Our activities are designed to encourage sustainable development and improve the quality of life for all residents in the association's territory.





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OUR LOCATION

LAG Banat-Vest operates in Romania, in the western part of Timiș County, along the border with Serbia, encompassing the town of Jimbolia and 10 surrounding rural areas including Cărpiniș, Cenei, Checea, Comloșu Mare, Gottlob, Iecea Mare, Lenauheim, Otelec, Săcălaz, and Uivar (a total of 23 villages).



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VOLUNTEERS' PROFILE

We are looking for motivated volunteers who are passionate about rural development, cultural heritage, and community service. If you are ready to make a positive impact and gain a profound personal and professional experience, check the list below to join our team.

- aged between 18 and 30;
- live in the EU or a partner country - check the participation of your country here: https://youth.europa.eu/solidarity/countries-covered_en
- willing to volunteer in Jimbolia, Romania for 12 months;
- haven't participated in a long-term voluntary service through the ESC (FSJ and BUFDI are accepted);
- flexible, open-minded, tolerant, communicative;
- willing to learn Romanian;
- interested in gaining experience in pedagogy, special education, non-formal education and in working with children and young people;
- willing to work in teams or individually with initiative and creativity;
- want to help young people, especially in small urban and rural communities from LAG Banat-Vest area;
- ready to fight against exclusion, prejudices and stereotypes;
- minimum beginner level of English knowledge;
- experience as local volunteer is a plus.



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PROJECTS' ACTIVITIES

As part of the ESC long-term volunteering project, volunteers with LAG Banat-Vest will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities:

- daily non-formal educational, child-centered activities for the children and young people from primary and secondary schools, after schools, and high schools of LAG Banat-Vest area;
- activities in the Youth Centers from our area aimed to involve the local young people into social activities and to facilitate the interaction between them;
- intergenerational activities (painting with elderly people, teaching English to children);
- cultural and volunteering activities which promote tolerance, inclusion, voluntary work, and solidarity;
- photography activities;

The activities are designed to develop the children's and young people's skills, competences, creativity, as well as to increase involvement, participation, tolerance and acceptance in the small urban and rural communities.



activities

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HOW DO I START?

1. Use the Volunteers' profile checklist above to make sure that you fulfill the requirements to participate within the ESC-program.
2. Register yourself in the European Solidarity Corps portal to receive your personal ESC number (https://youth.europa.eu/solidarity/register_en)
3. Send us a CV and a Motivation Letter on e-mail to asociatiagalbanatvest@gmail.com until November 15, 2024 .
4. After the deadline, we will go through the e-mails and have interviews with possible candidates. You will receive an acceptance or rejection within four weeks. Please keep in mind that we only have a small amount of positions that we can give to non-EU citizens.
5. After your acceptance, we will give you the necessary information on the following process. If you received a rejection, check for other nice projects or apply again next year.

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For arriving in Jimbolia, you will book your journey to Jimbolia and back home in consultation with us. We have a certain budget for the travel costs, so make sure that you don't exceed the budget. The budget depends on the distance from Jimbolia to your home place. Let us know if you need any assistance with your travel planning. Once you give the ORIGINAL tickets (and if you fly, the original boarding pass) to us, we will refund you for the travel costs.

If you have different options to get to Jimbolia, we expect our volunteers to choose the most ecological one. So please avoid flying, if possible! Especially if you come from a neighboring country, make sure that you use the train or bus instead of the plane.

Please let us also know your exact time of arrival, so that we can arrange a pickup at the station for your arrival.

You will attend two seminars during your ESC. We will book the tickets to the seminars for you or give you instructions on how to buy them. Never buy tickets without our confirmation.



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LIVING SITUATION

You will stay with other volunteers in our shared flat, that is located in Jimbolia. You might share the bedroom with one other volunteer. The kitchen and bathroom are shared rooms and fully equipped. The flat has good WiFi connection, a washing machine and a dryer, and a shared living room/common area. We also provide pillows and blankets. There are towels and bedsheets available, but you can, of course, bring your own. You will be responsible for your own room and to keep the common areas clean and tidy as a group.



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FINANCES

During your ESC you will receive

- **FREE ACCOMMODATION**
- **FOOD ALLOWANCE (5 EUROS PER DAY)**
- **POCKET MONEY (4 EUROS PER DAY)**

**You will attend two seminars during your ESC.
We will book the seminars and the travel tickets for you.**





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SUPPORT AND SOCIAL LIFE

We know that being far from home and in an entirely new surrounding can be challenging. Therefore, we will try to support you in the best way during that time. We will have monthly meetings with all the volunteers, where we will talk about your experiences and try to find improvement options, if necessary. And our office is of course always open for you to stop by if you need anything. You will also have a mentor that will be responsible for you to make sure that your voluntary service is going well for you as well as for the project.

During your year in Jimbolia, you will also participate in two seminars that are organized by the program. Those seminars will provide you information on the ESC, check if everything is going well, help you to get to know volunteers in other places of Romania.





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TOWN OF JIMBOLIA

Jimbolia is a town in Timiș County, Romania, close to Timisoara, which was the European Cultural Capital in 2023. Jimbolia is known for its rich cultural tapestry and historical significance. As a volunteer in Jimbolia, you'll immerse yourself in a community where Romanian, German, Hungarian, and Serbian heritages merge beautifully.

Key attractions include the Baroque Roman Catholic Church, the diverse array of museums like the Banat Railway, the second biggest Press Museum in Europe, and the serene lake area. Participate in lively local festivals such as Borders of Rock and Lada cu Zestre, which showcase the region's folk traditions.

Join us in Jimbolia to contribute to meaningful projects while experiencing unique cultural integration firsthand.



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INSURANCE AND ILLNESS

During your voluntary service, as well as two months afterwards, you will be health-insured by the Henner-insurance.

If you have an EU-health insurance card, Henner will be your complementary insurance.

If you come from a non-EU country, or you don't have any health-insurance, Henner will be your primary insurance.

It is important that you let us know in advance, if you have another health insurance.

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These volunteering-positions that we give are also available to volunteers from non-EU countries. As citizens from most of these countries need a visa, we will support you within this process and also cover the visa costs.

Keep in mind, that the granting of the visa can take a few months, depending on the country (sometimes even one year). Please check the waiting times with the Romanian Embassy in your country and make an appointment according to this, so that you can start your voluntary service in time!



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JOIN US!

Volunteering with LAG Banat-Vest offers a unique opportunity to contribute to meaningful rural and small urban development projects while experiencing the rich cultural tapestry of Banat.

For more information about volunteering opportunities and how to apply, please contact us at

-  asociatiagalbanatvest@gmail.com
-  [Grup de Actiune Locala Banat Vest](#)
-  [galbanatvest](#)
-  **+40764 128 118 Lidia Oltean**
-  www.galbanatvest.ro

We look forward to welcoming you to our team and working together to make a lasting impact in the Banat region!



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