
Full name: Eliza Ellensa

Age: 19

Residency country: Belgium

Country and city where you did your ESC experience: Poland, Wroclaw

Dates of the project: 1/09/23 - 31/05/24

Hosting organisation link (Website, facebook, Instagram, etc.):

https://www.instagram.com/esc.wroclaw?igsh=OWI0bGFpdGVpdnhy&utm_source=qr

Brief description of the project and what you did:

My project was called “Proud Volunteers for Solidarity 6”, I volunteered at my hosting organisation (NGO) as Social Media & Event Manager. I had a very diverse task list: content creation & management, administrative work, event management, office errands, helping with training sessions of New Volunteers & etc. I’ve mainly been doing work related to social media & content creation, which has helped me a lot to improve my graphic design skills as I had a lot more free time & opportunity to discover and create new things. As for the Event Management Part I’ve done the logistics for a few events: Festival Dziecienada, Intergrational Meetings, Farewell Party, Pumpkin Festival, our Christmas Party, Multicultural Festival, Student Mobility Presentation (about the ESC & Erasmus+) and Children’s Festival. Preparing Activities & Implementing them have greatly improved my leadership skills & organisational skills!

Your favourite moment: I’ve had my fair share of really memorable moments, and therefore it’s hard to just pick ‘one’. Often the greatest and memorable moments are the little interactions you have in your everyday life. Small-talk with my flatmates after a working day, going to different fun events organized in the city, the people-watching at my favourite lunch place, repeating and trying to form sentences with the new words we learned in Polish classes, staying longer after work to finish crafting activities with other Volunteers. These are all “little” things that I will treasure for a long time.

Impact in the community:

My work wasn’t extremely tied to the local community, as I mostly kept to the office where I worked with my tutor and coordinator. I did get to interact with the local community during the Events we held, mostly with children but sometimes with Adults as well. Our stands/activities were always about different countries and culture in the EU, it was nice to see the interest and excitement of children to partake in them and I felt like they learned at least a little bit more on the global scale.

Impact on yourself:

It was a very enriching experience for me. I was given a lot of trust, freedom, and responsibility, and I learned how to handle myself. I have definitely matured in several aspects. This project made me step out of my comfort zone and my bubble, which opened my eyes to a lot of different cultures, behaviours, family

backgrounds, ideas, and values. I also came to the painful realisation that the process of “adulthood” never stops and probably never will. There’s always something new to learn. Being abroad without my family has made me more independent, but it has also taught me intense gratitude for what I have and my privileges. Lastly, I find myself thinking on a much more global scale than before, whether it comes to my future studies or travels.

