

# Francesca Barison

## My experience as a EuSC Trainee at CEV



My name is Francesca, I'm 27 years old and, in September 2020, I joined the European Solidarity Corps and started my traineeship at CEV within the framework of the Europe for Citizens "VOCIS - Volunteers as a force of solidarity in times of crisis" project. I was thrilled, especially to get closer to the European dimension of volunteering and initiatives, and I was not disappointed: it really was inspiring and motivating and gave me the chance to meet a lot of wonderful people and get to know interesting realities.

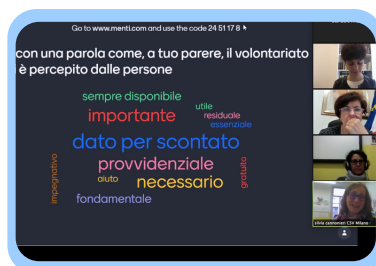
### DURATION

September 2020  
November 2020

### LOCATION

Brussels, Belgium

In September 2020 I was able to travel to Brussels despite the difficult situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic response. My main task at CEV was to support the organisation of the VOCIS international event within the framework of the CEV Autumn Volunteering Congress, which was supposed to take place in Padova, Italy. It was the first time I had the chance to participate in the organisation of an international event and it was very interesting and stimulating. Unfortunately, due to changing national regulations, it was not possible to do the event in presence, so, with a great team work, everything was rearranged to take place online. This was challenging, but I can't forget the good feeling seeing everything worked out eventually, and seeing how many people participated after all.



I did my best to make sure that small realities had the chance to get involved in the VOCIS event and the CEV Autumn Volunteering Congress, to present themselves and their activities, implemented in a crisis situation, to an international audience, so more people could become aware of their important role in society.

I had the chance to do a different kind of job, something I never did before, always being supported by the team. Organising an international event improved my skills in problem solving and team working, and having to do everything online made me more confident in using online platforms. I also had the chance to be in contact with a lot of people from different realities, such as project partners, University researchers, local authorities and institutions, which was interesting and useful for communication skills. Last but not least, during the time I spent in Brussels, I could refresh a bit my knowledge of French, and of course getting to know a new city, which is always super interesting.



I loved everything about the CEV working environment, and teamwork was always inspiring. I will never forget the support I got from everyone in the team and the warm feeling of being welcomed and becoming immediately part of a team that always works together, shares everything and cares for each member of the team.