

# **Call for Counsellors**

The YES is a yearly get-together for over 500 exchange students at the end of their experience, all put together by a team of over 100 YFU volunteers. It is the best opportunity to help students create a bridge between the exchange year and the return home, and we need three Counsellors who can help students cope with their feelings in the emotional transition from the exchange experience to going back home.

Do you want to come to the YES to provide support and advice for the students who need it? Then read on, because this role might be the role for you.

#### **About the YES**

The Young Europeans' Seminar (YES) aims to contribute to the development of young global citizens through learning and volunteering together in a spirit of international friendship.

The YES is a unique opportunity to reunite with old friends from all over Europe and make new ones, creating a bridge between the exchange year and the return home. It's a fun learning experience where students explore what it means to be a citizen of the world through interactive learning activities. The international team of volunteers creates a unique spirit and an unforgettable experience for everyone at the YES.



See the aftermovie from the YES 2018

### The topic of YES 2019 - "Breaking Through Walls"

The theme is a reference, not only to the physical walls between countries, but also to symbolic barriers that we experience between cultures, communities, and individuals. In 2019 we will explore the impact of barriers on an international, societal, and personal level. We will discuss how to use active citizenship in aiding the world to "break through walls" and influencing our own lives and the lives of others.

The students will experience this year's topic through four different viewpoints: Debate, Activism, Technology, and Art. We will deconstruct the obstacles lying ahead of us as a global society. Together, we will ask 'how can we actively and consciously take part in building a sustainable futures for ourselves, our communities, and the world'?

#### **About your role**

The YES marks the end of the exchange year and the return home. While it is a fun experience, at the same time students cope with contrasting feelings related to the fact that their lives are changing again. Leaving their host-family, friends, and classmates to return home is not easy. The YES itself can trigger special and sometimes difficult dynamics.

Counsellors are there to listen to the students (and volunteers) and help them deal with the issues they are facing and with their feelings. They keep an eye on the participants, talk to them about their challenges, and follow up until the end of the seminar.

Counsellors work with other team members to ensure the well-being of all the students and volunteers at the YES.



## The tracks for YES 2019

**Activism** will explore different ways to become an active citizen (campaigning, manifesting, voting, advocating, etc.) and will ask what steps can an individual take to take down walls around them.

**Arts** will explore how artistic movements can shape the thought of society and political discourse, and how art can bring people together despite of the walls or barriers between them.

**Debate** will explore how to participate in political discourse and how to put forward one's arguments and viewpoints – how to speak to get your point across.

**Technology** will explore how technology influences our society and how someone can use it for a cause, but will also raise awareness of potential threats coming from misusing it.

#### What do you gain?

Participating at the YES as a volunteer is a rewarding experience. The seminar lasts for 4 days and there is plenty to gain:

- Possibility to share your volunteer experience and get to know a lot of new people
- Increasing skills in facilitating group work and learning processes of peer groups
- Experience of working with YFU on an international level
- · Opportunity to be a part of the biggest YFU event in Europe
- Have a great time together with 600+ people
- knowing you've helped students and volunteers in tough times.



### Who are we looking for?

If you wish to be a Counsellor at the YES 2019, you should:

- be at least 23 years old
- be fluent in English (German is an advantage)
- have background in or experience with counselling;
- be considerate and empathic;
- be able to work both in a team and individually;
- be able to attend the whole duration of the YES.

**Questions?** 

Ask Ieva at ieva@yfu.lt
Logistics Team Coordinator, YES 2019

Interested?
You can now apply here!

Deadline: January 31st, 2019