



 Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.



Speak, friend, and enter

15.10.2025 – 22.10.2025



Oroslavje, Croatia

Dear partners,



We are excited to invite you to participate in the multinational training course '**Speak, friend, and enter**' that will take place in Oroslovje, Croatia.

For **8 training days** (including 2 travel days), **30 youth workers from 7 countries** will come together to:

- explore the structure and elements of effective storytelling,
- practice telling stories through text, photography, video, and social media,
- learn how to adapt stories for different audiences,
- connect creativity with communication: how to tell a story that sticks,
- gain tools for developing young people's own storytelling capacity and
- test their skills by working directly with high-school students

By the end, participants will leave with concrete **methods, tools, and creative projects** they can directly use in their work with young people – always keeping in mind that young people are the main characters of their own narratives.





What is storytelling?

Storytelling is the art of creating and sharing narratives that engage emotions, convey meaning, and inspire action. It is one of the oldest forms of communication and still one of the most powerful. Stories help people connect, understand each other, and imagine possibilities.

Why is storytelling important in youth work?

Young people today are surrounded by a flood of information – social media posts, ads, videos, memes – but not everything reaches them in a meaningful way. **What makes the difference is the story behind the message.**

At the same time, young people are not just passive consumers of information – they are the protagonists of their own stories. Storytelling in youth work is therefore twofold: helping young people critically navigate the stories around them, and empowering them to create and share their own. Sometimes, youth workers help amplify their voice, and sometimes we simply create the conditions for them to tell their story themselves. In both cases, storytelling becomes a tool for empowerment: it helps young people make sense of their experiences, share their perspectives, and actively shape the world around them.





Through stories, youth workers can:

- Inspire young people to reflect on important issues
- Make abstract concepts relatable and memorable
- Encourage creativity and self-expression
- Support critical thinking and media literacy
- Strengthen young people's voice in society

Training course objectives:



1. Build participants' understanding of storytelling as a tool in youth work.
2. Develop practical skills in crafting and delivering stories.
3. Explore creative ways of using digital media (photos, video, memes, social media campaigns)
4. Strengthen participants' ability to convey messages in an engaging and youth-friendly way
5. Enhance critical thinking and media literacy through storytelling practices
6. Provide space for participants to design and test activities directly with young people
7. Emphasize the role of young people as protagonists of their own stories, supported and empowered by youth workers
8. Provide concrete, valuable tools to create content and shape stories in an engaging and meaningful way





Profile of participants:

- Be at least 20+ years old.
- Youth workers/leaders, as well as educators and other professionals working with young people.
- Working knowledge of English.
- The participants have to be ready to take part in all the training activities, including sessions that might take place before and after the actual training week.
- The participants have to be ready to disseminate the project and share the project results.

Profile of trainers – Renato Vuk



Renato Vuk is a long-term member of the host organization, Independent Youth Association (Nezavisna udruga mladih), and has been active in the field of youth for the last 10 years.

Started as a member/volunteer, went on to become an employee, then secretary, then a board of directors member, and then back to volunteering to close the circle.

He has been working on a number of various educational activities and projects within and outside the organization, with the focus being on non-formal and informal learning. He is also working on various projects aiming to improve youth work and has been active in the Erasmus+ programme for years now.

Currently, he's working at Sports School PESG as the head of the project management office, working on European projects aimed at youth empowerment and innovation in the field of education.

Renato is also a certified trainer for YINTRO training for an intro into youth information work for youth workers. His passion is volunteering, youth engagement, active citizenship, and exploring new, innovative ways of sending the message to youth as well as carrying the message of youth, educating and activating them in their civil roles and civic engagement.

His educational background is business and management in the media which was his entrance into the world of storytelling.



Profile of trainers – Mihaela Špiljak



Mihaela Špiljak is the CEO of the Independent Youth Association (Nezavisna udruga mladih), in which she has been active for the past 8 years. Throughout that time, she has taken on all possible roles – from volunteer, member of the Board of Directors, to President of the Board – which has shaped her holistic understanding of youth work and organizational development.

She is also a Board Member of the Croatian Youth Network (Mreža mladih Hrvatske), the national umbrella organization for youth in Croatia, where she contributes to strengthening youth participation and policy influence on a national level.

Academically, Mihaela holds a Bachelor's degree in Multimedia and Graphic Design and has recently obtained her Master's degree in Public Relations, with a thesis on "Effectiveness of digital marketing of the Erasmus+ program in informing young people." Professionally and personally, she has been engaged in more than 35 Erasmus+ projects, with a strong focus on youth empowerment, communication, and innovation in non-formal education.

Her passions lie in digital marketing, creative practices, storytelling, and visual communication, but also in the small joys of life – books, sunsets, and warm hugs.

Oroslavje – about the city

SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL

The city of Oroslavje is located in the northern part of Croatia, near the city of Zagreb. The city is located in the area of the main roads, Western Europe, Zagreb, and the Adriatic coast. With such traffic connections, the doors of economic, agricultural, touristic, cultural, and other development are open to it. Although small, this town will win you over with its offers, hospitality, and friendliness.

A MUST-HAVE SOUVENIR

An original souvenir from a visit to Croatia is a tie, a must-have item of clothing in the business world, and an authentic Croatian product. In the 17th century, Croatian soldiers used to tie elegant scarves around their necks, a fashion later picked up by the French –the rest is history.





Hotel Zagi Oroslavje – Accommodation



Apart from beautiful rooms,
There's a big conference room for the
working part of the project, as well as for
the evening hangouts :)



Wherever you will go, there's free wi-fi to
get you covered on the important
research and work you'll be doing as
part of the project, as well as for fun.



Hotel Zagi Oroslavje is located only 30
minutes (cca. 30km) away from Zagreb,
the capital of Croatia.

Participants will be accommodated in
double and triple bedrooms with
participants of the same gender from
different countries.

<https://www.zagi.hr/?jez=en>

Arriving from the Airport to the city centre

SHUTTLE BUS

- From Zagreb Airport you can take the bus with direction to ZAGREB BUS STATION. The company "Pleso prijevoz d.d." is the official carrier on the line from the Franjo Tudman Zagreb Airport to the Main Bus Station in Zagreb. The bus timetable is adjusted to the flight schedule of the aircraft. One-way ticket is 8€ and the ride takes approximately 35 minutes. The earliest bus from the Airport starts at 6 am. You can buy a ticket either from the ticket desks at the airport or online.
- Timetable from Airport to Zagreb Bus Station:
<https://plesoprijevoz.hr/en/time-table/>

UBER AND BOLT

- The price varies depending on the time period in which you order the taxi and the traffic jam.

TAXI

- Traveling with a taxi can be reimbursed only if the taxi operator can provide you with the recipe for the ride. So far, as we know, Bolt and Uber are offering this possibility throughout the app.

How to reach Hotel Zagi Oroslavje

When you get to the Zagreb Bus Station, you have to take a tram from the nearby station, which will take you to the main train station (Trg kralja Tomislava 12). Watch out and take tram 6 in the direction Črnomerec. The price of an individual tram ticket depends on the driving time. You can take the 30 minutes valid ticket, which costs 0,53€ (if purchased on the traffic) or 0,80€ (if purchased by the tram driver / 1,99€ if traveling at night.

When you get to the main train station, take the train to Oroslavje. The price of an individual tram ticket costs 3,77€. You can buy a ticket either from the ticket desks at the train station or online. Timetable from Zagreb to Oroslavje: [TRAINS – TIME TABLE](#)

The Hotel Zagi Oroslavje is at the address Ulica Milana Prpića 46.



Zagreb Public transport

The network of public transportation in Zagreb is called ZET. Tickets may be purchased in ZET's ticket offices or at some kiosks/tobacco shops. They can also be bought from the driver inside the vehicle.

TICKET PRICES (AT TOBACCO SHOP, ZET OR ONLINE)

Single fare, daytime (validity 30 minutes)	0,53 €
Single fare, daytime (validity 60 minutes)	0,93 €
Single fare, daytime (validity 90 minutes)	1,33 €
Single fare, night time	1,99 €

TICKET PRICES (PURCHASED FROM THE DRIVER)

Single fare, daytime (validity 30 minutes)	0,80 €
Single fare, daytime (validity 60 minutes)	1,33 €
Single fare, daytime (validity 90 minutes)	1,99 €
Single fare, night time	1,99 €

Zagreb Public transport

Validating Machines for validating paper tickets are installed near the front door of the vehicle, whereas in low-floor trams, they are also installed at the rear door.

Moj ZET - ZET App (QR code). Recently, you can also buy tickets through the ZET App, available for Android and iOS operating systems. When you enter the Tram or a Bus, on the glass you will find a QR code. Scan it and follow further instructions.

You can also download the App through [Google play](#) or [App store](#). It's called [Moj_ZET](#).



Reimbursement

Each participant will be required to discuss their traveling plan with the sending organization as well as the host organization (Nezavisna udruga mladih) and will purchase the tickets after approval. Participants in need for visas will be helped with visa requests.

For the reimbursement to be made, you have to save all of the following and give it (either original, scanned, photographed or other) to the host organization:

TICKETS

All tickets related to traveling that you want to be reimbursed (plane, bus, train, etc.)

INVOICES & RECEIPTS

All invoices from your traveling that you want to reimburse (invoices for buying plane tickets, bus tickets, train tickets, tram, taxi, etc.)

BOARDING PASSES & VISAS

Boarding passes for your flights. For the return flight, they will have to be sent by post, email (preferred), or other ways of communication at your disposal. Also, participants will need visas for their the trip will have to save and present to the host organization for reimbursement.

Note that:

TRAVEL BUDGET

The total travel budget per country can be calculated using the Erasmus distance calculator, taking into consideration the residence of the sending organization as the starting point of the trip and Oroslavje as the destination.

Participation fee

This training **does not include a participation fee**, in any form, such as, for example, donations or others to the sending or receiving organisation.

REIMBURSEMENTS AFTER THE MAIN ACTIVITIES

Reimbursements will be made after the main activities of the project and after the submission of all the supporting documents. The reimbursement will be provided via bank transfer after filling out the form, which will be provided to you during the project activities.

Participants will be asked to supply us with bank information TO have the necessary details to make the money transfer.

Note that:



PROLONGED STAY BEFORE OR AFTER THE ACTIVITIES

If you want to spend more time in Croatia, it's possible, but you have to cover the costs by yourself. You are allowed to stay for an extra 2 days over and above the dates of training. These could be either before or after the training course.



FEWER OPPORTUNITIES SUPPORT

Participants with fewer opportunities means participants who, for economic, social, cultural, geographical or health reasons, a migrant background, or for reasons such as disability and educational difficulties, or for any other reasons, including those that can give rise to discrimination, face obstacles that prevent them from having effective access to opportunities under the programme.

For a detailed explanation of these categories, please visit the [Erasmus+ Programme guide](#), pages 7 and 8.

If you find yourself in any of these categories, please let us know and your sending organization so we can provide appropriate support.

✦✦ *Note that:*

CROATIA'S NATIONAL CURRENCY IS THE EURO!

Remember to exchange money immediately at the airport or before arriving in Croatia, as most exchange offices have closed when we changed the currency. You can pay by card in most restaurants and shops, but we would like to highlight that if you intend to pay by card in a cafe, be sure to first check with the staff whether this is possible.

We are using the European type of electricity sockets, so if needed, please bring your adapters with you.

To ensure sustainability and enviromental care, we encourage you to bring your own reusable water bottles as well as shopping bags :)



How to prepare? ✨



SOCIAL MEDIA

Once we create a WhatsApp group, you will share a brief story about yourself and post a picture in the group for others to get to know you, even before we all meet in Oroslavje.

PRESENTATION

Prepare some traditional food and beverages of your country. All will be presented during the intercultural nights when we celebrate each others cultures and diversity! :)

ANALYZE

Read the materials that will be provided as an introduction to training and the activities.

Emergency numbers

Here is a list of the most important telephone numbers in Croatia:

*(+385) 112 - emergency number (+385) 192 - police
(+385) 193 - fire brigade (+385) 194 - ambulance
(+385) 1987- road assistance (+385) 1 4640 800-
HAK (Croatian automobile club) (+385) 18981 -
general information*



Contact Us!



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JOIN NOW WITH TAVO EUROPA!

Educator Pass 2025. You are welcome to join our new educational programme for 2025!

Dive into non-formal learning exploration for a 75 euro fee that will unlock your potential to join all training courses, professional study visits, events in Lithuania and abroad until the end of the year, and also supports us to find new exciting and exclusive opportunities for community members!

Please do not pay any fee until you receive a confirmation letter to join the programme. If you want to join the project, please fill the application form, whether you have already participated or not.

Bear in mind that Tavo Europa keeps the right to send the most suitable and motivated participants to all of our projects.

For more projects:

Explore the world and learn together with the help of Tavo Europa.
Join the group with more opportunities:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/186132221744993>



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