

INFOPACK

Volunteering Project

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Gijón - Spain

2026



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

ABOUT US

Expoacción is a non-profit solidarity organisation whose mission is to achieve the full social inclusion of people at risk of social exclusion, paying special attention to children, adolescents and families since 2010.

The mission of the organisation is to achieve full social inclusion of people at risk of social exclusion, paying special attention to children adolescents and families, offering quality support programmes, personalised support and efficient resources for the different groups or areas of intervention.

that favour social participation as citizens with full rights in the community by means of a comprehensive social care
<https://www.expoaccion.org/>



expoacción
organización solidaria





Gijón - Asturias

The project is located in Gijón, a coastal city in northern Spain, in the region of Asturias. It is a modern, safe, and accessible environment with a vibrant cultural, social, and youth scene. Its moderate size makes it easy to get around and offers all the necessary amenities for an extended stay.

Available Services and Resources:

- Supermarkets, local shops, and municipal markets.
- Health centers, pharmacies, and the Cabueñes University Hospital.
- Libraries, museums, cultural centers, and a diverse program of activities.
- Urban beaches such as San Lorenzo and Poniente, green spaces, and coastal paths.
- City bus network and train and bus connections to Oviedo and other cities.

Climate

Gijón has a mild, humid oceanic climate. Winters are cool but moderate, with typical temperatures between 8°C and 14°C. Summers are pleasant, rarely exceeding 25°C, allowing for outdoor activities throughout much of the year. Rain is frequent, especially between autumn and spring, so it is advisable to bring waterproof clothing.

Project Objectives

-This volunteer program aims to generate social impact both within the community and on the volunteers themselves. The main objectives are:

- To promote the social inclusion of people with fewer opportunities, reducing barriers and expanding their participation in society.
- To promote educational, cultural, and support activities that strengthen the self-esteem and autonomy of program participants.
- To provide a genuine cultural exchange experience between volunteers, local participants, and the Gijón community.
- To strengthen social awareness and critical thinking regarding realities such as poverty, educational inequality, and exclusion.
- To foster the personal development of volunteers so they acquire practical experience, social skills, and a sense of solidarity.

The project not only benefits those who participate in the activities but also the community by creating a more inclusive, empathetic, and participatory environment.



Main volunteering activities

The activities vary throughout the project, allowing the volunteer to explore different areas of social intervention. All activities take place in the city of Gijón.

Tasks may include:

Social and community sphere

- Support for programs aimed at children, adolescents, and families facing difficulties.
- Participation in solidarity campaigns such as food, toy, or material drives.
- Accompanying users in group and community activities.

The volunteer does not work alone, but alongside the technical team and other young people, learning social intervention techniques on the ground.

Educational and leisure activities

- Facilitation of creative, cultural, sports, or craft workshops.
- Support for extracurricular activities and academic tutoring.
- Organization of games, group activities, and social events.

The goal is not only to entertain, but to create safe, educational, and motivating spaces that help participants grow personally and socially.



Communication, awareness and creativity

- Documentation of activities through photography, video, or written content.
- Design of social media posts and informational materials.
- Collaboration on community outreach campaigns.

Personal initiatives

If the volunteer has their own interests, they can design a project within the volunteering program: a creative workshop, a cultural activity, a social campaign, an audiovisual project, etc. The organization will support its development.



Role of the volunteer

The volunteer will not be an observer, but an active participant. Their role within the program includes:

- Collaborating on weekly planning with the team.
- Preparing activities, workshops, and materials.
- Working with the organization's actual clients.
- Maintaining a receptive, adaptable, and empathetic attitude.

A willingness to learn, interact, propose ideas, ask questions when necessary, respect cultural differences, and participate as part of a team is expected. No prior experience is necessary, but a willingness, curiosity, and commitment are essential.



VOLUNTEER PROFILE:

- Age: from 18 to 30 years old (at the entrance to the project);
- Citizen or resident of the sending country;
- Skills: empathy, motivation;
- Competencies and / or passion in entrepreneurship, environment protection or social inclusion and in working with young people.





Planning and Schedule

The schedule is agreed upon weekly with the team, allowing for flexibility and adaptation.

Typical Structure:

- Main work between Monday and Friday.
- Time reserved for training and Spanish classes.
- Occasional special activities (events, campaigns, retreats).

Weekends are usually free, although some optional events or activities may take place outside of regular hours. Participation in these enriches the experience, but is never mandatory.

Training during volunteering

The experience includes ongoing educational support. The volunteer will receive:

- Welcome training to learn about the organization, its methodology, and internal operations.
- Mid-term follow-up training to assess progress, learning, and needs.
- Spanish classes, tailored to the volunteer's level to facilitate their integration into daily life.
- Ongoing guidance from the technical team and an assigned tutor.

Learning will not be solely theoretical; it will be based on practice, observation, participation, and direct contact with the community.

Accommodation in Gijón

The volunteer will live in a shared apartment in Gijón exclusively for program participants. Living with other young people fosters cultural interaction and mutual learning.

The space includes:

- A fully furnished single room.
- A kitchen equipped with utensils, appliances, and cookware.
- A shared bathroom with shower and basic toiletries.
- A living/dining room with sofas, a work table, and Wi-Fi.
- Bed linens are provided.



Household Rules:

- Keep the common areas clean.
- Respect schedules, rest, and personal space.
- Participate in shared household chores.
- Separate waste and use supplies responsibly.

Living together is a formative part of volunteering: it teaches tolerance, listening, collaboration, and respect.



Food and pocket money

The volunteer will have lunch and dinner at the restaurant run by the organization, located below the accommodation, and will also receive two monthly stipends:

- A food allowance for days the restaurant is closed, intended to cover basic food and cooking expenses in the apartment.
- Pocket money or personal funds for daily expenses such as leisure, transportation, hygiene, etc.

The amount will be determined according to the financial guidelines of the European Voluntary Service program or the applicable agreement. Payments will be made monthly, and the process will be explained at the start of the project.



Transport

- The organization will cover travel expenses related to volunteer activities.
- Volunteers will have access to accessible public transportation to get around the city.
- Personal travel expenses (for leisure, tourism, or activities outside the project) will be the volunteer's responsibility.

Gijón is a walkable city, and connections to other cities like Oviedo and Avilés are also easy by bus or train.



Things to keep in mind

Benefits of volunteering

Participating in this project means:

Immersing yourself in a vibrant city with a rich cultural and social life.

Gaining firsthand experience of Spanish social realities through hands-on practice and shared living.

Developing valuable professional skills for the future.

Connecting with people, organizations, and support networks.

Growing personally, emotionally, and culturally.

Discovering Asturias: its nature, coastline, gastronomy, and local identity.

Volunteering transforms not only what we give, but also what we take away.

What is not this volunteering?

To avoid confusion, it's important to understand that:

- This is not paid employment and does not replace a job.
- It is not tourism or a vacation.
- It is not a formal work placement.
- It is not a one-off or occasional activity.

It is a learning and community service experience with real impact.

Support Team

The volunteer will receive close and accessible support throughout the entire experience. Their support network will include:

- Project Coordinator, responsible for overall organization and monitoring.
- Personal Mentor, to guide the volunteer, answer questions, and assess progress and well-being.
- Social Intervention Team, responsible for activities with clients.
- Other volunteers and collaborating staff, with whom they will build relationships and learn from each other.

They will never be alone: they will have human, professional, and educational support.



Skills you will develop

Volunteer growth is one of the project's cornerstones. Over the six months, you will develop skills such as:

- Communication and interpersonal skills with people of different ages and cultures.
- Creativity, workshop design, group facilitation, and activity management.
- Conflict resolution, empathy, and critical thinking.
- Organization, responsibility, self-confidence, and personal autonomy.
- Natural improvement of your Spanish through everyday use.
- Direct understanding of social realities and intervention tools.

Upon completion, you will receive a **Youthpass** certificate that officially recognizes your learning.

ELEMENTS of the SELECTION DOSSIER:

- Europass CV
- Letter of motivation for the project
- Personal video presentation
- Completed questionnaire
- Documents verifying the required profile: academic qualifications, proof of address (if applicable)
- Interview

Registration form



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