

MAY WITH YIC



Dear readers, we are happy to present the monthly newsletter, which will tell you about our organization activities done in May

“Open Youth Work Recognition in Armenia”

Within the framework of "Open Youth Work Recognition in Armenia" programme, a meeting was held with representatives of youth organizations working with open youth work or its components to discuss the opportunities and formats of creating open youth work network in Armenia, based on the best local and international best practices.

In addition, meetings with representatives of state agencies, local and regional authorities in education, employment and social affairs continue. During the meetings, the study of the current situation and development prospects of open youth work implemented within the framework of the programme, is presented and based on the results of it the package of proposals on the introduction of the Open Youth Work in Armenia has been



“UPSHIFT Armenia” Adolescents Development and Empowerment Programme

On May 5 to 6 BootCamp two-day meeting of community youth projects pre-presentation in the frames of UNICEF “UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment programme took place.

47 teenagers from Shirak and Lori marzes continued to work on their project ideas. Then professional jury from presented 10 projects choose 5 for the funding.

On May 12 "Project Management" training course was held for the 5 teams. The aim of the training was to provide project management tools and skills to the 5 teams financed by the project to implement their ideas. Team members had an opportunity to get acquainted with project planning, ways and means of preventing possible risks, budgeting, visibility and promotion planning, as well as project monitoring and evaluation.

*"UPSHIFT Armenia" Adolescents Development and Empowerment programme is implemented by Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" NGO in



Road Traffic Safety Week

“Road Traffic Safety Awareness” workshop was held at “Youth House” Open Youth Centre within the framework of "UN Road Safety International Week -Armenia".

As a result of the training, 70 teenagers had the opportunity to raise their knowledge and awareness of road traffic rules and signs.

*The project is implemented by Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" NGO in collaboration with UNICEF Armenia and UN Armenia.



Europe Day in Gyumri

On May 19, Gyumri was celebrating Europe Day under the headline "Road to Europe".

The celebration was started by organizations' fair and YIC was one of the organizations that was presented with an informative and colorful tent telling about its projects.

Mayor of Gyumri Samvel Balasanyan and EU Ambassador to Armenia Piotr Świtalski were also present at the event. They were introduced to the programs of the organizations with great interest.



“Get a bike, Get a life” Project

In the organizations' fair of Europe Day Celebration "Get a Bike, Get a Life" social entrepreneurship project was also present that allowed visitors to ride a bicycle free from charge for a few minutes at the European Square.

At the same time, volunteers of YIC were teaching children and young people how to ride a bicycle.

For more information, please follow us on our Facebook page.

*This sub-grant is funded by the European Union and is implemented in cooperation with Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU Armenia) and Eurasia Partnership Foundation-Armenia in the frames of Bridge for CSOs programme.



European Voluntary Activities

We are happy to announce that within the frameworks of the "European Solidarity Corps" programme from April 2019, Armine Khudoyan started her voluntary work at the "Europejskie Forum Młodzieży" NGO in Cłojdzko, Poland, and Lyudmila Kocharyan, at the "Stowarzyszenie "Dorośli – Dzieciom" NGO in the city of Sępólno Krajeńskie.

In these communities, they carry out youth work for local youth, organize various trainings, entertaining, cultural and social events.



Mobility with YIC

During this month we had 2 projects within the framework of Erasmus+ Youth programme.

One of them is the International Youth Exchange Program entitled “Cultu(Ru)ral Challenge” on Intercultural Dialogue and Solidarity, which will be held from September 2 to 9 this year in Croatia.



The other one is the International Training Course on human rights education, which will take place on June 17-25 in Georgia.

English Clubs

On May 1 beginner and 2 pre-intermediate six-month clubs were finished. During the last meetings of the clubs, the participants shared their impressions and achievements, as well as awarded with the certificates.

We will start new clubs very soon.



Hiking with YIC

On May 26 another hiking was organized by YIC.

The first place which we visited was Rabati Castle. The next stop was beautiful Parvani Lake, it was followed by Vardzi cave, which amazed us with its powerful and spectacular view and the last place of the route was Khertvisi Fortress.

We are waiting for a new adventurous hiking.



“Erasmus + Youth” and "European Solidarity Corps" Information Center in Armenia

“Erasmus+ Youth” and "European Solidarity Corps" Info Centre in Armenia organized an infomeeting in Talin, with over 60 young people participating.

During the meeting, Mariam Gharagozyan, coordinator of the InfoCentre presented the educational and training opportunities provided by the European Union's "Erasmus+ Youth" and "European Solidarity Corps" programmes.

At the end of the meeting participants had an opportunity to get the answers of concerning questions.



This month Info Centre participated in "GTC for Gyumri" Exhibit-Expo organized by Enterprise Incubator Foundation and Gyumri Technology Center.



On May 27-31, the three-day international meeting of European Solidarity Corps Quality Label Youth Experts was held in the Czech Republic with the participation of Artur Najaryan, Quality Label Expert and President of YIC.

The aim of the meeting was to present the programme changes for 2020-2027, the programmes implemented within the framework of the Armenia-EU cooperation, as well as the procedures for the acquisition of the ESC Quality Label by the organizations.

During the meeting, the role and importance of the "Erasmus+ Youth" and "European Solidarity Corps" programmes Info Centres were highlighted by the organizations in obtaining Quality Labels and projects implementation.



“Friday’s Café”

The month was ended with “Friday’s Café”. This time the topic was Poetry with the spirit of Nature and Art.

In a special warm atmosphere the participants of “Friday’s Café” presented not only their own works but also the ones of famous authors. EVS volunteers told about their adventurous stories in Armenia.

Then EVS volunteer Martina Horníčková shared the secrets of Yoga and Meditation with participants.



May at “Youth House”

May was victorious and successful for our youngsters.

On May 5-6 in the frames of UNICEF “UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment programme a “BootCamp. Youth community projects presentation” took place. “Youth House” team presented “Community with our hands” project idea which was recognized one of the best out of 5 won ones.

Thematic weeks are continuing at the centre.

In the frames of “European Youth Week” an info day was organized when YIC project manager Mariam Gharagozyan presented the opportunities of “Erasmus+. Youth” and “European Solidarity Corps” programmes. The youngsters had an opportunity to take part in an intercultural event organized by EVS volunteers. They went to Berlin Art Hotel for study visit and had a meeting with Honorary consul of Germany Alexan Ter-Minasyan.

Then a thematic week of museums was organized in the frames of which youngsters visited some museums of Gyumri with centre staff.

Students from the “Social work” department of Shirak State University had a study visit to “Youth House” during which they got acquainted with the center’s activities and also with the model of open youth work.

In the frames of “Road Safety Week” 60 youngsters took part in 2-days training on road safety rules which was organized by YIC in cooperation with UNICEF Armenia.

The centre actively takes part in different public events. On May 15 the youngsters took part in the public event for “Family Day” and raised awareness about the day with posters made by them.

On May 19 youngsters took part in the event of Europe Day. In th frames of “Get a bike, get a life” social entrepreneurship project the youngsters had a bike trip from Ani district till Black Fortress and then they taught riding bikes to the people on spot.

The youngsters had a chance to take part in the training entitled “The justice with kids’ eyes” after which they took part in the public discussion meeting in Yerevan.

Two-month soccer trainings have started which is done in cooperation with GOALS.

Youngsters took part in “Friday’s Café” on the topic of poetry

