



Co-funded by
the European Union



INFOPACK

BEYOND WORDS

The Art of Critical Thinking

20 - 29 April 2026


(20 & 29 April  Travel Dates)

2025-1-EL02-KA152-YOU-000300192




Introduction

Welcome to “**Beyond Words: The Art of Critical Thinking**”, a dynamic Erasmus+ Youth Exchange project coordinated by **INNOVIERA**.



This project unites **43 young people and youth leaders** from **Greece, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Türkiye, and Estonia** for 8 days of experiential learning in Thessaloniki.

Together, we will explore how theatre, debate, and non-formal education can help us think critically, communicate effectively, and understand one another - **Beyond Words!**



The Project

Beyond Words aims to empower young people with critical thinking, communication, and public speaking skills through non-formal learning and intercultural exchange.

LOOK
BEYOND
OBVIOUS



Objectives



Strengthen critical thinking and media literacy among young people



Build confidence in public speaking and structured argumentation



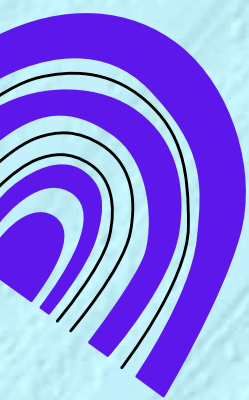
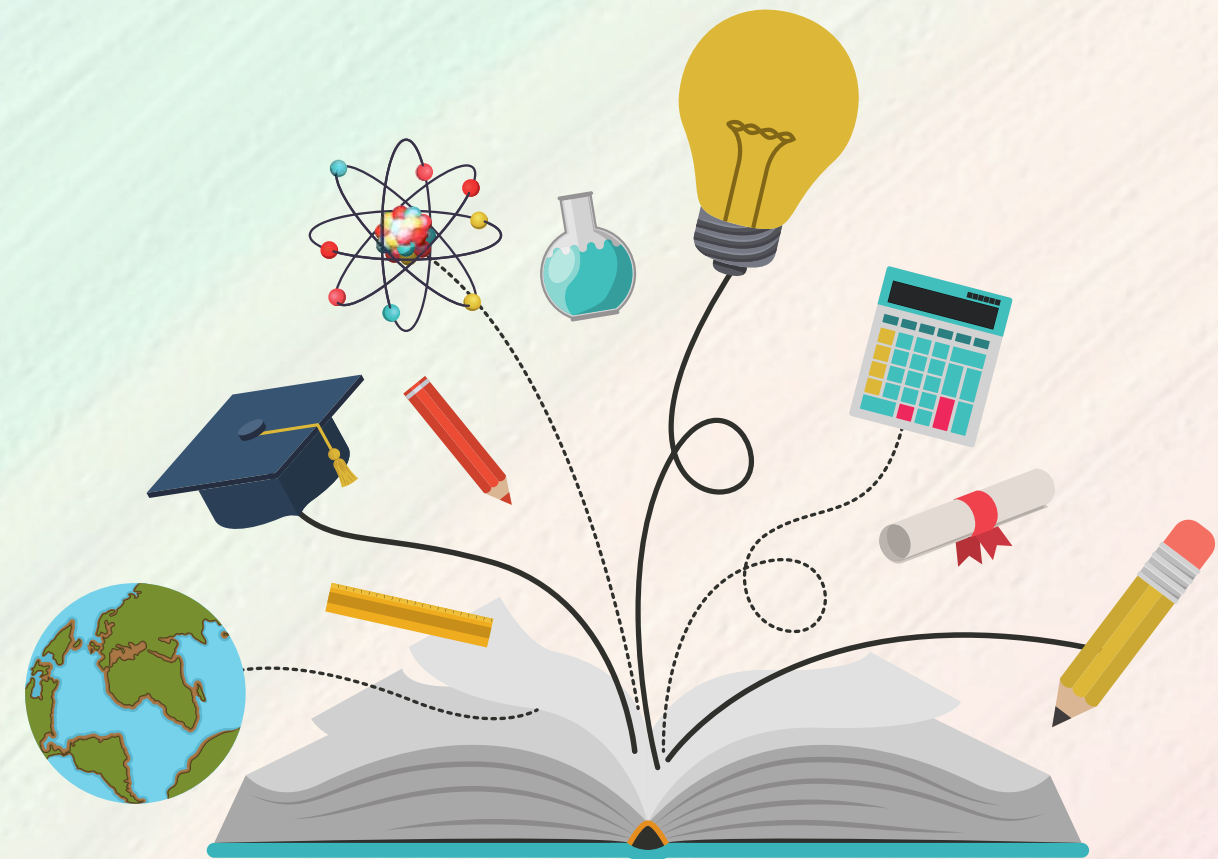
Foster intercultural understanding, empathy, and inclusion



Encourage active citizenship and youth advocacy



Promote theatre-based and creative methods in youth work



Who's Organising This?

**INNOVIERA
Coordinator**



[Click me!](#)

**Associazione
Avanti Unita**



[Click me!](#)

**European
YoungStars**



[Click me!](#)

**Wave
Education**



[Click me!](#)

**Patika
Derneği**



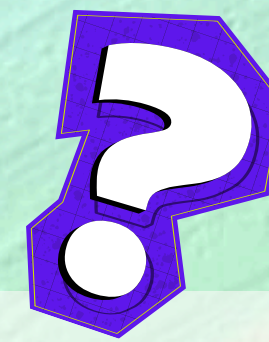
[Click me!](#)

**MTU
ArtInspire**



[Click me!](#)

Where



Thessaloniki is Greece's second-largest city, famous for its vibrant atmosphere, street art, and cultural mix.

🏰 The White Tower: city's symbol by the sea.

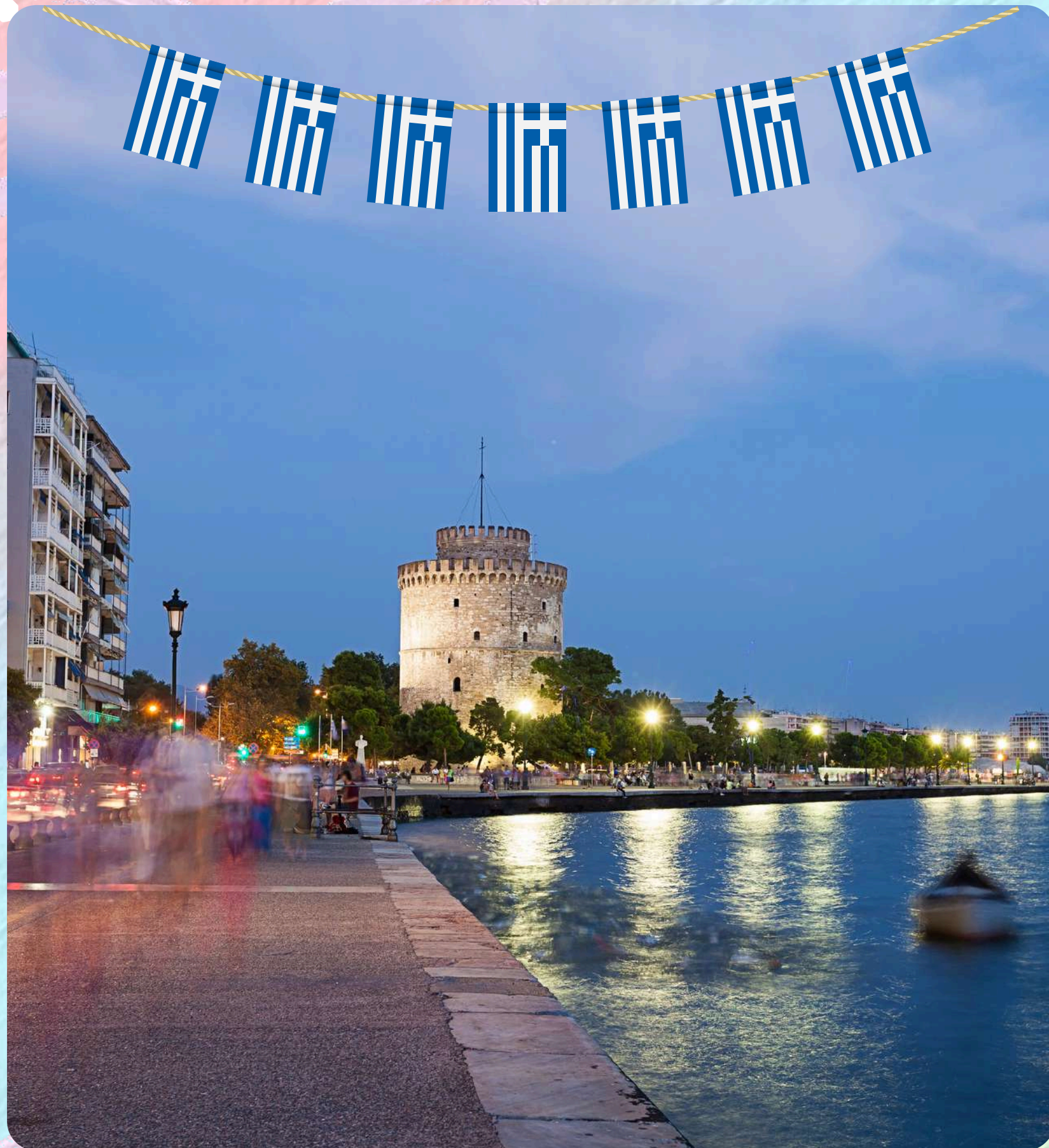
🏛️ Rotunda and Galerius Arch: Roman-era heritage.

🏠 Ano Poli (Old Town): traditional alleys and panoramic views.

☂️ Waterfront Promenade: perfect for evening walks.



<https://thessaloniki.travel/>



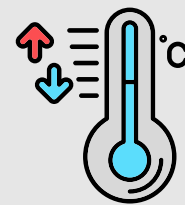
SAVE THE DATE

APRIL

When



DATE : 20th to 29th April 2026



15 °C to 22 °C

What to bring

A light jacket or sweater for evenings and early mornings.

Comfortable walking shoes for outdoor workshops or city strolls.

A rain-resistant layer or umbrella, just in case of showers.

Some lighter clothes (T-shirts or long-sleeve shirts) for warmer afternoons.



Methodology

The methodology of Beyond Words is grounded in **non-formal education** and **experiential learning**, using **theatre, debate, and simulation** to help young people develop **critical thinking, communication, and empathy**.

Methods include:

- Group dynamics & trust-building
- Role-playing & simulation games
- Theatre-based workshops
- Debates and argumentation practice
- Storytelling and creative writing
- Guided reflection & feedback circles
- Public showcase & peer evaluation

Experience

Reflection

Conceptualisation

Application

Participants

6

Youth per national team

AGE+

18 - 30



1

Group Leader per national team

AGE+

No age limit

In total, the project will engage 43 people:
36 young participants (18 with fewer opportunities)

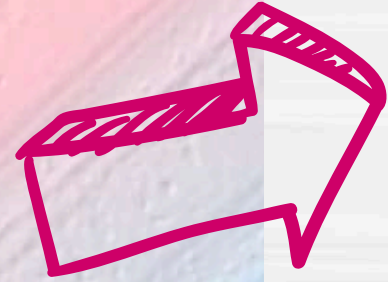
6 group leaders
1 facilitator



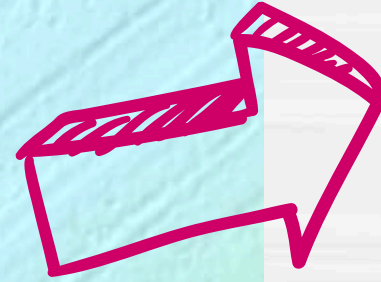
Participants Profile

- ➔ Motivated to develop critical thinking, communication, and public speaking skills.
- ➔ Curious and open-minded, eager to learn through creative, intercultural, and non-formal methods.
- ➔ Interested in media literacy, debate, and self-expression through art and theatre.
- ➔ Ready to challenge stereotypes, explore different perspectives, and engage in teamwork.
- ➔ Active and responsible, willing to contribute to group work, reflection, and dissemination activities.
- ➔ Good communication in English for the needs of the activities.

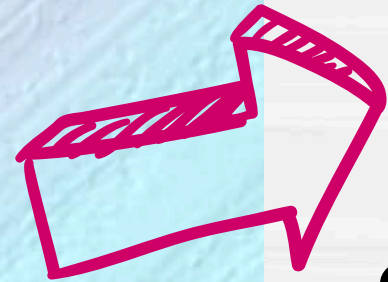
THE METHODS



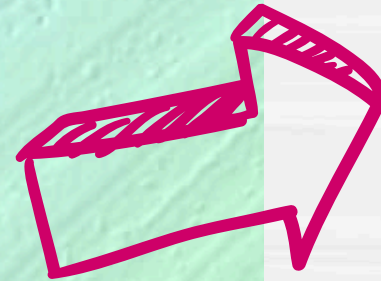
**NON – FORMAL
EDUCATION**



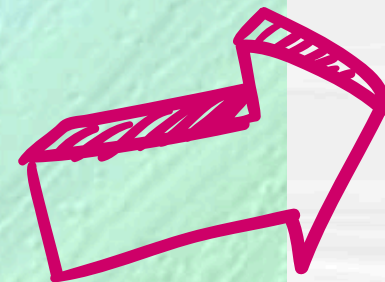
**PEER LEARNING
&
CO-CREATION**



**DEBATE
&
TEATER
SIMULATION GAME**



**OUTDOOR
ACTIVITIES**



**REFLECTION
&
PERSONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

Your Tasks

Before

- ✓ Attend the online preparatory meeting organised by your sending organisation.
- ✓ Collect short examples, stories, or materials related to your theme to share during the exchange.
- ✓ Present your country's culture during the Intercultural Evening and bring traditional snacks, symbols, or games to share with others.
- ✓ Join the communication channels

During

- ✓ Actively engage in all sessions
- ✓ Contribute to thematic workshops
- ✓ Participate in the **TEATER Simulation Game**
- ✓ Co-Create the **Beyond Words Booklet**
- ✓ Take part in daily reflection sessions and **Youthpass** mapping
- ✓ Share the experience on their social media

After

- ✓ Organise or assist in a local workshop or event in your home country to present the TEATER simulation to peers
- ✓ Provide reflections, quotes, or testimonials for the **Beyond Words Booklet**
- ✓ Share posts, photos, or short stories on social media using Erasmus+ and project hashtags
- ✓ Submit any travel documents to the Coordinator
- ✓ Participate in the follow-up meeting of the project to reflect



PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Travel Information



Thessaloniki, Greece



**Thessaloniki International Airport
“Makedonia” (SKG)**



Arrival Date: 20 April 2026



Departure Date: 29 April 2026

Please coordinate your arrival and departure times with your group leader. Arrivals/departures outside official dates must be pre-approved by INNOVIERA.

ATTENTION
PLEASE!

You want to stay longer in Thessaloniki?

We understand that some of you might want to explore Thessaloniki a bit more before or after the program. That's absolutely fine as Erasmus+ allows **up to 2 additional days (before or after the project)** for travel flexibility.

Important Notes:

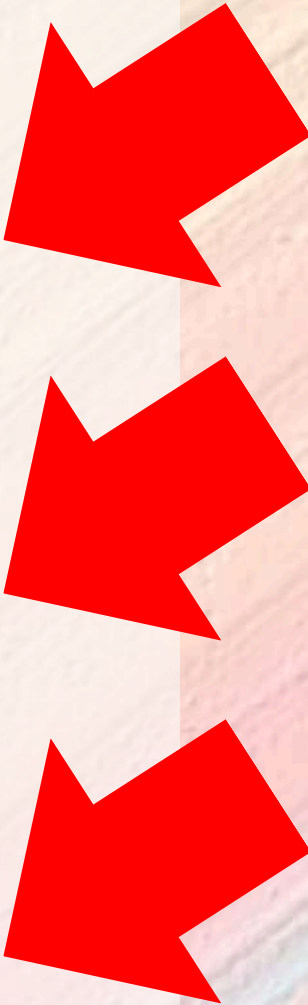
✈️ You can arrive in Greece up to **2 days before** or leave up to **2 days after** the official dates.

🏠 These extra days will not be covered by the project budget.

📄 Travel reimbursement will still apply as long as the total trip remains within Erasmus+ rules and you provide valid travel documentation.

🍴 Accommodation, food, and other expenses during extra days **are your own responsibility and will not be covered by the project budget.**

If you're planning to extend your stay, please inform the project team in advance so we can support your planning and ensure your travel documents are still eligible for reimbursement.



IMPORTANT: Travel Approval Process



Before booking any tickets, please contact **INNOVIERA** first so we can help you plan your trip smoothly and within the budget.

What to Do: Send us an email at projects@innoviera.eu with the following information:

- Your preferred travel option
- The means of transport you plan to use
- Your exact travel dates and timetables

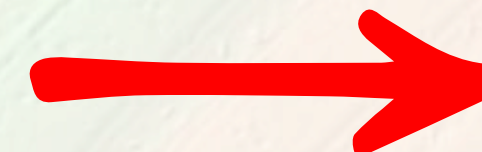
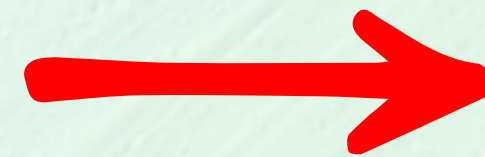
What Happens Next?

Once we receive your travel plan, we will:

Approve your travel plan, and you can then safely book your tickets.

OR

Suggest changes (timing, route, or type of transport), and we'll work with you to find the best option together.



If you buy tickets without sending your plan or without waiting for our confirmation, and your trip is over budget or not eligible, **Your travel costs may not be reimbursed.**

Help us help you!
Always ask first, book later!

How to reach the city center



You can reach the city center from the airport by bus.

Use of **TAXIs** will not be reimbursed



The bus stop is outside the Arrivals Terminal



Bus Line 01X (day) / 01N (night): direct airport - city center connection



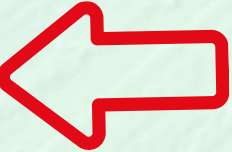
~40 min



Buy (and keep) a ticket from the ticket booth next to the bus stop

Travel Reimbursement

Country	Non-Green Travel	Green Travel
Greece	28€	56€
Italy	309€	417€
Germany	309€	417€
Netherlands	309€	417€
Turkey	309€	417€
Estonia	395€	535€

 **Maximum reimbursement amounts based on Erasmus+ Rules**

If you are unsure about your route or want help booking your journey, reach out early! We are here to support you every step of the way!

Reimbursement Rules



1. Keep original travel documents: boarding passes, e-tickets, bus/train tickets, receipts (both ways!).
2. Submit all original travel documents and boarding passes to INNOVIERA.
3. Use green travel (train, bus, carpooling) if possible = higher reimbursement!
4. Reimbursements are processed after the mobility once all documents are submitted.
5. Attend 100% of the program sessions.
6. Complete ALL TASKS (pre - post & during mobility).



ACCOMMODATION MEALS

Accommodation



Participants will stay at The Stay Hybrid Youth Hostel | Thessaloniki



The facility will offer a mix of room types, depending on availability during the Youth Exchange. That means you might be placed in:



A shared double, triple, or quadruple room/dorm

The Stay Hybrid
Youth Hostel

Rooms/dorms will be assigned randomly, so please expect to share your room with other participants.

We'll do our best to accommodate everyone's comfort levels.

Meals & Food

Each day, you will be served 3 meals:

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner



Snacks, coffee, tea, and water will also be available during breaks.



Vegetarian? Vegan? Allergies? Just share any dietary restrictions, allergies, or preferences with us and we will make sure to provide suitable options for your needs.



SAFETY INFORMATION

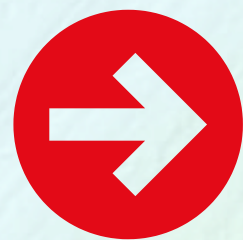
Health
is wealth

European Health Insurance Card

All EU participants must bring a **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)** for free access to basic medical services in Greece.



Non-EU participants must carry private medical coverage.



Click [here](#) to learn how to issue one before your arrival





Travel Insurance

All participants must have valid travel insurance covering:

- ➔ Health and accident costs
- ➔ Theft/loss of luggage
- ➔ Travel delays



Personal Security in Thessaloniki

Thessaloniki is a **safe**, **welcoming** and **vibrant** city.



Keep personal items secure, especially in crowded areas.



Avoid isolated areas late at night.



Keep copies of travel documents separately.



Contact your leader or the coordinator immediately in case of emergency.

Important Phone Numbers



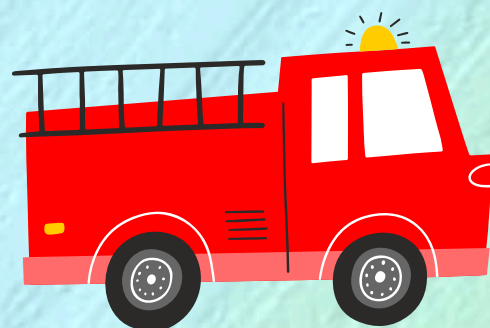
EUROPEAN EMERGENCY NUMBER: 112



POLICE: 100



AMBULANCE: 166



FIRE DEPARTMENT: 199



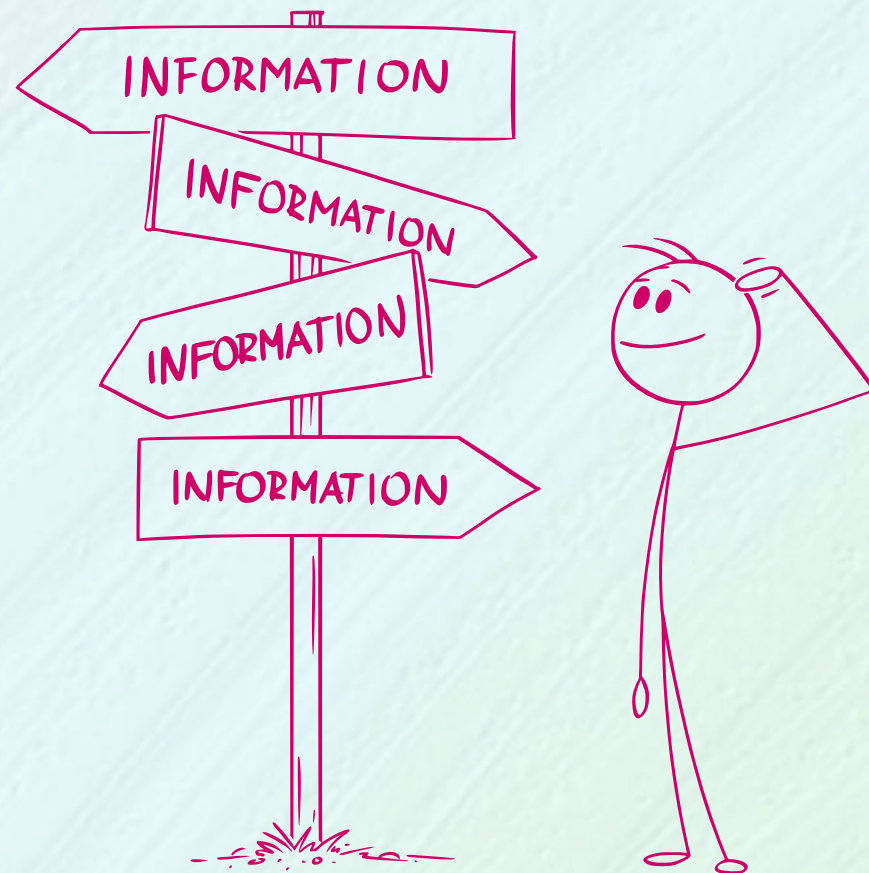
STAY CONNECTED

WhatsApp "To Know Us Better"

Once the selection process is complete, all confirmed participants will be added to our private WhatsApp Group for the project. This Group will be your main hub for updates, guidance, and interaction before the exchange.

We will share on WhatsApp:

- What to pack & prepare
- Step-by-step travel instructions
- National team tasks and cultural night coordination
- Important reminders & deadlines
- Pre-exchange questions & reflection prompts
- A space to introduce yourself and meet everyone before arriving!
- Updates and group photos during/after the exchange





LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU



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