



SAFE PATH INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE

Small-scale partnerships in youth
2025-TR01-KA210-YOU-000359375

Infopack for participants
3.10.– 11.10.2026 Slovakia

TUGVA
PROJE



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Welcome!

Join an unforgettable international adventure in the heart of the Slovak mountains! During one week, participants from four countries will explore breathtaking hiking trails, strengthen their outdoor leadership skills, learn essential mountain safety techniques, and create lasting friendships through the Erasmus+ programme.

Dates

 3–11 October 2026

Place



Low Tatras National Park, Slovakia

Training Format



7 Training Days /  2 Travel Days (3 and 11 October)

Partner Countries



Slovakia.



Austria.



Türkiye



North Macedonia

Participants profile

- Leader candidates with a genuine interest in safe hiking in natural environments and practical risk management in outdoor settings
- Professionals actively involved in promoting outdoor and nature-based sports within youth programmes, non-formal education, or youth work contexts
- Individuals with a background in sports sciences, mountaineering, or outdoor/adventure education who are positioned to disseminate the project's outcomes within their organizations and communities
- 18+ without further age limitations



About Project

SAFEPATH is an Erasmus+ program dedicated to promoting safe, responsible and inclusive hiking among young people across Europe. The project responds to the growing popularity of outdoor activities by helping participants develop the knowledge, confidence and practical skills needed to enjoy nature safely while protecting the environment. Through international cooperation, participants will exchange experiences, learn from one another, and become ambassadors for safe hiking within their local communities.

What Will We Learn?

Throughout the training, participants will combine workshops with practical outdoor activities and hikes focused on mountain safety, teamwork and leadership.

Together we will:

-  Improve hiking and outdoor skills
-  Learn navigation and route planning
-  Practise mountain first aid and emergency response
-  Identify risks and make safe decisions outdoors
-  Develop leadership and group management skills
-  Explore sustainable hiking and Leave No Trace principles
-  Exchange experiences with participants from four countries
-  Build new friendships and international cooperation



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Our Facilitators



Ömer Faruk Sever *Project Coordinator*

Ömer is a youth worker and project manager with over nine years of experience in the non-governmental sector. He has been actively involved in the design, implementation, and management of EU-funded projects, with a particular focus on youth development, non-formal education, and sports. Holding a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, he has contributed to more than 200 national and international projects in various roles, including project coordinator, trainer, facilitator, mentor, and organizer. He is passionate about developing international partnerships, designing impactful projects, and creating meaningful learning experiences that empower young people and strengthen communities.



Halil İbrahim Bektaş *Project Coordinator*

Halil holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations. He began his career at TÜGVA in 2022, and since 2024 he has been working in the foundation's project unit. In this role he takes an active part in European Union projects — particularly Erasmus+ — and contributes to the development of the foundation's international cooperation.



Mehmet Kazım Keskin *Project Coordinator*

Kazım serves as the Project Development and Implementation Officer at the Türkiye Youth Foundation, with strong expertise in project implementation, budgeting, and reporting. His field experience in youth work, volunteering, and social impact projects enables him to translate project plans into effective on-the-ground implementation and measurable results.



Accommodation

Mountain Hotel Gápel

Trangoška 830

Low Tatras National Park, Slovakia

www.penziongapel.sk



Mountain Hotel Gápel is located at 1,111 metres above sea level, directly beneath the two highest peaks of the Low Tatras—**Ďumbier (2,043 m)** and **Chopok (2,024 m)**. Thanks to its exceptional location, participants can step directly onto hiking trails from the hotel and experience authentic mountain conditions throughout the training.

The nearby cable car station Srdiečko–Kosodrevina is only 800 metres away, allowing easy access to higher elevations when required for specific learning activities.

Mountain Hotel Gápel offers accommodation in **3 and 4-bed en-suite rooms**. Hotel has a restaurant, reception, day bar, lounge with conference room. Wifi coverage in the rooms and in the restaurant. Towels are provided. **Accommodation, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner is covered by Erasmus+.**



Accommodation

Located in the spectacular Low Tatras, Mountain Hotel Gápel provides the perfect setting for an immersive outdoor learning experience.

Surrounded by forests, mountain valleys and alpine peaks, it offers direct access to hiking trails and real mountain environments where participants can practise their newly acquired skills safely under experienced guidance.



Traveling to Slovakia

Before buying your flight, train or bus ticket please send us your travel plan with price in advance for approval to info@otislovakia.sk or your sending organization.

You can fly to Vienna, Austria and then to take a bus to Bratislava Bus Station. The bus takes one hour, costs about 10–20 euros and there are buses each 30 minutes directly from Vienna airport. When you exit the airport building (through Burger King), there are few bus station platforms right in front of the exit and from one of them leave the buses to Bratislava. There is no chance you would not find it and miss it. There are various bus companies operating on this line, but take either **„Slovak Lines“, „Student Agency“ or “Flixbus”** since they are going to **main bus station** called **„Autobusova Stanica Mlynske Nivy“, shortly Bratislava AS.** There is not direct train between Vienna airport and Bratislava.

Reach Bratislava on 3. 10. by 17.30h and private shuttle will collect all participants and bring you to the Hotel in mountains. Welcome dinner is planned at 21.00h.

Purchase your bus tickets from Vienna Airport to Bratislava Bus Station:

- cp.sk
- slovaklines.sk
- flixbus.sk

Shuttle bus to Low Tatras

Shuttle bus to mountain hotel on Saturday 3. 10. will stop:

- Bratislava: 18.00h (bus station)
- Nitra: 19.00h (bus station)
- Banska Bystrica: 20.00h (bus station)

Travel from mountain hotel on Sunday 11. 10. to Bratislava (via B. Bystrica and Nitra):

- Departure from Venue place – Hotel Gapel – at 6.00h
- Arriving to Banska Bystrica (7.00h), Nitra (8.00h) and Bratislava (9.00h)



Reimbursement

Traveling with climate-friendly alternatives

The goals of the European Green Deal such as sustainable and inclusive growth, climate neutrality by 2050, the implementation of the Agenda 2030 of the United Nations with its Sustainable Development Goals have an impact on the Erasmus+ Programme. Give priority to **train or offset your flight** while booking plane ticket.

Important

Please keep all your original invoices, receipts, tickets, boarding-passes or any other transport documents. Be careful, since without these documents, we could not reimburse your travel costs!

After training, you will follow the instructions from your sending organization.

The reimbursement will be done as soon as we will get your original tickets and money will be sent to bank account of your sending organization or group leader who will forward money to each participant.

Do not miss your flight please, because we will not be able to reimburse it.

According the rules of Erasmus+ programme, we are not allowed to reimburse you costs for taxi or Uber.





What to bring?

- Hiking backpack (at least 25–30 litres size)
- Weather-appropriate clothing (think moisture-wicking and layers)
- Moisture-wicking underwear
- Moisture-wicking T-shirt
- Quick-drying pants
- Long-sleeve shirt
- Lightweight fleece or jacket
- Hiking boots or shoes suited for the terrain
- Long socks (synthetic or woolen)
- Extra clothes (beyond the minimum expectation)
- Slippers for the hotel and stay in common area
- Reusable water bottle
- Navigation tools such as compass
- Head lamp
- Gloves
- Warm hat and sun hat
- Rainwear (jacket and pants)
- Buff or bandana
- Insect repellent
- Toiletries / Personal medication

Optional:

- Whistle
- Battery bank for smartphone
- Band-aids
- Binoculars

Agenda



**Please, find whole week program on
this LINK**





Tasks & Follow-up activities

The SAFEPATh experience doesn't end after the training! As part of the project, participants are encouraged to contribute to project visibility and help promote safe and responsible hiking within their local communities.

Team Video Challenge

Throughout the training, participants will work in 4 international teams. Each team will collect photos and videos and prepare one short highlight reel based on their assigned theme.

Team 1 – Hiking, Navigation & Route Planning

Team 2 – Leadership & Outdoor Education

Team 3 – Safe & Sustainable Hiking

Team 4 – Participant Testimonials

Share Your Experience

We encourage every participant to publish at least one social media post after the training, sharing their experience and helping promote the SAFEPATh project and the Erasmus+ Programme.

Local Hiking Activities

After returning home, participants will have the opportunity to support local SAFEPATh hiking events organised by their sending organisation.

As SAFEPATh Hiking Ambassadors, participants may:

- **Support hiking leaders during local events.**
- **Share the knowledge and skills gained during the training.**
- **Encourage safe, responsible and sustainable hiking.**
- **Inspire more young people, primarily 18–25 to enjoy outdoor activities.**
- **Promote the values of the SAFEPATh project within their communities.**

Further information about local activities will be provided by your sending organisation.



Who we are?

TÜGVA (Turkey Youth Foundation) is a youth-focused non-governmental organization established in Istanbul in 2013. The foundation works to support the multifaceted development of young people in Turkey and to help them become active, responsible members of society. TÜGVA has representative and organizational capacity in all 81 provinces of Turkey and more than 430,000 volunteer members, with active youth communities in universities and high schools. Its programmes cover education and personal development, culture and arts, sports and health, technology and innovation, and social responsibility, offering non-formal and experiential learning opportunities that complement formal education. Through leadership programmes, academies and workshops, entrepreneurship support, sports and outdoor activities, cultural events and volunteering projects, the foundation strengthens young people's employability, creativity and civic engagement. TÜGVA is also active internationally through Erasmus+ projects, youth exchanges and international youth forums, promoting intercultural dialogue and global citizenship. It is one of the largest youth organizations in Turkey in the field of non-formal education, culture and arts, sports, technology and social responsibility.



Erasmus+

Erasmus+ is the European Union's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. With an estimated budget of €26.2 billion for the 2021–2027 period — nearly double that of its predecessor programme — it is one of the EU's largest investments in young people.

The programme places a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life. It supports the priorities set out in the European Education Area, the Digital Education Action Plan and the European Skills Agenda, while also supporting the European Pillar of Social Rights, implementing the EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027, and developing the European dimension in sport.



Erasmus+ is not only for students. It is open to all young people, regardless of whether they are currently enrolled in education or training. Through the Youth field of the programme, young people can take part in youth exchanges, youth participation activities and DiscoverEU, while youth workers can access training and networking opportunities across Europe.

Youthpass

At the end of the youth exchange, all participants are entitled to receive a Youthpass certificate. Youthpass is the European recognition tool for non-formal and informal learning in youth work. It allows participants to describe what they have done during the project and to demonstrate the competences they have developed — a document that can support their future education and career paths.

- supports the European Pillar of Social Rights
- implements the EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027
- develops the European dimension in sport



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Do not forget to:

- 1. To arrange the health insurance for your stay abroad (Insurance for Hiking)
- 2. Fill in application form (link will be provided later)
- 3. When you receive our confirmation that you are selected join our WhatsApp group to start to know each other:

CONTACTS

Website <https://tugva.org/>

Email proje@tugva.org

