



Peace Awareness through
Volunteering & Education



Co-funded by
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International Peace Academy 2023

Call for participants

Are you passionate about creating a world where conflicts are managed effectively, and peace is cherished? Do you believe in the power of collaboration, volunteering, and dialogue to bring about positive change?

If so, we invite you to be a part of the **International Peace Academy** that will be organized in the framework of the Erasmus+ project *"PAVE - Peace Awareness through Volunteering and Education"* in Zagreb (Croatia) from the 22nd to the 28th of October, focused on conflict management and peace awareness.

This exciting opportunity is directed to **60 young Europeans between the ages of 18 and 30** from Bosnia, Croatia, Poland, France, Ireland, and Spain to join us in a transformative journey towards building a more peaceful and harmonious society.

This 7 day-school will provide participants with a comprehensive introduction to the history, reasons, as well as social, economic, and cultural implications of the three present or past conflictual situations: Russian war against Ukraine, Northern Ireland Conflict, and war on Balkans.

About the Project

Our project aims to empower young people with the skills, knowledge, and tools needed to address conflicts constructively and promote a culture of peace in their communities. Through interactive workshops, engaging discussions, and hands-on activities, participants will explore topics such as conflict resolution, history of conflict in the pan-European area, cultural understanding, and the importance of peacebuilding.

The war in Ukraine has served as a strong reminder to all European States of the essential need for a widespread and deeply ingrained culture of peace. In a world plagued by conflicts and divisions, the importance of peace and conflict resolution has never been more crucial. The PAVE initiative emphasizes the significance of conflict prevention through volunteering and youth empowerment, aiming to emphasize that peace cannot be taken for granted.

Under the umbrella of the PAVE project in 2024, you can also look forward to specialized online training sessions and volunteering programs in Ireland, Bosnia, Croatia, and Poland. After the International Peace Academy, you are welcome to decide if you would like to participate also in other planned PAVE activities next year.



About the International Peace Academy

Date: 22/10/2023 – 28/10/2023

Place: Zagreb (Croatia)

The Peace Academy is **free of charge**, travel and accommodation costs will be covered for all participants.

Program:

- Day 1: Arrivals, accommodation, networking evening
- Day 2 - 6: Workshops, discussions, field visits
- Day 7: Departures

General topics of workshops:

- Exploring the Northern Ireland Conflict and Peace Building Initiatives for young people.
- Russian-Ukrainian conflict and the consequences for Ukrainian and Polish youth.
- War in the Balkans and the youth perception about its consequences.
- Key concepts and theories related to peacebuilding, intercultural dialogue and peaceful dialogues, coping strategies, how stereotypes are constructed and how to deconstruct them, etc.
- Translating SDG16 on the local level in Europe: challenges and perspectives, tools and strategies to understand and transform conflict situations.
- Aggression replacement training, conflict reconciliation, community organizing for future youth leaders, volunteering in crisis situations.

Why you should consider participating?

- Enhance your knowledge on critical issues on international and European security, international cooperation, and peace studies.
- Gain practical skills in conflict management, communication, and negotiation.
- Network with like-minded individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the dynamics of present and past conflicts and their resolution.
- Contribute to fostering a culture of peace and understanding in your community.
- Expand your horizons through exposure to different perspectives and experiences.



Tuition Fees & Financial Support

The International Peace Academy is free of charge for the participants, transportation, and accommodation costs, also breakfast, lunch and dinner will be covered for all participants from the budget of the project. Other costs related to insurance; visa fees must be covered by the participants.

Transport and accommodation

Transport will be arranged for you by the team of the PAVE project after consultation with you. The contact person will get in touch with you right after the announcement of selected participants.

For the accommodation of participants, we have pre-booked the twin rooms at the hotel Laguna in Zagreb from 22/10/2023 to 28/10/2023. The activities of the International Peace Academy will take place at the hotel or in its close surroundings.

Key Details

01/10/2023: Deadline for submitting the online application.

03/10/2023: Announcement of selected participants and making arrangements for travels.

22/10/2023-28/10/2023: International Peace Academy in Zagreb (Croatia)

Eligibility: Open to individuals aged 18 to 30 from Bosnia, Croatia, Poland, France, Ireland, and Spain.

Language: The project will be conducted in English, so a good command of the language is essential.

How to Apply

If you are enthusiastic about becoming an advocate for peace and conflict resolution, we encourage you to apply by answering the questionnaire:

The registration is mandatory and can be accessed [here](#).

After the selection process concludes, all candidates will receive communication. Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a reserve list, which will be contacted in case any selected participants decline the opportunity to join the project.



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International Peace Academy is organized by the following consortium of partners from different countries:

- ALDA – European Association for Local Democracy (France): Pavla Bednáriková; pavla@aldaintranet.org
- Extremadura Agency for International Development Cooperation (Spain): Patricia Muriel; patricia.muriel@gpex.es
- Merkury Foundation (Poland): Marta Sys; marta.sys@merkury.org.pl
- Center for Peacebuilding (Bosnia and Herzegovina): Vahidin Omanovic; unvocim@yahoo.com
- Regional Foundation for Local Development Zamah (Croatia): Drago Vrucinić; pero@zamah.hr
- Inishowen Development Partnership (Ireland): Tracey McRory; tracey@inishowen.ie

For any inquiries or further information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to receiving your applications and embarking on this transformative journey together.