



AJ INTER JOURNAL

January 2025

VOL.55

WORLD MIGRANT
AND REFUGEE DAY

ESC VOLUNTEERING
EXPERIENCE OF KAWTAR

FRENCH CLUBS

ASOCIACIÓN JUVENIL
INTER RECAP

EUROPEAN CUISINE:
SALAD FROM GERMANY

SURVEY ON YOUTH &
DEMOCRACY

YOUTH EXCHANGE
IN GREECE





Asociación Juvenil Inter

2024 recap and reflection

Dear friends

A year ends once more...

We count in AJ Inter with the collaboration of a lot of young people and organizations, making 2024 full of actions and activities.

The ESC volunteers contributed to promoting solidarity with local NGOs and promoting Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps among young people and students.

We had a variety of Erasmus+ projects, tackling the main aims of the EU youth strategy.

Democracy and citizens' participation in the Erasmus+ youth dialogue "Voices for Europe". (where we promoted the dialogue with political parties, Reformierakond (Estonia), PP, PSOE, Sumar, and Ganemos)

Democracy, youth participation on the E+ Youth exchange "Discovering Europe together", (we also discovered the EU institutions (Council-Commission-Parliament) and programs for young people).

Diversity, inclusion, equality on E+ Youth exchange "Intercultural Europe".

Sustainable development, intercultural learning on the E+ Youth exchange "Sustainability through environmental awareness".

Citizen participation in the E+ Training course "Step by Step into Youth Exchanges", where we promote the development of youth work and the competencies to create E+ youth exchanges.

We also worked on many products to disseminate the results of the CERV project "Citizens Voices, united for Europe", showing testimonies of communist and fascist dictatorships, videos and guides to show the danger of radicalism and totalitarianism. We also created the basis for the radicalism observatory (where we can take note of who Europe is moving on).



Asociación Juvenil Inter

2024 recap and reflection

We have good cooperation in EU programs with organizations and participants from Spain, Turkey, Portugal, France, Italy, Germany, North Macedonia, Greece, Estonia, Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, Romania, Croatia, Belgium, Ukraine and Moldavia.

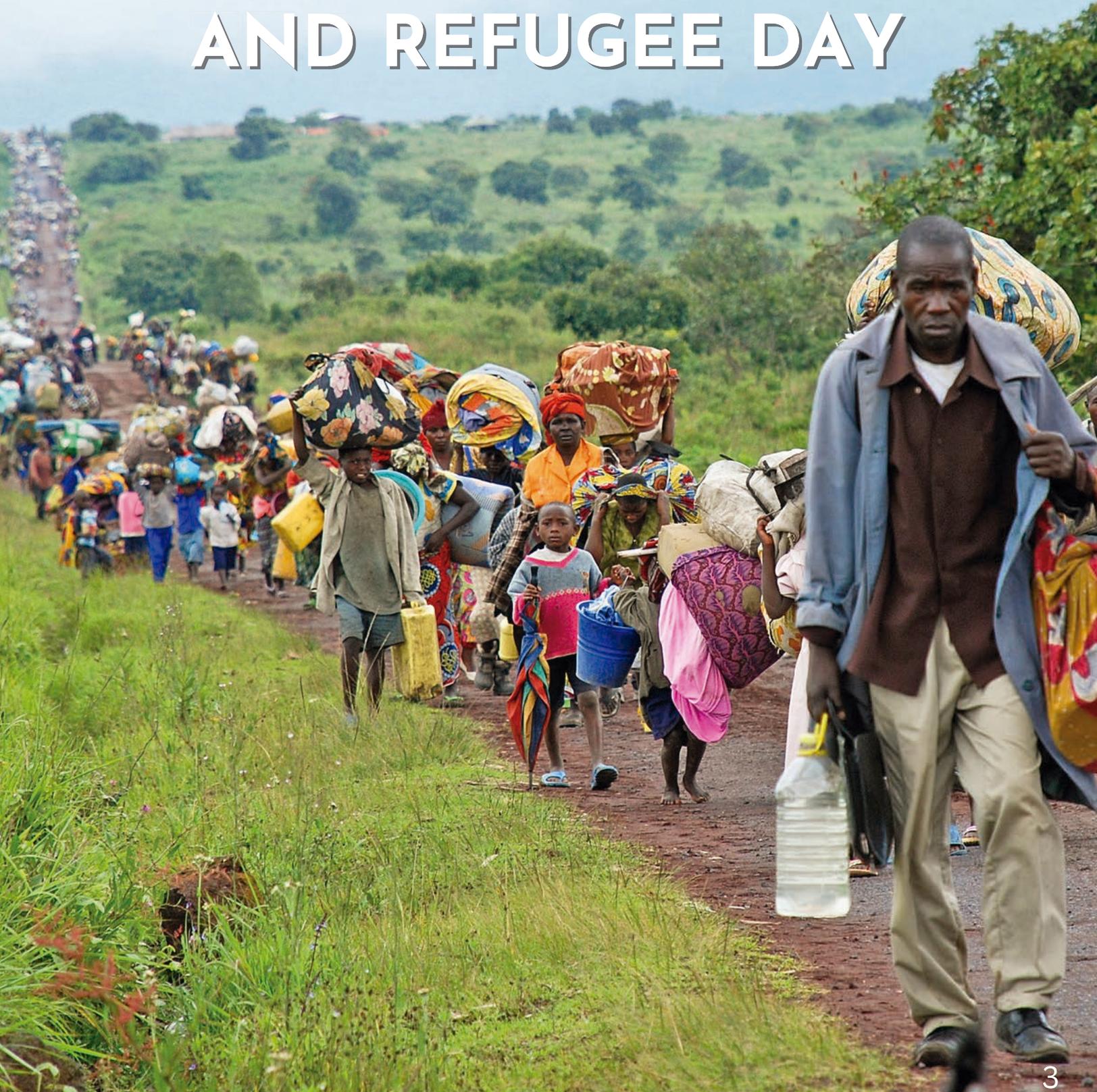
We also promote youth work at the national level in Spain as members of EuroDesk, or REFAL (Anna Lindt Foundation), cooperating with Europe Direct or contributing to regional and local institutions and networks.

We already plan more projects and actions during 2025 developing EU mobility programs and values such as solidarity, citizen participation, equality, democracy, and inclusion. Sustainable development.

Follow us on social media (AJ INTER) or come to visit us at Centro Social Blas Infante (Jerez de la Fra., Spain) we will help you to find your EU project or learn more about the EU.



19.01. WORLD MIGRANT AND REFUGEE DAY



WORLD MIGRANT AND REFUGEE DAY

DAY OF ACTION AND REMEMBRANCE

World Migrant and Refugee Day is an important occasion dedicated to raising awareness about the challenges faced by migrants and refugees around the world. It highlights their struggles, celebrates their contributions, and calls for global solidarity and action to support those forced to leave their homes due to conflict, persecution, poverty, or environmental crises.



This day serves as a reminder of the shared responsibility to welcome, protect, promote, and integrate migrants and refugees into our societies. It also encourages dialogue to address the root causes of forced migration and to work towards creating a world where everyone can live with dignity and security.

Observed annually, this day is a call to compassion and action, urging individuals, communities, and governments to stand together in support of those who have been displaced and to embrace the rich diversity they bring to the world.

19. JANUARY

BABY BORN ON REFUGEE BOAT

The Spanish coastguard has rescued a baby born on a migrant boat in the Atlantic. The coast guard announced that the newborn and his mother were rescued safely from the rubber dinghy on January 6.

The boat with almost 60 migrants on board was reportedly on its way to the Canary Islands. Last year, 46,843 undocumented migrants arrived on the Canary Islands - more than ever before.



Stricter controls in the Mediterranean are prompting more and more migrants to attempt the dangerous journey from West Africa across the Atlantic Ocean to the Canary Islands. Time and again, people die in unseaworthy boats.

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE POLICIES IN EUROPE

The European Union has developed various policies to address migration and refugee challenges, primarily through the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). This framework aims to ensure the protection of refugees and a fair distribution of responsibility among member states. However, in recent years, stricter border controls, the rise of anti-immigration sentiments, and the increasing danger of irregular migration routes have made Europe's response more complex and, at times, controversial.

As migration remains a pressing global issue, World Migrant and Refugee Day serves as a reminder of the urgent need for humane policies, shared responsibility, and long-term solutions that uphold human dignity. Europe, with its historical role as both a destination and origin of migration, stands at a crossroads—between reinforcing barriers or fostering inclusivity.

SURVEY ON YOUTH & DEMOCRACY



SURVEY ON YOUTH & DEMOCRACY

THE TOPIC OF THE SURVEY

In 2024, in the context of the European Elections, a survey of Flash Eurobarometer on the relationship between young people and democracy was conducted among 26.000 young people aged 15-30 in the European Union.

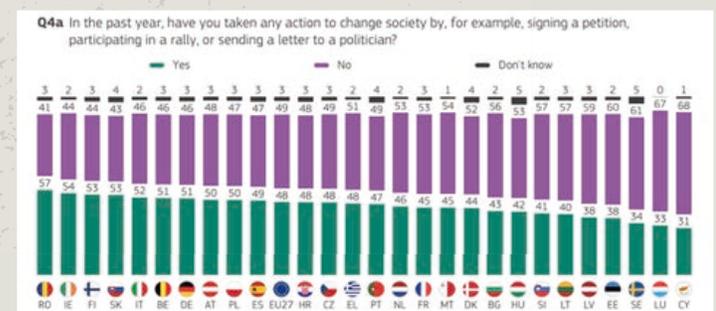
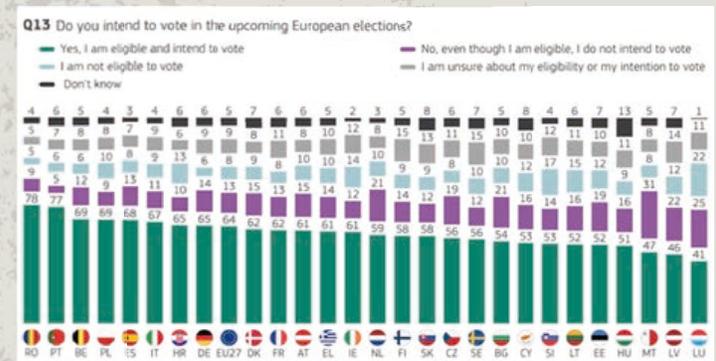
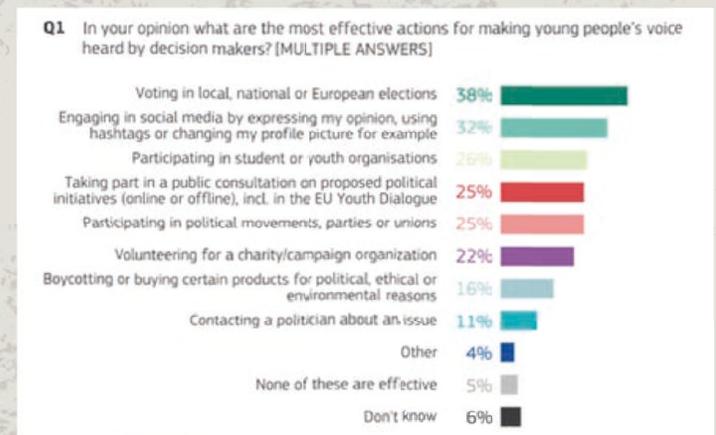
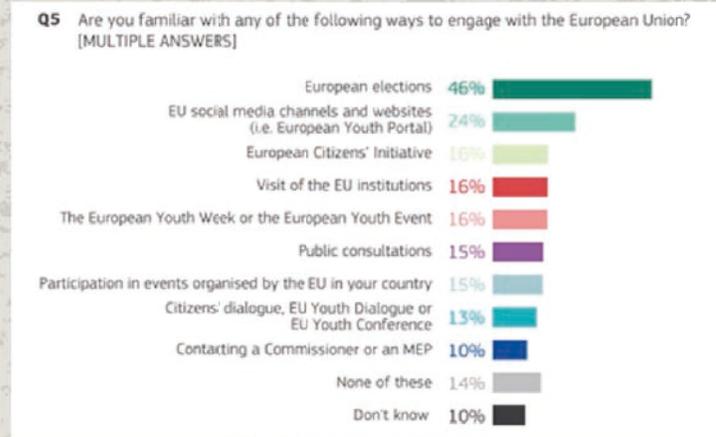
4 main questions have been investigated: the awareness about ways to engage with the EU; the most effective actions to make young people heard by decision-makers; the intention to vote in the next European elections; the level of participation in societal change actions.

THE KEY RESULTS

The data collected from the survey provided some interesting findings. First, around half of the respondents say they know about the European elections (Q5). At the same time, a quarter of them are familiar with EU social media channels and websites as a further way to engage with the European Union.

Following this trend, young people consider voting (both at the local, national or European level) and be engaged in social media as the most effective actions to make their voices heard by decision-makers; nevertheless, they also value active political participation through youth organizations or political movements (Q1).

When asked about their intention to vote, more than six in ten (64%) young EU citizens intend to vote, while 13% are unwilling to despite being eligible (Q13). Moreover, 48% of the respondents have participated in social activities in the last year, particularly in areas such as Human Rights and Environmental Protection (Q4a).



SOURCES: FLASH EUROBAROMETRES 545 "YOUTH & DEMOCRACY"

SURVEY ON YOUTH & DEMOCRACY

SOME OBSERVATIONS

EUROPE MUST GET CLOSER TO YOUNG PEOPLE

The Survey has shown that overall young people acknowledge the activities of the European Union, but they feel a general distrust/disinterest towards the European political institutions. Indeed, half of the participants were not aware of the European elections and 24% of them did not know any of the means through which to engage with the European institutions. These data indicate that more works need to be done to better inform young people about the major instrument of European direct democracy represented precisely by the elections.

YOUNG PEOPLE WANT TO BE HEARD

Young people believe that different kinds of actions can be successful in making their voices heard. The primacy belongs to the general elections but, at the same time, many respondents have chosen answers such as: expressing their opinion on social media, participating in youth or political organizations, or taking part in public consultation on political initiatives. This demonstrates that young people have a dynamic view of political participation, which does not end with voting alone but requires more active and personal form of action.

YOUNG PEOPLE CARE ABOUT POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

A large majority of young people (64%) have expressed their intention to vote in the European elections, a positive sign that shows the importance of political participation for them. As evidence of this one out of two respondents have taken some actions to change society, such as signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician in the past year.



CONCLUSIONS

The Survey on Youth & Democracy offers an encouraging picture regarding the political/social engagement of young people and their willingness to be involved. Nevertheless, it also revealed that young people need to be more informed about ways to engage the European Union. This requires more active and youth-oriented communication from European institutions to put young people in the conditions necessary to be active citizens.



ESC VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE IN ANTALYA



ESC VOLUNTEERING IN TÜRKİYE/ANTALYA

Volunteering abroad is a valuable experience that allows individuals to step out of their comfort zones, discover new cultures, and develop soft skills.

For Kawtar, joining an ESC (European Solidarity Corps) volunteering project in Antalya, Türkiye, was an opportunity to gain experience, build friendships, and learn more about the impact of volunteering.

One of the highlights of her volunteering journey was the friendships she formed. Meeting people from different backgrounds and working together created lasting bonds. These connections demonstrated how solidarity and cooperation can bring people together beyond borders.



REFLECTIONS ON THE VOLUNTEERING JOURNEY

Kawtar is 24 years old young person from Murcia, Spain, she completed her volunteering in December 2024. Her volunteering experience started in the beginning of the June 2024 and she collaborate together with Efem Akdeniz Gençlik ve Spor Kulübü during 6,5 months.

One of her key roles during her was volunteering in a kindergarten, where she helped care for children, assisted in educational activities, help children to practice English and contributed to their daily routines.



As her volunteering period came to an end, Kawtar realized how much she had grown. She gained practical experience, developed a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity, and understood the value of community involvement. Her time in Antalya showed her that volunteering is not only about helping others but also about learning and personal growth.

For those considering ESC volunteering, Kawtar's experience highlights the opportunities it offers. Volunteering abroad provides a chance to contribute, learn, and create meaningful connections.

Kawtar shared her reflections on her experience:

"Since childhood, I had the goal of doing a volunteer service abroad that would allow me to step completely out of my comfort zone. Six months ago, I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to fulfill this dream. After this incredible experience, I can confirm that it has been one of the best decisions I have ever made. Not only have I gained experience in my professional field, but I have also embraced different cultures, made lifelong friendships that transcend borders, learned a new language, and finally discovered the importance of volunteer work. I now understand that together, we can make significant changes in ourselves and the world around us."



REFLECTIONS ON THE VOLUNTEERING JOURNEY

We would like to express our gratitude to Kawtar and Efem Akdeniz Gençlik ve Spor Kulübü, her fellow volunteers, and everyone who supported her throughout this journey. Their guidance, kindness, and collaboration made this experience unforgettable, and she will always carry these memories with her.

YOUTH EXCHANGE IN GREECE



Youth Exchange

From November 22 to 29, we had the incredible opportunity to participate in the youth exchange Inclusion: Empowering Minds, Bridging Gaps, and Shaping a Gender-Equal Future in Kastoria, Greece. This event brought together participants from Slovenia, Romania, France, Greece, and my own country to address critical issues like empowerment, inclusion, and gender equality.

Elisabeth Brown Cernadas: Participating in this youth exchange was a transformative experience for me. The program aimed to address critical topics such as empowerment, bridging societal divides, and building a future rooted in gender equality. I joined the exchange with the hope of gaining new perspectives, learning practical strategies to advocate for equality, and expanding my understanding of global challenges. Working with participants from different cultural and social backgrounds was both a challenge and a privilege.



Early on, I noticed how varied our approaches to discussing gender equality were due to cultural influences. One of the activities involved role-playing scenarios where we had to negotiate solutions to gender-based issues. This taught me valuable skills like active listening, empathy, and finding common ground. It became clear to me that bridging gaps requires patience and open-mindedness.

By the end of the exchange, I felt more confident in my ability to connect with people despite differences, a skill I know will be invaluable moving forward. This exchange has been a pivotal moment of personal growth. It challenged me to rethink my assumptions about gender and to recognize my potential as an agent of change. I leave the program with enhanced communication skills, a greater appreciation for diversity, and a stronger sense of responsibility toward promoting gender equality.

Youth Exchange

Clara Merino: On this journey we have learned a lot from each other. We have learned to listen but above all to understand.

Dealing with issues such as gender equality and inclusion, we have been able to put ourselves in each other's shoes, and be part of their history.

Personally, I think this project has been a great opportunity to raise awareness of the inequality that exists in many cultures and to contribute our part in this fight.



Silvana Jiménez: During this one-week Erasmus experience in Greece, we had the opportunity to learn from one another in profound ways. It was not just about listening to different perspectives, but truly understanding them. By engaging in discussions on topics like gender equality and inclusion, we were able to step into each other's lives and gain insight into their unique histories and struggles.

For me, this project has been an invaluable opportunity to raise awareness about the inequalities present in various cultures. It has allowed us to contribute, even in small ways, to the ongoing fight for a more just and equal world.



Youth Exchange

Alfonso Almero: During this Erasmus experience in Greece, I gained a deeper understanding of the importance of cultural exchange and mutual respect. Through discussions on key issues such as gender equality and social inclusion, we were able to share personal experiences and perspectives, which enriched our understanding of each other's backgrounds.



This project has been a powerful reminder of the challenges many face due to inequality, and it has inspired me to be more actively involved in promoting change. It has been a privilege to contribute, even in small ways, to fostering awareness and solidarity across cultures.



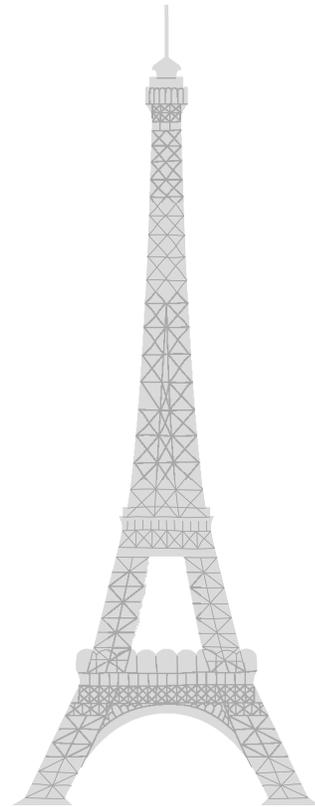
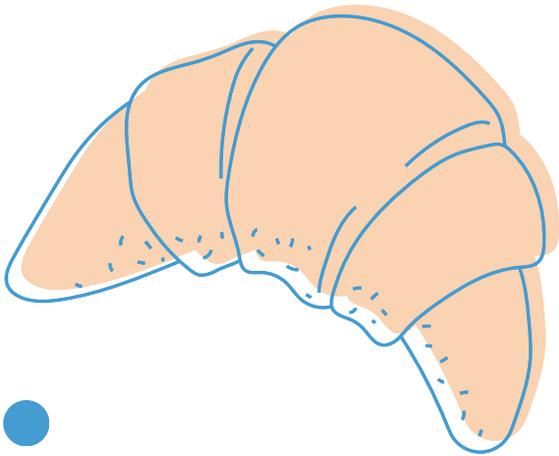
Lucía Couce: My Erasmus experience in Greece was a transformative journey that deepened my understanding of cultural exchange, empathy, and advocacy for gender equality and social inclusion. Engaging with diverse participants, I gained valuable skills like active listening and finding common ground, while exploring how cultural influences shape our perspectives.

What impacted me the most were the social interactions and the opportunity to learn about others' cultural and social contexts. These experiences allowed me to step outside my own perspective, fostering personal growth and a deeper appreciation for diversity. They have been invaluable in shaping my understanding of the world and my role within it.¹⁴



Bonjour

FRENCH CLUBS



CLUB DE FRANCÉS

**¡ ÚNETE A NUESTRO CLUB DE LENGUA FRANCESA
CULTIVA TU PASIÓN POR EL IDIOMA Y LA CULTURA !**



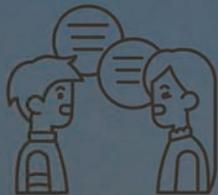
¿Qué es el Club de Lengua Francesa?

ES UN ESPACIO DISEÑADO ESPECIALMENTE PARA LOS AMANTES DE LA LENGUA Y CULTURA FRANCESA. YA SEAS PRINCIPIANTE, INTERMEDIO O AVANZADO, NUESTRO CLUB TE AYUDARÁ A MEJORAR TU NIVEL DE FRANCÉS MIENTRAS TE DIVIERTES Y CONOCES A PERSONAS APASIONADAS COMO TÚ

Nuestros objetivos



- Mejorar tus habilidades lingüísticas
- Descubrir la cultura francesa
- Crear un ambiente amigable y motivador para aprender juntos



**Ven a conversar en Francés y mejora tu nivel
con una persona nativa cada martes de las 17h
a las 18h30**

**Totalmente
gratis !**



**Centro Social Blas Infante,
Av. De Nazaret, 11406 Jerez De La Frontera**

French Clubs

With a native person



In the social center Blas Infante, learn French in a friendly and international atmosphere

Good news for lovers of French language and culture! The club de francais has officially resumed its activities at the **social center Blas Infante**. After that, the club will meet **every Tuesday from 17h to 18h30**.

Open to **all levels and ages**, this club is inclusive and friendly ! Whether you are a beginner (e) curious or an enthusiast (e) eager to perfect your practice, everyone will find their place.

The goal is simple: to allow everyone to learn and practice French in a relaxed and caring atmosphere. Discussions, language games, etc... everything is done to make this club a rewarding and accessible learning place.

Join us to share a pleasant moment and progress together in the language of Molière. See you every Tuesday!



With Oxfam Intermón, French as a tool for solidarity and inclusion



Every Friday, from 6 pm to 8 pm, Oxfam invites you to join its French club, a meeting and exchange space dedicated to more advanced learners. This club is not limited to the simple practice of the language, it is also a real tool of solidarity and inclusion. Indeed, it is a place where everyone can express themselves freely, share their experiences and strengthen their abilities in language. Whether you are looking to improve your language skills or gain a better understanding of French culture, this space allows you to build connections, encourage cooperation and foster greater mutual understanding. By participating in this club, you contribute to a collective process of inclusion while strengthening your knowledge of French in a friendly and caring atmosphere.

This friendly and enriching moment is an opportunity to practice the language in a relaxed setting while addressing varied and challenging topics. Whether you want to improve your oral expression, discuss cultural topics or deepen your knowledge of grammar, this club is for you. Join us every week to improve your French while meeting other language enthusiasts!





GERMAN RECIPE potato salad



POTATO SALAD

Perfect as a starter or for BBQ!

SERVINGS: 6

PREPPING TIME: 30 MIN

COOKING TIME: 30 MIN

INGREDIENTS

2 kg potatoes
1 onion
250 ml vegetable stock
3 tbsp white wine
vinegar
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
with green pepper
200 g mayonnaise
6 small gherkin
some cucumber liquid

DIRECTIONS

1. Boil the potatoes in their skins with a little salt, drain and peel. Leave to cool and then cut into thin slices.
2. Bring the stock to the boil and simmer the finely chopped onion for 2-3 minutes, add the vinegar.
3. Remove from the heat and leave to cool. Then whisk in the mustard. Pour the stock and onion mixture over the potato slices, stir in and leave to infuse.
4. Cut the gherkins into small cubes and add to the mixture. Stir the mayo with the gherkin water and pour over the salad, fold in carefully and leave to stand.

NOTES

This is a basic recipe. The whole thing can then be topped with finely chopped spring onion, radish slices or pieces of olive. It is usually eaten in summer as a side dish for barbecues.

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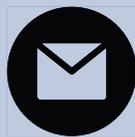


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Ask any questions!



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