



EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

TÜRKİYE ULUSAL AJANSI
TURKISH NATIONAL AGENCY

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DO NOT FORGET

The Project

We offer short term ESC voluntary projects. We regularly host about 6-7 volunteers in two months. In our project we are aiming to promote active participation of our volunteers.

Our activities are:

To arrange youth campaigns and workshops about human rights, environment, climate change, social cohesion, intercultural dialogue, digital competences, life quality and Erasmus+ with European Solidarity Corps Opportunities for youth.

- To join and lead the non-formal education activities with kids and youth
- To implement social awareness video campaigns.
- To motivate and educate disadvantaged kids/youth, moreover people disabilities
- To lead the English workshops with local youth
- To attend to Turkish language basic courses given by local people
- Organize intercultural evenings
- Volunteers write blog posts, create content, and spread ESC activities and European values through digital media.
- Outdoor environmental campaigns, planting trees, cleaning forest
- Helping with daily office tasks
- In the kitchen workshop, volunteers prepare dishes from their own culture and introduce them to gastronomy students.

Dear Participant

We are looking forward to meeting you at Gaziantep Islam Science and Technology University (GISTU) We hope that this booklet contributes to increasing your understanding of our ESC voluntary vacancy and it will give you useful information about our university and the environment we offer you. In this infopack you will find informations about us, our activities, the city, environment, transportation, accommodation and a lot of useful information. To understand our projects and your ESC progress read this booklet carefully. As an organization we wish you to have an effective learning process.



About Us

Gaziantep Islam Science and Technology University at a Glance

Gaziantep Islam Science and Technology University (GISTU) is a dynamic and growing public university committed to academic excellence, innovation, and international collaboration. Today, the university is home to 5,865 students enrolled in 64 academic programs, supported by 250 academic staff dedicated to education and research. Campus life is enriched by 36 active student clubs, providing students with opportunities for personal development, leadership, and social engagement. In addition, 207 administrative staff contribute to the efficient operation of the university and ensure a high-quality learning environment for all members of the university community.



About Us

Gaziantep Islam Science and Technology University (GISTU) is a public higher education institution established in 2018 in Gaziantep, Türkiye. As the first university in the country to bear the name "Islam" alongside "Science and Technology", GISTU adopts an integrated education approach that harmonizes ethical, historical, and cultural values with modern scientific and technological advancements.Located in Gaziantep a major industrial, agricultural, and socio-economic hub that receives significant youth and immigrant populations GISTU carries a strong regional and social responsibility.The institution prioritizes human-centered education, universal values, and equal opportunities, strictly opposing any form of discrimination based on religion, language, race, gender, or thought.



About Us

Academic Structure & Research Capabilities

GISTU comprises 8 Faculties (including Medicine, Dentistry, Health Sciences, Engineering & Natural Sciences, Islamic Sciences, and Economic/Social Sciences), Vocational Schools, Institutes, and a School of Foreign Languages. With its dynamic academic staff, fully-equipped modern research/applied laboratories, and a rich library environment, the university focuses on competitive, innovative, and inquiry-based learning.



About Us

Infrastructure & Campus Environment

GISTU offers a modern, safe, quiet, and peaceful single-campus environment with independent, dedicated buildings for each faculty and department.

Key facilities include:

-Full sports infrastructure (indoor and outdoor tennis, volleyball, and football facilities),

-Dedicated on-campus and off-campus student dormitories,

-Convenient urban transportation and accessible location,

-Active student clubs, including strategic partnerships with the Metropolitan Municipality Youth Clubs and Innovation Club agreements.



About Us

Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility & ESC Framework:

GISTU is strongly committed to expanding its global footprint, promoting intercultural dialogue, and supporting inclusion and green travel initiatives:

Erasmus+ KA131 & KA171 Mobility: The university actively manages KA131 (European countries) and KA171 (International Credit Mobility with non-EU partner countries globally, such as Stellenbosch University in South Africa). GISTU holds 42+ international bilateral agreements for student and staff learning, teaching, and training mobilities.

National Mobility Consortia: GISTU is an active partner in the Start-up Erasmus+ Consortium, supporting staff and student mobilities focused on innovation, entrepreneurship, and career development.

European Solidarity Corps (ESC): Holding the ESC50 Quality Label, GISTU is an accredited leading,hosting and supporting organization. The university is fully equipped to host international ESC volunteers on campus, integrating them into local youth initiatives, social work,and intercultural projects in Gaziantep.

With its qualified academic team, state-of-the-art physical infrastructure, active involvement in European mobility programs, and strong commitment to social integration, GISTU serves as a reliable, competent, and highly dedicated partner in international higher education, youth, and volunteering projects.

How to apply in project?

If you want to apply into project you need to follow steps below;

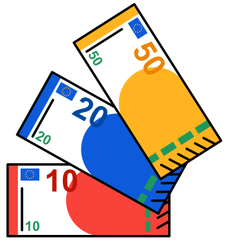
1. First of all register and create an ESC PRN Number. You can reach the website by tapping or clicking on Square Number 1 below the page.

2. Find a sending/supporting organization on this website from your country. You can reach the website by tapping or clicking on Square Number 2 below the page.

3. After you find your sending/supporting organization, we will communicate with you and your sending/supporting organization to complete the necessary coordination and application process.

4. After confirming about dates and other issues, we will have a Zoom meeting to prepare you and answering your questions with details

5. You are ready to depart!



Food & Pocket Money Allowance

We deliver food allowance to volunteers monthly in Turkish Lira. Volunteers are free to have a meal outside or do a shopping and cook at kitchen. Pocket allowance is calculated on a daily basis of actual project duration. This amount will be 6 Euro per day. Please check your agreement regarding the financial issues.



Transportation

Most of our activities are within 15 minutes by walk. For those centers which are out of our neighborhood, we provide shuttle buses. Weekend trips might be arranged by volunteers themselves with the support of mentors.

Insurance

Receiving organisation enrolls volunteers into HENNER insurance. In case of a health issue GISTU helps volunteers to find a hospital and with the coordination of the hospital's international insurance office, volunteers get the treatment by doctor. Emergency cases are covered by HENNER, but for private regular checks volunteers should pay their examination costs and medicine costs. We advise volunteers to keep 100 - 150 Euro cash for any cases. Turkey is a non-EU country, so international insurance companies cover the costs after receiving the invoices of hospitals and pharmacies etc. Make sure that your insurance has been enrolled before travel by your hosting organisation.

Partner's Responsibilities

- Giving the volunteer all information about the project and the hosting country in advance;
- The participant shall inform about any health problem or any diet requirement in advance;
- Giving visibility to the project through the website, social networks, media, etc.
- Giving the organizations all the documents or information required, as the boarding passes, invoices or similar, for the final report of the project;
- Ensuring a good communication between the parts involved in the project during all the duration of it
- Overseeing the volunteer's activity and receiving any news about it. Volunteers receive a YouthPass certificate at the end of their service.



Tap here to enter website

Trainings For Volunteers

01 Social Awareness Campaign

In order to improve the digital competences of our volunteers, we are implementing Social Awareness Campaign Activity in 3 phases. Social Awareness Campaign includes;

1. Creating Story
2. Camera Shooting
3. Editing The Video



- Creativity Skills
- Technology Usage
- Group Work
- Time Management

02 Non Formal Education

Most of our activities has been implementing via Non-Formal Education Methods and it is necessary to teach volunteers basics of NFE. In this training our volunteers learning importance of NFE and designing their activities through it.



- Group Work
- Recognizing Target Group
- Theoretical Sessions
- Practical Implementation

03 Gamification Training

Our target groups are children, refugees and disadvantaged youth. Classical system of education is not useful all the time. In order to get these people involve more we are designing our activities mostly with gamification methods. Our volunteers get training about gamification.

- Group Work
- Creativity Skills
- Practical Implementation
- Simplification



04 Erasmus+ & ESC Framework Awareness

By this awareness meeting our volunteers getting information about Erasmus+ & ESC Framework and being familiar about projects, system and opportunities. Our team shows and explain the system by non formal education methods.

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

Erasmus+

- Theoretical Information
- Practical Guidance
- Informations About Erasmus+

Our Activities

English Conversation Club

To improve foreign language communication skills while fostering intercultural dialogue, democratic citizenship, human rights awareness, and European values through regular conversation clubs with international volunteers.



Our Activities

Cultural Exchange Activities:

To promote mutual learning, intercultural dialogue, and active participation through volunteer-led workshops, discussion groups, and informal learning sessions in which volunteers share their languages, experiences, traditions, and knowledge.



Our Activities

Sport Activities

To promote students physical well-being, healthy lifestyles, teamwork, intercultural exchange, and social inclusion by encouraging regular participation in tennis activities, university sports clubs, and other sports-based activities.



Our Activities

Culinary Activity

Volunteers come together in our Culinary Activity to strengthen intercultural learning and solidarity by sharing their traditional recipes, culinary techniques, and food cultures. Through collaborative cooking activities, they improve teamwork, communication, and practical skills while discovering the cultural significance of different cuisines. This experience encourages cultural exchange, mutual understanding, and cooperation, allowing volunteers to take these experiences back to their own countries and promote intercultural dialogue within their local communities.



Our Activities

Environment and Forest Cleaning

To foster environmental responsibility, solidarity, and active citizenship by engaging volunteers in forest conservation and ecosystem restoration activities that contribute to a more sustainable future.



Our Activities

Press Release and Blog Writing

To strengthen digital competencies, creative writing, and communication skills by engaging volunteers in blogging, content creation, and the dissemination of ESC activities and European values through digital media.



Reaching To Accomodation

Once you arrive at Gaziantep Airport, what to do?

You probably take a flight from Istanbul to get to Gaziantep Airport.
We recommend you to book a flight with at least 3-4 hours layoff because there may be delays in Istanbul or Sabiha Gökçen Airports. During this time, you can exchange some money for Turkish liras. You will need some of this amount to pay for the shuttle bus from Gaziantep Airport to the city center. Your flight will take approximately 1h and 20 min from Istanbul.



Gaziantep Airport

Please find Havaş shuttle buses in front of the Arrival Terminal. Get into the bus.
The driver takes about 5 Euro in Turkish lira by cash.
You should change some Euros at the Istanbul or Sabiha Gokcen airports, because in Gaziantep airport there is no currency exchange office.



Havaş

These shuttle buses arrive at the city centre, KÜÇÜK SİGORTA/BALIKLI office within 30 minutes. Show these station names to the driver. So please when the bus leaves call or send sms/whatsapp to us. If your phone doesn't work, local people on the bus might help you to use their mobile phones or shuttle bus drivers as well. When you reach the station we will pick you up from there.



Küçük Sigorta Balıklı Station

Accomodation Place



Accomodation

Our facilities consist of a building with basement, common gardens, 2 kitchens (one small and one big), bedrooms and living rooms, space for volunteers and winter period with a heather system in each room. Apart from the accomodation for volunteers, we have our Office for all the administrative work.





The rooms for volunteers are with 3 to 6 beds, according to square meters. The rooms are fully furnished with pillows, blankets, and sheets. Each room also includes desks and wardrobes.

Bathrooms





Each room has its own bathroom and toilet. There is hot water in the bathrooms 24/7. In addition, there is an extra toilet in our building for common use.

Kitchen





There are two kitchens in our building, one big and one small. Both kitchens have fully equipped kitchen equipment. In the big kitchen, each volunteer has their own drawers where they can put their own supplies. In addition, we have three refrigerators for the supplies they need to keep in the refrigerator. Finally, we have a sofa corner and a large dining table where everyone can find a place to eat together comfortably

Common Areas

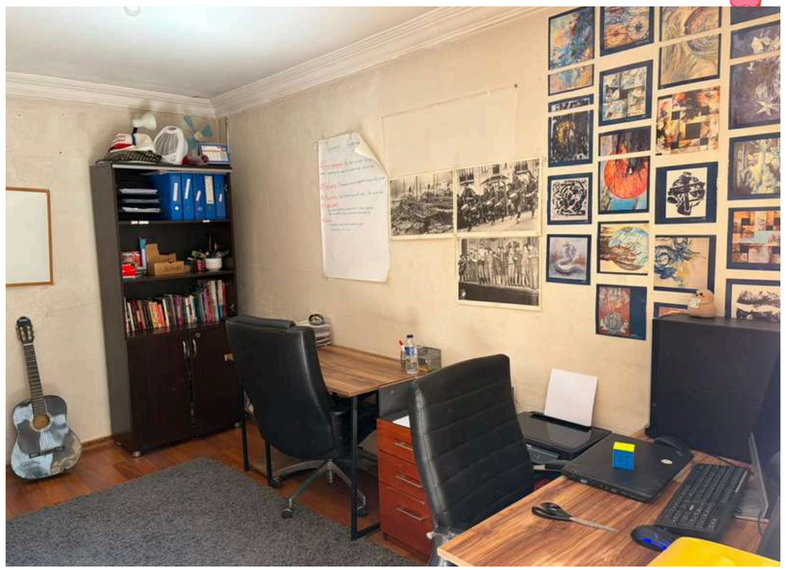




Having a good time together is an important part of our community, and we are proud to offer a variety of common areas where participants can socialize, collaborate, and relax. Our building includes a basement where movie nights and other social activities can be organized, while also providing a comfortable space for volunteers to unwind. We also have a common study room where participants can attend online meetings, plan activities, or study individually. In addition, the building features a garden where everyone can spend time together, enjoy informal gatherings, and strengthen their connections in a welcoming environment.

Basement – Library





Having a good time together is an important part of our community, and we are proud to offer a variety of common areas where participants can socialize, collaborate, and relax. Our building includes a basement where movie nights and other social activities can be organized, while also providing a comfortable space for volunteers to unwind. We also have a common study room where participants can attend online meetings, plan activities, or study individually. In addition, the building features a garden where everyone can spend time together, enjoy informal gatherings, and strengthen their connections in a welcoming environment.

Gaziantep

Gaziantep, the sixth city of Turkey and the largest city of the Southeastern Anatolia Region; It is a metropolitan city with its population, economic potential, cultural richness, historical texture and metropolitan status. One of the cities that connects Anatolia to Mediterranean and Mesopotamia, has hosted dozens of civilizations, has a geopolitical location and has a strong historical background blended with the culture of civilizations.

The city covers approximately %1 of Turkey's lands with an area of 6819 km². Gaziantep's population is 2.130.432 by the year of 2021. Population consists of 1,075,409 men and 1,055,023 women. As a percentage: %50,48 men, %49,52 women. Besides these numbers in Gaziantep we are hosting 463.387 registered Syrian refugees. Gaziantep exports products to all over the world in many fields such as manufacturing, textile, food, metal-machinery, carpet, chemistry, plastic and paper products as the biggest complex industry of Turkey.

One of the most important factors that makes Gaziantep a special city is the rich culture which was formed in hundreds of years by the accumulation of different civilizations living in the region. Thus, Gaziantep has an important role to become one of the leading cities by trade & factory, tourism, sport, art and historical heritage. The elements which are local accent, living, eating - drinking, local fashion, marriage ceremonies and the beliefs on various issues of the people, creates the culture of Gaziantep

Although there are cuisines with country names, Gaziantep cuisine is the only kitchen named after the city because of its originality and diversity. Gaziantep foods has an exclusive position between Turkish and World cuisines with the variety of materials used, different cooking techniques and effect of the civilizations in the region. All cooking techniques were used in Gaziantep foods such as boiling, grilling, tray foods, saute, roasting, pot foods, and oven foods. On 11.12.2015, Gaziantep entered the creative cities network list established with the participation of 116 cities in line and took its deserved place in the World Cuisine with the decision of the UNESCO executive board.

Travel to Gaziantep

Visa and Travel

No visa needed from these countries neither: Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, European Union Schengen area, Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Poland as well as the United Kingdom. Take a look to officials regarding the visa requires: In case you need a Visa, we recommend you to get a Turkish e-visa online. You can apply for visa through this website Important: if you purchase a Visa, you have to bring us the receipt in order to refund you the visa cost.

Travel Budget

Travel budget will be calculated between the destination of the home country and arrival country. You can check the limits table on the right side. Please confirm the project dates with our team members before booking your flight. After booking them, we need you to send us the e-ticket to know your exact arrival day and time. Please use the distance calculator on the link to see your travel budget.

Travel Budget

Distance (km)	Travel Budget (Euro)
100 to 499	211 Euro
500 to 1999	309 Euro
2000 to 2999	395 Euro
3000 to 3999	580 Euro
4000 to 7999	1188 Euro
More than 8000	1735 Euro



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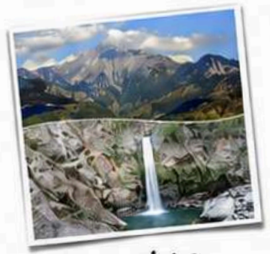
From the center of Gaziantep, you can easily reach many amazing places!
Explore history, nature and culture – all just a short drive away.



KAHRAMANMARAŞ
80 km



NEVŞEHİR
224 km



OSMANİYE
136 km



ŞANLIURFA
150 km



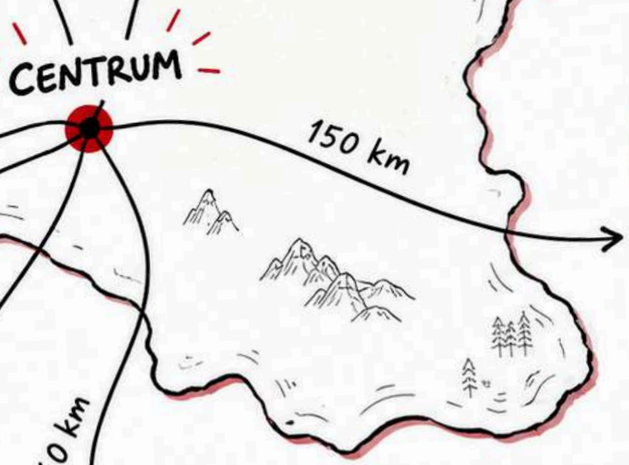
İSKENDERUN
211 km



ANTAKYA
207 km



KİLİS
60 km











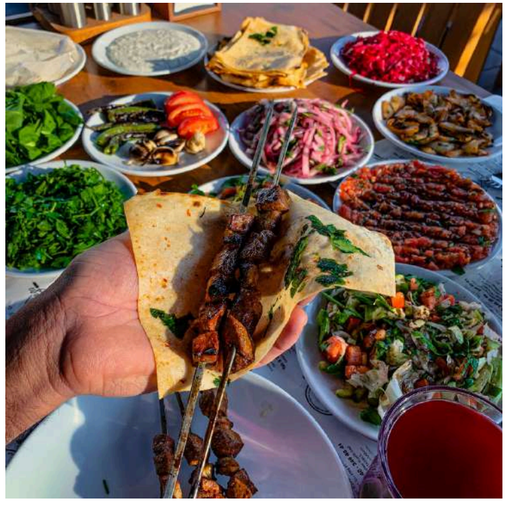







Erikli











Hard copies of your:

1. Activity agreement signed by your sending organization.
2. Henner insurance.
3. Ticket invoices (airplane, bus, train, ship, whatever used to reach the city). It is important to reimburse your tickets. If there is no invoice, there is no reimbursement.
4. Country flag.
5. Some specific snacks and drinks from your country for intercultural nights.

Our Social Media Accounts

As GISTU, we would like to give you a good experience and learning process during your project. If you are interested and want to learn more about our project, you can follow our works by tapping or clicking Facebook and Instagram and other logos in right bottom. See you in GISTU!

gibtu.edu.tr

@gibtuni

@Gibtuni