



## European Voluntary Service To Support The Valencian Social Empowerment

# 1. / Meet us

## 1.1 / The Hosting Organisation

**The European Intercultural Association *GoEurope*** was founded in Valencia with the aim of promoting an international spirit aligned with the common European cultural objectives. GoEurope promotes the intercultural dialogue, exchange of knowledge and European awareness through the active participation of young people, organisations and companies, in projects involving mobility, education and growth.

Nonetheless the Association represents a tool to directly support both private and public entities, by directly involving them in European projects and initiatives of interest. Our goal is to promote lifelong learning and transnational mobility of youth and professionals, with the ultimate vision

of developing innovation by sharing knowledge and fostering strategic collaborations among partners all over Europe.

GoEurope is based in Valencia. The city synonym of commerce and culture, cinema, theater, museums, music and business. It is international design center and one of the busiest cities in Europe. Thanks to its location, Valencia has historically been Spain door to the Mediterranean, and has the special charm of the cities that are seaport. In addition, the proximity of the coastal mountain range lend the Valencian coast a unique attractive.

## 1.2 / The Project

**EVS-2-SVE: *European Voluntary Service to Support the Valencian social Empowerment*** is a project with the duration of nine months, held in

Valencia (Valencian Community), in which 3 volunteers, (**Valeria**, **Katrin**, and **Flavia**), each from three different counties (**Italy**, **Estonia** and **Romania**) played an active and versatile role in the implementation of GoEurope activities.





The 3 volunteers supported the association at the development of mobility and training projects, also at the dissemination of job opportunities including practice or voluntary, with the

ultimate aim of contributing to the Valencian social development and improve the employability and training of young Spaniards.

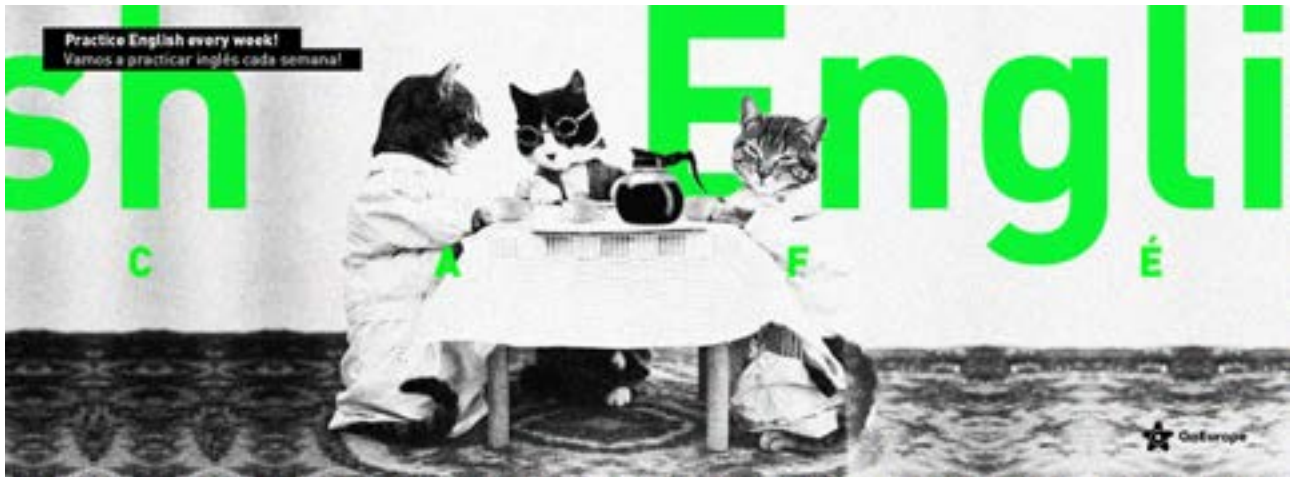


## 2. / English Coffee





On 16th of November we had our first **English Café**, a language exchange EN/ES discussing current issues and topics of interest, along with groups of youth of the local community that serve the **Youth City Council (CjV)**.





The first session was a fun experience. We talked about stereotypes and it turns out that in **Russia** bears walk freely on the streets and it's cold there all the year round; in **Romania** there are many gypsies, people are poor and of course Dracula lives there; **Italians** like pizza, pasta and wine; **French** people have good wine and cheese; **Spanish** are loud and they all love paella, specially ones living in Valencia; **Estonians** are all blondes with blue eyes.

Through out the nine month of the EVS we organised quite e few series of these English speaking sessions, met nice people and found out more about different cultures and different points of view.

## 3. / Our Blog

In the first quarter of our nine month **experience** we developed a blog that keeps track of our memories and our developed tasks, but also serves as a platform for sharing **personal experiences** about living in Valencia or about what it feels like to be able to **compare our own culture** to the Spanish one.

The blog can be found here: <http://valencianevs.tumblr.com>





## 4. / On Arrival Training & Mid-term Evaluation



Just a few weeks after our European Voluntary Service started we have attended the on arrival training (14th to 19th of October) in **Benicassim**, organized by Agorà Cultural. The core of the training gave us a lot of useful information and opened our mind to several practical tips . We realised that the **EVS network is huge** and implicates many work and expertise for being implemented. Furthermore, the internationality and the possibility that you have of **comparing** with the others are pillars of an **EVS experience**.

During this week our Evs backpack just started to be filled of **new knowledge**, **nice people** and **smiles**, wishing of travelling and enough motivation for take as much as we can from this great experience!



The **Mid-Term Evaluation** that took place in **Molina**, Malaga, was a five day experience full of new discoveries and nice people. Meeting 100 volunteers at once and having the opportunity to hear so many stories about volunteering was a great chance.



# 5. / Fares & promoting Erasmus+

On 26th of October and on the 6th of April, Valencian **Youth Council** organised two fairs of associations in the perimeter of the **Polytechnics University of Valencia**. These kind of events are useful for young people, to inform them about different opportunities of how to be active and do something in order to make a change. Fair gave university students and interested people a chance to see what kind of different associations are represented in Valencia and how could they take part in the activities. Among all the organizations GoEurope was also present and we promoted Erasmus+ projects and the opportunities it gives to people. Also we invited people to take a part in our English Cafe to practice english in non-formal environment.





