



EUROPEAN  
SOLIDARITY  
CORPS



Pi Gençlik  
Derneği

ESC VOLUNTEERING · 2026-2027

# Come volunteer with Pi Youth Association in İzmir

Türkiye · European Solidarity Corps Info Pack for Sending Organisations & Candidates

Dear Candidate, we are actively looking for motivated ESC volunteers to join us in İzmir. This info pack tells you everything about our organisation, our project, and life in the city so you can decide if this adventure is for you. Questions? We're one email away!

## 1 WHO WE ARE

Pi Youth Association (PIYA) was established in 2014 to help young people in Turkey build knowledge, skills, and positive attitudes. We implement the decisions of the European Union, the Council of Europe, and the United Nations in the youth field, always guided by human rights, participation, and environmental principles. Our target group is all individuals and youth workers aged 15-30 living in Turkey. Beyond personal development activities, we also advocate for youth rights, shaping our medium and long-term strategy around the European Youth Strategy Document and the real situation of young people in our country. Since 2016 we've published our annual activities and balance sheets for full transparency, and we're a signatory of the donor rights declaration.

2014

16  
STAFF MEMBERS

100+  
"PIXEL TEAM" VOLUNTEERS

50,000+

2027  
ESC QUALITY LABEL UNTIL

**OUR TEAM** Our office team is made up of 15 professional employees and 1 part-time employee. Alongside them, more than 100 active young people aged 15-30 form our volunteer team the **"Pixel Team"** who proudly support all of PIYA's projects and activities and take part regularly in our trainings and culture.



## 2 OUR WORKING TOPICS

- 1 Combating the Climate Crisis & Sustainability
- 2 Youth Rights, Issues & Participation
- 3 Healthy Life for Youth & Youth Workers
- 4 Empowering Youth & Youth Workers
- 5 Dissemination of Volunteering Awareness
- 6 Capacity Building of Civil Society

### 3 OUR NETWORKS & RECOGNITION

PIYA is a driving force in Turkey's youth sector, a founder of the national **Youth Works Network**, and an active member of many international networks and initiatives:

Youth & Environment Europe (YEE)

Prisma European Network

ICYE

Anna Lindh Foundation (Euromed)

European Youth Foundation

IG Network

AMSED Member Network

3EforYouth

LOOM

DYPALL

We're supported by **Google for Nonprofits**, **Microsoft for Nonprofits**, and **Tech Soup Turkey**, and we're a proud signatory of the **UN Global Compact**. PIYA received EVS accreditation from the Turkish National Agency back in 2016 and currently holds the **ESC Quality Label** as a hosting, supporting and coordinating organisation (valid until 2027) including a Quality Label for ESC Humanitarian Aid that lets us send volunteers as far as Africa, Asia and South America.



### 4 ABOUT THE PROJECT

Our work happens on local, national and international levels. Locally, everything is about empowering young people living in İzmir a city where nearly **1,000,000** of the **4.5 million** residents are aged 15-29. We run trainings, workshops and seminars for young people, especially disadvantaged groups, across **10 different districts** of the city. As a volunteer you'll help us in two possible fields based on your skills & interest:

#### 1 · LOCAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Organise indoor/outdoor trainings, workshops and language conversation clubs at our office, municipality youth centres and schools across İzmir's city centre and rural areas.

#### 2 · OFFICE TEAM

Support our ESC/Erasmus+ department: help coordinate programmes and promote Erasmus+ and ESC among local partners and youth centres.

Got new training ideas or workshop concepts? We love fresh input feel free to mention them in your motivation letter.

## 5 RESPONSIBILITIES & VOLUNTEER PROFILE

### YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implement non-formal education activities in municipalities, schools, and youth centers.
- Design and lead projects on sports, sustainability, youth work, and active citizenship.
- Develop and implement your own project based on your interests and skills.
- Write blogs and create content for PIYA's website and social media.
- Organize intercultural events and country presentations.
- Participate in Turkish language training. Support national and international Erasmus+ and Youth projects.
- Collaborate on social media content and an ESC documentary video.

### VOLUNTEER PROFILE

- Between 18 and 30 years old
- Good knowledge of MS Office & internet skills
- Strong communication skills Solution-oriented, not problem-oriented mindset
- Able to communicate in English
- Strong aptitude for teamwork
- Open to working with people of different religions & cultures
- Responsible, completes work properly and on time
- No luxury expectations on workspace/ accommodation (cleanliness & safety matter most to us)
- Creative, open minded, and enthusiastic about youth work



## 6 YOUR SUPPORT TEAM

Every incoming volunteer is backed by a tutor, a personal mentor, and a group chat that keeps everyone in the loop.

### TUTOR

The project coordinator you can ask absolutely anything about volunteering and the project.

### MENTOR

One mentor per volunteer helps with everyday life: translation, local transport, visiting places, local culture, and emotional support.

### WHATSAPP GROUP

Our formal group where all work-related information is shared with the whole team.

## 7 LIFECYCLE OF A PROJECT

Once the hosting organisation selects a volunteer, here's what the journey looks like. We hold regular check-ins from preparation all the way to the closing report and we're always available for urgent needs from sending organisations too.



## 8 BUDGET & PRACTICAL SUPPORT

### TRAVEL & MONEY

International travel costs (both ways), monthly food money, monthly pocket money, and local transportation money all covered.

### ACCOMMODATION

PIYA arranges everything: you'll share a fully-equipped flat (incl. Wi-Fi) with 4-5 other ESC volunteers and a bedroom with one flatmate.

### INSURANCE

Comprehensive health insurance from your start date to the end of the project, fully covered by the programme, no fees for you.

### LOCAL TRANSPORT

Your commute from home to the project location is covered, with 24 hour local transportation to the city centre.

### TURKISH LESSONS

2 hours/week of Turkish lessons from our local volunteers or language courses, plus personal counselling support throughout your stay.

### CERTIFICATE

A Youthpass certificate, an attendance document, and a reference letter from our board of directors at the end of your project.

## 9 LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### INTERNATIONAL

Beyond Europe: our ESC Humanitarian Aid Quality Label lets us send volunteers to Africa Asia and South America. We're highly active in Erasmus+ Youth Exchanges & Training Courses and support young entrepreneurs through the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) programme.

### PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Training workshops on teamwork, leadership and emotion management. Plus motivational events with local volunteers picnics, movie nights, bowling and cultural trips around the country.

### PERSONAL PROJECTS

We encourage and guide ESC volunteers to design and run their own workshops. Past volunteer-led initiatives include health & nutrition training, pottery and literature workshops!



## 10 SCHEDULE, IZMIR & VISA

### WORKING HOURS

Max 35 hours/week at our office or partner youth centres. Sundays & Mondays are usually off (flexible around activities). Youth exchanges & national meetings may happen at hotels or youth camps. Plus 2 extra free days/month, 24 free days/year in total for a 12-month project, planned together at least 1 month ahead.

### ABOUT IZMIR

A lively, cosmopolitan and one of Turkey's safest cities for people travelling alone. Enjoy the day and night life, then get home anytime via 24/7 public transport; bus, metro, light rail (izban), and ferry.

### VISA & RESIDENCE

EU citizens can enter Türkiye with a valid passport and stay up to 3 months visa-free. Once you're in İzmir, we help you apply for a straightforward online "work permit exemption."

### DURATION

The long-term project runs for 10-12 months while the short-term project runs for 1-2 months.





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# Ready to join us?

## Here's how to apply

Send us your **English CV** and **motivation letter** through the sending organisation you're in contact with. If you have photography, short-movie or video editing skills whether as a hobby or professionally feel free to mention them in your application!

[apply@pigenclikdernegi.org](mailto:apply@pigenclikdernegi.org)

|                |                                                                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>NGO</b>     | Pi Youth Association (PIYA) / Pi Gençlik Derneği                                 |
| <b>Website</b> | <a href="http://pigenclikdernegi.org">pigenclikdernegi.org</a>                   |
| <b>Phone</b>   | +90 232 483 03 14                                                                |
| <b>Email</b>   | <a href="mailto:iletisim@pigenclikdernegi.org">iletisim@pigenclikdernegi.org</a> |
| <b>Address</b> | Akdeniz Mah. 1353 Sokak No:1 Taner İş Hanı D:503, Konak, İzmir/Türkiye           |
| <b>Social</b>  | Facebook & Instagram & X: @pidernegi / pi.genclik.dernegi                        |

Made with love by Pi Youth Association - European Solidarity Corps - İzmir, Türkiye

