



SOCIAL INCLUSION DAYS

16. APRIL - 29. APRIL 2018



Press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ESN promotes Social Inclusion among international students

Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is organising the Social Inclusion Days initiative where more than 500 local associations in 40 countries will host events that raise awareness and take action about volunteering and disability from 16th until 29th of April.

A two-week initiative will provide opportunities for international students to learn how one can contribute to the improvement of society as European citizens. During this edition, the focus is on the importance of the social impact international volunteers have upon the local communities and upon making inclusive events.

“The Social Inclusion days celebrate ESN’s mission. During two weeks, more than 530 ESN local sections will bring Erasmus students closer to their host communities while also promoting a more inclusive Erasmus+ programme, particularly for students with disabilities. Thousands of ESN volunteers will be united in activities that ultimately meet the priorities set by the Renewed EU Agenda for Higher Education and by the Social Summit in Gothenburg. SocialErasmus and ExchangeAbility, the ESN programmes on the spotlight during the Social Inclusion days, enrich our society by implementing activities where international students and local citizens become a single community united in diversity. These are not just any days, they are the days where we celebrate a Europe that is truly included in the Erasmus+ programme.” João Pinto, President of Erasmus Student Network AISBL

It is our firm belief that the Social Inclusion Days will make a strong contribution to the cause of social inclusion and that these students will return home as more active and socially engaged citizens. Besides this, international volunteers have a better chance in expanding their knowledge of other cultures and educational systems and in having a first-hand experience with the locals. Through their engagement, students enrich their curricula, gain experiences, knowledge, understanding and a sense of appreciation for Europe. While celebrating and enjoying their Erasmus+ experience, students and young people will have a chance to take part in activities such as food drives and donations, fundraisers, mapping universities for accessibility, animal shelter visits, educational workshops, conferences, and many more events that promote social inclusion.

Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is the biggest student association in Europe. Present at over 1000 Higher Education Institutions, it unites over 500 local associations in 40 countries. More than 15,000 volunteers take care of international colleagues under the motto “Students helping students”. ESN works for the creation of a more mobile and flexible education environment by supporting and developing the student exchange from different levels and providing an intercultural experience.

For more information, contact at communication@esn.org and visit www.esn.org.