

[https://europa.eu/youth/volunteering/project/1199\\_en](https://europa.eu/youth/volunteering/project/1199_en)

Start: 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2017

End: 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2018

Spots: 1

Application deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2017

Funding: Approved

Pocket money:85

Location: 19 Quai Van Beneden, 4020 Liège Belgium

Project description: Views International is an European NGO having its Executive Office situated in the city of Liège, Belgium. The usual activities of VIEWS International are: the organization of European projects (youth exchanges, EVS, seminars...). And then there are the local activities, carried out together with our Belgian partners. Our projects are adapted for young visually impaired persons, 18-30 years old.

The volunteer can develop intercultural activities with sighted and visually impaired young Belgians, and help them create European activities where they are involved (in the field of music, sport...) He/She can help organize leisure activities (cultural gatherings, sport activities) for sighted or visually impaired young people, together with our network of local partners (La Baraka asbl, etc.); he/she can help with awareness-raising sessions (such as dinners in the dark, info sessions on visual impairment, etc.) or organising logistics/ set up activities for international youth projects.

Volunteer profile: This project mainly targets young visually impaired people, 18-30 years old. In order to better adapt to the daily tasks, the volunteer must have a basic knowledge of French (beginner level). The volunteer will be motivated and will have the desire to be integrated in the working team. Besides, the volunteer will strive for the autonomy and integration necessary in his private and daily life, both with his housemates and his multicultural neighbours. Being open and knowing how to listen are essential qualities for the tasks that the volunteer will be required to carry out.

Training during the project: In his first two weeks, the visually impaired volunteer will be given classes of orientation, as well as daily-living and professional skills sessions, with a timetable agreed by mutual consent with the supervisors and which takes into account everyone's needs and possibilities. French classes will also be provided during this period in an intensive fashion, with adapted material and provided by a teacher specialized in French as a Foreign Language and with a lot of experience with visually impaired students.

Accommodation, food and transport arrangements: The volunteer will have his own room, but will share kitchen, bathroom and toilet with the group of young volunteers, boys and girls separated. The apartment will be in the neighbourhood, so as to allow a relatively quick autonomy, thanks to the mobility and orientation classes. The

neighbourhood counts many small shops, more accessible to young people. Electrical household appliances will be equipped with tactile marks, and tools will be adapted (table sets with contrasting colours, marked storing boxes, freezer...).

Participants with fewer opportunities: This organisation has a physical environment suitable for young people with physical, sensory or other disabilities (such as wheelchair access and similar).

This organisation has additional mentoring or other support suitable for young people with social obstacles, educational difficulties, cultural differences or similar.

Additional information: The young volunteers will benefit from specific support, a reinforced tutorship based on a personalized approach, adapted to the specific needs of every volunteer. Every volunteer will benefit from a mentor throughout the whole project, who gives a multi-faceted support to the volunteer, to ensure his physical, mental and health well-being; he encourages the discovery of the hosting country, gives support on how to interact and integrate in an intercultural environment, and accompanies him in his activities. Mentorship is based on listening and empathy.

How to apply: Whenever there are new available places, they will be announced on our website ([www.viewsinternational.eu](http://www.viewsinternational.eu)), as well as in the VIEWS NEWSletter and on our international mailing list; the volunteer will have to send us a motivational letter, a language skills certificate and a CV.