

Tolerance and diversity spread by EVS volunteers at Euro 2016

EUROPEAN
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE

20
YEARS!

EVS and sport

“Young people in EVS and civic service participating in this project implement awareness-raising and educational measures which promote interculturalism and peer learning.

Amalia Petaux, House of Europe Bordeaux Aquitaine

The smooth running of large-scale events would struggle without the commitment and enthusiasm of volunteers, limiting the ambition and reach of sports events. Thanks to the dedication of the EVS volunteering teams, projects are driven forward – and are all the more successful because of the volunteers’ genuine love of sport.

At Euro 2016 there was a group of people who would leave France satisfied whatever the football results. Young volunteers aged between 18 and 30 had the opportunity to help organise events and a wide range of activities around stadiums across the 10 cities where matches were played.

In all, nearly 130 young Europeans took part in ‘EVS and Soccer Euro 2016’ supported by the Erasmus+ programme. One of the largest groups to take part was the “ambassadors of Europe”, within the ‘Les ambassadeurs de l’Europe, c’est nous!’ project organised by the House of Europe Bordeaux Aquitaine.



Promoting intercultural exchange through sport is a theme of many EVS projects

This project saw 30 young French hosts involved with civic service teaming up with 30 volunteers from a range of European countries, with each pair becoming ambassadors for European values of tolerance and diversity. The pairs worked in the bustling fan area around the stadium as well as contributing to special events set up for the football celebrations – all with the aim of encouraging intercultural exchange around sport.

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) gives young people the opportunity to volunteer abroad. As an organisation you can get financial support to run a project involving one or more international volunteers in your activities.

Find out more: <https://europa.eu/youth/evs20>

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