EVS future search conference
3-5 of July, 2017 in Tallinn, Estonia

Background
2016 marked the 20th anniversary of EVS. The follow-up of the celebration events in many countries as well as the current developments regarding the EVS and in particular the European Solidarity Corps initiative have created a momentum to continue keeping EVS and its future shaping in focus of attention.

In the framework of the Estonian EU-Presidency priorities in the field of Youth Archimedes Foundation Youth Agency (Estonian National Agency for Erasmus+) together with JUGEND für Europa (German National Agency for Erasmus+) with many other Erasmus+ National Agencies in the field of Youth have decided to organize an European event “EVS future search conference” to gather the results of the different anniversary events and to reflect about future of EVS. After celebrating 20 years of EVS in mostly national settings, it is time to bring together European stakeholders to look into the future and discuss how to make EVS a sustainable format that will stay attractive, feasible and impactful for many more years.

The recommendations and results of the “EVS future search conference” will be conveyed to the Youth Director’s General meeting in July 2017 and further be taken on board for the planned Resolution on volunteering of the Estonian Presidency.

Some key / guiding questions for the conference and the preparation phase would be:

- How to convey better the European idea behind the programme (cultural diversity, competences, citizenship, knowledge, solidarity)?
- How to strengthen European-wide EVS networks and partnerships?
- What is the vision for development of EVS, future of EVS within the new EU program generation from 2021 onwards? Values of EVS?
- How to increase the visibility and brand of EVS within the Erasmus+ program?
- What is the role of the National Agencies now and in the future?

Practicalities
- Detailed objectives and methods are to be discussed within the international preparation team, which meets between 27.02-03.03 for a 1,5 day preparation meeting in Tallinn, Estonia.
Target group: Number of participants: max 150 participants. All programme country NA’s compose national delegations of 3 people per country (including 1 NA representative, 1 EVS organization, 1 National Authority or ex-EVS, EVS accreditator, EVS trainer, EuroPeer currently active in the programme or other relevant stakeholders). The NA chooses the delegation and pays for the travel costs. In addition the organisers/host NA invites EuroPeers, SALTO: 1 from each Resource Centre, European Commission (Robert France), 5 European NGOs / Volunteering Networks, YFJ / European Youth Forum

Opening of the conference by high level COM representative: Martine Reicherts and Estonian National Authority (minister recommended)

Conference dates: 3–5 July 2017

Venue: SAS Radisson Hotel Olümpia in Tallinn

Host: Archimedes Foundation Youth Agency, Estonia

Conference time planning:
03.07. Arrival of participants, evening reception, formal opening
04.07. Full working day
05.07. Half working day, departure of participants