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Open Education Students Continue to Volunteer in Europe

Open education students of Anadolu University have the opportunity to visit Europe as part of the European Voluntary Service (EVS) program since 2015. EVS, a program for young people between 18 and 30 years old, allows participants to become a volunteer in a non-profit organization abroad for a specified period of 2 weeks to 12 months. The EVS program covers passport, visa, health insurance, travel, accommodation and food expenses of participants and gives them some pocket money.

Volunteers that participate in EVS work with a supervisor, and have the chance to visit other cities and countries on their days off. Students that successfully complete the program are receive the internationally acknowledged Youthpass Certificate, confirming their participation and describing the project.

54 students participated in EVS since 2016

Since May 2016, 56 open education students went to Europe under volunteering projects developed by the International Office and agreements signed between Anadolu University and organizations in Europe. Based on its enhanced experience and network, the Open Education System of Anadolu University developed a project titled "Enlightenment Age with EVS" to enable more students to participate in EVS in 2018. Thanks to this project approved by the National Agency, a total of 13 students will volunteer in various European countries for a period of two to twelve months. The distribution of students by country is as follows: two students in Spain, one student in Italy, one student in Bulgaria, two students in Croatia, one student in Portugal, and six students in Hungary.

As a volunteer, students can work in a wide range of fields, including social, cultural and artistic activities, media and communication, sports and outdoor activities, environment and climate, inclusion and equality of opportunity, youth and leisure activities, healthcare, gender equality, and youth policies. The target audience of their activities may range from kids to elderly, or young people to individuals with disabilities. While volunteering, students get familiar with local culture and people, and get engaged in an intercultural learning process. The experience of diversity contributes to their personal development.

The Open Education System and the International Office will continue to develop joint projects to enable open education students to gain intercultural experience in Europe.

New Graduate Programs Offered in Distance Mode

Anadolu University now offers five new non-thesis master's programs in distance mode. The master's programs in Hospitality Management, Corporate Communication, Banking and Finance, Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems, Risk Management in Urbanization, and Environmental Management have already been preferred particularly by the graduates of bachelor's programs in the Open Education System. Anadolu University has opened five new open education programs: Chemistry, Business Management, Measurement and Data Analytics, Visual Communication Design, and Character and Values Education.

Candidates can apply to master's programs until 22 January. Further information about application is available at <https://basvuruyld.anadolu.edu.tr/>.

Candidates are not required to take the nationwide graduate education entrance examination (ALES) or provide proof of foreign language proficiency to apply to master's programs, in which all delivery and assessment processes are based on distance education. Information about application requirements, quotas and other procedures is available under the announcement "2017-2018 Academic Year Spring Semester Application to Graduate Programs" at <https://www.anadolu.edu.tr/duyurular/2017-2018-egitim-ogretim-yili-bahar-donemi-yeni-acilan-uzaktan-ogretim-tezsiz-1516111057>.

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