

Cont Act

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*European Voluntary Service:
Estonian impressions*



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What is European Voluntary Service?

European Voluntary Service (EVS) helps young people to develop their sense of solidarity by participating, either individually or in a group, in non-profit, unpaid voluntary activities abroad which lasts, depending on a project, 2 to 12 months. It is open to all young people aged 18 to 30; EVS is a true 'learning service'. Beyond benefiting the local communities by participating in voluntary activities, young volunteers can develop new skills and, therefore, improve their personal, educational and professional development. Volunteers can benefit from specific training throughout the activity and agree on their expected learning outcomes, processes and methods in advance. For organizations EVS offers an opportunity to send Estonian young people or involve foreign volunteers in their everyday work by supporting their development and also bringing new ideas, energy and working methods to the organization. EVS offers to young people a chance to experience working as a volunteer in Europe or (some) in a country outside of Europe in a field which interests him/her the most. The topics of the activities are quite wide including educational, cultural, sports, arts, environmental activities, youth work, social work etc. EVS is a cooperation project with at least three parties - a volunteer, a sending and a hosting organization. In addition, there can be a coordinating organization which supports and helps the realization of the project in the hosting organization which, while having enough working possibilities, might need additional support with practical questions and financial responsibilities. With the help of the sending and hosting (sometimes also the coordinating organization being involved) and the support of the Youth in Action programme the young person's volunteer service will happen. Read more about the Youth in Action programme from the webpage euroopa.noored.ee/evs or European Commission's webpage ec.europa.eu/youth

Continuous Action

Continuous Action is a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in May 2005 with the aim to provide lifelong learning and equal opportunities both in Estonia and at the international level for different target groups despite the age, social and/or educational background, gender and/or sexual orientation of the people. Continuous Action in its everyday activity is aimed at:

- Spreading information about the actions of our organization in order to achieve the objectives;
- Development, promotion and coordination of voluntary service both in Estonia and at international level;
- Organization of seminars, study visits, trainings and events;
- Providing information and counselling services;
- Development, co-ordination and implementation of projects in social and education field;
- Developing lifelong learning opportunities for our targets.

European Voluntary Service sending, hosting and coordinating projects represent the main part of Continuous Action work. Along with it, the organization is also involved in working with other programmes such as Leonardo da Vinci and Grundtvig; the implementation of Amicus preparatory action project 'Sidur' which contributed to develop local voluntary actions and other local initiatives. The everyday work in Continuous Action is run by a small team which consists of friendly and multicultural active people, working regularly in the office with projects involving cooperation with our partner organization in Estonia and abroad. We engage also many local and international volunteers as well as trainers in order to initiate and carry out different activities and projects and whom we consider part of our team. Don't hesitate to contact us with ideas for cooperation in the framework of the European Voluntary Service as a volunteer, hosting or sending organization. Please find the contacts on our webpage www.continuousaction.ee

Introduction to Estonian Adventure

Alicja Ostrowska
From Olsztyn, Poland
EVS Volunteer in Continuous Action
February 2012 – October 2012

Another European Voluntary Service project has ended and after spending months in Estonia five volunteers - Laura, Magdalena, Leonie, Oleksandr and Fausto, returned to their home countries. The EVS projects „SPARK” and “Social inclusion enlargement through volunteering in YU Juventus” gave these young people from Spain, Germany, Austria, Ukraine and Italy the opportunity to work in Estonian kindergartens and youth centers.

Like every year, this time as well, new volunteers were hosted by different organisations in Estonia. They came to this country to experience unforgettable time full of adventures, journeys, work and challenges to overcome. All EVS participants were surrounded and supported by sending, coordinating and hosting organisations as well as being helped by their personal mentors. Before and during their projects, they attended and had a chance to learn from pre-departure, on-arrival and mid-term trainings. They consider these months as a beautiful period full of learning a new culture and a new language but foremost - learning about themselves. Despite having some difficulties and dealing with adaptation, language and emotions, they all appreciate this opportunity. In all of the stories that they agreed to share with us they talk about the joy they received from sharing their culture with children and youngsters in productive work and also about learning and taking from rich Estonian culture. From the articles on the next pages, you will find out about their happiest moments, cultural impressions, difficult moments and their way to deal with them, you will read how they survived Estonian winter, assimilated to new foreign environment and how they spent time in Estonia - at work and beyond it, and for sure you will be convinced that European Voluntary Service is worth doing! This edition also consists of interviews with the supervi-

sors of volunteers, in which they speak about benefits from hosting volunteers in kindergartens and youth centers, challenges to overcome and support they experienced. EVS is not only work, it's also a chance to meet a lot of new people from different countries and to gain friends, sometimes even for life. It's also the time of joy, traveling and freedom. During my stay in Estonia, I had the opportunity to explore a lot of beautiful places here and realized how amazing nature and original architecture this country has. I'll never forget the wild land of Pakri Island with it's impressive cliffs and stony beaches which I had never seen before; summer days in Pärnu or the spirit of history sensed in university city of Tartu. I will always remember words which I heard here: „You must enjoy every moment while you're here.” They are like the summary of what I really learned here, what I will take back home with me and how my EVS changed me. Me and the other volunteers wanted to take as much as possible from this time and I think we did. So if you want to get to know the EVS stories of our volunteers, read this ContAct Magazine number and if you have any questions or if you want to experience similar adventures, don't hesitate to contact us!

Shooting star



Laura Martinez Candel
From Murcia, Spain
Volunteer in Kullatera Kindergarten in Tallinn
EVS Project „SPARK“
September 2011 – May 2012

"My name is Laura, I am 23 years old and I come from Murcia on the southeast of Spain but from now on, there is one small part of me that belongs to Estonia."

I arrived to Tallinn at the end of the summer. Particularly the 1st of September 2011. But leaving my home, my family and my friends and having to begin a new life, didn't disrupt the slightest the huge joy I had about starting my EVS in one country I didn't know about and in a city which I knew even less.

Since February I had my project chosen and, some months later, I was selected by the coordinating organisation. Then came the time for waiting...but suddenly I got the e-mail...Selected!

I don't deny that the adaptation at the beginning wasn't so easy because in the kindergarten they only speak Estonian, it wasn't a bilingual one and, even more, I didn't know a word in their language when I came here. My supervisor spoke English but she wasn't there every day, the second teacher didn't speak English at all

and the kids, neither. Surely, everything has its positive side: I had no choice than understand them and make myself understood, so I learned fast. Estonian is a difficult language, but with time, I can understand quite a bit; I can communicate with other teachers and they can understand also "my Estonian". The most beautiful of all was to learn together, both the kids and me sometimes Estonian, sometimes Spanish.

At first there were new faces and the confidence was slowly gained. What was started as a small activity about

bread, ended in a trip discovering Europe through its cartoons, Christmas traditions or having visitors from other countries in our classroom. I've learned from others so much. I have discovered new activities, new ways of working and other things which are missed, even we think we are too old for them.

I have had the opportunities to take

The most beautiful of all was to learn together, both the kids and me sometimes Estonian, sometimes Spanish.

part in other projects apart from mine thanks to the friends I met here. Though I have been to other kindergartens, youth centres and social centres, however, I have been always missing "my kids". It is said that "EVS bubble" is created due to the big amount of EVS but that's not a reason to stay inside it. One can break it and meet new people to join with. After all, they took part in your life and in your change, and people to whom you are going to miss.

Talking about the weather, I come from Spain. This is completely different. The autumn was full of colours and the winter came late, but living in -25C is an experience I won't forget. Days were shorts and dark until the spring finally arrived with the sunlight. Tallinn went from

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cold and grey to sunny and green. And now days are long and full of light. The contrast is incredible. Furthermore there is life on the streets. I haven't had the chance to get bored because there are so many things hidden, waiting for being discovered. Obviously, in such a long time, I took part in many things both good and less good. As my conclusion, good things weigh more than bad ones and at the end, you stay with it. Now I'm

finishing here, 9 months fly by. With no doubt, I recommend EVS to everybody. Nowadays is one of the best opportunities to be abroad. I would repeat it if I could. And, as my last advice, the longer the project, the better. As I told before, "time flies".



Supervisor says



Jevgenia Polkovnikova
Teacher
Kullatera Kindergarten

Supervisor of Laura Martinez Candel

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How do you involve volunteers into the activities of your kindergarten?

Before we choose a volunteer for our kindergarten, we look at their profile carefully to see if they fit with our activities. Of course, every new volunteer has his/her own qualities and we are always willing to give them freedom to organize something they are good at. We don't do a lot of preparations before the volunteer comes. We are more waiting to sit down together and discuss ideas and expectations. Kindergarten is a "determined environment," we have our own program and we know what we can offer to the volunteer.

After few years of hosting volunteers, can you observe any scheme or every year is completely different? Every volunteer is from different country but is it possible to see any similarities between volunteers or in their work?

It's true that every volunteer comes from a different country and from different culture but what unites them is their willingness to work with kids and their dedication to the project. We try to combine all these differences and similarities in order to make the project successful.

Any special plans for the future which includes volunteers?

We would like to continue projects with volunteers so that we will be able to diversify the program and to make every day different for our kids. Next volunteer who we will host is a girl from Austria.

How does the communication between the volunteers and kids look like?

As we like to say here in Estonia, "Iga algus on raske

(Every beginning is difficult)" but as our experience shows us- our kids don't have any difficulties accepting the volunteers and as they are very friendly, there is a connection between the volunteer and the kids from the very beginning of the project. It is also good that the volunteers can help children in case they have individual needs (as we all know we have 24 children in group). Since we have young kids this year (3 years old), they don't use a lot of words themselves and for that reason they need more attention.

What do parents think about having volunteers working with their children?

The parents reaction has been very positive and they have given us all the freedom when working with their children. So far we have gotten only positive feedback from them and I hope it will stay like this in the future.

Why are the volunteers needed in a kindergarten?

Volunteers are needed to bring fresh ideas to the kindergarten, to increase the level of tolerance as well as to improve the knowledge of cultural diversity among children at their earliest age.

What are your impressions of Laura's project?

Laura had a pedagogical background, I guess that is why her ideas and the activities she did with the kids were thoroughly elaborated and appropriate for the kids ages. She was very motivated, friendly, pleasant in communication. Our (and by our I mean teachers, parents and also kids) impressions about her activities are very positive. We are very satisfied with her and we just hope that our future volunteers will follow her example.



Time of my life



Leonie Achterhold
 From Munich, Germany
 Volunteer in Männikäbi Kindergarten in Tallinn
 EVS Project "SPARK"
 September 2011 – May 2012

„My name is Leonie, I'm 19 years old and I'm from Munich in the south of Germany. To go abroad for some time, this plan I had already long time before I finished high school, and I've done it.“

Why I chose the program EVS is easy to explain. I liked the idea of making myself useful and living in a foreign country on my own. But why did I choose Estonia? (And this question was asked often!) To be honest, Estonia chose me (and thank you for that!) Well, I thought, if you go abroad, then do it right and go somewhere you don't know at all. And Estonia was one of those places. I have worked in an integrative kindergarten in Tallinn. That means that there are groups with one or two children with so called special needs (I volunteered in one of them) and one smaller group only with children with special needs. Well, in the beginning, the kids might have thought: What a strange person. Before she says something, she always takes a booklet out of her pocket and then she tells something strange. And all the time she is asking: Mis see on? But over time I include more and more words in my vocabulary (mostly kindergarten stuff...“pissile“;) But of course sometimes I

thought, “crap, why do they speak this difficult language, 14 cases, come on”. This was especially in moments in which I knew exactly what I wanted to tell the kids, but I couldn't do it or a child was crying and I just couldn't understand why. Another challenge for me was that my supervisor could speak English, but the other teacher of my group or teachers who were sometimes as substitute in my group, couldn't. And since it's also hard to know for them, how much I actually understand, it happened, that everybody was leaving the room and I recognized “oh, something is going on, let's follow them”. For my three/four years old children, it was quite abstract that I'm from Germany. When there was an explosion somewhere in Germany, one boy picked it up from the news and was really afraid that something could have happened to me. Because if I'm from Germany, then of course I also live there. To open their minds for some other countries and to introduce mine, I decided to

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present the countries on the basis of one typical thing of each country to the children. Therefore I painted a map and invited volunteers from different countries. So the kids got to know for example the royal family from UK and how they celebrate carnival in Luxemburg. And, of course, they baked the German pastry 'Breze'. Before I went to Estonia, my mum was teasing me whenever she could. “Look, this pullover looks warm. You should take three, when you wear them all together, maybe it's warm enough during the Estonian winter.” Of course I didn't listen to her. Estonian is farther north than Germany, jaja, but come on, they have the sea. A maritime climate that compensates this. Then I got two mails from Estonia. They were telling me about a lot of snow. About five months of winter. I should bring a plenty of winter clothes. And as you can see on the picture there was a lot of snow! But if you read this and just began your project, don't be afraid, less than -25 degrees are an experience, snow can bring a lot of fun and the darkness, well, with great people, trips and other activities it's faster over, than you think ;) I guess, if somebody asks me, if I want to talk about

German or about Estonian culture, I would prefer Estonian culture. Maybe because I have the feeling that I know much more about Estonian culture now, than about the German. I had the chance to get to know it as an outstanding person. Many peculiarities attract my attention, because they're not self-evident for me. But also, because it's so fascinating, how such a small country can have such a great, diverse and at the same time unified culture. Time after time it was amazing to see the silent prouddness of the Estonians at Estonian Dances, when they saw us having fun dancing their Estonian Dances. Sometime, during these nine months, I was just sitting somewhere thinking: “I have the time of my life right now”. Of course I hope I can think this sentence again and again the following years. But during this EVS I felt a freedom as never before, so it's hard to beat ;) Soon I'm back in Germany, but a piece of Estonia and all the other cultures I've got to know during my project, will come with me. And for sure I will keep saying “tubli” to everyone all the time ;)

My EVS experience



Magdalena Bachl
From Gutau, Austria
Volunteer in Saku Municipality
EVS Project "SPARK"
August 2011 – August 2012

Nearly one year ago in August 2011, I packed my suitcase and went off to the adventure of EVS in Estonia. I didn't have many expectations about the country and what will happen in general. But when I met the people whom I would be working with and whom I would be living with, I was over the moon. Everyone was so helpful, friendly and supportive and this made it really easy for me to feel like home quickly. I was lucky to live in an amazing apartment, which was in the first floor of a family house in the small village Kiisa. This family showed me the „real Estonian life“ and as their kids where my age, they took me to parties and I got to know a lot of people already in the first weeks.

Of course I also worked a lot on my

project and I was able to get an insight into youth work and be proactive myself. I was allowed to support the youth workers at camps for children as well as for teenagers and together with my colleagues I planned different kind of activities like art and crafts, a girls club, a soccer-table tournament and much more. One of my favorite parts of my work was the acrobatic club which I led every week for kids from 6 to 10 years and the weekly German course I gave to two women. What I am really proud of, is the „Youth night“ I organized together with some other volunteers. As I got to know a lot of other volunteers during my stay, we wanted to create something together and connect the different youth centers. So we asked youngsters if they want to join us and in the end we were around 25 peo-

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ple having a great night together. We put this night under the topic „My future“ and did different games and exercises that allowed the youngsters to think about their future but also to reflect on their past. However, we also had a lot of fun: we cooked together, played games and had a disco until early in the morning. The youngsters got to know new people, some even found new friends and they liked the idea so much that they

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started to plan a youth night on their own. Of course also travelling and free time was an important part of my EVS. I used the weekends to travel together with other volunteers to St. Petersburg, Riga, Vilnius, Stockholm and of course also through Estonia. We had a great time and I loved to be on the road and see all these beautiful places. During my project, I had ups and downs but I would never ever want to miss this experience. I was able to grow so much and it was a pleasure to meet all these great people. I got to know a new country and a new culture and simply had a great time here in Estonia.

My EVS in Estonia



Oleksandr Portnov
From Mykolaiv, Ukraine
Volunteer in
Kiikhobu Kindergarten in Tallinn
EVS Project "SPARK"
September 2011 – May 2012



First impression

After I cross the border, everything changed, it was a shock for me when I saw how beautiful Estonia is. I saw an "open", developed country with beautiful houses and nature. It was new experience for me because Ukraine is a closed country with restrict law. For example it's forbidden to say everything you want to say about government. We have very difficult political situation there with no freedom of choice. It is forbidden to gather more than 4 people because government is afraid of conspirators. All the time you must show your documents and say where are you going and why etc. It's a police country, very strict.

Biggest difficulties during the project

I had some cultural problems, it was about different mentality, characters, different understanding of the world in work place and in apartment as well. Before coming here I was happy that I will leave with people from different countries but after we met, we saw that our characters were so different that we separated immediately and we didn't went out together. We didn't do any activities together and this was a little bit sad. Sometimes when I went somewhere in the city there where some misunderstandings because people were asking why I don't speak Estonian language instead of Russian language. They seemed angry because of it so I was telling them



that I'm not from Russia but from Ukraine. But I'm still very happy that I chose to be here and have this experience, this opportunity to be here and to work as a volunteer. I was living in very nice arrangement and very beautiful apartment. I really liked trainings (on-arrival training and mid-term meeting).

Benefits of life and work of EVS in Estonia

Though it wasn't always great and there were things in what I didn't succeed, I did everything what I could to make it better. My aim was to help teachers in everyday life. I was telling children fairytales, singing with them national songs, drawing and playing games. I felt very safe here and this was the most important emotion.



Something to remember

I will always remember beautiful city Tartu and my excursion to this city. It was a great experience for me. I'm very sentimental person and Tartu for me was a fantastic place because it has history about one hundred years and I could feel history there. I will never forget my trip to Leppoja as well and sauna night, after which we went into the snow. This was a great, new experience

for me and I had a lot of fun.

I really liked the winter here which was different from winters in Ukraine. It was so mysterious and dark and it was great to experience it and to feel it. And of course I will never forget people who I met here.



Why EVS in Estonia

I was interested in the work with children, I wanted to get to know Estonian culture and language, I was interested in voluntary work and I wanted to help children- to be useful. Besides it was important for me to have experience in work with children. It was my dream to leave in European Union, see Estonia and get to know more about it. It was also related with my knowledge of English. In project in Estonia, high level of English language wasn't necessary. So I thought it will be good opportunity for me to learn English as well. Programs in other countries have higher demands, when it comes to language skills. The second reason was that I had some knowledge about Estonia because in Soviet times, Estonia was part of Soviet Union as well as Ukraine and I wanted to see how it is developing now.

Supervisor says



Maive Edovald
Teacher
Kiikhobu Kindergarten
Experience: 15 years

Experience in work with volunteers: 2 years
Supervisor of Oleksandr Portnov

When did your working experience with volunteers start?

My working experience with volunteers started about two years ago, in autumn 2010. The first volunteer wasn't in my group, he arrived in autumn 2009 and was working in another group. In my opinion he was doing a great job, every day he had a new task or a new game for children. He learned Estonian language very fast and after him we all wanted to host volunteers. In our group we started working with long-term volunteers from January 2010.

What are the benefits from hosting volunteers?

We have a lot of children in our kindergarten, in one group usually 22 and in my group they are from the age of 2-7 years, so it means that we have different lessons in different times and we need help. For example - when one group has a math lesson, the volunteer is playing with the others. In everyday life, we also need somebody who can play with children and help in everyday tasks, like dressing and etc. Besides the help, the volunteers always bring new ideas into our everyday life.

For me personally, it's a great experience because among other things, I've learned to speak English through practice.

From where do you get the support in working as a supervisor?

Usually I get my support from my co-workers, director of the kindergarten and from coordinating organisation Continuous Action. We also have meetings for all the supervisors, where we can talk about our problems.

Besides that, I can say that the greatest support I have obtained is from International Trainings. My first training was in Bonn, where I learned how to make "paperwork", applications and etc. The second one was in Netherlands and it was about EVS teamwork. We visited different projects and shared our experiences and we discovered

that the difficulties are often the same and these are mostly cultural difficulties. For example Estonian people want to make things immediately and people from Spain say "let's do it next week".

How does the communication between volunteers and children look like?

Children use everything, mostly it is body language, sign language - they are showing what they want but most often they use Estonian language. Our first volunteer was from Somalia. His English wasn't good because he didn't have any experience, but he was learning English with our kids. He was bringing his dictionary and he was learning and teaching children English at the same time. Children are great teachers of Estonian language and this is a great opportunity for volunteers to learn, because they are forced to learn.

What have been the challenges and difficult moments with volunteers?

The difficulties are mostly caused by cultural differences. For instance, if volunteer is from Italy then the understanding of time is different. They are more relaxed and we are more strict. Sometimes we have problems with lack of motivation of volunteers, for example in motivation letters they are writing that they want to learn Estonian language but after that they have problems with it.

What are the plans for the future?

We just got a new accreditation so next three years we will be hosting volunteers again. Though choosing volunteers is not easy. Usually they are sending us so great CV's and so great motivation letters but sometimes it's not all true. Despite of this, we certainly want to host volunteers in the future.

Once you have done the voluntary service you will be a volunteer forever



Fausto Di Nella
From Ortona, Italy
Volunteer in Põltsamaa Youth Center
EVS Project: Social inclusion enlargement
through volunteering in YU Juventus
September 2011 - August 2012

Putting one year on a white page is always difficult, especially if that year was spent somewhere abroad on a fantastic project as EVS is. I will try...

I did my service from 1st September 2011 till 1st September 2012 in a youth-center in Põltsamaa, a really nice town in the middle of Estonia: "Kas Sa teadsid, et see on veinipealinn?" It was my favorite sentence for selling my town to my friends and other Estonians who knew it maybe only because of the juices.

The youth-center was an unbelievable place: so new, futuristic, modern and "home" for the youth, workers, guests and of course for me. Thanks to the director - Heidi Paabort - all the community has the opportunity

to go everyday in a place where each person can find the people, the instruments and the knowledge for developing the personal attitudes, learning new skills or just having good time with a friend on "sooooo comfortable

couches". The center is open from 13 to 19 but usually one worker arrives at 11 in the morning for cleaning the area. That was more or less my working time, but honestly Heidi gave me possibility to find the way to manage by myself the working hours, so sometimes I started at 15 and sometimes she found me downstairs at 9 in the morning already working on a new project or something like this. The youth-center was my home, literally: my flat in Põltsamaa was situated on the second floor of the center. There was everything there and everything there had a flag of European

All the community has the opportunity to go everyday in a place where each person can find the people, the instruments and the knowledge for developing the personal attitudes, learning new skills or just having good time with a friend on "sooooo comfortable couches".



than 20 youth waiting for the "Fausto's movie". They never spared critics about my choice during the little talking after the movie in front of the food we prepared together during the afternoon: "Fausto, this one was really boring" and started the conversation about "why yes and why not". Once I suggested a nice movie about Civil Wars in Africa, and after that I met history teacher of the local high school in the supermarket and he said: "Fausto, why did you show that movie yesterday? This morning all the youth asked me to talk about Africa and was there, but it wasn't in our program!"

The most important and funny project I made was the "Bloom". During the

schools spring-break I organized, with a local girl, a week of activities about volunteering: every day we hosted in youth-center a different EVS volunteer from a different country who made a presentation about his home and himself with games or workshops. There were a puppet-show, a flash-mob in the local supermarket, circus workshop, sport activities, orienting competition, an information-day about EVS projects for the youth and more interesting things. Part of the project was a photo competition for volunteers: we had 15 participants from Estonia and abroad, we got more than 300 votes from 86 countries in the world and for one week my personal blog (where was the possibility to vote for the pictures) was the most popular website in Estonia. It was really cool and tiring with tens of youth per day.

I told about these three projects, but I've done much more and I have funny stories for each of them: the cooking course, the hikes, the Italian language course (3 girls are able to speak Italian in Põltsamaa now), the organization of the European Day, the realization of something like a subsidiary for youth distributed all in the Jõgeva

county. All the time that I was "special guest" in different schools or organizations near also I was giving information in Põltsamaa about EVS project and European youth mobility for the students at the high school or in the youth center... and so on... Of course I had also a life out of the youth-center, my second pride of the last year is that I became a European Football Champion... What? Yes, I played in Tallinn every weekend, mostly in the winter, in the Italian Embassy team and in the end we won the championship in the final tournament live on Tallinn TV, at the biggest sport-center of the capital. After this there was a big party with the Italian Ambassador and many

calls, because all my Põltsamaa youth watched me on TV. What a strange story. I've also found many friends, volunteers, students, workers and homeless people in Põltsamaa and all around Estonia. If I have to be honest, I've never been in Finland or Russia, but I've travelled all around my host country from Tallinn to Valga. I spent a nice week in Võrumaa and Setomaa, on all the islands, in many villages maybe unknown even for Estonians, I've enjoyed the sun in Pärnu, the university atmosphere in Tartu, the folk in Viljandi and in Käsmu and I can continue for hours. I really loved Estonia and Estonians and took the mission to do my best for showing to my country - Italy - how much Estonia is full of beauties. I made a blog and I wrote there about it and some of my articles were published in Italian newspapers, I'm so proud of it.



I also have to mention about the exchange done during the year: it was in Põltsamaa when 6 Chinese youth arrived for a week. I already knew China and Chinese a bit but it was a great opportunity for a deeper exchange. It was in November and thanks to all activities in the program, after only two months, I was in all the most important places in Estonia, again... lucky me!

I really loved Estonia and Estonians and took the mission to do my best for showing to my country - Italy - how much Estonia is full of beauties.



