

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMP VOLUNTEERS

Information for Volunteers

Volunteering Team "Freizeit gestalten"

in Frankfurt (Oder), Germany

20th of July to 15th of August 2025



VOLUNTEERING TEAM



Dear Volunteers,

We invite you to become a part of our **Volunteering Team** project in Frankfurt (Oder), Germany and Słubice, Poland.

This Information Pack contains some useful information about the Project “Freizeit gestalten”. You will find information about how to get to Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice, about the city itself and about our venue. We are looking forward to meeting all of you in July - August 2025.

If you have any questions concerning the volunteering team, your travel, etc. just contact us: volunteering@pewobe-ffo.de

You will get an answer from us as soon as possible. Now enjoy reading this Information Pack.

See you this summer!

Sincerely,
The Preparation Team



SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

The Project "**Freizeit gestalten**" is a volunteering team project that aims to gather 15 young people from different countries to help create the activities for an international summer camp for teenagers. By doing so they will create also a peaceful and respectful space for their personal and professional development. Our participants are aimed to create educational and practical workshops and activities for the young people in the summer camp in Frankfurt (Oder), Germany.

Additionally, other activities for children and young people will be supported. The summer camp is a space for having fun, learn new things, get new skills and be taught of tolerance and solidarity.

The Project Aim: to enhance the equality of young people, to enlarge the knowledge of diversity of people and also raise awareness about social inclusion.

Our activities and workshops during the project will be various and multifaceted. We are planning to have skills sharing activities, different hand making workshops, music, drawing, dancing, sport and many other activities promoting diversity. We will do our best to give to give our volunteers a great space for creating and turning into reality their own wishes and initiatives which are familiar with the aims of our project as well as with the aims and principles of the European Solidarity Corps.

The project is coordinated by pewobe g GmbH in Frankfurt (Oder) and co-funded by the European Solidarity Corps of the European Commission.



What: The Volunteering Team

Where: in **Germany and partially in Poland** as we are located at the border

When: 20th July – 15th August 2025

For whom: 15 international volunteers

- Arrival 20th July - the project will start with a short orientation and a welcoming evening.
- Departure 15th August, after the breakfast.





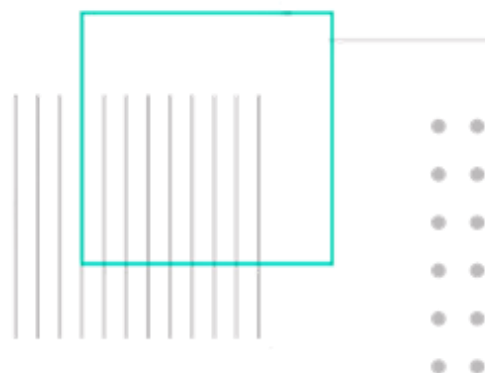
The first two weeks we will work mainly in the office and in local events to prepare the Camp. During this weeks, you will live in the cities Frankfurt (Oder) - Germany and Słubice – Poland. The second two weeks you will spend in the accommodation of the Summer Camp outside of the cities together with the group. During this time, you support the camp full time.

About the Organizer:

You will be hosted by pewobe g GmbH Frankfurt (Oder) in Germany. Pewobe g GmbH is a NGO working on regional level in the Federal State of Brandenburg in the East of Germany. Since 1996, pewobe is running kindergartens, youth clubs, assisted living for youngsters, the child emergency service as well as assistance for families in need. All projects of this association aim to have an international orientation and promote education for tolerance. They already have established many contacts for international cooperation in several countries. Since 1999, pewobe hosts international youth meetings where young people from Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice (situated in Poland, the town next to Frankfurt) are volunteering to make these projects a reality. The main office is located right next to the border river with Poland.

Finances:

1. The costs in Germany for accommodation and the activities are covered by the fund of the European Commission.
2. You will be signed up for the group insurance provided by the European Solidarity Corps.
3. According to the rules within the European Solidarity Corps we will reimburse the travel costs on the basis of the cheapest and safest possibilities, e.g. second class railway tickets, APEX-flights etc., accompanied by the receipt of complete and original tickets, invoices, bills, receipts, boarding cards etc. upon a certain "contribution to the travel costs of participants, from their place of origin to the venue of the activity and return". This contribution is "based on the travel distance per participant. Travel distances must be calculated using the distance calculator supported by the European Commission": <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>
4. All financial details as well as other obligations from both sides will be clarified in a personal volunteering agreement between pewobe and each volunteer. The draft for this agreement will be send in the next weeks.



TRAVEL DETAILS

ARRIVAL DAY: The Volunteer Team will start on 20.07.2025 in the evening. The accommodation in the location will be provided from 20.07.2025. You can come to Germany the days before, if you want to spend additional days in Berlin, however, the accommodation on non-project days are NOT provided and NOT covered by pewobe. Let us know until 1st of July your time of arrival so that we can make the plan for the arrival day. **Please book tickets only after you receive a signed volunteering agreement and the confirmation of your travel plan from the organizers!**

The project takes place in **Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice**, cities close to Berlin, right at the German-Polish borderline. **Don't confuse** it with the other Frankfurt - Frankfurt am Main. If you are coming by plane you need to buy **a ticket from your city to Berlin, not to Frankfurt am Main**. To reach Frankfurt (Oder) from Berlin, you can take the regional train which should take around 1 hour if there is no construction.

If you come by train you can book your ticket to Frankfurt (Oder) directly and if you come from the East (through Poland for example) you can book your ticket to Frankfurt (Oder) or Rzepin. Let us know when you will arrive at the train station so we can arrange to pick you up.

If you arrive by other means of transportation, e.g. bus, we can help you find the connection to Frankfurt (Oder) or Słubice easily. The Polish city **Słubice** is normally connected by Flixbus to several destinations.

On the day of arrival, you can contact us under this number: **+49 152 34660365**

DEPARTURE DAY is the 15th of August 2025. You will depart from the camp, so the back way to Berlin will be longer. We would advise you not to book a flight or bus for the early morning from Berlin, as you first have to get to Berlin, which will take around 2 hours from the camp at least. Noon, afternoon and evening is easier to organize. Also let us know your departure time until 1st of July so that we can plan that day as well. You can only get reimbursed for the travel costs if you travel directly within a reasonable time before and after the activities.

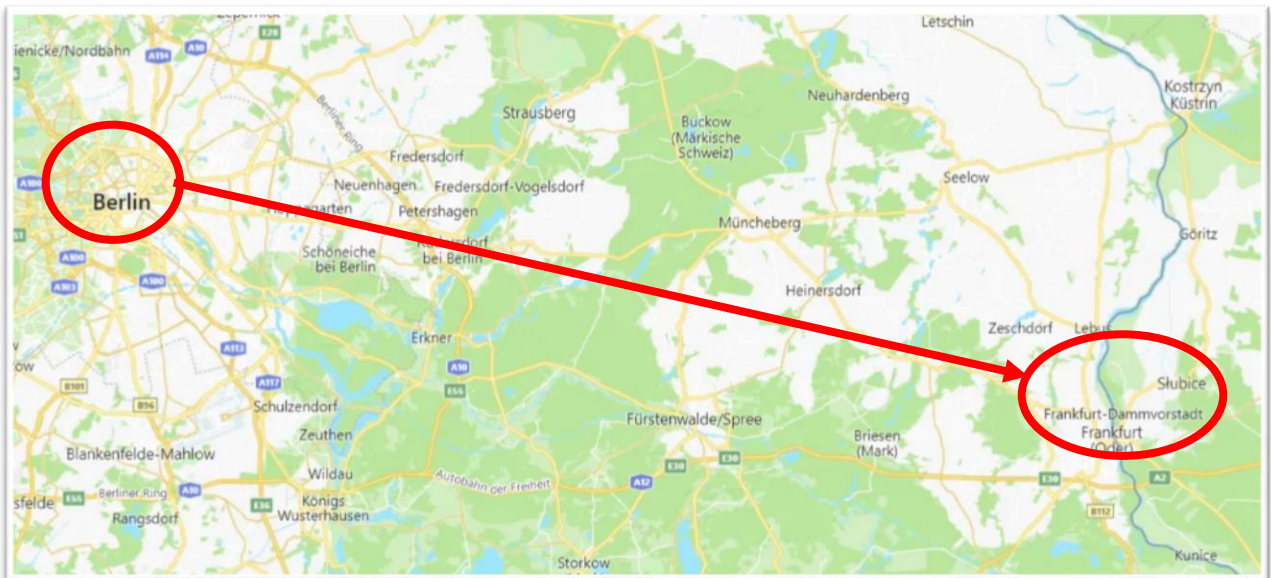
How to get to Frankfurt (Oder) from Berlin:

After your arrival in Berlin, you need to get to Frankfurt (Oder) which you will reach by train. Frankfurt (Oder) is East of Berlin. We will send you an update of the connection around 1 week before the project as there might be changes due to constructions. The trip from Berlin to Frankfurt (Oder) will take a little more than one hour. We recommend using the app or website of DB (Deutsche Bahn, <https://reiseauskunft.bahn.de/bin/query.exe/en>) to get the best direction based on your arrival time.

Note: Kindly provide the exact time of arrival in Germany after booking your trip and we will prepare an exact specific arrival plan for you compatible and more comfortable with your arrival time.

Frankfurt (Oder) and Slubice:

Here you can see location of Berlin, Frankfurt (Oder) and Slubice:



Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice are cities with many facets. Some of them we want to present to you now so that you can get an idea what to expect. To have the better vision, check the website of Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice:

<https://www.frankfurt-slubice.eu/de/doppelstadt>



FRANKFURT (ODER) is:

Region and Twin City:

Frankfurt (Oder) is located east of Brandenburg and is a town of around 58 000 inhabitants. It is located on the west side of the Oder river around 80km east of Berlin. Before the end of the II World War, the city of Słubice in Poland has been a part of Frankfurt (Oder). At the end of the war the Oder river, that was passing through the city, became the border. Nowadays the cities have decided to work closely together as a European Twin Town that make decisions together and cooperate in all areas of live.

Until 1945 the towns Frankfurt (Oder) (today in Germany) and Słubice (today in Poland) used to be one city that has been divided into two separate cities under the Potsdam Agreement.

Since the reunion of Germany in 1990 both towns grow together and many cooperative German-Polish projects have been established. One of these projects is the artificial town "Slubfurt", an artist commercialized both towns as one European town in two nations with two cultures.

The Kleist-City

Probably the most famous son of the town is the German dramaturgist Heinrich von Kleist. His theatre plays are known beyond the borders of Germany and in 2011 in whole Europe, the year of Kleist was celebrated because of the 200th anniversary of his death.

Frankfurt (Oder) also has got a long tradition in other arts; for example, in 1535 the first civil association of music "convivium musicum" has been founded by Jodocus Willich.

Today the citizens of Frankfurt (Oder) can be proud of the state orchestra of Brandenburg, a school of music, a singer's academy and many choirs and music associations as well as of a theatre school, a cabaret and youth bands.

The Hanse-City:

In 1430 Frankfurt (Oder) has been named in a list of participants of the "Lübecker Tagfahrt", where only members of the "Hanse" had been invited. As a result, Frankfurt (Oder) can be seen

as a member of the medieval trade organization Hanse at least from this day on. In 1517 Frankfurt (Oder) left the Hanse because of the wish of electoral prince Joachim I.

Meanwhile Frankfurt (Oder) is a member of the city association DIE HANSE again, which is the biggest voluntary towns association worldwide and engages active on all kinds of activities like the days of the Hanse for example.

The Sports-City:

Sport is also a tradition in Frankfurt (Oder), the oldest shooting club has been founded in 1406. Other traditional sports in Frankfurt (Oder) are gymnastics, biking, wrestling, Judo, handball and boxing. In all of these sports Frankfurt (Oder) has produced Olympic champions, world champions and European champions since the first Olympic games of the modern age and still does.

Some of the most popular sportsmen of Frankfurt (Oder) are Hermann Weingärtner (Gymnastics), Joachim Sanne (Biker), Karin Balzer (Athletics), Klaus Köste (Show Jumping), Torsten Reißmann (Judo), Henry Maske (Boxing), Jörg Brümmer (Sumo) and Manfred Kurzer (Marksman).

The University-City:

On the 26th of April 1506 the “Alma Mater Viadrina” university with 950 students was opened in Frankfurt (Oder). The first principal was Konrad Wimpina who, for example, wrote the antitheses for Johannes Tetzel who refuted the 95 theses of Martin Luther.

In 1668 Mattheus Gottfried Purman was able to successfully make a blood transfusion from a lamb to a human being (Mr. Welslein) and, thus, cured him from the Leprosy –200 years before the birth of the discoverer of the ABO-blood-group system Dr. Karl Landsteiner.

On the 10th of August 1811 the university was moved to Breslau because of the Humboldt-University in Berlin that had been founded one year before –by the way: Wilhelm of Humboldt also finished the Viadrina University. On the 15th of June 1991 the Europe-University Viadrina was re-founded. At the moment here are studying 6500 students from 84 countries.



SŁUBICE is:

Region and Twin City:

Słubice is located in western Poland, on the Oder river, in the voivodeship of Lubusz, on the German-Polish border. It has a population of 18.148 in 2011 and spreads over an area of 19,2 square kilometers.

Until 1945, the Eastern suburb of Frankfurt (Oder) was called Dammvorstadt, to which it is now connected by a bridge over the Oder river, called Stadtbrücke in German.

The city is the administrative capital of the Słubice County and the capital of the administrative district Słubice.

History:

Słubice is closely linked to its German sister city Frankfurt (Oder), of which it was a part until 1945. The two cities have been forced apart by the drawing of the Oder–Neisse line, which drew the Polish-German border through the city.

The two cities share many urban amenities and collaborate on various projects, such as a wastewater treatment plant in Słubice that serves both towns, as well as the Collegium Polonicum as an extension of some of the Viadrina European University's departments on the Polish side of the border. Furthermore, Słubice is part of a special Słubice-Kostrzyn Economic Zone.

Culture:

Słubice was the setting for the 2003 film Distant Lights (Lichter) as well as for scenes in the 2002 film Grill Point.

In 2014, the municipality erected a monument by Mihran Hakobyan in Frankfurt Square (Plac Frankfurcki), in honour of the collaborative online encyclopaedia Wikipedia, "in homage to all community work, carried out in a selfless way for the good of others" and also in the hope that it would become an emblem of the city and a tourist attraction.



THE PROJECT

Our venues:

The Volunteering Team project is separated in two phases. During the Phase I, which lasts two weeks, we will be staying and working in the cities. We will update you soon about the accommodation for the first phase.

The central working point will be our office:

pewobe office:

pewobe g GmbH

Große Oderstraße 29

15230 Frankfurt (Oder)

During the Phase II, which also lasts two next weeks, you will stay with us in the accommodation of the Summer Camp to be fully involved in all activities. During this phase, we will stay here:

HeleneCamp

Am Helenesee 1A

15236 Frankfurt (Oder)

The Team:

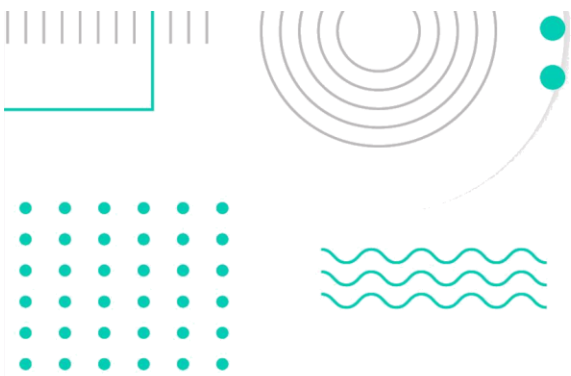
The Volunteering team will consist of young people from several countries as well as youth from Germany and Poland. Once every volunteer is known, you will get the details of the group. Also you will have our local volunteers and staff members of pewobe that will manage the team. They will also be there to help you with all questions. We will introduce them to you soon!

Meals:

During the Phase I the group will mostly make their own food (breakfast, lunch and dinner). You will get money for food and cook your food individually according to your personal needs. You will have access to the kitchen at your place of accommodation.

In Phase II you will get the meals provided together with the participants of the summer camp. During those days you will not receive money for food.

Note: On some days, meals could be organized in the office, then you will also not receive money for food.



Free Time Activities:

Although we are having a full schedule we will also have some free time. This will be especially during phase one. Besides some planned activities, these are the options we are having are:

- Do some shopping in Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice;
- Visit Museums in Frankfurt (Oder);
- Visit Wildpark in Frankfurt (Oder);
- Visit Stadium „SOSiR“, in Słubice;
- Bazar in Słubice: Flea & Street Markets;
- Visit surrounding area, including Berlin.

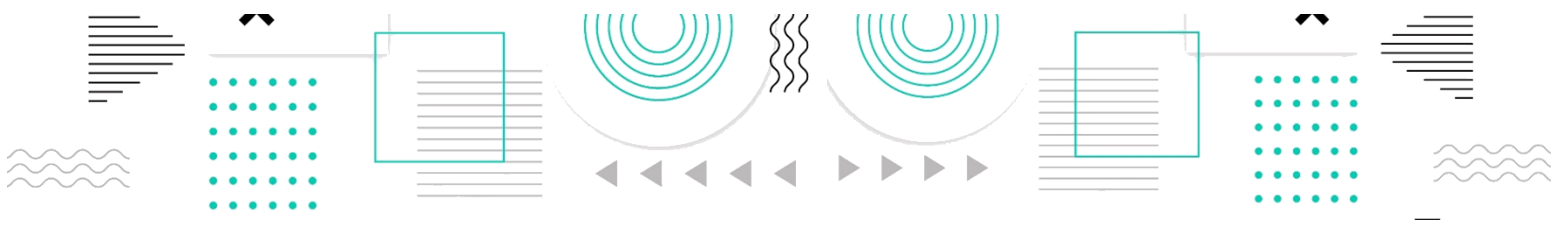
Note: The bus connection is not good to all places. That means you cannot reach everything easily. Please consider this when you want to go somewhere. We will provide you some additional information about local transport upon arrival.

What to bring with you:

- Passport / ID;
- Travel and Health Insurance papers (proof of EHIC is necessary for EU-Citizens);
- Personal medicaments if you use any;
- Enough clothes for at least half of the project time as there are not too many possibilities to wash clothes;
- Clothes for sports, swimsuit, cold and hot weather;
- Flip flops/ etc. for the shower;
- Your cosmetics and other things for your everyday needs;
- Games and Music for the free time (additional);
- Something representative of your countries (for the cultural night);
- Energy and Motivation!
- Good mood :)

Note: Depending on the final decision about the accommodation you might be required to bring additional items for sleeping.





What to prepare:

Come with some ideas, proposals, wishes for the workshops, what you want to do, which topics. During the Volunteering Team you will have a chance to present to the other groups something about your city, region or country. For this occasion, it would be nice if you could prepare something.

Our schedule:

1. During Phase I you will have a work plan, which will be individual for each member of the team. During this phase we also will make sure you have enough time to explore the cities and surrounding areas.
2. During Phase II we will follow the schedule of the Summer Camp. Here you will be fully engaged in helping to implement all the activities.

See you soon in Frankfurt (Oder)!

