



# ERASMUS+

Asfar's Erasmus+ programmes provide unique opportunities for young people, aged 18 to 30 years old, both from the UK and the Middle East, to participate in Transnational activities including Youth Exchanges, Volunteering, informal Language learning and Cultural exchanges.

Between January and July 2015, Asfar will organise 3 Erasmus+ programmes between UK, Turkey, Jordan and Palestine. All of Asfar's Erasmus+ programmes include:

- **Free travel** opportunities to the **Middle East**, via a **Transnational** activity;
- **Inter-cultural engagement**;
- Investigation into different **Societies; Faiths; History; Citizenship; Cultural tolerance**;
- Informal **Language** learning in **Arabic, Turkish** and **English**;
- **Digital; Social Action; Employability & Photography** Skills.

Each Erasmus+ programme has different aims and objectives, however, all involve opportunities to develop new skills, meet fellow young people from different countries and gain real cultural experiences of the Middle East, beyond the realms of politics and conflict.

## What is Erasmus+?

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport. It runs for seven years, from 2014 to 2020, with organisations invited to apply for funding each year to undertake creative and worthwhile activities.

Erasmus+ aims to modernise education, training and youth work across Europe. It is open to education, training, youth and sport organisations across all sectors of lifelong learning including school education, further and higher education, adult education and the youth sector.

The Erasmus+ programme in the UK falls under the authority of the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS). The programme itself is managed in the UK by the UK National Agency, a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.





# Dynamo YE

**Dynamo YE** brings together young people from the UK and Jordan to participate in a two-way inter-cultural youth exchange, focusing on different societies, culture, artistic & enterprise skills, informal language skills, active citizenship, and the promotion of cultural tolerance, fostering an international platform for social cohesion between EU states and Mediterranean's neighbours.

**Dynamo YE** provides an opportunity for unemployed, students and graduates young people from the UK and Jordan to develop a youth network of mutual understanding between diverse cultures in Europe and the Middle East, while also encouraging inter-cultural investigation in a range of key topics including: Society; Culture; Arts; Literature; Politics; and Democracy; EU Citizenship; Social Action; and Cultural similarities and differences.

Young people will develop their language skills in English and Arabic, while also developing key personal, life and employability skills, through informal and fun activities, with a focus on culture, art, literature, enterprise and education.

Young people will participate in workshops that aims to develop their enterprise and artistic skills. Workshops will include: Digital Arts; Photography; Writing dynamic articles & literature; e-Film producing; and Drama skills.

Young people will also develop enterprise skills which will support them to mobilise their artistic self-expression for the world to see through, first Asfar's e-platform and then through other organisations throughout the UK and Amman.



In particular, young people from the UK, will learn about their EU Citizenship, what it means on a practical level, and how they can be proactive EU citizens, through participating in the electoral system. Young people will also engage with young people outside of the EU and learn about their culture and their understanding of citizenship, as well as EU citizenship as an outsider. While young people in Jordan will learn about the EU and its' democratic neighbours, how European democracy developed, as well as Jordan's own civic systems.

Also Europe's history will be reviewed, in particular how this influenced the history of Jordan and the UK, through the First World War, the 1917 Arab Revolt, Colonial Mandates and more recent history.

Participants will be encouraged to build international relationships and in the future develop their own projects. Employability and Enterprise skills will be a key focus, providing participants a foundation of key life skills required for personal development, working life and the promotion of long-term aspirations.

Young people will connect through a two-way Youth Exchange in Amman, Jordan and London, UK, to engage with their peers, while learning about their individual diverse countries, culture, art & literature and history. **Dynamo YE** also promotes civic participation of young citizens, towards playing an active part in their communities, on a local and international level. Young people will engage with their decision-makers, develop self-representational skills and through entrepreneurial skills, develop diverse artistic outcomes such as producing e-Films, writing Articles, taking Photographs, which will be platformed through a special Erasmus+ edition of the Asfar e-Journal.

To join **Asfar's Inspire EUROPE** programme and participate in a **2015 visit to Istanbul**, please contact **Charles Yassin, International Youth Officer** at **[charles@asfar.org.uk](mailto:charles@asfar.org.uk)**

