



# 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.





## INSPIRE EUROPE

**Inspire EUROPE** engages, encourages and connects young people from the UK and Turkey, to participate in a unique inter-cultural transnational project, through travel to Istanbul, workshops, historical, language and cultural activities.

Furthermore, **Inspire EUROPE** also develop key Employability, Enterprise and Social Action skills, to encourage young people to learn about the Middle East, to become culturally engaged and develop new Language skills, while also learning about active Citizenship on a local, national and EU-level.

**Inspire EUROPE** incorporates a 3-stage model:

- **Citizenship and Employability**
- **Language and Cultural**
- **Skills enhancement**

### **Citizenship and Employability**

**Inspire EUROPE** will encourage young participants to learn about their Citizenship on a local, national and EU-level, while also developing essential employability skills required to ensure long term employment. It aims to encourage young people to actively develop new outlooks, especially with regards to Civic Responsibilities and their EU Citizenship. Participants will develop deeper understanding of their: Citizenship; Politics and Democracy; Society; and shared History.

Participants will also learn about different career route-ways, the skills, experiences and professional behaviours required, as well as developing essential skills in CV writing; Job search; Interview Skills; and Networking for work. Participants will also meet key decision-makers both from Politics and Industries.

Through promoting active participation in our electoral systems, **Inspire EUROPE** brings young people together to learn and investigate the development of the UK, Turkey and the European Union's democratic structures and fundamentally how democracy developed and how it benefits us on a daily basis.



## Language and Cultural exchange

Asfar aims to work with young people to develop new Language skills in English, Turkish and also to encourage participants to be aspirational about learning other languages in the future. Participants will get involved in a series of cross-cultural activities and anthropological workshops to further developing their understanding and appreciations of peer young people's cultures. Participants will develop new outlooks, communication and inter-personal skills and appreciate other people, societies and cultures. Participants will travel throughout Istanbul to encourage their language development through culture, activities (i.e. the Scavenger Hunt) and practice.

## Skills enhancement

**Inspire EUROPE** aims to enhance young people's essential Life skills and provide a robust career service, ensuring they have the knowledge and no how to develop economically, ensuring social mobility both on a local, national, EU and international level.

**Inspire EUROPE** aims to provide social skills development including: including Communication; Inter-personal; Leadership; Team; Enterprise; Social Action projects; and Conflict Resolution skills.

A range of informal learning techniques such as: team Scavenger hunts; Role plays; Food tasting; Group Activities; Quizzes and Games; Peer-to-Peer activities; and Debates will be utilised to encourage participants to develop new skills, outlooks and job readiness throughout the **Inspire EUROPE** programme.

Young participants will log their experiences through e-Platforms, mobilising key methods of communications to represent their journey during **Inspire EUROPE**. Communication e-platforms will include: e-Films; articles; photographs; e-Diaries and the mobilisation of social media. **Inspire EUROPE** will develop young people's skills, motivation, cultural understanding, and increase social mobility and young people's employment prospects for the future.

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)**

