

HUJ

Voluntary Service of Armenia

**INTERNATIONAL AND JOINT WORKCAMPS
PROGRAMME**

2024



Tour the world: there's no summit as white as Ararat's

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INFO-SHEET

Welcome or “Bari Galoust” as we say in Armenia!

MEETING POINT

Armenian volunteers of your camp will meet you at the airport in case your arrival time is between 8:00-24:00 and will take you to the camp. Please note that if you arrive before the starting date of the camp, the Armenian volunteers may not be available to pick you up.

If your arrival time is after midnight, you will have to look for a bus to the center of Yerevan or take a taxi to the work camp.

After sending your application and being accepted to the work camp, you will soon receive an email from your camp leader, please reply promptly.

VISA

Visa-free regime for EU and CIS citizens. The updated list of countries not needing visa to enter Armenia is available here: <http://mfa.am/en/visa>

WORK

Our camps have become traditional. Types of the works are renovation, ecological, cultural, aesthetic work with children. The work is expected to be interesting and varied.

The participants will get certificates by the end of the work camps.

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Do not worry about sleeping bags, as you will stay in buildings/cottages of the hosting organizations where you will be provided with beds/mattresses and bedding packs.

In Armenian camps you should be disciplined and organized. Making beds and keeping the rooms neat and clean every day is obligatory.

Volunteers will prepare the food by themselves on the principle of duty. You will taste all kinds of Armenian traditional food, such as dolma, khorovats (barbecue), kiabab, khashlama, incomparable fruits of Ararat Valley - apricots, grapes, peaches, apples, berries etc. and vegetables.

LEISURE TIME

Armenia is called an open-air museum. You will have lots of interesting excursions and visits to historical monuments and museums, which will be organized during the work camp.

The excursions to the following sights will be organized upon the decision of the camp and all the visits will be **free**. The proposed list of the excursions is the following: Echmiadzin Mother Cathedral, Zvartnots Cathedral ruins, Garni Pagan Temple, Geghard Monastery Complex with a program of World Heritage Initiative, Lake Sevan (with a barbecue on the beach). Volunteers will visit Matenadaran-storehouse of ancient manuscripts, Historical Museum of Armenia or National Gallery of Armenia, museum of famous film director S. Parajanov, Vernissage-Armenian big souvenirs market under the open sky.

Different games, Armenian dancing and language lessons will be organized in the workcamps.

Leisure time for joint workcamps are individual.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

It is very important to bring with you different board games, songbooks, and children's songs to work with children and for using in the performances/concerts which will be organized on the last day of the work camp.

During the workcamp volunteers will organize the Intercultural days when each volunteer will present his/her country, so please bring photos and booklets describing your country, recipes of national dishes, products and spices and national songs.

You can bring your musical instruments, CDs with your favorite national songs and music and, of course, your high spirit and creativity.

PARTICIPATION FEE

For volunteers from organizations with bilateral exchange with HUI: no fee

For volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUI: 100€

Representation of HUI

Voluntary Service of Armenia-Republican Headquarters of Student Brigades (HUI) was founded in 1965. HUI is a member of the Coordinating Committee of International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) at UNESCO and the Alliance of European Voluntary Service organizations.

HUI organizes volunteer exchanges with partner organizations abroad and holds a database of 3000 volunteers registered in HUI as of today.

The main activities run by HUI are for and with volunteers, mainly the young people and students. The regular activities of organization include exchange of volunteers with different organizations, opening international work camps in Armenia, preparation and sending volunteers to different trainings, seminars and work camps abroad, as well as ESC long-term programs.

The essential aims of the organization are to raise the social competences and employability of the youth by organizing activities for national and foreign volunteers in various programs in Armenia (workcamps, training courses, medium and long-term projects) as well as facilitating the participation of local and national volunteers in similar projects abroad; to take care of orphans, children with special needs and socially indigent people by proposing activities to and for them and making them more visible for local, national and international communities.

ARMENIA

Area	29.743 sq.km
Population	2,7 mln: Armenians, Ukrainians, Greeks, Kurds, Assyrians, Ezids, Jewish, Georgians, Russians, Polish, etc.
Religion	Christianity. Armenia was the first country that adopted Christianity as a state religion in 301
Language	Armenian belongs to Indo-European language family. The alphabet was invented in 405
Time	CET + 3 hours
Climate, temperature	Continental, average temperature in summer +25°- +35°C
Capital	Yerevan, founded 2800 years ago
Lake Sevan	Mountainous sweet water lake is the pearl of Armenia and miracle of nature changes its colors 5 times a day. The altitude of the Sevan is 1,950 m above sea level.
Ararat Mountain	Symbol of Armenia - the legendary Bible Mountain Ararat, where Noah's Ark has moored, is the highest top of Armenian Highlands.
Currency	The Armenian currency is Dram (AMD) Currency exchange rate on the moment of printing the booklet 1 Euro ≈ 440 Dram 1 USD ≈ 400 Dram
INFORMATION	To get more information about Armenia, we recommend you to visit the following websites: www.armeniainfo.am www.armenia.com www.armeniapedia.org

We are looking forward to meeting you soon!

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Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/hujarmenia>

Instagram: huj_armenia

Workcamps Programme Overview

INTERNATIONAL AND JOINT WORKCAMPS		
NAME	DATE	TYPE
HUJ 1 ZVARTNOTS CATHEDRAL	31 July- 13 August	World Heritage/CULT
HUJ 2 SMILE TO TREAT I	1 August - 14 August	KIDS/DISA/ENVI
HUJ 3 HOPESHINE	6 August – 19 August	RENO/ENVI
HUJ 4 SMILE TO TREAT II	15 August – 28 August	KIDS/DISA/ENVI

JOINT PROJECTS TO CHOOSE BY PARTNERS		
HUJ 5 SMILE TO TREAT	September 10 days	KIDS/DISA/ENVI
HUJ 6 ZVARTNOTS CATHEDRAL	May-June 10 days	World Heritage/CULT
HUJ 7 HOPESHINE	June 10 days	RENO/ENVI

International Workcamps



HUJ 1

Dates: 31 July-13 August
Work: World Heritage/CULT
Language: English
Nr. of participants: 14 volunteers

ZVARTNOTS CATHEDRAL

Location: *Zvartnots Cathedral*

The work camp is organized within the frameworks of World Heritage Volunteers Initiative launched by UNESCO World Heritage Centre and Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS). One of the main goals of the project is to raise awareness about the necessity to protect, preserve and promote cultural and natural heritage in general and the inscribed or potential World Heritage sites in particular.

Zvartnots was built in the middle of the 7th century. This architectural masterpiece is a monument which embodies the centuries-long traditions of Armenian architecture. Unfortunately, Zvartnots has “survived” only in ruins, as it was completely destroyed by a powerful earthquake in the 10th century..

The camp will be opened for the 15th time and is already a popular and traditional one.

Work:

The major objective of the work camp is to preserve this historical site for the future generations, to keep it in worthy conditions to allow the visitors to be spiritually enriched and to contemplate the beauty and the splendour of this monument.

Activities for the volunteers are as follows:

- Maintenance of the territory - removing the over-grown grass, weeds.
- National sounds of Zvartnots-learning Armenian national dances, songs.
- Cultural program-My impressions about World Heritage Power point presentations of the volunteers on their impressions and feelings about the project and plans for the future.
- Presentation of the countries the volunteers come from, and of the UNESCO World Heritage Objects existing there.

The participants will get certificates by the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Guest house on the territory of the Cathedral.

Address: ZVARTNOTS Cathedral (20 km from capital Yerevan), Armavir Province (Marz)

In Armenian: Արմավիրի մարզ, Զվարթնոցի տաճարի տարածքում գտնվող հյուրատուն



HUJ 2 **SMILE TO TREAT I**

Dates: 1-14 August
Work: KIDS/DISA/ENVI
Language: English
Nr. of participants: 14 volunteers

Location: *Republican Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre, Yerevan*

The camp will be opened for the 28th time and is already a popular and traditional one. Every year the children, who receive their treatment here, look forward to meeting the volunteers in summer.

Volunteers bring a lot of ideas, spirit, love, warmth, kindness, and make the stay of the children in this Center a great holiday. They make these children feel that they are needed, valued and help them to reveal their talents and abilities.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is organization of the leisure time of small number of children with disabilities that receive their treatment in this Centre and environmental work on the territory.

Volunteers' day will begin with environmental work: maintaining the territory, cleaning children's playground from weed and grass, painting and some renovation work. After the children finish their therapy, volunteers will join them to draw, sculpt, sing and dance, do physical training, play games.

At the end of the camp volunteers and children will organize a farewell concert.

The participants will get certificates and letters of appreciation by the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in a separate cottage on the territory of the Rehabilitation Center and sleep in beds.

Special requirements:

Volunteers are asked to bring different games, face-paint or other materials to work with children.

Address: Republican Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre, American str. 109, Yerevan

In Armenian: Հանրապետական Մանկական Վերականգնողական Կենտրոն, Ամերիկյան փողոց, 109 շենք, Երևան



HUJ 3 **HOPESHINE**
Dates: 6-19 August
Work: RENO/ENVI
Language: English
Nr. of participants: 14 volunteers

Location: *Yerevan Special School N 14*

The camp will be opened for the 9th time and is already a popular and traditional one. The special school for visually impaired children was established in 1939 in Yerevan. This school is the only one in Armenia where the education is organized using the Braille system. Most of the children stay in the school during the school year and return home only for holidays. The school gives children secondary and specialized education. From 2014 - 2023 volunteers renovated classrooms, halls, benches.

During the work camp the children will be on holidays and the volunteers will be alone in the school building.

Work:

The aim of this work camp involves renovative tasks, including painting work, as well as maintenance and improvement of the territory.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the dormitories of the school. They will be provided with beds.

Address: 31 Mamikonyants Str., 0051, Yerevan, Armenia
In Armenian: 0051 Երևան, Մամիկոնյանց փող. 31



HUJ 4 **SMILE TO TREAT II**

Dates: 15-28 August
Work: KIDS/DISA/ENVI
Language: English
Nr. of participants: 14 volunteers

Location: *Republican Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre, Yerevan*

The camp will be opened for the 29th time and is already a popular and traditional one. Every year the children, who receive their treatment here, look forward to meeting the volunteers in summer. Volunteers bring a lot of ideas, spirit, love, warmth, kindness, and make the stay of the children in this Center a great holiday. They make these children feel that they are needed, valued and help them to reveal their talents and abilities.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is organization of the leisure time of small number of children with disabilities that receive their treatment in this Centre and environmental work on the territory. Volunteers' day will begin with environmental work: maintaining the territory, cleaning children's playground from weed and grass, painting and some renovation work. After the children finish their therapy, volunteers will join them to draw, sculpt, sing and dance, do physical training, play games. At the end of the camp volunteers and children will organize a farewell concert.

The participants will get certificates and letters of appreciation by the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in a separate cottage on the territory of the Rehabilitation Center and sleep in beds.

Special requirements:

Volunteers are asked to bring different games, face-paint or other materials to work with children.

Address: Republican Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre, American str. 109, Yerevan

In Armenian: Հանրապետական Մանկական Վերականգնողական Կենտրոն, Ամերիկյան փողոց, 109 շենք, Երևան



HUJ 6 **SMILE TO TREAT**
Dates: September 10 days
Work: KIDS/DISA/ENVI
Dates must be arranged with the partner organization
Language: English
Nr. of participants: 14 volunteers

Location: *Republican Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre, Yerevan*

The camp will be opened for the 30th time and is already a popular and traditional one. Every year the children, who receive their treatment here, look forward to meeting the volunteers in summer.

Volunteers bring a lot of ideas, spirit, love, warmth, kindness, and make the stay of the children in this Center a great holiday. They make these children feel that they are needed, valued and help them to reveal their talents and abilities.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is organization of the leisure time of small number of children with disabilities that receive their treatment in this Centre and environmental work on the territory.

Volunteers' day will begin with environmental work: maintaining the territory, cleaning children's playground from weed and grass, painting and some renovation work. After the children finish their therapy, volunteers will join them to draw, sculpt, sing and dance, do physical training, play games.

At the end of the camp volunteers and children will organize a farewell concert.

The participants will get certificates and letters of appreciation by the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in a separate cottage on the territory of the Rehabilitation Center and sleep in beds.

Special requirements:

Volunteers are asked to bring different games, face-paint or other materials to work with children.

Address: Republican Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre, American str. 109, Yerevan

In Armenian: Հանրապետական Մանկական Վերականգնողական Կենտրոն, Ամերիկյան փողոց, 109 շենք, Երևան

**HUJ 7**

Dates:

Work:

Language:

Location:**HOPESHINE**

June 10 days

Dates must be arranged with the partner organization

RENO/ENVI

English

Yerevan Special School N 14

The special school for visually impaired children was established in 1939 in Yerevan. This school is the only one in Armenia where the education is organized using the Braille system. Most of the children stay in the school during the school year and return home only for holidays. The school gives children secondary and specialized education. From 2014 - 2023 volunteers renovated classrooms, halls, benches.

During the work camp the children will be on holidays and the volunteers will be alone in the school building.

Work:

The aim of this work camp involves renovative tasks, including painting work, as well as maintenance and improvement of the territory.

The participants will get certificates by the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the dormitories of the school. They will be provided with beds.

Address: 31 Mamikonyants Str., 0051, Yerevan, Armenia

ESC projects of HUI in Armenia

Project	Description	Tasks	Vacant places
Muratsan Hospital complex	The hospital supports treatment for children, provide information about diseases, organize meetings and publications around that topics amongst children and provides information, financial assistance and emotional support to families and children affected by different health issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playing with children in the playroom and therapy room - Organize charity activities - Organize arts and crafts workshops, contests, exhibitions - Give language lessons 	1 volunteer From June
“Zatik” Child Support Center	“Zatik” provides day care service and full-time daycare for children who are staying at the center. The center works with children who are living in the streets, left without education, have conflicts with their families or have behavioral disorders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizing leisure time activities for children - Giving language lessons - Organizing creative workshops 	2 volunteers From July
Rehabilitation Center	In the center there is rehabilitation treatment given for underaged patients with different chronic diseases and conditions of skeletal and neuromuscular system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize leisure time activities and sport activities for children - Organize creative workshops - Maintain the Happy Room 	2 volunteers From August
National Gallery of Armenia	Armenia’s major art gallery where Armenian and world-famous art gets promoted, protected, and conserved. In the education center of the gallery children get the opportunity to discover the collection of the gallery and learn about art.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist the excursion department with guided tours, and giving presentations - Assist education center with preparation and implementation of interactive programs for children - Get involved in promotional and information events 	1 volunteer From September
History Museum of Armenia	The History Museum of Armenia makes sure that objects and collections, which represent the history and culture of Armenia and Armenian people, get preserved, replenished, studied, and published.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collect visitor feedback for development of the museum - Organize events - Welcome visitors and provide them with information - Assist a teacher in the history workshops for children 	2 volunteers From September
HUI-office	The activities of HUI include exchanging volunteers with different international organizations, opening of international workcamps in Armenia, preparation and sending volunteers to different trainings and seminars, as well as hosting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in promotion of volunteering at universities, high schools, or fairs - Organize and lead workshops and meetings on the topic of volunteering - Develop content for Facebook and Instagram - Assist in the international 	2 volunteers From September

	and sending volunteers in the frames of ESC and other long-term projects.	voluntary workcamps	
Botanical Garden	The Garden of 1,5 ha (with around 750 species of Armenian flora) is responsible for plant collection and preservation of the collection in Armenia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist the staff in variety of environmental maintenance projects (cleaning paths, taking out weeds etc.) - Participate in workshops - Participate in the research in the field of Paleobotany - Work in the Museum and Institute of Paleobotany 	1 volunteer From September
School 14 for Children with visual impairments	School 14 educates pupils with various degrees of visual impairments. The school is not a merely educational institution, but a place insuring 11 years of safe, secure, interesting, and productive life for blind children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize workshops and activities - Organize excursions and outdoor activities - Assist teachers - Organize language classes 	1 volunteer From September
Arabkir Medical Center	The center provides medical services for different child diseases. They also provide services for emergency cases and number of services for adults. Next to the hospital there is a school which provides educational support to the children receiving their treatment in Arabkir Hospital.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working in the hospital school by assisting the teachers, organizing activities, workshops, or classes on different topics. - Manage social media platform - Work with the Marketing team and assist in the implementation of digital marketing campaigns, including email and social media - Publish videos and photographs on company website and blogs. - Edit and revise content as necessary - Make translations, documentary activities and administrative tasks. 	2 volunteers From June
Diaconia	Diaconia Charitable Fund is created to help a person in need, to have a real hope of living a better life and create this future. The educational center of the foundation provides language courses, baking, sewing, painting and pottery classes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize cultural development programs - Help to finish renovation work - Help in maintenance works of the district - Prepare and pack food packages - Visiting families in different regions of Armenia to assess their needs, - Take photos and videos 	2 volunteers From September

World Wide Fund for Nature in Armenia (WWF)	The largest and best-known conservation organization in Armenia has the priority to develop and strengthen the protected areas of Armenia, conserve threatened species, support and promote environmental awareness and education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working at the WWF office the volunteer will be acquainted with the projects, receive trainings and instructions on how to use equipment and software - Helping the staff of the partner organization, help with daily work in trail blazing and management, wildlife data coordination and analysis 	1 volunteer From July
Dzer Gitake Kindergarten	The kindergarten's aim is to provide creative, social, intellectual, physical learning with a self-developed program. This program provides children with knowledge of languages (oral language), mathematics, art, music, dance, painting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language teaching - Planning the children's second part of the day - Organizing spare time activities for children - Helping to write new projects - Organizing performances based on special literacy works - Assist in lesson planning and preparing teaching materials - Helping children who need extra support to complete tasks - Supporting local teachers with classroom activities 	2 volunteers August