EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

CSR

ESC volunteering with children & adolescents





Centro Storico Ragazzi – afterschool, canteen, sport & summer camps

Where: Genova – Italy

P.E.CO Progetti Europei di Cooperazione

CENTRO STORICO RAGAZZI CENTRO STORICO RAGAZZI

Who we are: P.E.CO.

Associazione di Promozione Sociale P.E.CO. was born in Genova in 2013 in order to offer opportunities of international mobility and intercultural learning to Genoese and Ligurian youths aged between 13 and 30. In particular, P.E.CO. targets young people with fewer opportunities or economically/socially disadvantaged, aiming to offer opportunities to those who usually have less access.

We are the coordinating/lead organisation. We manage bureaucratic questions of the project, volunteers' questions, and the flat of volunteers.

We have around 20 ESC volunteers in several projects around the city of Genova, with topics of non-formal education in youth centres and after-school activities, and immigration-related projects.



2013

founded in Genova

13–30

age of the youths we support

~20

ESC volunteers in Genova

P.E.CO WEBSITE

P.E.CO Progetti Europei di Cooperazione

Who we are: Centro Storico Ragazzi

Centro Storico Ragazzi project started in 2008 stemming from a shared assessment of the needs of Genoa historical centre. It gathers the parish churches belonging to the central-western Curacy of Genoa, consisting in the most downgraded areas of the historical centre, together with some associations active in the support of minors with fewer opportunities. Centro Storico Ragazzi carries out educational activities for youngsters aged 6–18, who live in or hang out at Genoa historical city centre. The majority of them have foreign nationality, especially Ecuador, Perù and China. Most youngsters we're working with face disadvantaged family environments, difficulties at school, economical obstacles and do not have a stable connection with the context.



Centro Storico Ragazzi is an oratory-school, at the end of each day there is prayer. **No one is obliged to be a Christian (in fact they LOVE diversity!)**

OUR WEBSITE

What you need to know about us



1 Our method

Our working methodology is based on the encounter and the care of each child/young person, to whom we offer a space and a time to meet people who they can refer to, while we seek cooperation with the family, the school and the other educational agencies.

2 When we're open

The Centre is open 5 days a week, from Monday to Friday, all year except for August.

3 Where we work

The activities take place in the spaces offered by all parish churches and associations. In this sense, we apply the approach of "outreach education", thus not having a fixed headquarters.

4 In summer

During the summer we run summer centres at the seaside.

Despite our religious inspiration, Centro Storico Ragazzi's activities do not have any religious linkage and are addressed to youngsters of all religions, with the aim of favouring not only intercultural but also inter-religious dialogue and learning.

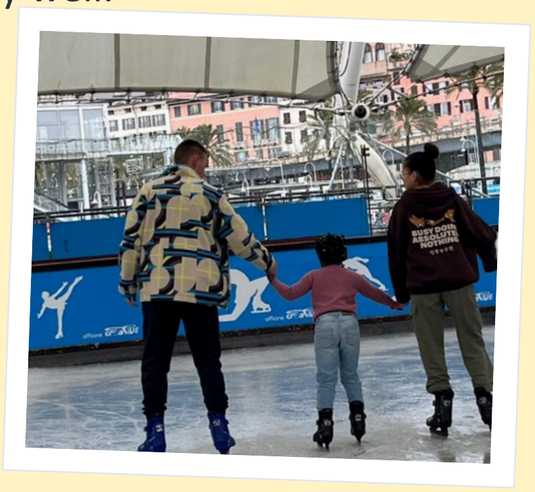
Before you start

1 The organisation

Centro Storico Ragazzi works through an "outreach" model: there is no single fixed base. Activities take place across multiple parish and oratory venues scattered throughout Genoa's historic centre. The environment has Catholic roots, but all activities are secular, inclusive, and celebrate cultural and religious diversity.

2 Who you'll work with

Children and young people aged 6–18, mostly from multicultural families facing social and economic hardship. Many need both educational support and emotional stability.
Educators may not speak English very well.



3 What to expect

- You'll move between different venues on foot every day. Genoa is hilly: steep climbs and staircases are part of your daily routine.
- Flexibility is essential.
- Some children may be emotionally unstable due to complex family situations. You'll need patience and the ability to set firm, consistent boundaries.
- After-hours material preparation occasionally happens at home.

Your activities during the day

1 Support in afterschool

Open 5 days a week, here we offer scholastic support, in particular concerning Italian language and culture. Due to its daily opening, it is also a place and a chance to analyse and try to solve youngsters' difficulties.

2 Attend the canteen

Eating together 3 times per week, in a cozy place, is the answer for the many youngsters who join afternoon activities and cannot have lunch at home: together with a complete and healthy meal, we offer a place for socialisation and growth.



3 Support "Lomellini Sport"

A group of youth aged 18+ has been entrusted with a support role in the management of the sport activities, with the double aim of making them responsible and providing them with small economic support.

4 Summer camps

We offer educational and leisure time activities to children and youngsters also through short trips outside Genova. It is an important opportunity for those who otherwise wouldn't have the chance to move outside their usual context.



☀ **The summer programme is significantly different from the school-year schedule They have different schedule and can be tiring because mostly outside and is important to be ready and willing to put energy in them**

The ideal volunteer

The ideal volunteer…

- is 20–30 years old
- enjoys working and living with people
- wants to stay 6 months in the project
- is flexible and adaptable, tolerant and patient, firm and creative
- has good communication and interpersonal skills
- is prepared to take up a delicate role in contact with young people that often come from complex family situations
- is willing to take part in a development and integration project, working closely with many children
- is willing to learn Italian fast: communication can be frustrating, especially at the beginning



This project is NOT for you if…

- you don’t like spending time with children
- you don’t like big cities
- you are not willing to improve your Italian
- you don’t like community life: you will share the house with different people

Discover the city

Genova is one of Italy’s most underrated cities: raw, authentic and full of surprises. Tucked between the mountains and the Ligurian Sea, it has the largest medieval old town in Europe, a UNESCO-listed historic centre, and a vibrant, working-class soul.



The caruggi

The narrow, winding medieval streets are the heart of the old town. Centuries of history as a powerful maritime republic: palaces, hidden courtyards and ancient churches at every corner.

The sea is everywhere

On days off you can reach the beach easily. The Ligurian Riviera (Camogli, Portofino, Cinque Terre) is within reach by train.

The home of pesto

Also focaccia (eaten any time of day), farinata, trofie and fresh fish. Eating well and cheaply is not hard in Genova.

A vertical city ⚠

Hills, staircases, funiculars and public lifts (ascensori pubblici) connect the port to the hilltops. Be ready for stairs and ups and downs everywhere!

OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS

Genova today

A city that is changing

Genova (Genoa) is the most important seaport of the Mediterranean and one of the most important ports in Europe. It is the sixth most populated city in Italy that connects the industrial triangle of Turin and Milan. Its privileged location, as the “door to the Mediterranean”, has made Genoa one of the most prosperous financial and commercial centers and one of the most influential in the West.Genoa has gone through a time of economic and social hardship caused by de-industrialisation and the impoverishment of the economy in the last decades. For this reason, in the last 20 years it has undertaken a significant process of urban renewal.



A multicultural city

Genoa has a rich multicultural community and areas affected by marginalisation and petty crime, which are also the areas where volunteers work and which have seen significant urban transformation.

Regarding the project

Time

A maximum of **38 hours per week**, with flexibility and shifts. 2 consecutive days off. 2 days of vacation per month, with 15 days' notice.

Money

Pocket money of **6€ per day + food allowance**. You eat 3 times per week at the centre.

Travel

The travel expenses will be reimbursed on the basis defined by the European Commission.

House

P.E.CO. has 3 volunteers' flats in Genova: two for 4 volunteers and one for 11–12. Volunteers are placed according to availability. 2 of the 3 flats can only be reached by stairs. Double/triple rooms, shared bathroom, kitchen and common areas. Living together is a key part of the experience: respect, sharing and care for common spaces are essential. **Accommodation covered by P.E.CO.**



How to apply?

Do you want to join us in Genova? It’s easy!

1. **Write your CV in English**
2. **Write a motivation letter in English**
3. **Send both to the email below**





✉ **apply.esc@peco.genova.it**

Subject: ESC volunteering Centro Storico Ragazzi

INFO peco.genova.it · ig: centro_storico_ragazzi · youthforeurope.eu

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

P.E.CO Progetti Europei di Cooperazione