



Education and Culture DG



SERVIZIO CIVILE NAZIONALE



AMICUS Report – 11th of June / 19th of June

11th of June – Thursday

We had a meeting in the morning in CONCORDIA' s headquarters together with Rita and Sebastian who is in charge of the website. Moreover, we wrote down an article to be published on the webpage of Espace Ardennes about the AMICUS project and what we have been doing together with Samuel in the Shared Garden. After the lunch we said goodbye to Rita and to CONCORDIA' s team and volunteers.

A partir de cette date, nos 3 volontaires se sont séparés en 2 groupes. Désormais, Aldo se trouve à la délégation Aquitaine, et Carolina et Davide sont à la délégatin Auvergne.

Aldo's report

12th of June - Friday

Around 12 o' clock in the morning I took the train to Bordeaux. At the train station there was an austrian volunteer waiting for me and together with her we went to St. Caprais de Bordeaux where I met all the volunteers living in the EVS house and Pierre, the responsible of the regional office in Aquitaine.

AMICUS Report – Concordia, Aquitaine

15th of June – Monday

Today the “animateur” training week starts. It takes place in the former EVS house here in St. Caprais. There are 16 persons attending the training (12 French, 3 Germans, 1 Italian and 1 Turk) and 3 trainers.

In the morning we did some games in order to better know each other and we had a talk regarding CONCORDIA history and activities (EVS, Service Civil Volontaire, Mid and Long Term Voluntary Service, Work-camps) together with the trainers and Nico (French Civil Service Volontaire in CONCORDIA Aquitaine delegation).

In the afternoon the trainers gave us an overview of the activities we will have been doing during the week and after that they left us free to organize ourselves for the week: cleaning of the flat, cooking, go shopping (we had to use a budget as if we were in a work-camp). We divided ourselves in four groups and we planned the entire week: every day every group would have done something such as breakfast, lunch, dinner or the cleaning of the flat. Moreover, each group would have developed a module:

1. Environment;
2. Relation among the animateur technique and the animateur de groupe in a work-camp;
3. What does mean the word intercultural;
4. Relations among the volunteers and the local population of the village hosting the work-camp;
5. A real work-camp (module to be provided by the futures animateurs technique).

In the evening we had an evaluation of the day and we talked about our feelings together with the trainers.

16th of June – Tuesday

In the first part of the morning we had the first accounting module of the week given by the trainers. In the second part of the morning together with my group we had to develop our module: “Relation among the animateur technique and the animateur de groupe in a work-camp”.

In the afternoon we had a meeting with the responsible of the regional office in Aquitaine and he gave us a lot of information about CONCORDIA rules in a work-camp. After that together with my

group we presented our module through three small theatre performances analyzing some problems there could have been among the two animateurs during the work-camps. Therefore, we were asking to the others to substitute us on the stage and show us what they will have done in such situations in order to solve the problem. After our performance and a brief discussion together with the trainers we have better defined both roles of the animateurs.

In the evening we had an evaluation of the day and we talked about our feelings together with the trainers.

17th of June – Wednesday

In the morning we moved to CONCORDIA head office in Aquitaine where we participated all together at “A real work-camp” module organized by the animateurs techniques. We had to work on different activities such as repairing of a wood table, gardening activities and building of a small wall.

In the afternoon we had a meeting with the mayor of a small village here in the Aquitaine region that hosted a work-camp in the past: we talked about the relations among the inhabitants of a village hosting a work-camp and the international volunteers joining it. In the second part of the afternoon a group presented the “What does mean the word intercultural” module.

In the evening we had an evaluation of the day and we talked about our feelings together with the trainers.

18th of June – Thursday

During the first part of the morning we had a second accounting module. In the second part of the morning we moved to CONCORDIA head office in Aquitaine where we had a meeting with a representative of the Direction Régionale et Départementale de la Jeunesse et des Sports in Aquitaine. He gave us an overview regarding all the safety and hygienic rules we must follow during a work-camp and how to behave and what to do in case of accidents. Moreover, he came with us to the house where we were attending the training to make an inspection and suggest us what to avoid to do in the kitchen and not only (hygienic rules with food, etc.).

In the afternoon we had several activities together with the trainers regarding different topics such as solidarity and dynamics characterizing a group or the meaning of leadership.

Instead of having an evaluation as everyday in the evening, the trainers organized a very good animation that I could name “albatros population”: an ancient population that forgot human language and has developed its proper way to speak and some rituals. As a consequence, we have been conducted in the darkness behind the house where we were attending the training. The trainers (albatros population) were waiting for us in the middle of nature: we had to dispose ourselves in a circle, some candles in the middle. Nobody was talking during the performance and the albatros population did some rituals we obviously didn’ t understand. The point was to realize that there are culture we don’ t know and therefore it is important not only to be conscious of this but also to be conscious of our reaction to what it seems to be incomprehensible.

19th of June – Friday

In the morning we had a meeting with the person in charge of the administration of the work-camps here in Aquitaine: she gave us a lot of useful and practical information on how to behave and act with volunteers.

In the afternoon a group presented the "Environment" module (at the end of every module there has always been an evaluation all together with the trainers). Moreover, we had a final evaluation all together regarding the entire training week: we had to choose a picture among those the trainers gave us and explain how we were feelings, our impressions, positive and negative points.

20th of June – Saturday

In the morning we had the presentation of "Relations among volunteers and the local population of the small village hosting the work-camp" module. After that, one by one we had a personal interview with the trainers, a kind of personal evaluation they made for each one of us. We spent the rest of the day cleaning the house we have been living in during the training week and saying goodbye to the new friends we met.

It has been a very intensive and interesting week where I had the possibility not only to learn a lot but above all to meet very good persons.

Carolina and Davide's report

13th of June – Saturday

We arrived at 16.30 o'clock at Clermont Ferrand's station and there we met Milica and Bojana, our new flatmates here. They've been very nice with us showing how the house works and making us very comfortable. During the evening time came to visit us Katelle, our tutor here in Clermont, who took us out for happy hours and for have a dinner with her friends in her place.

15th of June – Monday

It was our first working day in CONCORDIA's office. We've been introduced to the whole team (Thierry, Yannick & Anne) by Katelle and then we had a walk with her and Anne (a girl who's making a stage here in CONCORDIA) to take a look around the city and its main offices.

In the afternoon we spoke with Katelle about practical arrangements, the AMICUS project, our expectations and our past experiences that would have been useful for work-camps and Civil Service projects in Auvergne.

16th of June – Tuesday

In the morning we organized the weekly plan with Katelle and we made various appointments with ex volunteers and host organizations' manager.

During the first part of the afternoon we discussed about what kind of questions make to the ex volunteers about their experiences, their opinion about Civil Service and how introduce our project to them. At 19 we had a meeting with the ex and new SVE volunteers to compare ours experiences and reassure the volunteers who will leave.

17th of June – Wednesday

From 9 to 12.30 we read the manual of the work-camp, that explains the practical things: rules, how the work-camp works, our responsibilities, the portions of the food and the explications of the leaders and co-leaders' role. After that we spoke with Yannik who showed us the work-camp's files with pics, map; the camp where we're going to stay and our job there.

In the afternoon we met Fabien, the new guy in civil service who had a meeting with Katelle who told to him a little about CONCORDIA (the history, the role in of CONCORDIA in the city of Clermont Ferrand, how's the office works and the project with the city hall .

At the 16:00 we had a new meeting with the referent of Concordia about the civil SCV project in the city hall of Clermont Ferrand.

The meeting with him been very interesting because he gave us his visual point about civil service: the utility of a project of SCV for the city hall, for a young french guy in France , the opportunity that bring the civil service in France.

18^h of June - Thursday

In the morning we had an interview with Sabrina, an ex SCV, who's told to us her experience and was a very interesting testimony because she was satisfied of her voluntary service. First of all Civil Service brings in her life new and exciting skills to get in working world, after one year she got a new job in the same sector and this is a huge step for the SCV in France because showed us that if you're really motivated and really care about your project this experience can be useful for your professional life.

In the afternoon Katelle explained us what will have to do from the 22th to the 27th of this month, during our work-camp training and then we worked for the weekly report.

19th of June - Friday

In the first part of the morning Anne, a girl who's having a stage in CONCORDIA, showed us the Clermont's University, then we went to CONCORDIA's office to arrange and number sleeping-bags for the work-camps.

In the afternoon first we went with our flatmates Milica to Cournon to meet the responsible of her project who explained us what kind of activities the city hall organization makes for the community of Cournon and something about Milica's project; then we went to PIJ (point information jeunesse) where Milica works twice a weeks, next we came back home to end the weekly report.