



Accommodation Standards for Organisations Hosting Volunteers

This document outlines the minimum standards required for accommodation provided by hosting organisations to volunteers participating in European Solidarity Corps (ESC) projects. These standards reflect the expected conditions necessary to ensure a safe, clean and habitable living environment for volunteers during their stay.

1. Structural & Safety Basics

- Water tight roof and walls (no leaks or damp walls)
- Proper ventilation in all rooms (especially bathroom and kitchen)
- Secure door and window locks
- Fire safety measures: extinguisher & smoke detector
- Access to natural light in habitable rooms

2. Utilities

- Electricity and water supply
- Adequate Lighting
- Functional power sockets
- Electrical appliances:
 - Fridge/freezer
 - Oven/stove
 - Washing machine
 - Water heater (geyser for hot water)

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3. Shared Accommodation Guidelines

If volunteers are hosted in shared rooms, hosting organisations must ensure that:

- Volunteers are informed in advance that they will be sharing a room.
- Room sharing arrangements respect gender preferences.
- No more than two volunteers share the same bedroom.
- Each volunteer is provided with their own bed, mattress, pillow, sheets and adequate personal storage space.
- Sleeping areas have sufficient space, ventilation and natural light.
- Privacy measures are in place, such as curtains or room dividers where needed.

4. Supplies

To support volunteers, hosting organisations are encouraged to provide basic consumables upon arrival, such as:

- Toilet paper
- Hand soap
- Basic cleaning supplies (e.g., multi-surface cleaner, sponge, dish soap)
- Clothes drying rack
- Rubbish bags
- A small supply of drinking water and/or basic food items for the first day

5. Accessibility

Where applicable and feasible, hosting organisations must ensure that accommodation is accessible for volunteers with disabilities or reduced mobility. This may include:

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- Step free access to the building and main living areas.
- Doorways wide enough for wheelchair access.
- Accessible bathroom facilities (e.g. grab bars, roll in shower, raised toilet seat).
- Adapted kitchen facilities (e.g. lower counters, reachable storage) where necessary.

Hosting organisations should discuss any specific accessibility needs with the volunteer prior to arrival to ensure suitable arrangements are in place.

6. Furniture & Fixtures

- Table and chairs (dining or working)
- Sofa or sitting area
- Wardrobes or storage units
- Bathroom fittings (toilet, sink, shower or bathtub, mirror)

7. Kitchen Essentials

- Kitchen cabinets and countertops
- Sink with running water
- Stove (gas or electric)
- Basic utensils, pots & plates

8. Internet and TV

- Wi-Fi Connection
- TV Unit



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9. Air Conditioning and Heating

- Access to adequate heating in winter and cooling/ventilation in summer, such as: air conditioning, fans and electric heaters, depending on the season.

Disclaimer

These accommodation standards have been established to ensure a safe and habitable living environment for volunteers. While these standards may exceed the minimum requirements outlined in national legislation, they are aligned with the objectives and quality commitments of programmes supported by the European Union Programmes Agency (EUPA).

The European Union Programmes Agency, as the National Agency for Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps in Malta, reserves the right to uphold these standards and take appropriate measures which may include: inspections, use of checklists to ensure compliance and requesting photographic evidence in cases where accommodation provided to volunteers is found to be inadequate. Failure to meet these standards may result in corrective measures or impact future cooperation with the hosting organisation.

Signature

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