



ART4Resilience

(Re)Imagining the future- Resilience through art in dystopian times

Youth Seminar | June, 18th - 26th 2025 | Cagliari, Sardinia

Service Civil International ([SCI](#)) is happy to open applications for an in-person, 8-day youth seminar (including arrival and departure days). It will be hosted by [SCI Austria](#) with financial support from the ERASMUS+ Programme.

**this training is funded by an EU grant.* Eligible countries are the following: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, North Macedonia, Serbia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Türkiye, Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Kosovo, Montenegro, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia; Moldova, territory of Ukraine as recognised by international law, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya; Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia

*****APPLICATION FORM BELOW*****

What is it about?

This youth seminar aims to create a gathering of volunteers, activists and creatives to engage with art for political action, focusing on *resistance and resilience*. We want to create a space to exchange knowledge on *art and activism*. Moreover, it will be an opportunity to create a *collective artwork* that will be integrated into the local space as a form of dialogue between the participants and the city.

Content

We live in dystopian times. Often we are at the edge of losing hope and start isolating ourselves from the injustices of the world and from the people around us. Together we want to work against this. Art has always been a powerful force for political expression and channeling emotions. Art is a tool for activism, but also a way to build resilience. Join us in this youth seminar for exploring the intersection of art, political activism, and resilience—culminating in the collective creation of a mural that reflects our visions for a stronger, more hopeful future.

Resilience is not just about enduring hardship, it is about adapting, creating, and finding ways to thrive despite adversity. Art offers us a space to process emotions, amplify voices, and build communities of solidarity. When we create together, we form connections, share experiences, and generate new ways of thinking.

Resilience through art means using creativity to navigate difficult times, regain hope, and to challenge (old) narratives. Whether in oppressive regimes, marginalized communities, or moments of personal struggle, artistic expression can be a lifeline—reminding us that we are not alone and offering us a glance into what could be.

Too often we think of art in rigid, square frames—confined to museums, galleries, and certain 'acceptable' styles dictated by elite, often colonial institutions. This excludes many, often marginalised groups. But art is everywhere: in the streets, in the symbols of protest, in movements, in our everyday life. Art is always political because it shapes culture, influences perception, and can disrupt power structures. It can make the invisible visible, challenge dominant narratives, and give form to resistance, for example through reclaiming public spaces.

This seminar invites participants to think beyond the frame, break out of conventional artistic boundaries, and explore visual art as a means of activism, resilience, and storytelling. From painting and collage to street art, graffiti and mixed media, we will engage with different forms of visual storytelling, questioning how art can reclaim agency. Whether you consider yourself an artist or not, your perspective and creativity are valuable. No prior artistic experience is needed—just a willingness to explore, express, and co-create.

We will talk about:

- Examples of powerful political art and art coming from resistance groups
- What is art?
- Forms of resilience
- Sharing experiences and knowledge within the group to the group
- Field work: Local museum and outdoor study visits
- Our own ideas in creative spaces outdoors

- Networking
-finishing with our own creative project.

Who is involved in the seminar?

SCI Austria is one branch of Service Civil International. Service Civil International (SCI) is a global movement dedicated to fostering peace, social justice, and sustainable development. With a rich history spanning 104 years, SCI organises impactful international volunteering projects and innovative educational activities that promote intercultural dialogue and inspire positive change.

Our facilitators

Marco Rondoni (he/him) is a trainer, facilitator and activist from Turin, Italy. His passions are related to permaculture and climate justice, as well as volunteering and non-formal education. He works as a designer of photovoltaic systems and as a trainer and facilitator for SCI Austria and SCI Italy. Since 2016 he has coordinated several groups of volunteers in nature conservation projects and in cultural and artistic events.

Tamia Alcázar (she/her) is a non-formal educator based in Vienna/Austria. She's worked on Global Justice topics since 2018 - also coordinating volunteer activities. Her main focus nowadays lies on decolonisation and anti-racism, emphasising a BIPoC perspective and intersectionality. After participating in a seminar she continued working with SCI for trainings about White Saviorism and Decolonial city tours. With the project Polarstern from SOS-Kinderdorf she facilitates workshops on social competence and strengthening community within classrooms.

Michele Zanda, is a volunteer and an activist from Italy based in Vienna. He will be in charge of logistics and general organisation. He has participated in several cultural exchanges in the last 2 years, after a few projects he started organizing the projects in the logistical aspects with SCI Austria (Service Civil International). We were looking for a cook for our projects so he became a cook. 😊 He is an Italian - as obvious it may sound - he likes food a lot, he was trained by the best (his mother and his grandmother) to cook mediterranean food. You can expect for example a mushroom risotto or a bowl of pasta e fagioli. He is not vegetarian or vegan but he is always ready to adapt some recipes to fit the needs of everyone and maybe learn something new from you! Ciao see you soon at the project!

Participation

Finances and Travel

- Food and accommodation during the training will be fully provided
- Travel costs will be reimbursed after the training up to an agreed limit depending on the sending country. The project will cover the actual costs of bus/train/flight up to a maximum indicated below (distance calculated from participants the place of

residence to the venue based on the [Distance Calculator | Erasmus+](#):

Travel distance	Green travel	Non-Green travel
10 – 99 km	56 EUR	28 EUR
100 – 499 km	285 EUR	211 EUR
500 – 1999 km	417 EUR	309 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	535 EUR	395 EUR
3000 – 3999 km	785 EUR	580 EUR
4000 – 7999 km	1188 EUR	1188 EUR
8000 km or more	1735 EUR	1735 EUR

You can arrive from one country and fly to another one, the important thing is that there is justification and at least one connection with the sending country.

- We strongly encourage green travel (i.e. avoid travel by plane, if possible; instead travel by train and bus). We are available to give you advice on this and offer a higher travel budget for eco-friendly options;
- Other necessary expenses, such as visa fees will be reimbursed after approval by organisers.

Location and Food

The training will take place in the seminar facility located in Elams, the town near Cagliari where the airport is. The living conditions are quite simple but you will be divided in smaller rooms between 2 and 4 people each so you will sleep in a shared room. The place is equipped with a kitchen, living area and an outdoor chilling space.

Food will be provided by a cook and will mostly be vegan/vegetarian. The kitchen is however available for everybody to use. We definitely offer options for those with food intolerance/allergies.

Care Work

We would like everyone to carry out care work during the seminar. Care work describes the activities of caring and looking after others. In general care work includes, for example, childcare or care for the elderly, but also family support, domestic care and helping friends are understood as care work. For us in the seminar, shared care work means that we look after each other, we all take on smaller tasks and together we create a caring atmosphere.

Seminar as Brave Space

At the seminar, we will talk about social crises and structural inequalities. We all have different backgrounds and social positions in a hierarchised world. It is therefore important

to us to create a framework in which everyone in the seminar feels as comfortable and safe as possible. There is the opportunity to share knowledge on discrimination, for critical self-reflection and space to encourage each other. A lot of times these are difficult and uncomfortable conversations. As we can't ensure a safe space in a room where there are different levels of knowledge, we work with the concept of *brave space* according to Micky Scott-Bey Jones. A Brave Space acknowledges discomfort as part of growth, fostering dialogue, accountability, and mutual learning. There will be a joint group agreement on site to channel those situations in a respectful manner.

Participants' profile:

- Participants must be 18+
- Participants who are politically active/or interested in activism and its intersection with artistic spaces and want to try out new things
- Participants who can commit to participate for the whole duration of the activity
- This seminar will be held in English. Unfortunately, we do not have the necessary resources to guarantee a translation. Participants must therefore have English skills that enable them to participate.

We explicitly encourage participants of all genders, sexual orientations, abilities and nationalities as well as cultural backgrounds, religion and social status to apply. There will be a space to share any inclusion needs before the training, and the team will be in touch in case there is the need to organise any special arrangements.

However, the seminar welcomes anyone interested in a deep and engaged dialogue about political topics, transformation and action. We want to create a platform for the exchange of different experiences, perspectives and areas of expertise.

Ready to apply?

If you've read all the information in this call and feel ready to apply... amazing! You are ready to fill in the application form. Find it here:

[Application form](#)

For more information or questions, please write to: coordination.sciaustria@gmail.com

All those accepted will later receive a detailed info sheet with information on the venue, detailed timetable, and preparation tasks before the training.