

ERASMUS+ BESTSELLER

CAREER

Your path to success - more than a job

BEFORE YOU START YOUR BUSINESS

Running your own company - that is a dream of many people. However, it requires hard work and a real passion for what you are doing. Unfortunately, a lot of these businesses end very soon and are unsuccessful. We would like to provide some tips and advice for you, before you start your own business.

Firstly, if you want to start a business, you need to have a good idea of what to produce or offer to the society. Actually, that is obvious, but still there are some tips for this as well. While thinking about the future business, it is important to take the needs of the society into consideration. For instance, you would not produce and sell pork meat dishes in some Muslim region. You should study the specific market place, so that the business is suitable for it. Also you need to think about the competition in the market and so if your future business will be competitive in the market. That is why it is best to have an original idea which is memorable for the customers.

Furthermore, you need to have the right competences and traits to run a business. You can get them in some part time jobs. For example, working as a cashier may teach you to take responsibility for your actions with money. You also may train your mathematical competence. Or working as a shop assistant may teach you how to work and cooperate with people and deal with difficult customer. By this, you train your social competences.

As important as your competences and traits is your experience. You need to get business experience to be able to establish your own company. You might acquire it by participating in Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs. That is a programme for people whose business is younger than 2 years or is not established yet. During the participation you can learn from experienced businessmen whose businesses are older than 3 years and so they may teach you how to run your own company.

Last but not least, you need to know how to present your idea to others, how to sell the idea. Unfortunately, many people do not know this, so subsequently good ideas could be rejected because of bad presentation. Selling yourself may be the most difficult thing that you will ever have to do. You need to be confident but not arrogant, persuasive but not irritative.

To conclude, we hope that you will find our tips and advice useful, so that they will help you on your career way. Make dream of your own company come true; good luck and work hard.



Dream Job found - Dream person wanted

Coming to a youth exchange programme entitled “Goodbye Job, Hello Career” I am impatient to find out what my career should be, and the tricks and secrets to get it.

Days are passing by and some of the other team members seem to know what they want, have a plan, are aware of the future. While I am of the “I have no idea” kind. Running out of time and my “Hello Career” question is still waiting for an answer. So, what should I be?

In today’s society we are so accustomed to the concept of the Dream Job. We firmly believe it’s what we want. We believe it’s our path to happiness and success. We believe it’s what we need in order to become those complete, fancy people we see on TV Shows, read about on newspapers and walk by on Oxford street.

And of course we spend days or mostly nights dreaming about that perfect future lives we’ll have after we achieve this job positions. In most of those sleepless dreams we are, let’s say, a curated version of ourselves. Better hair. Better smile. Better vocabulary. We have the D-R-E-A-M Job. So, suddenly, why not, we have become more outgoing. Suddenly we have a better taste in clothes and wines. Out of the blue we have more fancy hobbies, more friends, slightly more sparkling eyes. To put it simple, we are no longer us.

But why do we keep fantasizing about some parallel universe versions of ourselves, instead of looking at the facts? The tragic, but at the same time extremely simple, realization is that we are who we are. Our skills, our flaws, our funny little puzzle pieces that are there, always there, shouting for us to accept them.

Our Dream Job doesn’t and will never define us.

Spending time with my “Goodbye Job, Hello Career” teammates after a few hours or days I can faintly recognize the leaders, the organized ones, the funny ones, the shy ones, the winners, the whiners, the laughers. After a week I do not even remember what they have studied or what they want to become. What I do remember is their flaws, their skills, and their competences.

It's funny that we spend so much time with those Dream Jobs stuck in our heads that we forget who we are. We no longer try becoming better versions of ourselves through our actions and habits. We forget what we want. What we can. What we like. But, let me tell you, our Dream Job will not automatically transform us to a new person.

My last days I finally realize that the people on this group, and generally all of us, are not separated into "I have a Dream Job plan/ I don't" but into "I know myself/ I don't".

At the end of the day the question is not about becoming a software developer, a data analyst, a writer or just a hopeless dreamer. The question, much simple, is "Who am I?". And it's only up to you to answer for yourselves.

As long as it concerns me, my answer after this week is "The person that will define my own career"



NAME SURNAME

Social Worker



CAREER OBJECTIVE

To obtain a full-time position as a social worker in an urban, multicultural agency serving minority groups and multilingual families or individuals.

CERTIFICATIONS:

*Department of Education Lead Teacher Certification (May 2008)
Member, National Association of Social Workers, Beechtown Chapter (May 2004-June 2007)*

CONTACT INFORMATION

*Telephone: 123-456-7890
Email: hello@reallygreatsite.com
LinkedIn: @reallygreatsite
123 Anywhere St., Any City, State,
Country 12345
www.reallygreatsite.com*

EXPERIENCE/WORK BACKGROUND

Paralegal/Legal Assistant

DEPT. OF TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE, 2007-PRESENT

- Give a brief describe of the company that you worked
- Explain gaps in work history
- If you do not have to much experience you can change experience and education

Social Work Intern

- You write also non-formal experiences like youth exchange, training course

EDUCATION

University of Meintar

MASTER'S DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK

MAY 2007

- List your qualifications in order of the most recent and most relevant first.

LANGUAGES

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level
C2 Proficient user	C1 Proficient user	B2 Independent user	B1 Independent user	A2 Basic user

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2: Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference (CEF) level

SKILLS

Paralegal/Legal Assistant

DEPT. OF TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE, 2007-PRESENT

- Do not lie about your skills,abilities...

Gain experience with help of the EU!

The opportunity to collect experience abroad is really attractive nowadays and may level up not only your CV but also the whole professional career. If you want to try something new and get to know the world not as a tourist but as a local person, connecting daily life with work or education, this article is for you.

Naturally, even though it sounds great, for many people there will always be some concerns about money issues. This is the thing what the EU is trying to solve in order to provide equal opportunities to its citizens from each social class.

The European Union is spending a huge amount of money to support Erasmus +. Many of us know Erasmus only as a program, which allows undergraduates to study at a foreign university abroad. However, this is only a small fraction of all possibilities offered by the European Union. The programs are available for everyone, literally. As a target groups could be considered basically anyone, high school students, college/university students, working people or even my mother if she knew at least a little bit of English.

You can go for a professional internship, volunteering service, a variety of trainings, youth exchanges or even a job shadowing. Many people do not know about all of the possibilities, but there is an effective cure to that - information here.

Youth exchanges

These are lasting about 1 week in one of the EU countries or around the world. There are not many opportunities for high school students under 18, but they may be allowed to participate in some of them.

The most frequent weekly program is full of workshops and seminars about various topics such as culture, respect, equality, non-discrimination - there are many. The program normally takes place from 9:00 to 19:00, the evening program is always organized by the participants in the form of a cultural night, where they present their countries, typical food, dance or music. Each project has an organizer who organizes it in its own country, and partner organizations in different countries, which send their participants to the exchange. The EU reimburses accommodation and meals and transport costs (there are exact rules about the amount of reimbursed costs, but it is usually enough to cover economy class costs.)

Training Courses

In case you want to improve on "soft skills" such as organizing, networking, planning, presenting, working in non-profit organizations, training people (and many others), this is a great opportunity for you. There is no age limit, but it is primarily aimed at people who would then be able to use the acquired knowledge in occupations or activities in their home countries, therefore they need to gain deeper knowledge in the field. The principle and procedure is exactly the same as the Youth Exchange, which is already describes above, you only need to find a partner organization that will choose and send you for the project.

Study abroad

Studying for 1 or 2 semesters at a university abroad – this is the Erasmus everyone knows about. Now it is just one of the many options the EU offers to students.

If you are an university student, you can go to a semester / year at a foreign university anywhere in the EU and partner countries. Each university has its partner universities bounds made by bilateral contracts and the participation is always a selection procedure. For sign-up and specific terms, you have to inform at your university, but generally speaking, our stay abroad can last from a minimum of 3 months (or 1 academic term or trimester) to a maximum of 12 months. You can even do it multiple times, either as a student or as a trainee, but your total time abroad (study abroad periods included) may not exceed 12 months within one cycle of study (bachelor, master, PhdD.)

Traineeship

The same as with study abroad applies for traineeship, which is also subsidized by the means of Erasmus. It is designated for students currently enrolled in higher education institutions in the EU countries at Bachelor and Master level or you can participate as a fresh graduate. In this case, you have to apply for traineeship while you are at the university and the traineeship has to be somehow relevant or related to your field of study. You search the institution, manage and initiate the communication with your traineeship placement by yourself, this procedure is way more individual than study abroad. It also has to

happen within a year from your graduation and it can last from 2 up to 12 months.

Erasmus for Entrepreneurs

For a maximum period of 6 months, you can get mentoring from an experienced entrepreneur anywhere in the EU and partner countries in exchange for helping in his business. The EU provides a grant to cover your accommodation, food and traveling costs. The difference between internship and Erasmus for entrepreneurs is, that during your internship you are working for the company you are staying in, during the Erasmus for Entrepreneurs program, your mentor helps you with your business, gives you tips and tricks. The conditions for participating in this program are, that you have to be older than 18 years, either planning to start a business and have business plan prepared, or already have one, but your entrepreneurial experience cannot exceed the length of 3 years. The monthly financial grant is calculated according the country of stay, but for example it amounts to €610 in Slovakia, €1000 in the UK, €750 in Turkey and €780 in Greece.

Job shadowing

Another really useful way to learn about your dream job or maybe just a job of interest is by observing someone who is already doing it. You can follow the life of a professional for a few hours a day, ask whatever questions about that work which will come to your mind during your stay, and get a sense of what the job is really about and if it is something what you would like to do or not. The EU will help you to observe a professional in the field in foreign country by a financial contribution in order to cover your traveling costs, accommodation and food expenses adequate for the length of your stay.

European solidarity corps

A quite new initiative of the EU basically builds on the previous European voluntary service with adding a possibility of occupational positions.

EVS is can be considered as a full-time volunteering, even though it is not for free and not quite volunteering in the basic sense of the word. Once you find an organization and you are chosen for a project, you sign a contract with the

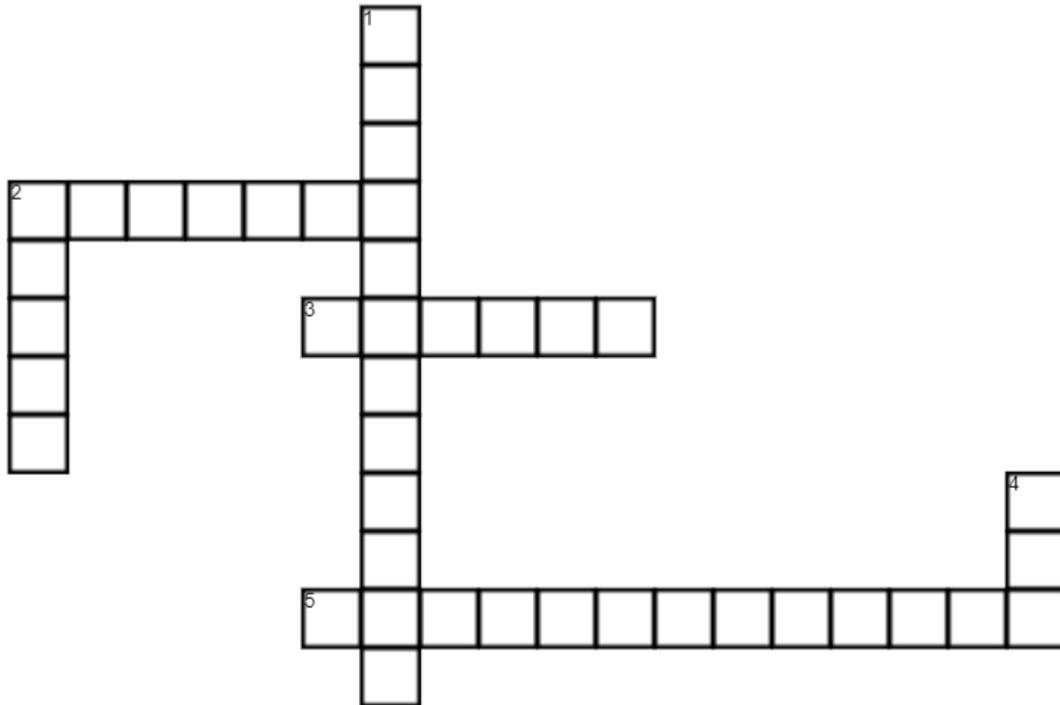
organization stating your working time and other conditions stated by the EU. Volunteer internships range from 2 months to 12 months, working time shouldn't be less than 33 and more than 40 hour per week, where the EU gives volunteers a contribution which should cover the expenses for food, including pocket money and traveling costs, albeit less than for work placements. However, the accommodation is already provided by the receiving organization. The work is mostly in the field of non-profit sector (eg kindergartens, children's homes, enviro projects, organization of festivals, events etc)

The application process has been made way more easier, you basically only need to go through the registration process at the ESC official website, provide your details, preferences, availability and organizations searching for participants will provide details about the project. The information will be stored in the database where both parties can search for their match and contact each other individually.

This is just the basic structure and introduction into the possibilities, the EU offers to it's youth. For more information on each specific programme, you can find all the guidelines at the official websites of every program.



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 2 Dutch humanist from Rotterdam -important figure in classical scholarship
- 3 Erasmus bestseller
- 5 Business exchange programme: Erasmus for young ...

DOWN

- 1 On-the-job learning of experienced workers passing down their skills to a new/young employee/intern
- 2 The european job mobility portal helping jobseekers to work abroad by finding a job in Europe.
- 4 European commissions project, which allows a young person (17-30) to become a volunteer in another country for a period between 2-12 months



Make your dream come true

Written by:

Kerimcan Zereyalp

Furkan Basak

Onder Bakir

Oxana Tsaraia

Natália Hudáková

Aneta Griačová