

# What Happened at Útilapu This Year

Yearly Report  
—— 2021 ——



**2021 was an eventful year despite the pandemic. With the help of our intern and two ESC volunteers we had many events at Miradoor, the community space we were running together with the team of Mira from Artemisszió Foundation.**

We organised English & Spanish courses, intercultural nights, movie screenings and many other community events on a weekly basis. We finished Cultivadoor solidarity project and kept going on with Open Pots, an other solidarity project. Due to the pandemic we had to make some events online or open air. Additionally, we had a women's day themed creative workshop in co-operation with the district municipality and participated in Bokréta festival, a local festival where we had the chance to connect with the district's inhabitants.

Our new project, CultiRider - Community Space on Wheels, entered into an important phase: the project got a substantial donation at a community charity event called Élő Adás. Also, we applied for a solidarity grant to finance the CultiRider programs.

Miradoor, our community space that we were doing together with Artemisszió's Mira team, got closed in the end of December. From 2022 January, our programs are moving to Útilapu's office at Almásy Street, after a renovation process.

### **Milestones:**

#### **January**

- Intercultural Quiz night (online)
- Board game night (online)
- Closure of Cultivadoor project (online)



## **February**

- Miradoor Carnival party (online)

## **March**

- Pluriverse sketchers (online)

## **April**

- Növényültetés az Üllői úton – VIII. és IX. kerület szervezésében
- Planting in Üllői Road – in co-operation with district VIII. and IX.
- Iftar event in a park nearby

## **May**

- Miradoor Birthday Party
- Alternative Budapest – Russian Walk
- Tribes – Role play and talking
- Home green tips – Environmental Protection Group
- Improv workshop

## **June**

- Volunteering event – Trash picking in the mountains of Buda
- Murder mystery party – Community Game
- Alternative Budapest – USA Walking
- Improv in the park – Community event
- Paradicsom Kocsma – Volunteering in Terény
- Georgian picnic – Intercultural night
- Untraange the world – Community event
- Budapest night street photo walk – Creative workshop
- Intercultural quiz night
- Alternative Budapest – Armenia and Georgia Walking

## **July**

- 2 Board game nights
- Alternative Budapest – Portuguese Walking
- Crossing Borders – Community event
- Time management – Group coaching
- Inspiring streets – Women's day program in co-operation with district VIII.  
(2 occasions)

## **August**

- Brazilian dance night
- Cookbook workshop – Finissage of Open Pots

- Intercultural Evening – Ecuador
- Our ESC volunteer, Gaetan, is arriving
- Intercultural Barbeque event – Gaetan welcome party

### **September**

- 2 Board game nights
- Bokréta Festival – September 21-25
- Improvisation workshop
- Start of Útilapu's office renovation
- Sabrina, our intern, is arriving



### **Október**

- Élő Adás community charity night – the project of CultiRider raised 900.000 Huf and additional services as donation
- 2 Board game nights
- South Korea – intercultural night
- Kirgizistan – Presentation of a volunteer
- Budapest Street Photography
- Recycling creative workshop
- Intercultural quiz night

## November

- North-Macedonian intercultural night
- Turkish intercultural night
- Christmas street photography - creative workshop
- 2 Board game nights
- Norway & Austria - Presentation of a volunteer
- Serial Bad Weddings - movie club



## December

- Purchase of CultiRider's most important part: a van
- Romanian intercultural night
- Claying - creative workshop
- Board game night
- Christmas farewell party with Artemisszió

## Important projects that got funding:

- 2 ESC projects - Hamza & Maika
- 2 Solidarity projects - Open pots, Cultivadoor

In total we had about 89 events in 2021.

## Active members:

- Bözse
- Ági
- Flavio
- Maika - EVS
- Hamza - EVS
- Gaetan - EVS
- Sabrine - intern
- Lika - intern
- KisG - Cultivadoor, Open Pots, Art is Expression
- Najib - Cultivadoor, cooking events, Open Pots
- Sada - cooking events, Open Pots
- Hanna - Cultivadoor, Open Pots
- Michelangelo - Spanish Classes
- Ivett - Spanish Classes
- Trang - English Classes
- Bruno - Board games nights
- Mahdi - trips
- Roland - cleaning



## **ESC/LTV**

### **Útilapu as a sending organisation**

Útilapu is part of the European Solidarity Corps both as sending and hosting organisation. It's also sending volunteers to SCI's long-term volunteering projects.

ESC (formerly known as EVS) allows groups – besides individuals – to participate in solidarity projects in the new funding cycle. The goal is still to encourage young people between 17-30 to be part of volunteering projects across Europe and eventually outside of the continent. During these programs young people have the opportunity to discover new cultures and countries, develop their personalities, and in addition, they are part of an intensive learning path. In the meantime, they become valuable assets to their communities.

In 2021, both outgoing and the number of volunteers were highly affected by the well-known global challenges. Although we got some funding for our projects, travel and other restrictions – plus the uncertainty fueled by these – were proven to be highly demotivational in regards to our target group's willingness to participate.

However, many of our outgoing volunteers chose to stick to their projects abroad that they finished in 2021. For instance, they were in Slovenia, Belgium, Italy, Romania and Germany.

It might be worth to mention that in 2020-2021 we had the chance to delegate a volunteer to SCI's headquarters in Antwerp. It was a great success for us. Our other volunteers were working in dog shelters, childcare institutions, with disadvantaged youth and in the field of social theatre. Besides all these, we sent a volunteer to Sweden as part of a short-term project that included group volunteering and learning about eco farming on the Hästekasen farm.

We are glad that our returning volunteers are happy to take over mentoring long-term ESC volunteers coming to Útilapu which they do very well. One of our goals is to keep as many returning volunteers as possible who can be great addition to our team.

Volunteers can participate in LTV projects with no age limit, which is great for people over the ESC age limit, almost anywhere in the world. Unfortunately, circumstances were not optimal in 2021 so we didn't send anyone but we hope we can get back to this soon.

We are looking forward to the raising interest in volunteering abroad and we hope our team can welcome new and motivated volunteers coming back from their exciting projects.



## **Outgoing**

Just like in the year before, the pandemic had a negative impact on the outgoing working group, which resulted in much less participants. Due to the situation we had to warn everyone about the possible travel restrictions. Despite all these, the group was able to close the year with rather a positive outcome, given the higher number of volunteers sent to workcamps. We even had a volunteer who had already been to a workcamp many years ago. And of course new volunteers came on board, as well.



