

Volunteer report by Canan
European solidarity corps volunteer at Naturkindergruppe Gatschhüpfer
from October 2021 to July 2022

Hellooo! 🌍

I am Canan, from Kurdistan. I worked as a volunteer in a kindergarten in Vienna for ten months. That was different from standard kindergartens. It was inspired by forest schools and aimed to allow children to complete their pedagogical development freely in nature, without physical boundaries. Working in such a school is very interesting for me. In addition to experiencing all the changes in nature with the seasons, I observe how creative and healthy children can be in nature.



In Vienna, I was staying in an apartment quite close to the city center, and it would have been fine if it wasn't. Transportation in Vienna is quite comfortable and easy. I shared the apartment with two wonderful women. We came from three different countries and cultures, but there was a great harmony between us. We shared a lot, learned about each other's cultures while trying to learn about Austrian culture together.

Almost every building and every street in Vienna is beautiful. Moreover, while walking on these streets, you hear classical music somewhere. Very peaceful, isn't it? Like Mozart, Beethoven, Freud, Gustav Klimt. Many thinkers, poets, writers and painters lived in Vienna. For this reason, Vienna has many museums as well as many historical artifacts that you should visit and see. Moreover, you can visit these museums free of charge at certain times, for example, on the first Sunday of every month. Especially with the warming of the weather, you can attend many open-air concerts, festivals and movie screenings as well.

Besides visiting other cities in Austria, I had the chance to visit many other European countries such as Hungary and Italy. During these trips I had the opportunity to meet many people and learn a lot about Europe. All of them are very enriching and inspiring experiences.

