



**Czech National Agency for
International Education and
Research**

Charles University

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Who is who



Czech National Agency for International Education and Research:

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Theodor L. Háva

Charles University:

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Andrea Duchoňová

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European Solidarity Corps



- ❑ EU programme since 2018

Goal: support and development of solidarity, response to current needs in society and development of young people's potential

- ❑ Non-formal education

- ❑ Activities:

- Volunteering
- Solidarity Projects

Volunteering



- ☐ Lead, Host, Support
- ☐ Young people 18–30
- ☐ Up to 12 months abroad
- ☐ National (PWFO) and International volunteers
- ☐ Collaboration on activities provided by the university (PR, event organisation, student clubs)

Solidarity project



- ❑ The project is directly led by young people 18–30
- ❑ Role of university = Support of young people (umbrella organisation, coach)
- ❑ Local initiatives rooted in the needs
- ❑ 2–12 months
- ❑ Various topics: sustainability, inclusion, digitalisation, intergenerational understanding, multiculturalism, gender topics, etc.

Priorities: Inclusion and diversity,
participation

Target group: Young people aged
15–20, children from children's
homes



Objective: To expand knowledge in
various areas of law, strengthen
young people's skills and
competencies, and promote
democratic values among youth.

Activities: Workshops on legal
topics (consumer law, family law,
labour law, domestic violence and
stalking, etc.) and workshops
focused on improving
presentation and argumentation
skills.



Journey to obtaining ESC Quality Label for Charles University – How it all started



- Motivation: strengthen student engagement, inclusion, and social responsibility
- Quality Label obtained through cooperation with DZS & CU Volunteer Centre
- Faculty of Physical Education and Sport as pilot host site
- Structured coordination model within the International Office

Integration and Impact



- Integrating volunteers into the university environment creates space for mutual learning and exchange
- Their presence brings *fresh perspectives, creativity, and international experience* that enrich everyday university life
- Volunteers strengthen the *sense of community*, helping connect local and international students, staff, and the wider public
- Meaningful involvement supports their *personal growth*, but also enhances the university's *capacity to address social and educational challenges*
- Integration ensures that volunteering is not an isolated activity, but part of the university's *strategic culture of inclusion and engagement*
- The impact extends beyond individual projects — it contributes to *a more open, collaborative, and socially responsible campus*

Mentor Perspective – Supporting Volunteers in our Team



- Volunteers are part of our daily faculty life and team
- Mentoring model = personal guidance + integration into activities
- Regular check-ins and team meetings ensure learning progress
- Co-creation of events, content, and student support
- Focus on well-being and belonging to our community
- Challenges and solutions
- Mentoring is not supervision – it's co-working and mutual learning

From Norway to Prague – First Volunteer Experience



My ESC Volunteer Experience at Charles University

- Previous exchange study status at Charles University inspired me to return as an ESC volunteer
- Supported and organized:
 - Student sustainability & solidarity events
 - Integration activities
 - International communication (International Students Team)
- Skills developed: project coordination, intercultural communication, teamwork
- Found a welcoming and inspiring community for learning and contribution
- Reflections:
 - Expectations vs. reality
 - Challenges faced
 - Overall personal and professional impact

Activities during European Solidarity Corps Volunteering at Charles University

BASKETBALL



CZECH DINNER



CITY ORIENTEERING



MINDRUN



NA KARLOVKU



GAUDEAMUS



TRIP TO SNĚŽKA



UNIVERZITA NAŠICH PŘÍBĚHU



INTERNATIONAL DINNER



OPEN GYM EVROPSKÁ



Activities during European Solidarity Corps Volunteering at Charles University

SIGHTSEEING



ICE HOCKEY



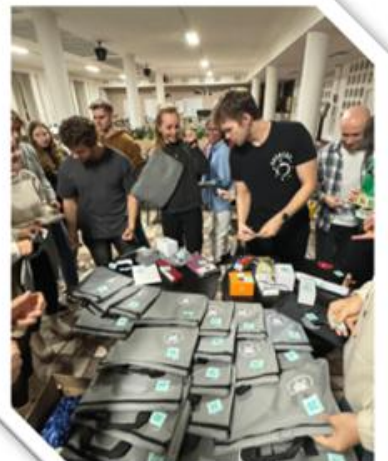
DEBATE WITH SK PRESIDENT



UKa PROJEKT



TOMBOLA



DOD/OPEN DAY



BADMINTON



VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



OFFICE HOURS



SPORT UNITES



Why ESC is Important for Universities



- Volunteering helps universities **connect education with real societal impact** and promotes student engagement beyond classrooms
- It **raises awareness about volunteering** and the diverse **opportunities available to young people** across Europe
- It strengthens European values of **solidarity, inclusion, and mutual understanding**
- It creates **meaningful links** between universities and local communities
- **Through volunteering, universities can truly embody the European spirit — open, engaged, and connected**

**Thank you for your
attention and time.**