

How to become an EVS volunteer with Masorti Germany:

- please send us your CV, a cover letter and the contact information for your sending organisation
- please inform us which of our projects you are interested in, when you would like to start and how long you wish to stay
- please note that our projects are usually long-term (11 or 12 months)
- please note that we have only three EVS placements per year

What to expect as an EVS volunteer with Masorti Germany:

- we offer accommodation in a student house or in a furnished room in a shared flat
- you will receive pocket money and money for meals
- Masorti provides you with a ticket for the public transport in Berlin
- you can use up to 200€ for a German course

Masorti Germany as Sending Organisation

We appreciate and need the help of volunteers in our organisation and we consider the EVS a great learning experience. Therefore we have decided to extend our activities and also start to be active as a sending organisation. Like this we give young people from Germany the possibility to volunteer abroad in the framework of the EVS. In August 2009, we sent our first volunteer to France, more sending activities have already started. We aim at creating strong partnerships with organizations on a European level to facilitate the process of sending and hosting volunteers.

How to be sent as a European volunteer by Masorti:

- you have to be resident in/around Berlin
- please send us your CV and motivation letter **at least six months** before you want to start the EVS
- the next step is to arrange a first meeting to talk about the details
- we cannot guarantee the approval of the application, we will know the results only shortly before the planned departure
- please note that Masorti is not able to send more than a few volunteers per year

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“Those who can, do.

Those who can do more,
volunteer.”

Author Unknown

**European Voluntary
Service
with
Masorti Germany**

About Masorti Germany

Masorti Germany is a non profit organisation founded by **Rabbi Gesa Ederberg** and others in August 2002 in Berlin. Our goal is to provide comprehensive Jewish education and Jewish lifestyle opportunities for children, students and adults throughout Germany and Europe. This work takes place within the framework of the Einheitsgemeinde - the local Jewish communities. The director of Masorti Germany is **Cornelia Rieger**.

Rabbi Gesa S. Ederberg studied physics and Jewish Studies in Tübingen, Berlin and at JTS in New York. She received her ordination in 2002 at the Schechter Institute for Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. Since February 2007, Gesa Ederberg is the Rabbi of the Oranienburger Strasse Synagogue of the Berlin Jewish Community.

Masorti Germany gives Jews of all backgrounds the opportunity to experience Jewish learning and Jewish life in an exciting and welcoming environment. **Masorti Germany** also encourages Jews throughout Germany to learn more about Jewish tradition and to develop their own vision of a Jewish future in Germany.

In addition to its partnership with the international Masorti/Conservative community, **Masorti Germany** cooperates with the Central Council for Jews in Germany.

Masorti Germany counts among its number many volunteers and Rabbinical Interns from Germany, Europe, Israel and the US. Our target group in Germany are immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are less advantaged. We are strengthening their integration in the Jewish communities as well as in German society and we aim at enabling them to take part in European-wide activities

Since 2005 we have been a hosting organisation, since 2008 we have been a hosting, sending and coordinating organisation in the frame of European Voluntary Service.

European Voluntary Service

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) is part of the Youth in Action programme, promoted and financed by the European Union. A successful EVS project requires close co-operation among at least three key players: **a sending organisation, a hosting organisation and the volunteer.** One of the organisations involved in this partnership also plays the role of the coordinating organisation and applies for a European Union grant on behalf of the partnership. The status of a hosting or a sending organisation is given by the National Agency after an accreditation process. The programme is constantly monitored by National Agencies.

What is the main purpose of the European Voluntary Service?

EVS offers young people the unique opportunity to volunteer for 6 to 12 months in a country other than their country of residence. The aim of the European Voluntary Service is to develop solidarity and to promote active citizenship and intercultural understanding amongst young people in Europe.

Who can participate?

The European Voluntary Service is open to all young people aged 18 to 30 from Programme and Partner Countries.

What is provided by the Sending and Hosting organisations in the framework of the European Voluntary Service?

All costs for travel, insurance, accommodation, food, pocket money and language classes during the EVS are covered by the EU grant and the hosting organisation. No costs occur for the volunteer. The hosting and sending organisations constantly provide support for the volunteer.

The volunteer takes part in the EVS training cycle, where the volunteer learns about the programme and gets familiar with the rules, rights and duties of each partner in the project.

Every volunteer has the right to receive a **“Youthpass”** as recognition of the non-formal learning during the EVS.

Masorti Germany as Hosting Organisation

Volunteers can choose between three different activities:

Option 1: Volunteering at the Masorti association

- assistance with the development of materials and publications
- assistance with events and seminars
- conceptual work on individual projects
- assistance with all tasks occurring in the everyday life of a non-profit organisation
- assistance with Public Relations (i.e. Newsletter, website, flyers) and Fundraising activities
- assistance with EU proposal and EU projects (Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action Programme)
- involvement in EVS projects of Masorti Germany

Option 2: Volunteering at the Masorti Kindergarten

- assistance to the team of the Masorti Kindergarten with all tasks connected to the daily life of a Kindergarten
- taking care of children
- realising individual ideas and projects

Option 3: Volunteering at Oranienburger Strasse Synagogue (project coordinated by Masorti)

- assistance with the daily life in the Synagogue
- welcoming and taking care of international guests
- assistance with kiddushim
- assistance with special events and activities
- support of projects within the Jewish Community

In each of these projects the volunteer has the unique opportunity to experience Jewish Life in Germany today and to support our important educational work. The volunteer also acquires theoretical knowledge about Judaism and Jewish Life in Berlin, Germany and Europe. All three projects have a strong intercultural dimension.

We support the individual learning process of every individual volunteer.