

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING AWARD**

### **XXVII EDITION**

#### **Event information**

Event name	XXVII International Volunteering Award
Date	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> of December – from 10.00 to 1.30 pm
Place	Padua – Italy, Aula Magna “Galileo Galilei”, Palazzo del Bo
Issue	<i>Volunteers: community builders</i>

#### **Categories**

- 1. International Volunteer**
- 2. Local Volunteer from the Global South**
- 3. Universal Civil Service Volunteer (SCU) in Italy for emergency COVID-19**
- 4. Volunteer for emergency COVID-19**
- 5. Human Rights Defender**

##### **1. International Volunteer**

FOCSIV defines international volunteer as "a human resource committed in a long-term experience in international cooperation projects, regardless of the contractual form that links him/her with the proponent organization and the type of economic contribution received". The definition includes cooperators and expatriate staff in the broad sense, focusing on the ethical motivations that led to the election of a professional commitment in the South of the world and in the activity of International Cooperation.

##### **2. Local Volunteer from the Global South**

The objective of this category is to reward the important contribution that the citizens of the Global South countries -Africa, Asia, Latin America and Middle East- make to the process of strengthening civil society in the country, with considerable personal dedication, sometimes with several risks. In this way we intend to change the main narrative that identifies people from the South in a permanent poverty and liabilities status, with the only possibility of escaping or seeking asylum in the North of the world. This narrative ignores how these are the first actors in the changes that are taking place in every part of the world. It is, above all, the inhabitants and citizens themselves who we can help, accompany, encourage, but never replace.

### **3. Universal Civil Service Volunteer (SCU) in Italy for the emergency COVID-19**

According to the latest MTV Youth Observatory survey with the emergency many people under 30 have returned to *"the desire to serve the community: 51 percent have found ways to make themselves useful to close relatives and neighbors, 22 percent have started to participate in volunteer initiatives and 35 percent have promoted or participated in fundraising or donations"*. A positive sign that reflects the interest of many young people to engage and live the experience of Universal Civil Service.

This year it was expected that about 40,000 young people would take up service, most of whom were unable to carry out the chosen project for at least a few months because it was impossible to take place due to the restrictions put in place by the COVID 19 emergency. Many of these young people, however, during the period of the emergency, were engaged either in the same organizations, in which they were supposed to carry out their service or in other organizations, in their own territory, in new activities related to the emergency itself. This ability to feel an integral part of their community and the will to be present in the help to the other who is rewarded by this new category: SCU Volunteer in Italy during the COVID 19 emergency.

### **4. Volunteer for emergency COVID-19**

The Italian volunteer has also remained active during Coronavirus emergency, despite the restrictions. There is no doubt that this period can be remembered for a particular datum: the ability of Italian volunteers to be there and to respond to the many new needs that emerged with the emergency itself. The number of "new" volunteers is high. Many, young and not, have responded to the appeals launched by the Third Sector and, above all, by the Volunteer Service Centres. Often, they have also found themselves making up for the temporary unavailability of older volunteers, many of whom have been detained for precautionary reasons. This category wants to reward the momentum of many volunteers who immediately put themselves at the service of their communities and territories to respond adequately to the different needs that emerged during the emergency caused by COVID 19.

### **5. Human Rights Defender**

In 1998 the UN promulgated the Declaration on the rights and responsibilities of individuals, groups and social institutions to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. This is a historic achievement in the struggle for better protection of those who put themselves at risk to defend and pursue legitimate human rights activities. Moreover, it is the first UN instrument that recognizes the importance and legitimacy of human rights defenders' work, as well as their need for protection.

University of Padua was the first to establish the Degree Course "Political Science, International Relations, Human Rights" in Italy. In these 48 years FOCSIV has allowed about 27,000 young people to live their own value choice, committing themselves, with a service of at least two years, in the many suburbs of the world alongside the most vulnerables. It is due to this long experience of the Federation, volunteering as the first human rights defender, and the sharing of the same principles that led the University of Padua to recognize human rights as a subject of a Degree Course that the Category of Human Rights Defender is established. These are, therefore, people who put themselves at the service and in defence of those who do not have the opportunity to make their voice heard by those who should recognize their existence. People who take the interests of communities as proper and who protect the universal and inalienable right that every person possesses.

FOCSIV accounts whether confer any **Special Mentions**.

### **Preferential selection criterion**

As a **selection criteria of selection** for the categories in the competition, the commitment in the field of interventions aimed at **integral human development**, reconfirmed and extended by the Encyclical Laudato Si' of Pope Francis, will be considered. In addition, international volunteers' commitment in **projects aimed at reducing the effects of climate change impacts and strengthening the empowerment of women** in the most vulnerable countries, with a view to defending human rights and overcoming the structural causes of poverty, will be positively evaluated.

#### **NOTE** (for all categories):

- Will be accepted volunteers applications received and applied exclusively by an associative entity (not individuals).
- Only application for lay volunteers will be accepted, nor will be accepted religious candidates, who are part of religious commands, communities, or congregations.
- FOCSIV reserves the right to reject an application if it considers, at its unconditional judgment, that this is inconsistent with the values and principles of the Church's Social Doctrine and the Laudato Si' Encyclical.
- Finally, if during the competition the candidate or the Association do not comply strictly with these Terms and Conditions, FOCSIV reserves the right to exclude the candidate from the contest.

## Selection Mode “International Volunteer” Category

The opportunity to nominate own international volunteer is open to all Italian organizations involved in international solidarity (Associations, NGOs, Missionaries and Diocese Centers etc.).

They are permitted only the applications of **international volunteers in long-term service**; they are exempt: operators based in Italy who go to the South only for local missions; brief experiences, although repeated; work's camps volunteers.

They are allowed only and exclusively applications from international volunteers of **Italian nationality**.

## Eligibility Criteria “Local Volunteer from the Global South” Category

We intend to identify a volunteer (man or woman) citizen of the rest of the world, involved in **cooperation and construction activities of social value in his/her own country or in favor of it**. The candidate may be:

- An activist of sustainable development, engaged in lobbying and advocacy initiatives close to the local communities.
- An immigrant in Italy who is committed, with an Association, in co-development activities of his/her country of origin.
- A person resident in a country of the South who, within the context of an association/local cooperative, has contributed to the growth of his(her community with dedication and effectiveness.
- A person from the South who's working with an international organization and has given a significant contribution (even with the coaching of Italian volunteers) for the success of the initiatives/projects in the country.

## Selection mode Category “SCU Volunteer in Italy during the emergency COVID-19”

The opportunity to apply for a proper SCU volunteer is open to all organizations involved in the implementation of SCU projects with particular attention to COVID-19 emergency response interventions in our Country. Only and exclusively applications of volunteers in Civil Service in Italy in the current year are admitted.

For this category are admitted the candidatures of both Italian and foreign SCU volunteers, present in service in Italy.

## Selection mode “Volunteer in Italy during the emergency COVID-19” Category

The opportunity to apply for a proper volunteer is open to all Italian realities engaged in solidarity - Associations, NGOs, Missionary Centres and Dioceses, etc.. - committed with different modalities and various interventions in the response to the COVID-19 emergency in our Country. Only and exclusively applications of

volunteers, both Italian and foreign, engaged in Italy in the current year are admitted.

## Selection procedure “Human Rights Defender” Category

Nominations in this Category are exclusively indicated by the FOCSIV President and its National Council, or by the members of the Jury of the Award, or by the Dean of the Faculty of the Degree Course "Political Science, International Relations, Human Rights" of the University of Padua.

## How to participate and deadlines

### Applications: opened from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> October

Applications must be accompanied by a **self-produced video presentation** of the volunteer and the project in which he/she is involved. The video can be realized with any device (non-professional cameras, cameras, smartphones, etc.), **lasting up to 3 – three – minutes**. Video quality is not a selection criterion. The application can also be accompanied by a **slide show lasting up to 3 – three – minutes**.

**Applications must be received by October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

### Voting phase: October

Candidates will be choose **by the Jury**.

### Choices of the Jury

The Jury consists of **members** with several qualifications and experiences in Communication, Volunteering and the Third Sector.

The Jury members will express their votes for their favorite candidate in each of the five categories.

If the two candidates have received the same number of votes from the Jury members, will be chosen the candidate with a longer service life.

The FOCSIV reserves the right to evaluate possible extensions to the established timing.

## Press and communication

**The winners of the 5 categories will be invited to participate in the final awards ceremony held in Padua, the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, with the opportunity to intervene and tell their stories in national and local television and radio.**

It will be guaranteed adequate visibility to the winners volunteers and their organizations in the making of materials and the communication campaign.

The 5 winning volunteers could, therefore, be invited, in addition to their presence in Padua for the Award Ceremony, to Rome in a period before and after the event at the discretion of the FOCSIV Press Office.

Their availability and flexibility in agreeing with the FOCSIV Press Office will be opportune and necessary. A commitment is required to give priority to the national media appointments obtained by FOCSIV, compared to any appointments organized by the organization or by volunteers at local level.

The costs of travel, board and lodging of the 5 winners will be charged to FOCSIV and to the local organization. Priority will be given to the winning Volunteers coming to Italy from abroad.

In order to allow the press office work, for an adequate visibility of the winners, the organization will be required to prepare and provide, in time:

- **Video images** of the volunteer and the project in which it is committed, in format Mp4. The video can be realized also with smartphone or camera, but in a quality that can be used for TV.
- **At least 10 high-resolution photos** of the volunteer and the project.

**The identities of the winners are hidden until the event's day, only during the awards ceremony they will be announced to the press.** The organizations of the winner volunteers in all categories will be required to keep the news confidential, unless there are different indications by FOCSIV and/or in occasion of public recognition by the institutions involved, in which case organizational changes may become necessary.

The organization is aware that the images collected may be used by FOCSIV during the awards and in any other opportunities for public awareness and communication campaigns.

FOCSIV reserves the opportunity to realize a **press tour** for the production of a **reportage** or a **video** edited by a Media Partner, in the country in which the winner of the **International Volunteer Category**. In any case, FOCSIV will promote the winners' experiences, through the production of press materials.

In the eventuality of press tour, the costs covered are:

- **FOCSIV will support:** travel costs (return flights) of the press components mission; the cost of travel, accommodation and meals of the award winning ensuring his personal participation in the award ceremony, other institutional events and for the entire period in Rome for conducting the media campaign.
- **The organization will support:** the costs of accommodation and meals for the press tour components (troupe of journalists and any FOCSIV staff); internal mobility costs. It is suggested to the organizations to identify an

accommodation that can guarantee to journalists the best organization of their work.

The organization is also committed to providing the most complete availability and cooperation with the troupe and any staff member for the realization of the video; considering the return in terms of image also for the organization, it is invited to support with its contacts the search for sponsorships already started by the Secretariat of the Federation.

**The sending of the application form signed implies the acceptance of this Terms and Conditions.**

**Failure to comply with the following Terms and Conditions and the public dissemination of false and defamatory information by the candidate or the reference body will result in the cancellation of the application**