National Council
[JUIN-15-1030/28.06'12.



To: Secret

Secretaries General of National Societies

Europe Region

Sofia, 28 July 2017

Dear Secretary General,

We are delighted to inform you that for 12th consecutive year Bulgarian Red Cross Youth (BRCY) is organizing its **Academy for volunteers 2017** - the largest training event in the annual agenda of the BRCY. The **Academy for volunteers** brings together young volunteers and leaders from all regions in Bulgaria and provides them with knowledge and skills in the whole range of Red Cross/Red Crescent topics.

In this regard we would like to invite **one or two youth volunteer leaders** from your National Society to participate in Academy for Volunteers 2017. The event will take place from the **2**nd **to 9**th **of September 2017** at the seaside of Bulgaria. Later on, we will provide further information to facilitate the organization of the travel of your participant/s.

The shortlisted participants will have to opportunity to enroll in our Leadership and Cooperation Training module and to exchange experience on international level with both local and foreign volunteers. The program of the Academy includes training and creative activities, such as platform of workshops like arts, music, theatre, cinema, journalism and social media. Various side activities are planned, where volunteers will enjoy bonfire night, visit to local landmarks, etc.

All the training program and side activities such as creative workshops, working groups, etc. will be conducted in English and therefore your candidates should be fluent in English. Other requirements that your candidate should cover are:

- To be 15 years or older, at the time of the event;
- To have been an active volunteer for at least 9 months;
- To have at least basic knowledge about the RCRC Movement;

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- To have organizational/leadership experience;
- To be active in the National Society and to demonstrate commitment, after the event to implement the newly acquired knowledge and skills in practice;

Bulgarian Red Cross Youth will cover full board for all international participants, as well as local travel costs. The participation fee, amounting at 65 euros, international travel costs and all other related expenses should be covered by the sending National Society and/or volunteer. For the payment of the bank details in the application form.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact **Ms Aleksandra Vasileva**, International Cooperation Officer at the Bulgarian Red Cross Youth Department, by e-mail at a.vasileva@redcross.bg and by mobile phone at + 359 889 455 420.

If you are interested, we kindly ask you to register your participants by filling the application form that you will find attached. Please submit your registration forms by 11th of August 2017 to the above e-mail address.

We are looking forward to welcoming your youth leaders at the 12th Annual Edition of the **Academy for**Volunteers of the Bulgarian Red Cross Youth!

Sincerely yours,

KRASSIMIR GIGOV, PROF.

SECRETARY GENERAL