



ESC volunteer vacancy

## Planned obsolescence campaign

→ This call is part of the European Solidarity Corps. It's a European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer in projects abroad. ←

### About CATAPA

CATAPA is a movement which strives for a world in which the extraction of non-renewable resources is no longer necessary. The extraction of such materials always entails major social and environmental impacts and fuels conflict. In working towards global social and environmental justice, we focus on mining issues (ecological disasters, human rights violations, etc.). In Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Colombia we work together with grassroots movements and support local communities who are threatened by large-scale mining projects. In Belgium, we activate citizens to denounce the current overconsumption and overproduction of electronics.

Our main activities are:

- Campaigning on the impact of mining and sustainable production of electronics in Flanders.
- Supporting partners and local communities in Latin America that are threatened by large-scale mining projects.
- Creating a movement around sustainable production and consumption of metals.
- Networking, research & stimulating alternatives.

CATAPA is dependent on the work of volunteers - the Catapistas.

### Our campaigns

**The Right to Say No** - Mining activities cause devastating environmental impacts and human rights violations across the globe. CATAPA is campaigning on the Right to Say No. Communities opposing extractive projects face severe repression and human rights violations. A just transition requires local communities having the decisive say over extractive projects within their territories.

**CTRL ALT DEL - Stop#ExpresDefect** - Our current linear model of consumption and production is a driving cause of the climate crisis. In this "throwaway" model, electronic products are designed to make repair difficult or unfeasible with limited life spans. This is planned obsolescence. The infinite supply of electronics is at odds with planetary boundaries. We cannot continue extracting more and more metals and minerals. Through

### Details

Volunteering contract:

4 working days/week (30 hours)

Apply until: **4th of May 2025**

Starting date: 1st of July 2025

Period: 12 months

### More information

[www.catapa.be](http://www.catapa.be)

[maud.marcial@catapa.be](mailto:maud.marcial@catapa.be)

### Employer

CATAPA vzw

Koningin Maria Hendrikaplein 5/401

9000 Ghent

Belgium

our (mainly Dutch) [Ctrl Alt Delete: Stop#ExpresDefect campaign](#) we are activating Flemish civilians to advocate for strict regulations to ensure electronic products are eco-designed, repairable, and made to last.

**Bankswithoutmining** - Bankswithoutmining is a newly formed working group aiming to push banks in the Global North to divest from mining activities. This initiative addresses the critical need to tackle the environmental and social impacts of bank investments in mining companies. Our campaign seeks to elevate mining issues in public debates, persuade investors to withdraw support from harmful mining practices, and form equal partnerships with organisations in the Andes and Europe to strengthen our efforts and create impactful change.

Our main campaigning activities are:

- Raising awareness of the broader public: (social media) campaigns, educational activities, public actions,...
- Searching and supporting solutions & alternatives
- Collaboration & networking with other organisations that focus on mining issues, Degrowth and Circular Economy
- Advocating for an end to planned obsolescence via our [Ctrl Alt Delete - Stop#Expresdefect campaign](#)
- Collaboration with grassroots organisations in Latin America, defending the rights of affected communities via our campaign on the Right to Say No to mining
- Push banks in the Global North to divest from mining activities.

### CATAPA towards a Safe(r) Space

CATAPA is committed to inclusivity and safety for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity + expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, age, language, body size, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, socioeconomic standing, or otherwise. These guidelines aim to ensure CATAPA is a movement that actively works towards social justice, inclusiveness, and the elimination of all forms of oppression.

### Who are we looking for?

We are looking for an ESC (European Solidarity Corps) volunteer to support the CATAPA movement, and in particular the campaign Ctrl Alt Delete - Stop#ExpresDefect. The volunteer will be trained to think critically and to spread knowledge of key issues such as degrowth, circular economy and mining within the framework of system change, encouraging others to become active citizens. The tasks are flexible depending on your learning goals and the needs of the organisation.

You will be part of our office team (5 part-time staff + 2 ESC volunteers + variable number of interns) which supports the work of the movement. Since CATAPA is a volunteer movement, you will be working in close collaboration with volunteers with a diverse and broad experience.

### Possible tasks

- Help with the development and implementation of the campaign strategy, communication and tools for the Ctrl Alt Del - Stop#ExpresDefect campaign
- Co-coordinate the Ctrl Alt Del - Stop#ExpresDefect campaign

- Help organise movement activities such as the movement weekends (twice a year) or movement days
- Help follow-up the engagement of volunteers in CATAPA
- Help with setting up awareness raising and training activities for a variety of target groups (training or movement days/weekends, documentary screenings, workshops, infostands, public actions, ...)
- Contribute in managing our social media channels and create content for those channels (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)
- Support the Right To Say No activities
- Support the divestment campaign
- Some administrative tasks related to the daily functioning of our office with the possibility to get an insight in the management of a non-profit organisation
- Write, revise and proofread articles, blogs, educational tools and reports
- Possibility to develop and implement your own projects.

## Requirements

### Essential:

- Motivated to work with volunteers
- Motivated to motivate others
- Interest in learning about the social and environmental movement, planned obsolescence, e-waste and mining issues
- Good command of English (B2)
- Independent, proactive worker
- Good communication skills
- Willing to contribute to positive change in the world we live in
- Team player with a flexible attitude
- Willingness to travel through Flanders and to Brussels
- Age below 31 years
- Agreeing with a flexible work schedule where you sometimes will work in the evening or in weekends since events and meetings often take place in the free time of the attendees and our volunteers
- Ability to learn on the job and DIY spirit.

### Nice to have:

- Knowledge/experience on or interest to learn about:
  - Implementation and coordination of campaigns
  - Development of campaign strategy
  - Organising educational or training events and tools
  - Project writing and management
  - Volunteer engagement
  - Advocacy and networking
  - Activist and movement organising
  - Circular and degrowth economy, environmental movements and/or social movements
  - Video editing skills
  - Knowledge of Canva (to create a poster, flyer or social media post)
- Knowledge of Dutch and/or Spanish

### What do we offer?

- A warm welcome in our horizontally organized movement with plenty of learning opportunities and new connections.
- A dynamic & motivated team of employees and volunteers.
- Monthly fee: cohousing accommodation of your choice (with a max. rent contribution of €550) and a reimbursement to cover daily expenses of €580.
- A personal learning trajectory coached by one of CATAPA's employees, one language course (Dutch, English or Spanish) and opportunities for personal development.
- Work-related expenses are paid by CATAPA.

CATAPA is committed to diversity, inclusiveness and equal opportunity.

**! Important:** This call is part of the European Solidarity Corps, a European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer in projects abroad. If your current residence is in one of the countries in [this list](#), then you are able to apply. Please, be aware that if you require a visa and do not yet possess one, the visa application process can be lengthy, and there is a possibility you might not obtain it before the project's starting date.

### Interested or more information?

Please send your CV and a document answering the following questions to [maud.marcial@catapa.be](mailto:maud.marcial@catapa.be) **at the latest the 4th of May 2025 at 23h59**. Please, be aware that incomplete applications will not be considered. If you have any questions concerning this vacancy, don't hesitate to contact us.

#### **Questions to answer:**

- Please introduce yourself briefly
- What do you think about CATAPA's mission and vision, and how do you see your profile aligning with them?
- Tell us about an experience that shaped your interest in social and environmental justice. This could be a personal, academic, professional, or activist experience.
- Do you have experience in volunteering and/or working with volunteers? If so, how would you describe that experience?
- What attracted you to the Stop#ExpresDefect campaign?
- What do you think you could bring to this campaign? (what do you expect to gain? what can you contribute?)
- What is your level of English, and would you feel comfortable working in an office where English is the primary language? Do you understand and speak Spanish and/or Dutch? If so, at what level?
- Do you have experience using Canva and managing social media channels? Can you describe any other relevant experience you have in communications, such as writing, press work, or content creation?

More information: [www.catapa.be](http://www.catapa.be)