

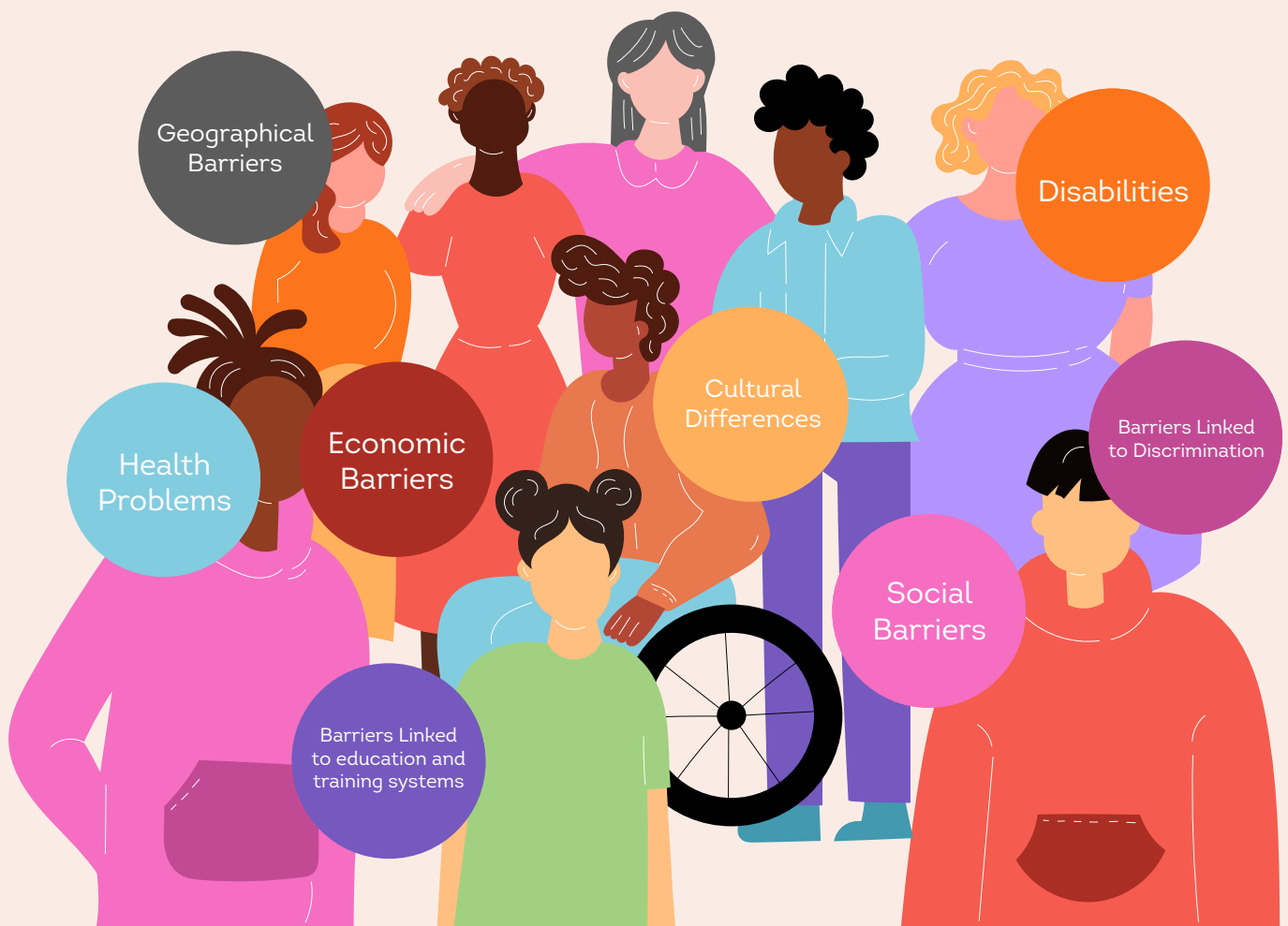
Promote inclusion with the EU youth programmes

Go Inclusive!

The motto of our European Union is: **'United in diversity'**. Our task is to live up to these words, and to fulfil their meaning

President von der Leyen, European Parliament, 17 June 2020

For a **diverse** and **inclusive** Europe, all young people should have access to international and intercultural opportunities. Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps offer many resources and mechanisms to enable organisations to promote inclusive opportunities. This extra support is especially targeted at organisations who are new to the programmes and those who are working with **young people with fewer opportunities**.



Who are young people with fewer opportunities

To be truly inclusive, **Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps** rely on **all applicant organisations to be inclusive and organise projects and activities that are accessible to a diverse range of participants**. Organisations can promote inclusion by actively reaching out to diverse young people with fewer opportunities and bring the EU programmes within their reach.

Young people with fewer opportunities are: *“young people who, for economic, social, cultural, geographical or health reasons, due to their migrant background, or for reasons such as disability or educational difficulties or for any other reason, including a reason that could give rise to discrimination under Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, face obstacles that prevent them from having effective access to opportunities under the Programme.”*

How can you involve young people with fewer opportunities?

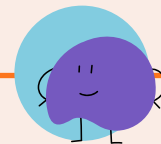


Youth Exchanges

Youth exchanges allow groups of young people (ages between 13 and 30) from different countries to meet, live together and work on shared projects for short periods (between 5 and 21 days). The young people can do workshops together, but also debates, role-plays, outdoor activities and more.

Example

The "[Roma\(S\)heroes](#)" workshops brought together young Roma and non-Roma aged between 16 and 30 to explore the figure of the heroine / hero through Roma theatre and games of improvisation promoting self-awareness and awareness of others.



Youth participation activities

Erasmus+ also supports youth-driven projects aimed at increasing engagement in civil society and raising young people's awareness about European values and rights. Projects can also focus on developing young people's digital competences and media literacy. Youth participation activities can be international or national, and happen face-to-face or virtually. The activities can take the form of workshops, encounters, simulations, awareness raising campaigns, consultations processes, among others.

Example

"Unaccompanied minor refugees united: Democratisation, participation and self-organisation of unaccompanied minor refugees" focused on connecting young people with migrant backgrounds from all over Austria and empowering them to participate actively in their own realities and the political scenario in the country. As a result, the participants created their own organisation "Bunt", to have a say in Austrian and European politics.

European Solidarity Corps

Organisations can host international volunteers that support them to carry out projects for the good of communities and society as a whole. Volunteer projects can last from 2 weeks to 12 months and be individual or in groups.

The European Solidarity Corps programme can also support groups of young people in carrying out an initiative in their local community. Grants support costs for preparation, implementation of activities, evaluation, dissemination and follow-up activities. To implement these solidarity projects, the young people can also be assigned a coach to support them.

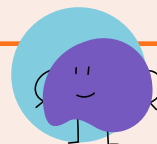
Example

De Wissel hosts European Solidarity Corps Volunteers. The organisation situated in Leuven, Belgium works in special youth care. The organisation provides care and coaching to girls in vulnerable situations as well as children from 12 years upwards who have dropped out of school. De Wissel runs a youth day-centre located on an old farm. The hosted ESC volunteers support their tasks on the farm (caring for therapy horses, gardening, attending the day center and doing activities with the young people, etc.). Volunteers can try out different activities and learn more about their interests and competences.



Mobility projects for youth workers

These mobility projects aim at the professional development of youth workers. Mobility projects can be study visits, job shadowing, youth worker exchanges, peer learning, networking and community building projects, training courses to develop competences as well as seminars and workshops for knowledge-building and sharing for best practices. Projects can last 3 to 24 months.



Example

“[Outdoor Activities for Inclusion](#)” offered youth workers from across Europe an opportunity to develop their competences linked to using outdoor activities as a tool supporting inclusion in youth work. The training focused on developing, prototyping and testing outdoor activities and creating a toolbox as a result.



Extra support for projects with young people with fewer opportunities



Prioritising inclusion and diversity in selection: In Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps inclusion and diversity are part of the criteria to select applications for funding and to allocate financial support. Quality projects that actively address inclusion and diversity and that involve participants with fewer opportunities, newcomer and grass-root organisations are given priority in the grant awarding process.



Dedicated financial support for inclusion: The programmes make additional funding available to cover costs of specific needs of participants experiencing fewer opportunities. This includes, among others, costs linked to adapted travel and accommodation, personal assistance or specific intercultural or linguistic preparation. Additional financial support is also available for organisations to cover staff costs linked to actively fostering inclusion in their projects.



Preparatory visits: Preparatory visits are a tool to support organisations or individuals, especially those with fewer opportunities, prepare for mobility projects. These visits help in facilitating administrative arrangements, building trust and understanding and assessing the individual needs of the participant.



Increased support: Different formats are available to support young people with fewer opportunities to have equal access to the programmes.

- **Reinforced Mentorship** is an intensified mentoring process that can be used to support participants with fewer opportunities in certain actions of the programmes, if they are not able to implement an activity independently.
- **Step-by-step capacity building pathways** aim at offering different opportunities for development throughout the life and development of young people.



Erasmus accreditation in the field of youth: For organisations who have at least two years of experience implementing activities in the youth field, applying for accreditation is an opportunity to work more strategically and implement learning mobility activities (youth participation activities, mobility projects for youth workers and youth exchanges) on a regular basis. The accreditation gives you as an organisation working with fewer opportunities more flexibility, because you're not depending on application deadlines for projects.

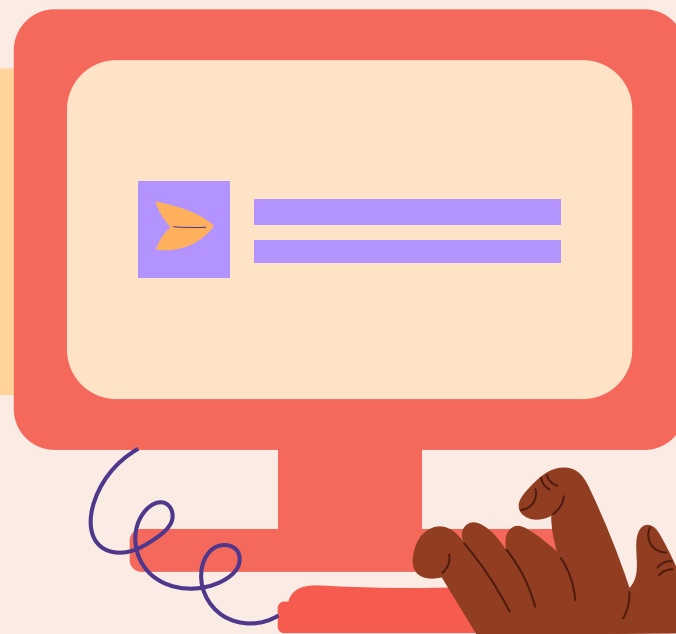


Offering more accessible formats: To reduce the barriers for accessing the EU programmes new formats are introduced. Organisations and individuals can access short-term and small-scale mobility projects as well as European activities at the local level.



Language learning support: Besides offering funding for language learning in European Solidarity Corps, the Online Language Support (OLS) is available to all Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps participants to improve their knowledge of the language in which they will work, study or volunteer abroad.

For more information consult the **Inclusion and Diversity Strategy for the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps: www.salto-youth.net/inclusionstrategy**





How to recognize learning?

Participants' learning experiences are recognised through a **Youthpass** (www.youthpass.eu). Organisations can use youthpass to guide participants' reflection on their learning throughout their experience. Participants of Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps projects can use Youthpass to describe what they have done and show what they have learned.

Who can apply?

Organisations working with young people and informal groups of young people.

How to apply for funding?

Do you want to offer European experiences for the young people you work with? Contact [your National Agency](#) for more information and guidance.

Watch here the
Go Inclusive
video!

