VOLUNTEER!
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Awareness raising campain for young volunteers

European Erasmus+ Volem project

VOLEM

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Cap Solidaire
Union des Acteurs de l'Économie Sociale et Solidaire du Sud-Gironde

ARTSQUARE LAB

Comune di CiniselloBalsamo

VOLunteering for Employability (VOLEM)

This strategic partnership is a European cooperation between **CAP SOLIDAIRE** (association, FRANCE), the **Municipality of Cinisello-Balsamo** (public body, ITALY) and **ART SQUARE** (company, LUXEMBOURG).

This Erasmus+ project (Dec. 2019-May 2022) aims to **strengthen the recognition of the key skills acquired by young people during volunteering activities in the field of local development** and to promote them as useful for their entry into the labour market.

www.volem-project.eu





" YOU MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT YOU GET. YOU MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT YOU GIVE. "



Winston Churchill

What is Volunteering?

Volunteering is giving your time
and skills to help others
(usually a non-profit organisation)
without financial reward.

In other words, volunteering is a service
to your community.



Anna Earl - Unsplash

www.growensemble.com

Tips for getting started volunteering

First, ask yourself if there is something specific you want to do.

For example, do I want...

...to make it better around where I live
...to meet people who are different from me
...to try something new
...to do something with my spare time
...to see a different way of life and new places
...to have a go at the type of work I might want to do as a full-time job
...to do more with my interests and hobbies
...to do something I'm good at

The best way to volunteer is to match your personality and interests.

www.varotherham.org.uk



Rémi Walle - Unsplash

Why volunteer ?

Below are some of the reasons people choose to volunteer.
For some it provides an opportunity to :

- give something back to an organisation that has impacted on a person's life, either directly or indirectly
- make a difference to the lives of others
- help the environment
- help others less fortunate or without a voice
- feel valued and part of a team
- spend quality time away from work or a busy lifestyle
- gain confidence and self-esteem.

www.ncvo.org.uk

Why volunteer ?

For some, volunteering can be a route to employment, or a chance to try something new which may lead to a career change.

From this perspective, volunteering can be a way of:



www.ncvo.org.uk

Why volunteer ?

For others, volunteering appeals because of its social benefits. These include:

- meeting new people and making new friends
- a chance to socialise
- getting to know the local community.



www.ncvo.org.uk

How volunteering can help you gain new skills

Volunteering offers a space in which to gain new skills, connect with new people, experience something different, and give back to the community.

Supercharge existing skills

Volunteering also offers a way to reconnect with the working world after a break, and an opportunity to supercharge your existing talents.
Unlike paid work, the requirements for volunteering are more likely to be linked to your passions and interests, rather than extensive work experience.

www.seek.com.au

There are a huge range of skills you can acquire through volunteering, starting with :

- Industry-related skills
- The ability to work in a team
- Leadership
- Problem solving and adaptability
- Communicating with clients and stakeholders

How volunteering can help you gain new skills

Volunteering offers a space in which to gain new skills, connect with new people, experience something different, and give back to the community.

- The ability to plan and prioritise work
- Sales skills
- Time management
- Report writing
- Improved interpersonal skills

Remember that the soft skills you will learn are also highly desirable to employers.

www.seek.com.au

Top 5 Soft Skills You Can Learn by Volunteering



LEADERSHIP



TIME-MANAGEMENT



COMMUNICATION SKILLS



PROFESSIONALISM



CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM-SOLVING

www.findcourses.com

Volunteerism can provide people with the career development skills they need to excel and standout in a busy job market

Hiring managers definitely see the value of volunteerism in 2018. According to a study by Deloitte, 82% of hiring managers prefer applicants that have volunteer experience on their resume vs candidates that do not volunteer.

The same study found that 92% of hiring managers agree that volunteerism improves an employee's broader professional skillset.

To put it in a nutshell

Young volunteers have the power to deliver **change.**

Volunteering as a vehicle for **solidarity, social inclusion and active EU citizenship of youth**

Volunteering: a **springboard** toward the world of work



uzhursky - Adobestock

What young volunteers say…



“To describe the experience, I would use the word "serendipity": tackle the journey with a goal and then, along the way, come across other very interesting things”.



“In my opinion, volunteering is important because it creates value, not only for personal satisfaction but because you realise what it means to work for the community”.



“I met a lot of people, connect more with the local community, people who are working in the field. They saw me also during different events and how I worked. I think that it helped me a lot to find later job”.

www.volem-project.eu

How to volunteer ?

- Check with your local authorities **the national schemes (i.g. Civic Service)**
- Go abroad within the framework of the **European Solidarity Corps**



FRANCE

Volem comparative analysis



Jacqueline Macou - Pixabay

Programme name	Many volunteer programmes but focusing on Civic Service • Civic Service commitent CS • European Solidarity Corps • International business and administrative volunteering • Associative volunteering
Ministries involved	Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Date of creation	2010
Places	In France or abroad
Duration Civic Service (CS)	6-12 months 35hrs/week (at least 24hrs) (you can participate only once)
Target group (CS)	Aged 16-25 Aged 16-30 for young people with disabilities
Host organisations (CS)	Associations, NGOs, national or local public institutions Since 2017, certain forms of private companies approved by the state (solidarity entreprise of social unity

ITALY

Volem comparative analysis



Moritz320 - Pixabay

Programme name	Servicio Civile Universale
Ministries involved	Ministry of the Interior
Date of creation	2001
Places	Italy
Duration Civic Service (CS)	8-12 months 25hrs/week (at least 24hrs) (you can participate only once)
Target group (CS)	Aged 18-29
Host organisations (CS)	Associations, NGOs, public administrations

LUXEMBOURG

Volem comparative analysis



Programme name	Service Volontaire - 2 programmes : • Service Volontaire National • Service Volontaire de Coopération
Ministries involved	Ministry of Education, Chidren and Youth
Date of creation	2007
Places	Luxembourg
Duration Civic Service (CS)	3-12 months 35hrs/week (at least 24hrs) (you can participate several times)
Target group (CS)	Aged 16-30
Host organisations (CS)	Associations, NGOs

EUROPÄISCHES SOLIDARITÄTSKORPS

European Solidarity Corps



EUROPÄISCHES SOLIDARITÄTSKORPS



EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS



With a specific budget of €1.009 billion for the period 2021-2027, the new European Solidarity Corps programme will provide opportunities for at least 270000 young people.

They will contribute to addressing societal and humanitarian challenges through volunteering or by setting up their own solidarity project.

The programme aims to be not only more inclusive, but also more ecological and digital.

For the first time, it will also allow young people to volunteer in the field of humanitarian aid around the world.

www.europa.eu

The European Solidarity Corps is a European Union funding programme for young people who want to participate in solidarity activities in various fields.

These activities range from helping disadvantaged people, to humanitarian aid, to contributing to health and environmental actions throughout the EU and beyond.

The programme offers young people the opportunity not only to make a significant contribution to society, but also to gain invaluable experience and develop new skills.

Solidarity activities addressing societal challenges are open to people aged between 18 and 30, while humanitarian aid activities are open to people aged between 18 and 35.



www.europa.eu

garagErasmus

Horizontal programme priorities:

Inclusion, greening and digitalisation

The programme, which promotes **inclusion and diversity**, aims to ensure that all young people have equal access to the opportunities offered by the European Solidarity Corps.

It also aims to promote the adoption of **environmentally friendly practices.**

The European Solidarity Corps contributes to the **digital transition.**

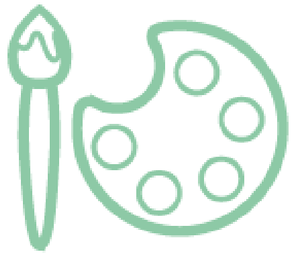
Furthermore, the European Solidarity Corps promotes **civic engagement and participation of young people in democratic processes.**



european-youth-event

www.europa.eu

List of fields where it is possible to volunteer with ESC



CREATIVITY AND CULTURE



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



INCLUSION



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



HEALTH AND WELLBEING



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

and more...

www.europa.eu

Volunteering supported by the programme for the period 2021 -2027

Volunteering offers young people the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations specialising in **solidarity activities for the benefit of communities.**

Activities can take place either abroad or in the participant's country of residence.

Individual volunteering can last from 2 months up to 12 months, while team volunteering usually lasts between 2 weeks and 2 months.

www.europa.eu



European University Sports Association

New :

Humanitarian aid component

Open to young people between the ages of 18 and 35,

This component will enable them to provide emergency assistance based on the fundamental principles of neutrality, humanity, independence and impartiality, by contributing to the provision of assistance, relief and protection where it is most needed.



European Youth Portal - European Union

www.europa.eu

What do I get ?

Volunteering is a way to make a contribution, an opportunity to express your solidarity and help communities in need.



It is something you choose to do for free and will not be paid.

However, your travel expenses, living expenses (accommodation, meals, insurance) will be covered, and you will even get some pocket money!

www.europa.eu

How to apply ?



- To look for a **Supporting Organisation** :
  An organisation from your own country which has a Quality Label accreditation. They will help you in the preparation phase, monitoring and follow-up europa.eu/youth/volunteering/organisations
- To prepare an **Europass CV**
- To register on the **European Youth Portal**
  (the same account of the Europass platform) and upload the CV
- To search for the **best offer** (based on interests and attitude)
  and apply
- To attend the **interview with the Hosting organisation**

www.europa.eu

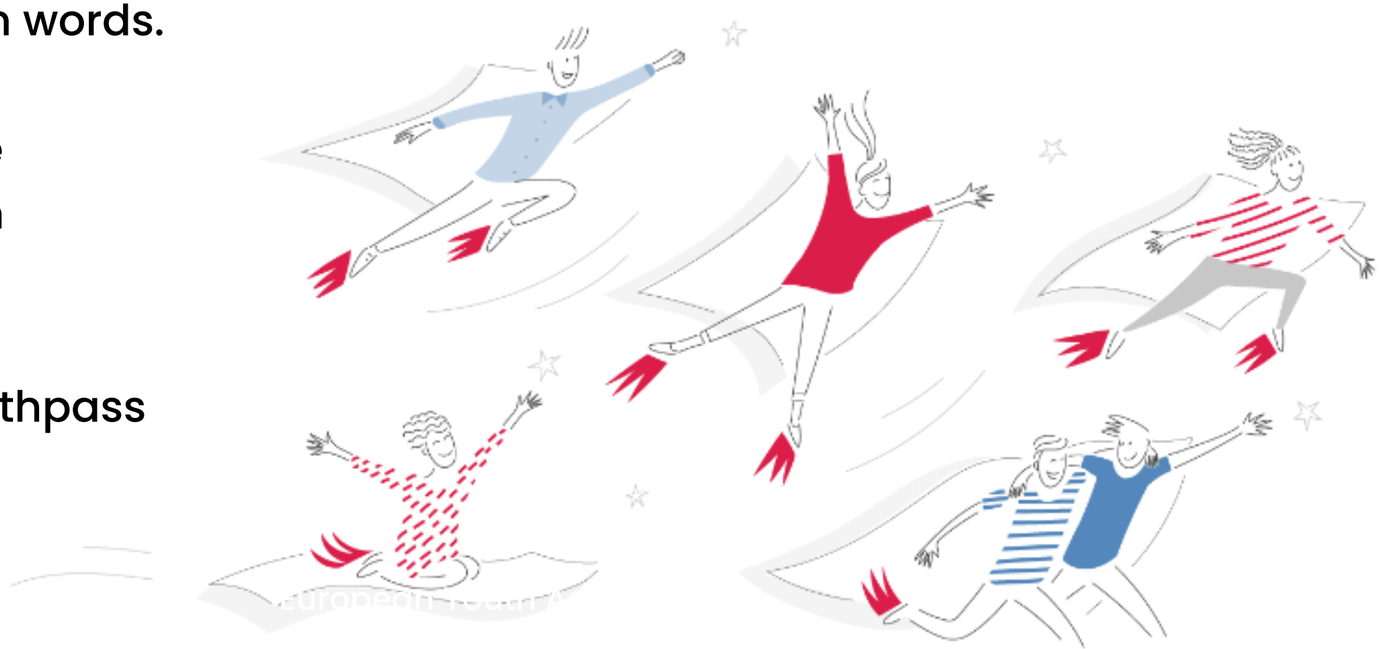
What is Youthpass?

Youthpass

Youthpass is a tool to document and **recognise the outcomes of non-formal and informal learning processes in volunteering projects.**
It is an empowering certificate that describes volunteers' learning outcomes in their own words.

In this sense, Youthpass complements the certificate of participation in the European Solidarity Corps.

All volunteers are entitled to receive a Youthpass certificate



houseofeurope.org.ua

The 8 key European competences for lifelong learning that the Youthpass certify



MULTILINGUAL COMPETENCE



PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND LEARNING TO LEARN COMPETENCE



CITIZENSHIP COMPETENCE



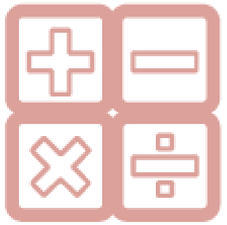
ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMPETENCE



COMPETENCE IN CULTURAL AWARENESS AND EXPRESSION



DIGITAL COMPETENCE



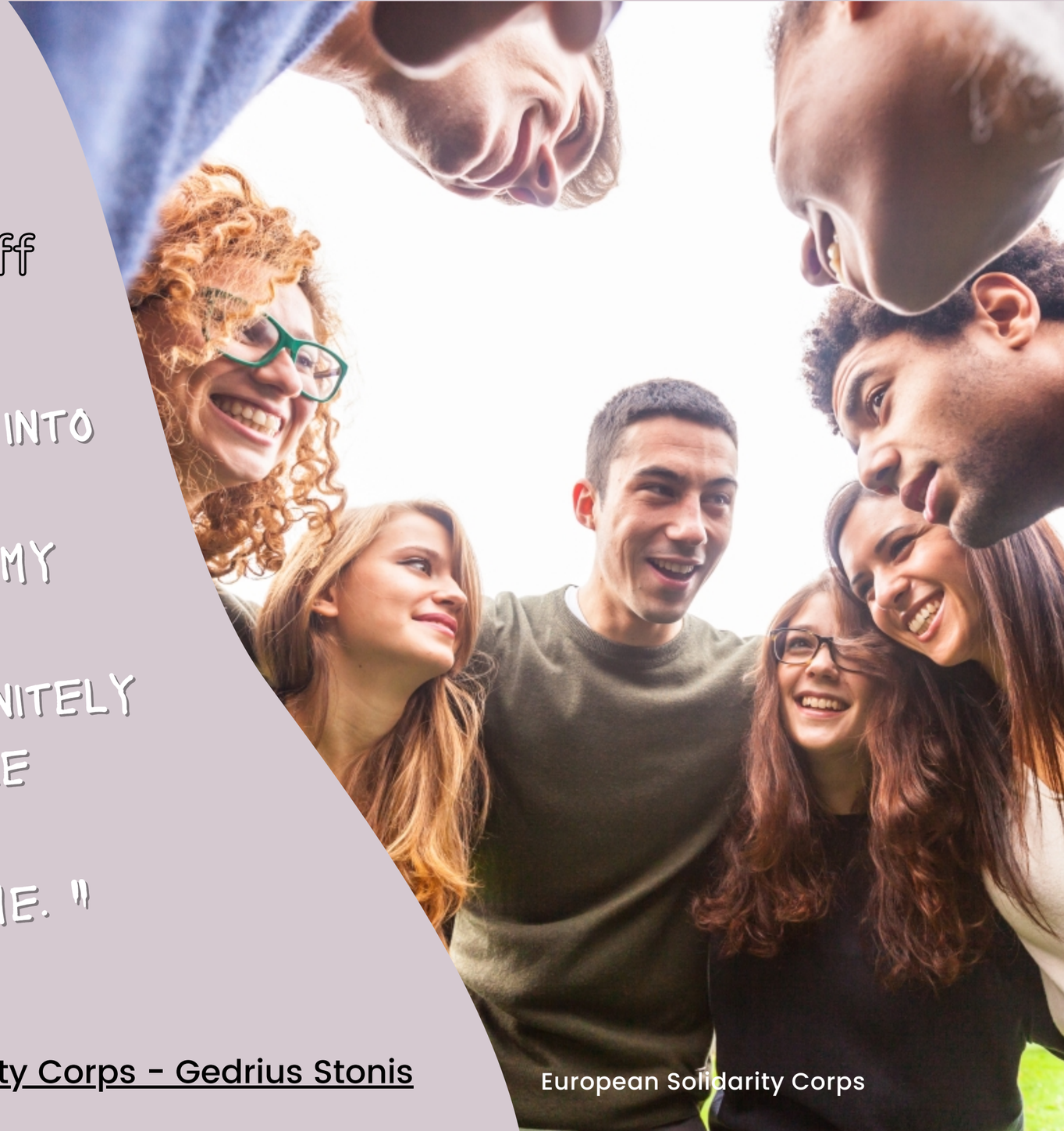
MATHEMATICAL COMPETENCE AND COMPETENCE IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING (STEM)



LITERACY COMPETENCE

Giedrius Stonis, from Lithuania
Volunteering placement in Cardiff

" I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN QUITE A SHY PERSON SO TRAVELLING AND SETTLING INTO A NEW COUNTRY AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT HAVE REALLY BUILT UP MY CONFIDENCE.
ALTHOUGH THE PLACEMENT HAS DEFINITELY BEEN A CHALLENGE, NOW I FEEL MORE INDEPENDENT AND MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE BEING AWAY FROM HOME. "



European Solidarity Corps

European Solidarity Corps - Gedrius Stonis

THANK YOU !

www.volem-project.eu



VOLEM publications and communications only reflect the views of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use, which may be made of the information contained therein.