

Europe for youth workers and young activists

Are you looking for an opportunity to gain new experiences, develop your skills, and connect with other European youth workers or young activists? If so, then participating in mobility activities through the Key Action 1 of Erasmus+ program might be the perfect solution for you.

What kind of activities can you be involved in?

Professional development Ka1 activities are transnational or international non formal learning mobility initiatives, lasting from 2 to 60 days and supporting the professional development of youth workers and those active in the youth field. They can take the form of:

- **study visits and different types of assignments**, such as job shadowing, youth worker exchanges and peer learning, in youth organisations and other bodies active in the youth field abroad;
- **networking and community building** among youth workers;
- **training courses** supporting the development of competences, to implement quality youth work practices or address and test innovative methods (for instance related to digital and smart youth work);
- **seminars and workshops** supporting in particular knowledge-building and best practices sharing linked to the objectives, values and priorities of the EU Youth Strategy and of the EU programmes.

Why participate in Erasmus+ mobilities?

International experiences such the ones described above offer a variety of benefits, including:

- professional development. You will have the opportunity to gain new skills and knowledge that can help you in your work with young people. You can learn new techniques, problem-solving strategies, and ways to work with different youth groups. What is important also is that it is where you can share your experiences and knowledge with others on the European stage!
- cultural exchange. Mobility activities allow you to experience different cultures, traditions, and customs, as well as learn about the specificities of youth work in other countries. The other people can also take something from you and implement it in their daily work;
- networking possibilities. You and your organization can connect with other realities from different parts of Europe, share experiences and knowledge, and build international partnerships for a mutual strengthening;
- improve foreign languages competencies. You can improve your language skills through immersion in another language and practicing with other participants who speak different languages. Also, you can increase the professional English language related to the topic which you are working with;
- find inspiration. Participating in mobility activities can provide you with new ideas, tools, and techniques for your work with young people and for youth policies. Sometimes the point of view in the other country is totally different, and it could inspire you, but you can also inspire others.

Can you take part?

Mobilities under Key action 1 of Erasmus+ for youth workers are open to citizens living in an European or partner country (no matter their nationality) who are above 18 of age and are actively involved in a youth organization or a different body dealing with youth policies or initiatives. You can indeed be a youth worker, an active member, a social-educational animator or a leader of a youth group.



In almost all mobilities and unless differently agreed by partner organizations, the common language used during the implementation is English. A basic knowledge of this language is therefore essential for a truly active participation.

What kind of support is provided?

Youth workers mobilities are funded by the European Union, which means that almost all costs are covered, including travel, accommodation and meals, insurance. However, you may be asked to contribute a small amount towards the program's cost if the EU contribution do not cover 100% of travel costs. Practical arrangement depends on the agreement with the local organization: sometimes you have to buy the tickets on your own, and later the cost of that will be reimbursed, sometimes all tickets will be purchased by the organization. Everything is a matter of setting it up.

How to participate in Erasmus+ mobility activities?

All mobility projects are organized by organization who act with and hosting or a sending role. To participate in a specific activity you therefore must get in contact with one organization (or your organization itself has to be a formal partner of the project).

These organizations can help you find the right opportunity, guide you through the application process, and provide support throughout your mobility experience, provide you a context in which you can share your experience at the end, support the dissemination of results.

Almost all mobility opportunities are published in the National youth portal or on the SALTO website.

You can also look in your favourite social network if there are groups or pages promoting specific projects you can be interested in.

More information:

More information can be found on our website www.youthspeaces.eu under the Erasmus+ section, or on the Youth Portal or addressing the national agency dealing with Erasmus+ for youth. A specific and very important website for training opportunities under Erasmus+ is Salto, managed by several national agencies of Erasmus. You can reach at www.salto-youth.net

