



Jornadas anuales de difusión

The participation priority of Erasmus+

A photograph of a person's hands holding a European Union flag, which is waving in the wind. The background is a blurred green landscape with trees. The text is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

Yiannis Vacondios
European Commission
DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

Horizontal priorities



Inclusion and diversity

Reaching out to all participants and fostering inclusive approaches for mobility and cooperation activities



Green

Building up knowledge on sustainability and climate action and promote the use of green travel



Digital

Developing accessible and high-quality digital learning and foster digital capacities



Active participation

Enhancing participation in democratic life and civic engagement

Title

“Participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement”

- Not only about elections and voting
- Not only “traditional” forms (elections, student councils etc.)



- It empowers people to become active citizens
=>promotes social inclusion and strengthens democratic values.
- Ensures that diverse voices contribute to shaping a more inclusive and democratic Europe.



VET equips people with skills like teamwork, communication, and problem-solving, while promoting equal access to learning.

15-million participants

- Big milestone achieved in 2024: since the start of the programme in 1987, over 15 million people have taken part in Erasmus+ learning mobility!

Overview

Through this priority, the Erasmus+ Programme addresses the citizens' limited participation in democratic processes and their lack of knowledge about the European Union

Why it matters? Civic engagement helps in developing critical skills, leadership, problem-solving, media literacy, intercultural awareness

Democratic participation starts here

How the programme contributes



Empower civic engagement projects



Embed EU values in projects



Connect communities

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

2021-2027



Democratic participation starts here

How organisations contribute



Design participation-themed projects



Educate about EU values



Encourage participatory mindset



Connect with local communities



Erasmus+

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2021-2027



Democratic participation starts here

How participants contribute



Engage
in a local
community



Take part in
projects on
EU values



Inspire
others to
take action



Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

2021-2027





PARTICIPATION ERASMUS ALUMNI
FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Focus groups

63 Focus groups in 8 TCA events
(in Italy and in partner countries)

Around 800 people
involved

23 participating countries

Austria, Belgium, Croatia,
Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, Finland,
France, Greece, the Netherlands,
Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania,
Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, the
Czech Republic, Romania, Sweden ,
Turkey

- Alumni,
- Ambassadors
- Role Models
- Networks

All Programme sectors

Higher Education
School education
Adult education
VET
Youth



EUROPEAN UNION

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

AGENZIA NAZIONALE
ERASMUS+ **INDIRE**

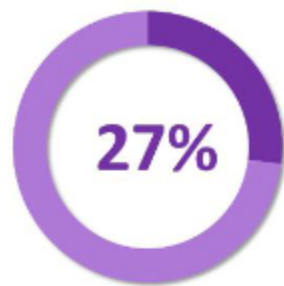


Mid-term review: preliminary results

One of the main distinguishing features of Erasmus+ is its **European dimension** and its ambition to foster a sense of **European belonging/identity**.

Evaluation findings suggest widespread recognition of this feature of the scheme. The most acknowledged impact is an **increase in the sense of belonging to the EU**.

Mid-term review: preliminary results



EUR 339.9 million
of the 2022 budget for
cooperation projects supporting
democratic participation



1 201

cooperation projects (30% of Key Action 2)



4 181

beneficiary organisations involved



82%

of participants in mobility activities declare that
they **feel more European**



72%

are **more interested by European topics**,
52% are **more aware of European values**

Mid-term review: preliminary results

The programme's horizontal priorities are considered **extremely relevant** to the current needs and challenges of our societies. This applies also to **participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement**

There is significant progress in **promoting the horizontal priorities**, which are more and more taken on board by beneficiaries, generating a transformative effect.

The Path Forward

The Council conclusions (Nov 2023) on the contribution of education and training to strengthening common European values and democratic citizenship invited the Commission to consider **incorporating tools** to ensure better knowledge of the EU and common European values, prior to or in parallel with an Erasmus+ learning mobility or cooperation partnership, such as **a learning module** adapted to the age and profile of participants.

The Path Forward

A network of Participation Contact Points has been established



Conclusion

- . Remember the importance of the priority
- . Education and training is also about participation and critical thinking

We will strengthen Erasmus+ - including for vocational training - so that more people can benefit. This is key for people to develop skills and create shared experiences and a better understanding of each other

(Political Guidelines for the next European Commission)

We need to give young people a greater freedom and responsibility within our societies and democracies, notably through Erasmus+

(mission letter EVP Mînzatu)

