

Subject: Dedicated letter to all Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps beneficiaries

Dear Beneficiaries,

Last September, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, announced that 2022 would be the European Year of Youth (EYY). This is the perfect time for the Erasmus+/European Solidarity Corps family to put the spotlight on what it has already achieved when it comes to involving young people. It is also an occasion to take stock with young people on how they see their place in the future, and what steps we should take together to make youth engagement a permanent feature of our programmes.

First, we would like to ask all beneficiaries to consider how they could give more opportunities to young people, under the umbrella of our European Year of Youth. Both the budget of Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps have been reinforced for this occasion, which means that this year, young people will have more opportunities than ever to be part of an active and engaged community, for example through a Youth Participation Action or a Solidarity Project.

Secondly, we encourage all beneficiaries to consider how they can make sure young people are represented in your projects in a sustainable and meaningful manner, including through financial support for projects promoted by young people.

All this will require that we all play our role in communicating and disseminating a better understanding of the various opportunities available to them, be it from the EU, national, regional or local level. To this end, the European Commission has launched a dedicated [section](#) on the [European Youth Portal](#), and this will remain the main channel of communication at EU level. It currently includes an activities' map and will also include soon a youth policy section, and a section on news and stories on how we want young people to work with us in the future. Users will be informed of everything happening around youth during 2022, filtering by topic, country or dates.

A button on the portal has been made available so that users can upload organised youth activities and events by themselves. The National Agencies will act as a validator of these activities and once validated they will appear on the portal. We encourage you to upload, promote and get inspired by the youth activities.

The official logo of the Year is also available in all European languages and can now be downloaded from [here](#). We encourage you to use it for youth activities and communication actions that contribute to the European Year of Youth objectives and its spirit. We also have an official hashtag #EuropeanYearOfYouth that we encourage you to use too. The European Commission is working also on a visual identity that will be rolled out towards March/April.

Let me assure you that we will be making every effort to work with you to make this a successful year of youth.

I certainly very much look forward to seeing youth initiatives being showcased across the EU and beyond and I count on you all to help us develop a strong narrative to inspire the new generation of Europeans.

Yours sincerely