

# EU funding program: European Solidarity Corps (ESC)

## Funding for solidarity projects

Young people can realise their own local project ideas as part of solidarity projects. Young people think about what is needed in their neighbourhood (in their town, district or region) and how their project can contribute to this. Possible topics are wide-ranging and can be, for example: a recycling campaign, a neighbourhood café, intergenerational cooking events, ... It is important that solidarity projects also benefit other people locally; whether in the immediate vicinity, the municipality, city, district or region. Organisations have the opportunity to motivate young people, accompany them and support them with applications and project management. In any case, a core team of at least five people aged between 18 and 30 who live in Austria and want to realise an idea together is required.

- Duration: The project can last between 2 and a maximum of 12 months.
- Funding: A monthly grant is available for the realisation of the project.

## Funding for volunteering

An ESK volunteer placement offers young people aged between 18 and 30 the opportunity to spend some time in another country and get involved in charitable projects there. No training or special qualifications are required. No language skills are required either. Organisations can recruit young, motivated people from Europe and its neighbouring countries to volunteer for their project. There are a wide variety of locations: environmental protection organisations, art and cultural institutions, schools, kindergartens, day-care centres, care facilities and many other institutions look forward to receiving support from young volunteers.

- Duration: A volunteer placement usually lasts between 2 weeks and a maximum of 12 months.

- **Funding:** The costs for accommodation, meals and local transport are covered. There is also a subsidy for travelling expenses and a monthly allowance. This varies in amount depending on the country in which the assignment takes place. During the volunteer assignment, you remain insured and continue to be entitled to family allowance.

## **Volunteer teams**

Volunteer teams offer the opportunity to work on a project in a team consisting of several people from different countries. The projects relate to social challenges at a local level, such as assistance in reception centres for asylum seekers, reforestation of forests or reconstruction work in earthquake regions. These are shorter volunteer assignments of between two weeks and two months, which are often offered in the summer (e.g. during holidays).

## **Counselling and information**

The OeAD as the national agency for Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps offers information events and training courses for interested young people and young adults as well as organisations. Interested young people and young adults can also obtain free advice from the regional advice centres in their federal state.

## **Further information**

- [OeAD information and trainings \(in German only\)](#)
- [Regional centres for information and advice \(in German only\)](#)
- [European Solidarity Corps - Overview](#)

### **Imprint**

Federal Chancellery, Youth Competence Centre, Untere Donaustraße 13-15, 1020 Vienna, Austria.

Last updated: June 25<sup>th</sup> 2025

Youth Newsletter: [www.bundestkanzleramt.gv.at/agenda/jugend/newsletter/newsletter-anmeldung.html](http://www.bundestkanzleramt.gv.at/agenda/jugend/newsletter/newsletter-anmeldung.html)

The task of the Youth Competence Centre is to implement and coordinate the Austrian Youth Strategy and provide data and facts on youth policy and youth work. If you have any suggestions, please contact [jugendstrategie@bka.gv.at](mailto:jugendstrategie@bka.gv.at)