



# EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

**INVESTING IN EUROPE'S YOUTH**



## A new European Union Initiative for Young people

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker announced his plan for a European Solidarity Corps in his State of the Union address on 14 September 2016:

“...There are many young, socially minded people in Europe willing to make a meaningful contribution to society and help show solidarity. We can create opportunities for them to do so ... Solidarity is the glue that keeps our Union together ... Young people across the European Union will be able to volunteer their help where it is needed most, to respond to crisis situations ... These young people will be able to develop their skills and get not only work but also invaluable human experience.”



The background features a light blue square on the left containing the European Union flag's twelve yellow stars. To the right, the words 'EUROPEAN' and 'CORPS' are faintly visible in blue, while 'SOLIDARITY' is in pink. The bottom of the slide is decorated with several stylized, overlapping hands in various shades of orange and yellow, reaching upwards.

# **What is the European Solidarity Corps?**

- ✓ Volunteering strand: voluntary service (between 2 and 12 months)
- ✓ Occupational strand: job, traineeship or apprenticeship



The background of the slide features a light blue square on the left containing the European Union flag (a circle of twelve yellow stars on a blue field). To the right of this square, the words "EUROPEAN", "SOLIDARITY", and "CORPS" are stacked vertically in large, semi-transparent letters of blue, pink, and light blue respectively. At the bottom of the slide, several stylized, light-colored hands are shown reaching upwards, creating a sense of community and support.

# What does it involve?

European Solidarity Corps projects will cover a wide variety of topics within the [Mission of the European Solidarity Corps, and meet its Principles](#): Education, health care, social and labour market integration, assistance of the provision of food and other items, reception and integration of migrants and refugees, environmental protection....



# **EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS**

- ✓ Helping rebuild a school or community centre that has been devastated following an earthquake
- ✓ Providing support to newly arrived asylum seekers
- ✓ Clearing vegetation from forests to help prevent wildfires
- ✓ Working with disabled people in a community centre.

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# **Who can join the European Solidarity Corps?**

You can register for the European Solidarity Corps when you are 17 years old, but you cannot start a project until you are over 18. You must also complete the European Solidarity Corps project before you turn 31.



# **Who can join the European Solidarity Corps?**

Legally resident in or have the nationality of one of the  
European Union Member States,

OR

of the following countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway,  
Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.





# EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY

**REGISTER AT:**  
**[europa.eu/solidarity-corps](https://europa.eu/solidarity-corps)**

The registration tool is available in the 24 official languages of the EU.





# **What types of organisations can run European Solidarity Corp projects?**

- ✓ Governmental organisations,
- ✓ municipalities,
- ✓ non-governmental organisations and
- ✓ companies.

These could also be of all sizes, from big multinational companies to a small NGO working in a local community. These organisations must run solidarity related projects.



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