

Public Consultation on the European Solidarity Corps

Fields marked with * are mandatory.



Introduction

The European Solidarity Corps will create opportunities for young people to support communities and people in need. These opportunities will include volunteering and solidarity-related jobs, traineeships and apprenticeships, both in the young people's home countries and abroad.

The Commission is now consulting stakeholders and the general public to define key priorities and shape the implementation of the European Solidarity Corps.

This public consultation builds on an initial, targeted consultation of a selection of key stakeholders in late 2016. The questions of the initial consultation were broad, focussing on the potential and the challenges of creating a European Solidarity Corps .

The consultation results will inform the Commission's legislative proposal.

About you

* You are replying

- as an individual in your personal capacity
- in your professional capacity or on behalf of an organisation

* Respondent's first name

Zoltán

* Respondent's last name

Massay-Kosubek

* Respondent's professional email address

zoltan@epha.org

* Name of the organisation

European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

* Postal address of the organisation

Rue de Trèves 49-51, 1040 Brussels

* Type of organisation

Please select the answer option that fits best.

- Private enterprise
- Professional consultancy, law firm, self-employed consultant
- Trade, business or professional association
- Non-governmental organisation, platform or network
- Research and academia
- Churches and religious communities
- Regional or local authority (public or mixed)
- International or national public authority
- Youth organisation
- Social enterprise
- Other

* Is your organisation included in the Transparency Register?

If your organisation is not registered, we invite you to register [here](#), although it is not compulsory to be registered to reply to this consultation. [Why a transparency register?](#)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

* If so, please indicate your Register ID number.

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* Country of organisation's headquarters

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Iceland
- Liechtenstein
- Norway
- Switzerland
- Albania
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Turkey
- Other

* Your contribution,

Note that, whatever option chosen, your answers may be subject to a request for public access to documents under [Regulation \(EC\) N° 1049/2001](#)

- can be published with your organisation's information** (I consent the publication of all information in my contribution in whole or in part including the name of my organisation, and I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication)
- can be published provided that your organisation remains anonymous** (I consent to the publication of any information in my contribution in whole or in part (which may include quotes or opinions I express) provided that it is done anonymously. I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent the publication.

General questions to all respondents

At present, a European Solidarity Corps placement can be either as a volunteer ('the volunteering strand') or as an apprentice, trainee or employee ('the occupational strand').

At the moment the person needs to be between 17 and 30 years when registering; the actual European Solidarity Corps placement cannot start before the age of 18.

The geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps currently covers the EU and, where relevant, other countries participating in the various existing financing instruments contributing to the European Solidarity Corps.

What should be the priorities of the European Solidarity Corps?

between 1 and 4 choices

- Strengthening solidarity activities benefitting people and communities in need
- Creating more opportunities for young people to express their solidarity
- Creating more opportunities for organisations to do solidarity projects
- Promoting the engagement of young people in society
- Creating opportunities for cross-border mobility for young people
- Creating opportunities for in-country mobility for young people
- Creating opportunities for young people to improve their skills and competences

How could we foster a common spirit among European Solidarity Corps participants?

- Common induction training
- Common social media platforms
- E-newsletters
- Alumni activities
- Other

What would be the best ways to facilitate access to the European Solidarity Corps for young people from a disadvantaged background or with special needs?

- Additional allowances
- Additional training
- Additional promotion activities
- Additional guidance for registration
- Additional mentoring during the placement
- Shorter placements
- Part time activities
- Other

How could the European Solidarity Corps be easily accessible for individuals and organisations?

- Easy validation or accreditation processes for organisations
- Easy funding application processes for organisations
- Easy registration processes for individuals
- Information and guidance from specialised services
- Other

Questions for potential volunteers with the European Solidarity Corps

Questions for potential trainees, apprentices or employees through the European Solidarity Corps

Questions for persons replying on behalf of organisations

Regarding any solidarity related activities that your organisation is engaged in at the moment, are you engaging:

- Volunteers
- Trainees
- Apprentices
- Employees

Would your organisation be interested in offering the following types of placements for solidarity related activities to participants from the European Solidarity Corps?

- Volunteering placements
- Traineeship placements
- Apprenticeship placements
- Employment placements

Please quantify the number of placements that your organisation might offer on average per year for each type of placement?

	Potential number of placements per year
Volunteering placements:	1
Traineeship placements:	
Apprenticeship placements:	
Employment placements:	

Is receiving EU funding a prerequisite for your organisation to be able to offer the following European Solidarity Corps placements?

For volunteering placements?

- Yes
- No

For training placements?

- Yes
- No

For apprenticeship placements?

- Yes
- No

For employment placements?

- Yes
- No

What would be your organisation's motivation to engage the Corps participants for solidarity related activities?

- To contribute to change in society
- To benefit from outside experience and skills
- A mission of my organisation to work with young people
- To cope with the workload
- Other

What kind of preparation would you consider essential for a young person from the European Solidarity Corps to be a potential candidate for a placement with your organisation, whether as a volunteer, trainee, apprentice or employee?

- Language training
- Intercultural training
- Training specific to the tasks that the project will entail
- Other

Would you be looking for specific profiles in terms of qualifications, skills and experience?

- No specific level of education
- At least a lower secondary education
- At least an upper secondary education or post-secondary non-tertiary education
- Tertiary education (Bachelor degree, Master degree, PhD, etc.)
- Foreign language skills
- Intercultural skills
- 'Soft skills' e.g. communication, team-working or multi-tasking skills
- Digital and IT skills
- Skills that are specific to the tasks that the project entails
- Other

Is it challenging to find the people with the right skills and experience for your solidarity related projects?

- Yes
- No

Questions for organisations who would be prepared to offer volunteering placements

Would you be willing to engage European Solidarity Corps volunteers from:

- The country where your organisation is based
- Another EU country
- A non-EU country
- No preference

For what duration(s) would you like to offer volunteering placements?

- 0-2 months
- 3-6 months
- 7-12 months
- More than 12 months

Questions for organisations prepared to offer placements for training, apprenticeships or employment

Document upload and final comments

Please feel free to upload a concise document, such as a position paper. The maximal file size is 1MB.

Please note that the uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this open public consultation. The document is an optional complement and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.

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/EPHA_response_to_the_Public_Consultation_on_the_European_Solidarity_Corps-FINAL.pdf

If you wish to add further information - within the scope of this questionnaire - please feel free to do so here. If you are aware of good practice examples which could serve as a model for future European Solidarity Corps activities, please include these here.

1000 character(s) maximum

The European Solidarity Corps (ESC) can be described as a "top down" attempt to promote the social dimension of Europe, alongside the Social Pillar process. This is not necessarily negative - youth need employment, volunteerism can promote solidarity and bring new skills. However, the ESC needs to be a "triple win": for young people, for the participating NGOs / agencies, and most of all for local communities and local authorities.

EPHA is concerned that the process is too rushed since there was no opportunity to provide more in-depth inputs prior to the recent stakeholder meetings. As discussions are now taking place in various fora (including the Health Policy Forum in the health sector) and involving various DGs - including DG SANTÉ, many NGOs would welcome continuous involvement in the evaluation and improvement of the process in light of this experience, and to further explore how the health sector could contribute..

Contact

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