

WINTER 2019

EPLM NEWSLETTER

This newsletter provides updates from practice, research and policy on the topic of learning mobility in the youth field in Europe.



THE EPLM IS...

The EPLM has a mission to engage in the improvement, knowledge, visibility and recognition of learning mobility in the youth field.

The European Platform for Learning Mobility in the youth field (EPLM) is an open participatory space for exchange and cooperation between practitioners, researchers and policy makers. By 'practitioners' the Platform means programme staff, trainers and consultants, youth workers and other multipliers in the youth field and in youth work.

The EPLM is coordinated by the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership.

Find out more about EPLM here



European Platform for Learning Mobility Conferences

The EPLM Conferences bring together researchers, practitioners, volunteers, policy makers, institutions and organisations in the youth field working on the topic of learning mobility. The next conference will be held in Autumn 2021 focusing on Learning Mobility and Sustainability, hosted by the Finnish National Agency for Erasmus+.



New Edition of the Quality Handbook!

The Handbook on Quality in Learning Mobility remains a very popular publication. New printed Handbooks are available upon request, [the pdf version can be found here](#).



If you wish to have the Handbook on Quality in Learning Mobility translated to your own language, it's easy! Please contact the youth partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe davide.capecchi@partnership-eu.coe.int



Quality Mobility App

The Quality Mobility App is based on the 22 quality principles and 119 indicators presented in the Quality Handbook. Also known as the Q! App, it is a tool to be used by those working on learning mobility, especially newcomers, to improve the quality of their projects. [The Q! App is available here](#)



Currently the Q! App is available in English, Dutch, Czech, and Latvian. Soon to be available in Finnish and Swedish.

If you are interested to have it in your language, please contact [Qapp \[at\] salto-youth.net](mailto:Qapp@salto-youth.net).



Quality Ambassadors

In Summer 2019, 60 mobility activists from the whole of Europe were selected from more than 500 applicants. They gathered in the European Youth Centre Budapest through the efforts of EU-Council of Europe youth partnership and Salto Inclusion and Diversity to become Quality Ambassadors of the EPLM Mobility Quality Tools.

Currently the Ambassadors are conducting diverse initiatives in their countries and their networks. To mention a few:

- Q! webinar for SALTO-YOUTH's ToT 2018-2019 graduates
- Meetings and presentations of the Quality Manual and the Q! App in Portugal, Spain, Armenia, Turkey and Bulgaria.

Multiplier training for Quality! Ambassadors

On 17-21 of May 2020, JINT (National Agency for the Flemish Community in Belgium) will host 15 experienced and 30 new Q! Ambassadors for a training course in Ostend. The call for applications will be announced in January 2020.

T-kit on Learning Mobility is being developed



Following the recent developments of the European Youth Programmes and the launch of European Solidarity Corps in 2018, a new training kit (T-kit) is being prepared, with the support of the youth partnership in cooperation with European Solidarity Corps Resource Centre. The T-kit is going to be focused on value-based learning in learning mobilities, which will also include aspects related to solidarity. The team is planning to have it finalised by the end of 2020.



Youth Sector Strategy 2030

The Council of Europe youth sector strategy 2030 has four thematic priorities:

- Revitalising pluralistic democracy;
- Access to rights;
- Living together in peaceful and inclusive societies;
- Youth work.

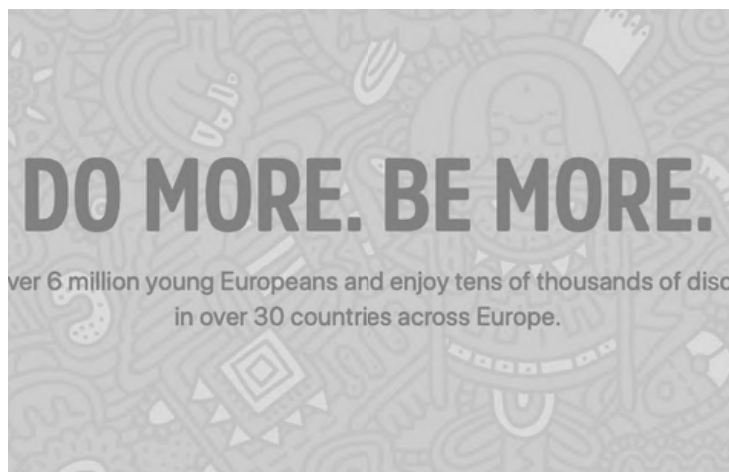
A high-level launch of the Youth sector strategy 2030 has been proposed in January 2020 within the framework of the chairmanship of Georgia of the Committee of Ministers.

Youth Participation Strategy

SALTO Participation and Information is developing a Youth Participation Strategy to enhance youth participation through Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps programmes. Some members of EPLM take part in the expert group that is supporting the development of this strategy. In the beginning of May 2020, a conference is planned to launch the Strategy.

The European Youth Card services will be available in more countries

Recently the EYCA GA has welcomed new member organisations from North Macedonia, Italy, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Belarus. As of 2020, the European Youth Card services will be available in all these territories.



[Find out more about EYCA here.](#)

European Quality Label for Youth Information and Counselling

The European Quality Label for Youth Information and Counselling aims to help young people easily recognise trustworthy sources of information.

The partnership between the Council of Europe and ERYICA is developing the Label in the framework of a 2-year project (2019-2020). This clear and youth-friendly sign will promote young people's access to verified information, as well as develop their media and information literacy. The Label will be a new tool for quality assurance in youth information. The assessment tool, the management plan and the pilot documentation has been prepared, and piloting will start in 2020. The Label will be operational in 2021.

[Want to learn more? Press here and scroll down to "European Youth Information Quality Label".](#)



HUMAN
RIGHTS
EDUCATION
CONFERENCE

Youth for Human Rights

Erasmus+ KA3 project "Youth for Human Rights" exploring and advancing the role and potential of youth work for Human Rights Education mainstreaming which was implemented by the Erasmus+ National Agencies in Germany, Slovakia, Latvia, Croatia, Estonia, Austria and Belgium Flanders has come to an end.

The last activity was a closing conference in Tallinn, on 29-30 of October.

On 10th of December, Human Rights Day, [policy recommendations](#) coming from the project have been published. They contain suggestions for follow up on policy and practice level.

Exploring different models of democratic participation: fostering youth participation through the European Youth Card

The seminar aimed to:

- Offer the space for debate on and recognition of the variety of forms in which young people make their voices heard, including through digital means;
- Explore the ways in which European Youth Card can be a tool to reach out to disengaged young people and encourage them to actively participate at all levels.

The seminar brought together policy makers in the youth field, youth workers, youth activists and young people, both organised and non-organised, as well as from various structures of representation (e.g. young people involved in the "Rejuvenating politics" initiative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe).

[The report of the event is available here.](#)

RAY Network Activities



The RAY Network continues to provide the learning mobility community with the evidence about Erasmus+ programme. 4 new reports were published in 2019.

What is more, the RAY Network research is expanding to the European Solidarity Corps programme. Soon the analysis on the first rounds of the ESC projects should be available.

[Find out more about the research that the RAY Network is conducting here.](#)



Eurodesk study 2019

The 2nd edition of the Eurodesk survey shows trends and preferences of how young people find, engage with, and perceive youth information about mobility opportunities. The report focuses on understanding young people's preferences and identifying what stakeholders in the field of learning mobility can do to better reach out to youth.

[Read the report here.](#)



DesYIgn: Innovative Youth Information Service Design and Outreach Focus Group Interview Report

As part of the Erasmus+ DesYIgn project, Åbo Akademi, in cooperation with ERYICA, have written a report on focus group interviews that were conducted with young people. Eight focus group interviews were carried out in four different countries, which were: UK (Wales), Spain (Valencia and Madrid), Malta, and Luxembourg. A total of 37 young people aged between 15 and 29 and with an average age of 19 participated in the in-depth discussion, where they elaborated on their everyday information-seeking practices, their level of awareness of the services, their challenges in accessing the services, and how they would prefer using such information services. The report includes recommendations for youth information service providers and decision-makers, and will be published in January 2020.

Desk Research on Indicators of Impact

A recent desk research was conducted by a group of researchers who have established that:

- assessing (social) community impact is very difficult because there are other influential factors;
- the indicators to understand the (social) impact in communities are scarce and the ones available are not very accurate (difficult to understand if one is talking about sending or hosting community);
- positive effects are acknowledged in both sending and hosting communities (learning effects, fostering cooperation, involvement in community issues, etc.);
- it is necessary to develop indicators to evaluate social impact at the community level.



EU-Council of Europe youth partnership publications

EU-Council of Europe youth partnership is supporting studies that are relevant to the learning mobility. The following publications are being finalised and will be published in 2020:

- A Youth Knowledge Book on Social Inclusion and Digitalisation;
- Study on Social Inclusion and Digitalisation.



EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS

The Concept of Solidarity

the European Solidarity Corps Resource Centre

4Thought project was conducted in 2019 in order to find common ground on the concept of solidarity in the European youth field. The study represents input from all the four angles of practice, policy, research and young people, from sectors that the Solidarity Corps covers. The report of the study is soon to be published. It will be followed by events on Solidarity, including "Europe talks about Solidarity" conference, organised on 12th – 14th of March in Vienna, Austria. **The call for participants is open on the SALTO webpage.**



Engage. Inform. Empower.

Eurodesk, the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) came together for the Erasmus+ project "3 Network Project: Enhancing Youth Service Promotion and Outreach", with a new publication of best practices from all around Europe.

The ePublication addresses a variety of ways for reaching out to young people through outreach youth work, reaching out to young people through digital tools, and building youth workers' capacities.

[Find the publication here.](#)



Follow-Up of the Access-Study

In the follow-up of the German research project "Access-Study", transfer e.V. coordinated a series of events to disseminate the findings and discuss perspective strategies in local contexts, but also internationally. Three symposiums were held in France, Poland, and Albania to discuss the European dimension of the study. In January the discussion will be continued in Finland. On March 9-10 a final conference is going to bring different perspectives together and draw conclusions on the ways of accessing international youth work and the obstacles young people face when it comes to participation.

Evidence-based approach in Erasmus+. Methodological aspects

The Foundation for the Development of the Education System – Polish National Agency of the Erasmus+ Programme organised the third edition of the seminar on evidence-based policy in Erasmus+ which took place on October 9-10 2019 in Poland.

The goal of the seminar was to provide a scientific forum for discussion on educational research methodology with a special attention to international mobility projects within the Erasmus+ Programme.

The seminar will be followed by a publication composed of diverse articles on learning mobility and methodology.



Symposium "The future of young people's political participation: questions, challenges and opportunities"



From 18 to 20 September 2019 the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth organised a symposium. Over 120 participants explored current tensions, questions, challenges and opportunities regarding the political participation of young people in today's changing world and created a space for learning and inspiration among actors involved in this topic.

[Here you can read the Visions of the future developed by the participants of the symposium.](#)

Enhancing Youth Services: Promotion and Outreach

In the framework of cooperation between ERYICA, Eurodesk, and EYCA organised a common training event for the members of the three networks based on their needs of youth service structures in optimising the promotion and attractiveness of their services among young people and establishing efficient digital communication and outreach strategies.

a publication with good practices on youth outreach and digital communication strategies is being developed.

Give a Vote campaign

Implemented with the help of EYCA members in EU member states, the campaign aimed to increase young voter turnout in the upcoming EU elections. The campaign features:

- 26 young activists
- European events such as youth exchanges;
- 50.000 special edition EU elections of the European Youth Card distributed across Europe;
- Post-election meeting between young activists and the European Parliament representatives;
- Strong on-line presence.



Results:

- 10 influencers engaged & 4.4 million fanbase reach on Instagram;
- 4.43 million young people reached through YouTube ads

Conference "Youth mobility in a digitalized world"

May 12 - 14, 2020, Germany



The three-day conference, initiated by JUGEND für Europa (German NA for E+YIA and ESC) and IJAB (International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany), aims at giving an overview on the status quo in the youth mobility field, at sparking discussion and at developing recommendations for further steps.

Target groups:

- Multipliers who are active in European and/or international youth mobility (volunteers as well as paid staff) and who are interested in the topic or who have expertise in this area.
- Participants from all program and partner countries of the Erasmus+ Youth in Action program can take part.

Mentoring under construction

European Solidarity Corps Resource Centre is working on quality for support roles, looking at mentoring and the tools that are developed for mentors. In 2020, the Resource Centre will organise a seminar to gather tools and resources for mentors. The event is called “**Mentoring under construction!**” it will be organised from 24th -26th of March 2020 | Bucharest, Romania.

[The call for participants is open and can be access it here.](#)



Solidarity Fair

For community building of organisations active in the European Solidarity Corps programme, a Solidarity Fair is foreseen to take place in October 2020 in Romania. More details coming soon.

Mobility Taster for Inclusion Organisations

SALTO Inclusion & Diversity Resource Centre continues their work with newcomers to Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps who are directly working with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. There are 3 courses planned for 2020: in Austria in March on volunteering, in Ukraine in June on youth exchanges and volunteering (in Russian), and in North Macedonia in October/November on youth exchanges and volunteering (in English).

Mobility Taster course gives concrete examples of what is possible, brings organizations in contact with other inclusion youth organisations, shows what funding is available specifically for youth inclusion projects and walks the participants step-by-step through the process in case they would like to give it a try.

[Find more information about the Mobility Taster for Inclusion courses here.](#)

Working with Trainers 2.0

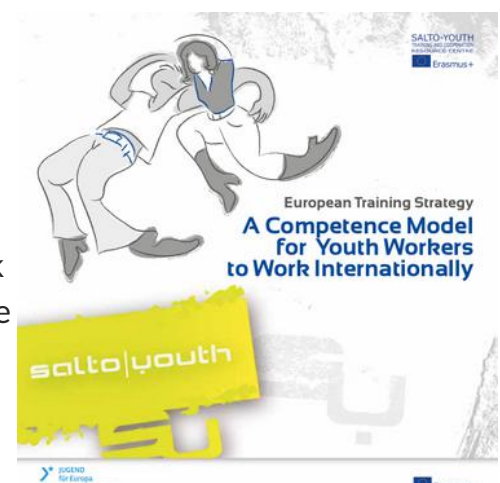


SALTO Training and Cooperation Resource Centre surveyed the National Agencies to enquire about how they work with trainers. The survey was followed by a meeting in December 2019 that also looked at the European level of Working with Trainers.

ETS Competence Model for Youth Workers

SALTO Training and Cooperation Resource Centre works on implementing the ETS Competence Model for Youth Workers to Work Internationally through a pilot course, development of an online course on a competence-based approach and an online self-assessment tool for youth workers.

[Press for more information.](#)



HOP online learning platform



The HOP fosters online learning in Erasmus+ Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps programmes. It offers growing number of online courses targeting different aspects of European youth work. HOP is a community that brings together learners, authors and facilitators of online courses and National Agencies of both European youth programmes as well as the SALTO Resource Centres to work together on rising the quality in youth projects.



Time to Move Card Game

The Time to Move Card Game is an educational game with the aim to introduce young people to the many opportunities Europe offers them. The game is made of fast-paced activities that will challenge players on a mission to collect strengths before they embark on a journey abroad. Play it with your friends or family, in teams or in big groups, in classrooms or at game nights. It's Time to Move!

The Card Game Time to Move now can be ordered via [this page](#).

EDUFI: Youth, Values & EU

A collection of creative and participatory methods to discuss the #EUYouthStrategy and the #EUYouthGoals with different target groups (young, adult,...). The methods were developed by unemployed young people and professionals working with them. At the moment available in Finnish, but soon also in Swedish and English.



The Star of Europe



A digitalised method to plan a good quality Erasmus+ youth exchange. Developed by the Finnish National Agency for Erasmus+ Youth in Action. [Click here for more information.](#)



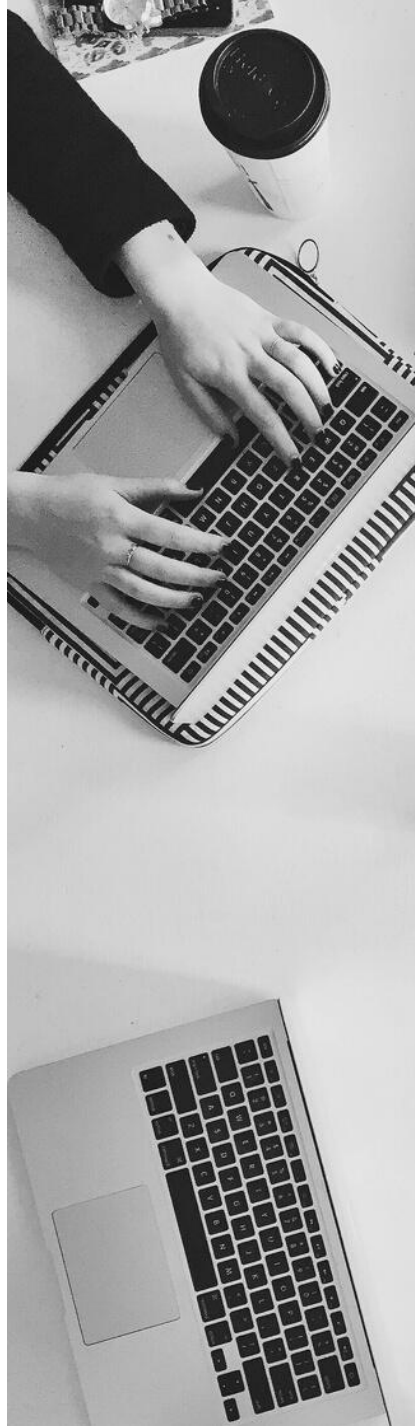
Appraiser: 360° professional development appraisal service for trainers



Appraiser is an online tool, based on ETS competence model for trainers. It is now fully developed and it includes self-assessment, 360 feedback and professional development steps.

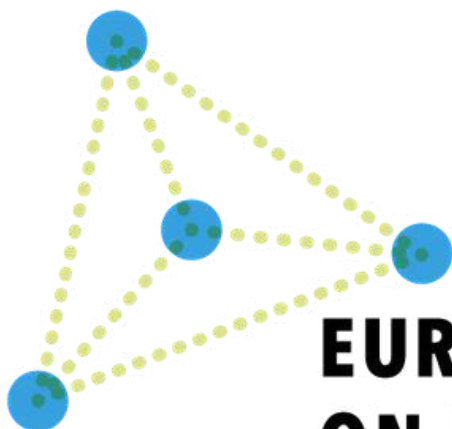
At the moment, we are working on using Appraiser for recognition of trainers' investment in and dedication to quality of their professional development.

Appraiser has been developed by IYWT Guild and its partners: Badgecraft, Lithuanian Association of Non-formal Education, Associazione Interculturale NUR, COOBRA Cooperativa Braccianti and Ha Moment.



YouTrain: Fresh Videos for Non-formal Education

Introductory videos on important aspects and considerations in non-formal education, a set of video tutorials on specific methods in non-formal education, and a manual on how to produce video-tutorials by yourself. The videos can be used by educators active in designing and implementing different mobility projects.



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**EUROPEAN PLATFORM
ON LEARNING MOBILITY**
in the youth field