



Freshers' Week

EUPA participated in multiple freshers' week events across Malta and Gozo, visiting Junior College, the University of Malta, the Institute of Tourism Studies, Giovanni Curmi Higher Secondary, and the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology. These events provided an excellent platform for students to discover the benefits of the Erasmus+, European Solidarity Corps, and Europass. Our goal is to inform as many people as possible about the incredible opportunities these initiatives offer, helping students broaden their horizons and enhance their personal and professional growth. Students who visited the EUPA stand had the opportunity to join a giveaway, with many walking away with fantastic prizes!



EUPA Communications Team connecting with students



#ErasmusDays

#ErasmusDays is a Europe-wide celebration aimed at showcasing the opportunities and benefits of the Erasmus+ programme. Between October 14th and 19th, 2024, Malta joined the rest of Europe in celebrating the 8th annual #ErasmusDays. This initiative highlights the impact of Erasmus+ through various events and activities organised by beneficiaries and participants. In Malta, the celebrations included social media campaigns, testimonials, exhibitions, webinars, and multiplier events. There were others who took part in the #ErasmusDaysChallenge, creatively sharing their mobility experiences online.



Various Activities organised across Malta and Gozo for #ErasmusDays

Discover ACT Training Course Activity

Held between October and November 2024, the 'Discover ACT' Training Course Activity (TCA) was hosted here in Malta by EUPA's Youth sector. Through a variety of activities, this immersive training course provided the chances for past DiscoverEU participants to learn more about other opportunities and experiences available to them under the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes.



Participants at 'Discover Act'

Pink October and Movember

October and November are dedicated to raising awareness for vital health issues. Pink October focuses on breast cancer prevention, while Movember highlights men's health, including prostate and testicular cancer and suicide prevention. In support of these causes, EUPA staff came together to organise a series of fundraising activities, including fun quizzes. Their efforts raised €300, which was proudly donated to Puttinu Cares, helping patients and families in need. Together, we continue to raise awareness, foster important conversations, and contribute to our community.



EUPA staff during Pink October

Embrace Inclusion & Diversity in your Erasmus+ project

From the 11th to 13th of November, EUPA hosted a Training Cooperation Activity titled "Embrace Inclusion & Diversity in Your Erasmus+ Project." The event brought together participants to explore ways to include people with fewer opportunities in their Erasmus+ projects. Through seminars, study visits, discussions, and cultural activities, attendees gained valuable insights on promoting inclusion and diversity.



Participants coming together to discuss reaching people with fewer opportunities

NA Communication Network Meeting

On the 6th and 7th of November, EUPA Communications Officer Ms. Emma Galea attended the National Agencies Communication Network Meeting in Brussels. The event focused on the ethical and effective use of Artificial Intelligence tools in communications. EUPA also joined online, fostering collaboration and the exchange of insights to enhance communication practices across the network.



Different National Agencies coming together discussing the impact of Artificial Intelligence

European Solidarity Corps On Arrival Meeting

From the 14th to the 17th of November, 13 young volunteers participated in their on-arrival training under the European Solidarity Corps programme. They came to Malta to support and volunteer at a variety of organisations in Malta. The training was designed to introduce them to the host country, equip them for their upcoming activities, and enhance their experience within the European Solidarity Corps framework.



Excited volunteers during their on arrival training

eTwinning National Awards Ceremony

EUPA attended the eTwinning National Awards Ceremony, an event dedicated to recognising the exceptional contributions of Malta's educators. The ceremony highlighted the powerful link between School Education Erasmus+ projects and eTwinning. During the event, EUPA's School Education Sector Manager, Ms. Nathalie Buttigieg, delivered a presentation showcasing practical strategies for schools to strengthen the connection between these two impactful programmes, encouraging further collaboration and growth in the education sector.



Ms Nathalie Buttigieg, Manager of School Education Sector, during her presentation at the eTwinning awards

Grant Award Ceremony



On November 19th, 2024, EUPA hosted its annual Grant Award Ceremony, which took place in two sessions. The morning session focused on the School Education, Adult Education, Vocational Education and Training, and Sport sectors, while the evening session was dedicated to the Youth sector. Beneficiaries of Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps projects from late 2023 and 2024 gathered for the General Monitoring Meeting, covering Key Action 1, Key Action 2, and European Solidarity Corps projects. The event provided a valuable opportunity for networking and knowledge-sharing among beneficiaries. Both sessions culminated in an award ceremony, where each organisation and project received a certificate in recognition of their hard work and dedication.

Participants coming together to discuss reaching people with fewer opportunities

Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps information sessions

To prepare for the upcoming Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps 2025 calls, EUPA organised four sector-specific information sessions, offering potential beneficiaries the chance to learn about opportunities and ask questions. In line with the emphasis on inclusion as a horizontal priority, four distinguished keynote speakers were invited. Mr. Joseph K. Muscat addressed the youth sector, Dr. Josanne Ghirxi, Director of National School Support Services, spoke on education, Ms. Allison Zammit from the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities focused on inclusion in VET and Adult Education, Ms. Christabel D'Amato, Sport Director at Special Olympics Malta, discussed inclusion in sports, and Mr. Gilmore Borg highlighted the broader impact of inclusive projects. Their presentations underscored the importance of inclusion in all projects.



Guest speakers during the information sessions

Europass Business Breakfast



Europass Panel Discussion

This December, the Europass Business Breakfast focused on this year's theme, "Europass From Schools to the Workplace: Europass in Focus." In collaboration with the Malta Employers Association, the European Union Programmes Agency became the first Europass centre in the EU to host an event directly with the country's employers. Attendees gained valuable insights into the benefits of Europass, shared feedback, and networked with professionals from various sectors across Malta. The event featured a keynote speech by Mr. Dimitrios Pikios and Ms. Christine Voelkl from the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion, highlighting Europass as a valuable tool for employers. A panel discussion followed, bringing together qualified experts to explore how the school education sector can better prepare students for the workforce.

Study Visit on Interfaith Dialogue and Youth Work

Over the course of three impactful days, youth workers and experts met here in Malta for a study visit on 'Interfaith Dialogue and Youth Work'. Participants had the chance to engage in interfaith dialogue to promote understanding, peace, and inclusive communities. They also reflected on Malta's interfaith landscape together with local experts, drawing insights to apply in their own communities back home.



Participants connecting during interactive activities



Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps deadlines announced

The deadlines for the upcoming 2025 calls have recently been announced. These opportunities represent a significant step forward in supporting the professional and personal growth of your organisation's members. Don't miss the chance to make an impact!

For the full 2025 list of Erasmus+ calls click [here](#) and for the full list of European Solidarity Corps call click [here](#).



Training Opportunities

Interested in learning more about Erasmus+ or the European Solidarity Corps? Training and Cooperation Activities offer a fantastic way to travel, gain insight into the programmes and network with like-minded organisations for possible future project collaborations.

Here are the approaching deadlines:

'Spirit of Dialogue' – Training Course on Interfaith Dialogue & Youth Work – Morocco: A 4-day training course designed for youth workers and professionals who want to explore the potential of interfaith dialogue in fostering understanding, respect, and peace (Deadline: 19th January).

- **YouSport Mini Study Visit – Finland:** This main aim of this TCA is to tackle the involvement of youth and sports sectors in engaging young individuals through social sport initiatives (Deadline: 24th January).
- **Green Erasmus: A contribution to Europe's green transition?!** – Germany: The TCA aims to explore the role and impact of Erasmus+ in supporting Europe's green transition. It is open to stakeholders in the Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education sectors (Deadline: 27th January)