

September 2025

EUPA Strengthens Involvement in RAY Network Research

EUPA continues to play an active role in the RAY Network (Research-based Analysis and Monitoring of European Youth Programmes), a transnational collaboration that supports evidence-based policy and programme development across Europe. Through this network, EUPA contributes to four key research projects:

- RAY MON- Monitoring the impact of Erasmus+ Youth
- RAY SOC - Tracking outcomes of the European Solidarity Corps
- RAY LEARN- Investigating organisational learning in the youth sector
- RAY DIGI- Exploring digitalisation in youth work

As part of our engagement, Malta proudly hosted the RAY DIGI Working Group Meeting on 1-2 July 2025, marking the start of phase two of the project. The meeting focused on how youth work organisations are navigating digital transformation through strategy, policy, and best practices. The goal is to build a transnational evidence base through case studies that inform future capacity-building and policy design.

Additionally, Gwyneth Awad, EUPA's Programme Evaluator, Research Coordinator, and Greening Officer, represented Malta at the RAY Network Meeting held from 23-25 September 2025, contributing to ongoing discussions on research priorities and collaboration.

Looking ahead, RAY Day will be celebrated on 20 October, a Europe-wide initiative highlighting the impact of research in youth programmes. EUPA will be sharing key insights and findings across our social media channels—stay tuned!

For more information and to explore recent reports, visit:

<https://www.researchyouth.net/reports/>





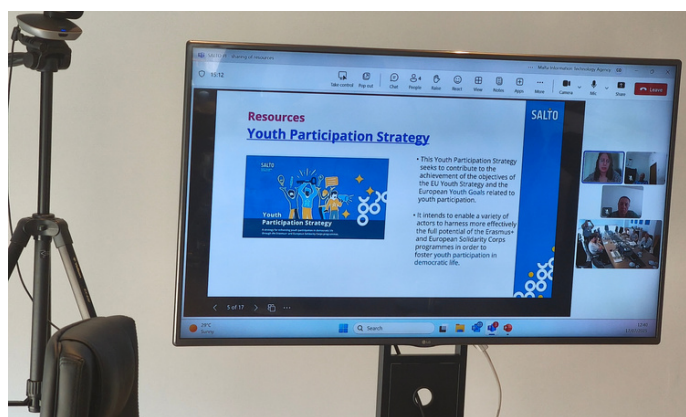
Ambassadors Advancing Democracy and Sustainability

EUPA recently hosted two Participation in Democratic Life Ambassadors' meetings, uniting stakeholders to promote civic engagement and sustainability among young people.

The first, held on 10th July 2025, focused on youth participation in democratic life, with valuable input from SALTO Participation on expanding the initiative's reach and inclusivity.

The second, held on 24th July 2025, addressed sustainability and green practices in EU-funded projects, highlighting eco-conscious planning and youth-led initiatives. SALTO also shared guidance on aligning with EU sustainability goals.

Both meetings reaffirmed EUPA's commitment to empowering young people and embedding sustainability across Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes.



IChoose Fair

EUPA proudly took part in the IChoose Fair, held on 19 and 20 July. Our stand welcomed a vibrant crowd of students and parents, informing them about the amazing opportunities available through Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

From study and training exchanges to volunteering and youth-led projects, we had the chance to shine a light on how these EU programmes can truly transform lives. The best part? Many were surprised (and delighted!) to learn that travel, accommodation, and food are all fully covered!

We also gave centre stage to Europass, showing visitors how this simple, free tool can help them build a strong CV, showcase their skills, and prepare for both local and international opportunities.



Information Sessions

In July, EUPA organised two tailored information sessions to support applicants of the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes.

The first session, held on 22 July, focused on guiding prospective applicants preparing for the 1st October 2025 deadline, offering practical advice on how to strengthen project proposals and align them with programme priorities.

The second session, on 25 July, was designed specifically for individuals and organisations whose 2025 proposals were previously unsuccessful. It provided insights into common pitfalls and offered recommendations on how to improve resubmissions for future calls.

These sessions are part of EUPA's ongoing commitment to ensuring that applicants are well-informed and well-prepared to submit high-quality, impactful proposals.

Looking ahead, we will be hosting additional information sessions in November, focused on the 2026 application deadlines. Keep an eye on our website and social media for updates on dates and registration details!

DiscoverEU Meetup #2

The second DiscoverEU Meet-Up took place from 27 to 30 August, with participants from seven countries and Maltese winners soon to begin their journeys.

The programme began with cultural activities at MUŻA in Valletta and a treasure hunt in Mdina. The following day focused on the Erasmus+ priority of environmental sustainability, featuring visits to Ambjent Malta and BirdLife Malta, where participants engaged in educational and hands-on activities.



Stakeholder Consultation Session

In preparation for the 2026 Work Plan, EUPA's National Coordinator and CEO, Mr Raphael Scerri, held a stakeholders' meeting on 1st September, facilitated by Prof. Suzanne Gatt and attended by sector managers.

Mr Scerri opened the meeting with a brief introduction, followed by a presentation on the four horizontal priorities of Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps. Stakeholders were also introduced to the work plan template to better understand EUPA's reporting requirements to the European Commission and were invited to provide feedback on key focus areas for 2026.



Youth General Monitoring Meeting



On 5 September, the Youth Team held the General Monitoring Meeting for beneficiaries of European Solidarity Corps and Erasmus+ KA1 and KA2 projects from the 2025 call (Rounds 1 and 2).

The session included an overview of programme priorities, fund absorption, contractual obligations, and reporting requirements, with particular guidance for new beneficiaries.

Workshops followed, allowing participants to share project experiences, address challenges, and explore ideas for future initiatives.

Promotion of the Programme

As part of its ongoing promotional efforts, EUPA collaborated with PBS (Public Broadcasting Services Ltd) to air a series of 30-second TV adverts encouraging the public to explore EU funding opportunities.

To maximise audience reach, the adverts were broadcast just before news bulletins between 4–10 August and 1–7 September.



Press Conference on EU funds

EUPA has officially published the results of Rounds 1 and 2 of the 2025 call, with over €14 million in funding awarded under Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

The funds will support a wide range of projects in both formal and non-formal education, enhancing opportunities across multiple sectors.

During the press conference, Hon. Dr Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi, Minister for European Funds and Implementation of the Electoral Programme, reaffirmed the Government's commitment to continued investment in education and informal learning.

Information Session for Band Clubs

On 10th September 2025, EUPA, in collaboration with the Għaqda Nazzjonali Każini tal-Banda, successfully organised an information session for band clubs in Malta and Gozo.

The session introduced participants to the opportunities available under Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps (ESC), highlighting how these fund can help strengthen the cultural, educational, and social work of bands within their communities.



Digital Village

From 10 to 12 September, Valletta hosted the All Digital Summit 2025, bringing together digital leaders, educators, and innovators from around the world to exchange ideas and advance digital skills, inclusion, and citizenship.

The summit fostered a collaborative atmosphere, highlighting the impact of digital transformation across generations.

EUPA participated by setting up an information stand to promote EU programmes aligned with the digital transformation priority.



European Innovative Teaching Awards

The European Innovative Teaching Awards (EITA) recognise outstanding teaching practices developed through Erasmus+ projects, promoting innovation, professional development, and the exchange of good practices across Europe.

The 2025 edition marks the award's 5th anniversary, with a focus on Citizenship Education: participation in democratic life, common values, and civic engagement.

We are proud to announce Malta's awardees for this year:

BirdLife Malta
Maltese Italian Chamber of Commerce
PA Holdings Ltd
The European Network of Parents of LGBTI+ Persons

Staff Engagement Abroad

Over the past months, EUPA staff have actively participated in key European meetings and forums, reinforcing Malta's presence and contribution within the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps communities.

- 25-27 August – Mauerbach, Austria
Raphael Scerri joined the Erasmus+ Retreat 2025, engaging in strategic discussions with fellow National Agencies.

- 27-28 August – Ljubljana, Slovenia
Marvic Ann Debono attended the Residential KMST Working Group Meeting, exchanging best practices on knowledge management.

- 15-16 September – Brussels, Belgium
Marvic Ann Debono also took part in the 6th Steering Group Meeting, strengthening cooperation on Erasmus+ priorities.

- 15-20 September – Birštonas, Lithuania
Roxanna Scicluna contributed to the TEC Forum 2025, representing Malta in discussions on training and cooperation within the European Solidarity Corps.

- 15-18 September – Copenhagen, Denmark
Raphael Scerri represented EUPA at the Informal Erasmus+ NA Directors' Meeting, focusing on collaboration in the youth sector.

- 23-25 September – Copenhagen, Denmark

Gwyneth Awad participated in the RAY Network Meeting, exploring research in youth programmes.

These missions continue to enhance EUPA's role in shaping EU programmes, building networks, and exchanging expertise across Europe.

Welcoming New Team Members

EUPA is delighted to welcome new colleagues to our growing team!

- Denyse Degiorgio – Final Report Officer
- Jessica Agius – Final Report Officer
- Joana Filipa Marques Pinto Nunes – Communications Officer
- Anne Marie Apap – Programme Officer (Schools)

Their skills and enthusiasm will further strengthen EUPA's commitment to excellence in managing the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes. We wish them every success in their new roles!