



eupa

NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Student Entrepreneurship Pitch Session at Knights College

In January, students at Knights College had the opportunity to present their business ideas during an engaging pitching session designed to simulate real-world entrepreneurial scenarios. The initiative encouraged students to develop innovative concepts and pitch them to a panel of experienced professionals, gaining valuable feedback on how to turn their ideas into viable projects.

The panel featured experts from various organisations, including Brian Schembri from EUPA, Gabriel Cassar from the Malta Business Bureau, Michele Agius, and EU funding expert Joe Tanti.

Through this activity, students strengthened essential skills such as critical thinking, communication, and entrepreneurial thinking while benefiting from expert guidance and constructive feedback. Initiatives like these highlight the value of practical learning experiences that help prepare young people for future opportunities and challenges.



Official Opening of the YWCA Hub in Msida

On 12 January, YWCA Malta officially opened its newly transformed hub in Msida, marking an important milestone for the local community. The renovated space showcases a remarkable transformation, providing a welcoming environment for a variety of youth and community activities.

The event highlighted the power of collaboration, with contributions from the staff of EUPA playing a key role in supporting the project. Attendees celebrated the achievement and reflected on the positive impact this hub will have in fostering community engagement, learning opportunities, and social development.

The YWCA Hub is now ready to serve as a vibrant space where ideas, skills, and initiatives can grow, benefiting young people and the wider community alike.

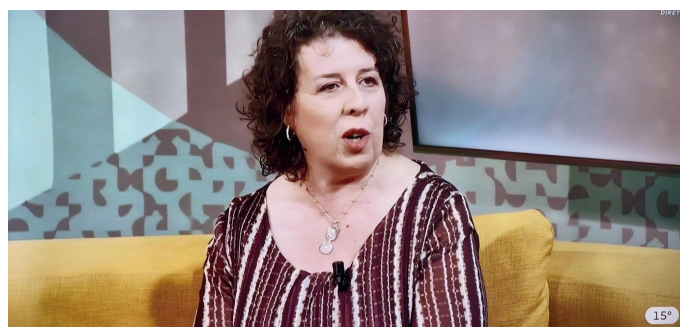


European Solidarity Corps on TVAM

In January, Marvic-Ann Debono, Programme Manager for the Youth sector, together with Nathlin Johnson, Programme Officer for the European Solidarity Corps, shared insights on TVAM about the opportunities available to young people through the European Solidarity Corps (ESC).

The interview also featured a beneficiary from Aġenzija Sapport, who highlighted their volunteering project "Sharing Lives", demonstrating the meaningful impact European Solidarity Corps initiatives have on both volunteers and the communities they serve.

This media appearance is part of EUPA's ongoing efforts to raise awareness about EU funding programmes, inspire youth participation, and promote solidarity-based projects that empower young people and strengthen local communities.



External Assessors' Training in Malta

An External Assessors Training session recently took place in Malta, bringing together participants to strengthen the quality and integrity of project evaluation processes. The programme opened with welcoming remarks by Raphael Scerri, setting the tone for the training and highlighting the importance of maintaining high standards in project assessment.

The training was facilitated by Jan Van Hove and included a presentation by Miriam Teuma from Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ, who provided an overview of Malta's National Youth Strategy.

Participants also took part in an interactive workshop focusing on the role of assessors, ethical considerations, responsibilities, and conflict of interest. The session aimed to reinforce the principles of quality, fairness, and transparency that underpin the evaluation of projects funded through EU programmes.



NEO-ICP-ENFP Annual Meeting in Brussels

In January, the EU Programmes Agency participated in the NEO-ICP-ENFP Annual Meeting held in Brussels. The event brought together representatives from more than 145 countries, creating a platform for networking and dialogue with the European Commission on how to strengthen the impact of centrally managed EU funding programmes.

EUPA was represented by Christopher Schembri, Finance and Administration Manager, who engaged with international counterparts and stakeholders to exchange insights and best practices. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss ways of enhancing collaboration and maximising the benefits of EU programmes across participating countries.



Raphael Scerri took part in the National Agencies Directors Meeting and the National Agencies Event, while members of the EUPA staff also attended workshops organised by the European Commission. These sessions focused on discussions surrounding the next generation of the programme for the period 2028–2034.

The discussions highlighted potential changes, evolving priorities, and programme innovations aimed at strengthening mobility, cooperation, and transformative learning opportunities across Europe. Such engagements ensure that Malta remains actively involved in shaping the future direction of Erasmus+ while preparing local stakeholders to benefit from the opportunities ahead.



Shaping the Future of Erasmus+ in Brussels

In January, representatives from the EUPA participated in key meetings and workshops in Brussels focused on the future development of the Erasmus+ programme.



Empowering Education through Innovation and Wellbeing

In January, a Multiplier Event organised by St Benedict College brought together educators, students, and key stakeholders to explore how digital innovation, artificial intelligence, and wellbeing can enhance teaching and learning across the college network.

The event was attended by Hon. Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi, together with Raphael Scerri and Nathalie Farrugia Cann from EUPA.

The event also highlighted the impact of Erasmus+ initiatives within the college, showcasing how European cooperation continues to support innovation, digital readiness, and inclusive education in Malta's schools.



Erasmus+ Opportunities for Schools Featured on TVAM

In February, Nathalie Farrugia Cann, School Education Manager, together with Jessica Giordimaina from the European Union Programmes Agency, were interviewed on TVAM to discuss the opportunities available through the Erasmus+ Programme for the school education sector.

The interview also featured a beneficiary testimonial from St Benedict College, where Roberta Argento shared her experience and highlighted the positive impact Erasmus+ projects are having within their school community.

The discussion helped raise awareness about EU funding opportunities and showcased how schools in Malta are expanding international learning experiences through participation in Erasmus+ initiatives.



Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Opportunities

In February, Raphael Scerri, National Coordinator at the EU Programmes Agency, was interviewed on Indigo. He highlighted the wide range of opportunities available to young people through the Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.



Promoting Youth Opportunities on Niskata

In February, the Youth Section at the EUPA participated on Niskata to raise awareness about the opportunities available through the Erasmus+ Programme and the European Solidarity Corps.

During the programme, BirdLife Malta shared its experience as a beneficiary, providing valuable insight into the process from application to implementation. The discussion offered young people a real-life perspective on participation in EU-funded initiatives, while highlighting the positive impact these programmes can have on personal development, active citizenship, and community engagement.



Celebrating Erasmus+ Accreditation Achievements

In February, EUPA organised an event recognising 10 Maltese organisations that achieved Erasmus+ Accreditation. This milestone reflects a strong commitment to quality, innovation, and enhanced European cooperation in education.

The accredited organisations include schools, VET institutions, as well as youth and community organisations. Their efforts continue to contribute to improved learning experiences and greater international collaboration across Malta and Europe.

Erasmus+ on Negozju Bla Fruntieri Podcast

In February, the National Coordinator of EUPA, Raphael Scerri, participated in the Negozju Bla Fruntieri podcast to discuss the opportunities that the Erasmus+ Programme offers to Maltese businesses and industries.

The discussion highlighted how Erasmus+ supports skills development, innovation, and international collaboration within the business sector, while also raising awareness about the programme's broader impact across Malta.



HEI Round Table Meeting Held at EUPA

On 26 February, EUPA hosted the Q1 2026 Higher Education Institutions (HEI) Round Table meeting, bringing together representatives from participating institutions.

The session included updates on Erasmus+ procedures, thematic priorities, and recent programme developments, followed by an open exchange with attendees.

Institutions that are new to Erasmus+ were also encouraged to explore available funding opportunities and engage with EUPA for further guidance, while the Agency expressed its appreciation for the continued collaboration of all HEIs.



EUPA Marks International Women's Day

On Friday, 6 March, EUPA proudly marked International Women's Day, celebrating the strength, achievements, and contributions of women across Malta and beyond.

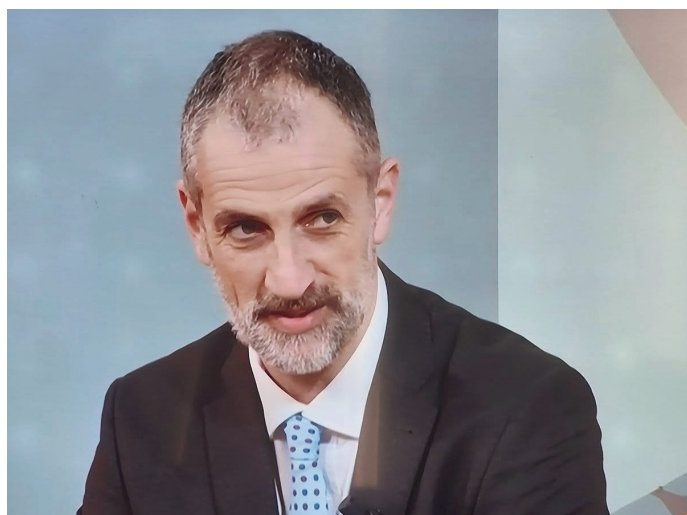
The occasion highlighted the important role women play in shaping communities and the future, while reaffirming the Agency's commitment to supporting and empowering women every day.



Erasmus+ in Adult Education on TVAM

In March, the Adult Education Manager at EUPA, Brian Schembri, appeared on TVAM to discuss the opportunities available through adult education under the Erasmus+ Programme.

The segment also featured representatives from Agenzija Sapport and the Down Syndrome Association Malta, who shared their experiences and highlighted the benefits they gained from participating in these initiatives, showcasing the positive impact of Erasmus+ on adult learning and community engagement.



TCA Seminar on Climate Objectives Hosted by EUPA

The EU Programmes Agency (EUPA) recently hosted the TCA seminar "Climate Objectives: Enhancing Knowledge for Good-Quality KA2 Projects".

The seminar brought together participants from various sectors to explore climate objectives under Erasmus+ Key Action 2, strengthen their understanding of sustainability and green skills, and share tools, resources, and good practices for developing high-quality projects. Through engaging presentations, discussions, and networking opportunities, the event fostered collaboration and provided inspiration for future Erasmus+ initiatives with a stronger focus on climate and the environment.



EUPA Joins Don Bosco Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Events

The EUPA recently participated in the Final Conference of the National Federation of Past Pupils and Friends of Don Bosco Malta's Erasmus+ KA154 project, as well as the Mid-Term Meeting for European Solidarity Corps (ESC) volunteers. The events were attended by Minister Dr Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi.

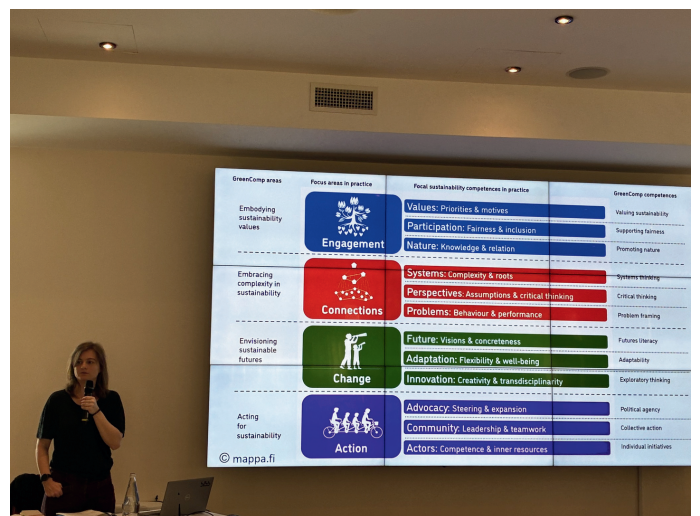
These gatherings showcased how Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps create meaningful opportunities for participation, personal growth, and community impact. EUPA encourages more organisations and young people to explore these programmes and bring their ideas to life.



LTA Sustainability Meeting in Malta

The EUPA recently hosted the Partner Meeting of the LTA Sustainability and Greening in Malta.

The meeting provided a valuable opportunity for participants to discuss experiences, share best practices, and strengthen collaboration on sustainability and greening initiatives within the Erasmus+ Programme. Activities like this help build stronger partnerships and encourage ongoing commitment to more sustainable practices and a greener future.



Reflecting on a Record Year for Erasmus+ Youth

2025 marked a record year for Erasmus+ Youth in Malta. In a recent write-up, EUPA National Coordinator Raphael Scerri reflects on the growing influence of the programme in empowering young people, supporting organisations, and creating broader opportunities for participation, learning, and inclusion.

The past year highlighted the programme's ability to foster personal and professional growth among participants, strengthen partnerships, and promote active engagement in both local and European communities.

This milestone demonstrates the continued potential of Erasmus+ to make a meaningful difference. EUPA Malta encourages young people and organisations alike to explore the opportunities available, turning ideas into impactful projects and experiences.

Erasmus+ Opportunities for the Sport Sector

Sport has a key role to play, and Erasmus+ can help make it happen. EUPA Malta was featured on Niskata to showcase the opportunities available for the sport sector through the Erasmus+ programme.

The session included contributions from Brian Schembri, Manager of the Sport Sector at EUPA, alongside Christian Bajada and Joseph Muscat from Yachting Malta Ltd. They highlighted how Erasmus+ Sport provides coaches, volunteers, and other sport professionals with international experience and training, allowing them to bring new skills and knowledge back to strengthen community-level sport in Malta.

Through mobility, training, and collaborative opportunities, Erasmus+ Sport supports personal development, fosters stronger partnerships, and creates tangible, lasting impact within the sector.

maltatoday | SUNDAY • 15 MARCH 2026

Raphael Scerri
National Coordinator EUPA

Malta's Erasmus+ Youth Programme Reaches Record Milestone in 2025



By creating spaces for collaboration and debate, Erasmus+ continues to respond to evolving social realities while encouraging young people to engage more actively in civic life

sector and the growing quality of projects being developed locally. Many of the approved initiatives tackled themes central to the concerns of younger generations. Projects addressed mental health and wellbeing, digital citizenship, democracy, participation, discrimination and intercultural dialogue—areas increasingly shaping policy discussions across Europe. By creating spaces for collaboration and debate, Erasmus+ continues to respond to evolving social realities while encouraging young people to engage more actively in civic life.

A notable development in 2025 was the expansion of mobility opportunities for youth workers themselves. Professionals working with young people were able to undertake training programmes, job shadowing and peer-learning exchanges with counterparts across Europe. These experiences provide practical tools and fresh perspectives that directly feed back into local youth services, strengthening organisations and improving support systems within Maltese communities.

For participants, the impact of Erasmus+ extends well beyond travel or cultural exposure. Youth exchanges foster a range of transferable skills—from leadership and teamwork to communication, resilience and creative problem-solving. Participants often report increased confidence and a stronger sense of belonging within both their local communities and the wider European project.

International partnerships have also helped Maltese youth organisations modernise their approach. Collaboration with European counterparts has encouraged the adoption of digital tools, new methodologies and more inclusive programming. Such cooperation not only broadens opportunities for young Maltese participants but also strengthens Malta's visibility within the wider European youth sector.

Looking ahead, EUPA emphasises that inclusivity remains central to the programme's mission. Targeted outreach and capacity-building initiatives aim to ensure that young people from diverse backgrounds—including those facing social or economic barriers—can benefit from the opportunities Erasmus+ provides.

As participation continues to grow, the programme is increasingly viewed as a cornerstone of Malta's youth development strategy, helping to nurture a generation of more confident, internationally minded and socially engaged citizens.

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.
FONDI.eu

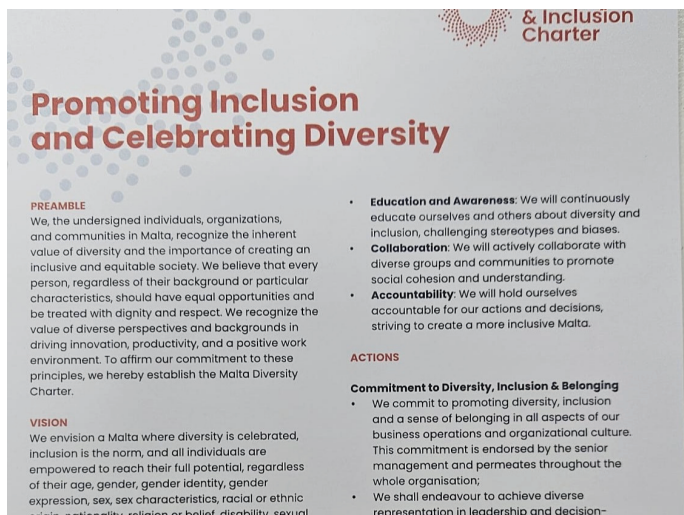


EUPA Signs the Malta Diversity & Inclusion Charter

In March, EUPA proudly became a signatory of the Malta Diversity & Inclusion Charter, reaffirming our commitment to fostering equality, diversity, and inclusive workplaces.

As the national agency managing Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps programmes, we are dedicated to promoting inclusion and ensuring that opportunities are accessible to everyone.

We extend our thanks to CORE Platform and the Malta Diversity & Inclusion Charter for their continued efforts in advancing diversity and inclusion across Malta.



4th European Youth Work Convention Report Published

The 4th European Youth Work Convention, held in Malta in May 2025, brought together over 500 participants from 42 national delegations. Organised by EUPA in collaboration with Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ, the Convention was more than a gathering—it played a key role in shaping a European roadmap for the next five years of youth work.

The discussions and outcomes reinforced the significance of youth work for democracy, participation, inclusion, quality, recognition, and sustainability across Europe.

