

GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA

Circular No 8/2026

Date: 29th July 2026

Association of the United Kingdom and Switzerland to Erasmus+ from 2027

Key Messages for Beneficiaries

1. UK and Switzerland Expected to Become Fully Associated Erasmus+ Countries in 2027

From the 2027 Erasmus+ Call onwards, the UK and Switzerland are expected to become **associated third countries**, meaning they will participate under the same rules applicable to EU Member States and other associated countries.

2. Important Distinction for Calls Before 2027

For all Erasmus+ Calls up to and including **2026**, the UK and Switzerland remain **non-associated third countries**. Therefore, existing eligibility rules continue to apply for projects approved under earlier calls. Organisations should not assume that the new status applies retroactively.

3. Enhanced Mobility Opportunities

The planned association will facilitate Erasmus+ mobility between Erasmus+ countries and UK/Swiss organisations under standard Erasmus+ rules. Higher Education Institutions can prepare for this transition by updating existing Inter-Institutional Agreements to include incoming mobility from UK and Swiss partners.

4. Implications for Ongoing Projects

Projects funded under calls prior to 2027 will continue to follow the current rules. Organisations from the UK and Switzerland may only participate in the ways already permitted under those calls and cannot automatically benefit from the new associated-country status.



The OAKS Business Centre Level 3, Farsons Street, Hamrun HMR1325



+356 25552330



eupa@gov.mt



<https://fondi.eu/eupa/>



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5. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

A particularly important point for Higher Education Institutions is that UK and Swiss HEIs will need to hold an **Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE)** to participate in Erasmus+ mobility and cooperation projects from 2027 onwards. Institutions without an ECHE will not be eligible for Erasmus+ funding under the 2027 Call. The results of the ECHE accreditation process are expected by **September 2026**.

6. Visa Requirements Remain Unchanged

The planned association of the UK to Erasmus+ does **not** alter existing immigration or visa rules. Beneficiaries should continue to check applicable UK entry requirements before travelling.

The National Agency encourages current beneficiaries who are interested in establishing partnerships with organisations in the United Kingdom to register their interest and inform the National Agency accordingly. The National Agency may organise a dedicated information and networking meeting with the Council of Europe, which is expected to assume the role of the new UK National Agency, to facilitate future collaboration opportunities.

Regards



Raphael Scerri

National Coordinator