



Motion on Erasmus+ Successor Programme - Association of all European Countries

ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Erasmus+ enables young people, students and professionals alike to benefit from fruitful exchange activities that enable better cultural understanding, increase knowledge transfer and crucial formal and non-formal educational experiences benefiting the whole of Europe. As youth organisations we highly appreciate the existence of the Erasmus+ programme, which allows us to **engage** in meaningful exchange activities, learn from each other, **connect** and create a bond beyond national borders. The Programme strengthens our identity as Europeans and enables young leaders from volunteer-based organisations to become responsible, **empowered** citizens of Europe. The exchange and mobility also contribute to the personal and educational development of students, apprentices and adults in education. It helps to enhance participation in democratic life within European societies.

The European Youth Forum and its member organisations:

- *Reaffirm* the political demands the European Youth Forum has stated in its Policy Paper on the Erasmus+ successor programme¹;
- *View* with appreciation the passion of volunteers within youth organisations;
- *Believe* in the power and potential of the Erasmus+ programme to engage, connect and empower young European citizens;
- *Recognise the value* towards greater cooperation between participating countries of the Erasmus+ successor programme;
- *Support* the goal of the Erasmus+ successor programme to include third party countries;
- *Appreciate* the higher bureaucratic burdens of youth organisations in countries not participating in the Erasmus+ programme;
- *Raise* concern at the fact that European youth organisations based in non-participating Erasmus+ programme countries are hindered greatly to participate in European activities;
- *Emphasise* on the potential to fully associate non-EU countries in the Erasmus+ successor programme to strengthen the personal, social and political benefits beyond the scope of the European Union.

The European Youth Forum and its member organisations, therefore:

- *Call* upon the EU and its Member States to entirely associate willing European non-EU countries into the Erasmus+ successor programme;
- *Call* upon the EU institutions to find practical solutions to include these

¹ <https://www.youthforum.org/policy-paper-erasmus-successor-programme>

countries in the programme such as “pay-as-you-go” solutions seen in the Horizon 2020 programme;

- *Urge* the European Council to multiply by three the budget of the Erasmus programme, in line with the initial promises of the EU Commission. In the context of the Covid-19 recovery, investment in young people, education, skills and European identity is more needed than ever;
- *Call* upon the EU and its Member States to erase barriers to mobility present in national legislations towards non-Schengen countries;
- *Call* upon the EU institutions to strengthen a close collaboration between the EU and European non-EU countries to facilitate mobility of young people for studying, training and volunteering in other countries;
- *Urge* the EU and its Member States to respect the European Youth Goal No. 3 which foresees inclusive societies;
- *Call* the EU institutions to find a solution to lower the administrative barriers faced by applicants, especially youth organisations.