Since its launch in 2016 the European Solidarity Corps has created opportunities for young people aged between 17 and 30 years willing to make a meaningful contribution to society and help show solidarity – through volunteering, traineeships or jobs.

«I finished my masters in Law last July but I really wanted to do something more challenging, something concrete to know that I had an impact on people’s lives. That’s how I engaged in the European Solidarity Corps.»

Geraldine, European Solidarity Corps trainee, Legal operator and cultural mediator, Euroform RFS, Cosenza, Italy

«I volunteered because I wanted to gain a broader view of the world and to enhance my personal skills and my working experience. I am a volunteer in an asylum centre. I organise well-being workshops for the women of the centre. This is how a relationship between people who work here and people who live here starts.»

Laura, European Solidarity Corps Volunteer, Red Cross, Eupen, Belgium

**WHAT’S NEW FOR THE 2021-2027 PERIOD?**

FOR THE 2021-2027 EU BUDGET PERIOD, THE COMMISSION PROPOSES TO:

- Increase the budget for the European Solidarity Corps to **€1.26 billion** to allow at least **350,000 young people** to participate.

- Make the volunteering activities in support of humanitarian aid operations (EU Aid Volunteers scheme) part of the Solidarity Corps.

**European Solidarity Corps** expressing solidarity through youth volunteering, traineeships and jobs

**End 2016 – mid-2018**
Supported by 8 existing EU programmes

**Mid-2018 – end 2020**
Proposed own legal base and budget: **€ 375.6 million** to allow 100,000 young people to participate

**2021 – 2027**

**1.26 billion EUR** for at least **350,000** participants, including in support of humanitarian aid operations

Source: European Commission
ADDED VALUE

The new proposal builds on the achievements of the European Solidarity Corps and the experience gathered so far: **It broadens the reach of the initiative** to more young people and to more communities in need and consolidates the Corps as a **single entry point** for young people willing to engage in solidarity by bringing the EU Aid Volunteers scheme in its realm.

**BEYOND 2020, THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:**

- Volunteering in solidarity activities
- Solidarity traineeships and jobs
- Youth-led solidarity projects, carried out by at least five volunteers
- Volunteering in support of humanitarian aid operations (former EU Aid Volunteers scheme)
- Networking activities to build a sense of belonging to the Corps (alumni networks, events)
- Quality and support measures such as insurance, training and a certificate at the end of a placement

**EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS**

For information on how to participate as an individual or an organisation, go to the European Solidarity Corps portal: [https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity](https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity)

**SOLIDARITY CORPS TIMELINE**

- **14 September 2016**
  - President Juncker announces the creation of a European Solidarity Corps in his State of the Union Address 2016 before the European Parliament

- **7 December 2016**
  - The European Solidarity Corps is launched

- **8 March 2017**
  - Matching of young people with organisations begins

- **20 March 2017**
  - The first European Solidarity Corps member starts her placement

- **30 May 2017**
  - The Commission proposes more than €340 million for the European Solidarity Corps

- **June 2018**
  - Proposal for the European Solidarity Corps beyond 2020

- **June 2018**
  - Expected political agreement among EU institutions to give the European Solidarity Corps its own budget for 2018-2020

- **2018-2019**
  - Take-up of negotiations between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the future long-term budget, including the European Solidarity Corps.