Youthpass is a tool and a process to reflect on, document and recognise learning outcomes from youth work and solidarity activities. It is available for participants of projects funded by the European Solidarity Corps and the youth part of the Erasmus+ Programme, and targets both young people as well as youth workers.

Since its launch in 2007 and by the beginning of 2020, a total of about 1,056,000 Youthpass certificates have been created in 66,650 projects by almost 27,000 organisations.

In the year 2019, 158,628 Youthpass certificates were created in 8,452 projects by 4,866 organisations. This is considerably higher than the previous years' figures.

In November 2019, RAY Network published the results of a survey on Erasmus+ youth projects realised in 2017-2018. According to the survey, 83% of project participants had received or were currently in the process of receiving a Youthpass. 89% of the participants who had the Youthpass process implemented in their project confirmed that the reflection on learning and the self-assessment helped raise their awareness of their development.

According to the same study, self-development is among the most prominent motivations for taking part in such projects. 67% of Youthpass receivers who used it in job, internship or study applications think that it was helpful in that process.

September 2019 saw the one-millionth Youthpass certificate being issued! The numbers kept growing, with an additional 50,000+ certificates being created before the year’s end. In order to know more about the stories behind the numbers, a call for #1MYouthpass testimonials was opened in the form of a friendly competition.

The testimonials confirm that…

...Youthpass empowers those that work with it, in various ways. The facilitators of learning have an important influence in making the best out of Youthpass.

...self-recognition is the biggest impact of Youthpass, as it brings along an improved awareness of one’s self, their competences, and their motivations.

...the habit of reflecting on learning continues after the projects.

...the better awareness on competences help in future professional steps.

“With the help of Youthpass and my mentor I started to believe in myself, see my potential to grow and reached my goal. I believe that was just a small piece of puzzle in the big picture of success, but now I see how Youthpass can help me to achieve much more in my future career and personal life.”

– Vanja Bunderla

“What I tried to portray in this story is a path I took from gaining my first Youthpass to gaining a few more, learning and growing through non-formal education, being able to secure jobs and scholarships for myself and, finally, discover my inner passion and find my dream job. To everyone second-guessing himself or herself: don't. Try! There is nothing to lose, and so, so much to gain. Thanks, Youthpass!”

– Nikolina Garača
FURTHER MILESTONES REACHED IN 2019

Youthpass for Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships and Transnational Youth Initiatives was launched in spring 2019, and more than 3,000 Youthpass certificates were issued before the year’s end. The certificates were issued mostly to young people, and self-recognition is seen as the most essential point for using Youthpass.

In May 2019, Youthpass was launched in the European Solidarity Corps. The take-up was especially fast in volunteering projects, with over 2,000 certificates issued by the end of the year. By the beginning of 2020, the Solidarity Corps certificates are available in English, Estonian and German languages, with further translations under preparation in cooperation with the National Agencies.

Youthpass also adopted the revised European framework on key competences for lifelong learning. All Youthpass projects created after August 20, 2019 use the revised key competences.

During 2019, new editions of the One 2 One – supporting learning face-to-face and Tuning In – to Learning and Youthpass training courses were realised and the Recognise It! conference on the recognition of youth work was carried out.

NEW PUBLICATIONS CAME TO LIFE IN 2019

Valued by You, Valued by Others – Improving the visibility of competences in Youthpass: Handbook with information and tools on how to present one’s learning outcomes.

Youthpass, more than a paper: Youthpass origami planes – A promotional material that can be used to introduce and discuss the nature and potential of Youthpass.

Leaflet on the Revised Competences in Youthpass and short information highlighting the Changes in the Key Competences.

Tips on how to approach Youthpass in Transnational Youth Initiatives and in Strategic Partnerships.

Time to Show Off – Research report that offers an insight into what and how young people learn in youth work activities.

Promoting & Recognizing Learning in Youth Work – Essay with thoughts on learning in youth work.

Youthpass Learning Agora – Report of the seminar that explored the conditions for creating motivating learning environments.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

With the next generation of the EU programmes approaching, the focus of the work with Youthpass in 2020 will be to prepare for the new youth programmes both conceptually and technically; along with the relevant support measures.

The Youthpass processes and tools are being rethought in the context of the needs of the target groups and the formats of the programmes.

Moreover, a Youthpass strategy will be developed, aiming to support the quality of youth work and strengthen the recognition of non-formal and informal learning in the context of youth work.


** Preliminary analysis of the ongoing monitoring survey about Youthpass in Erasmus+ Key Action 2 youth projects.