Youthpass is a recognition tool for non-formal and informal learning in youth projects. It is available for activities that are supported within the framework of the EU Erasmus+: Youth in Action programme. It was launched in July 2007, and has in the following years been increasingly used.

By March 2018, altogether 22,700 organisations have issued more than 770,000 certificates within 53,000 projects.

Youthpass helps the participants of projects to...

... raise the awareness of their development and learning through the project

... increase the usefulness of the project

... communicate about the learning value of their project experience

... widen their understanding of learning and of competences related to learning

Through the support to organisations, Youthpass...

... helps to communicate and increase the learning value of youth work

... helps to highlight the importance of non-formal learning

... contributes to the quality of youth work

Youthpass is developed and implemented by the European Commission and SALTO Training and Cooperation Resource Centre, in cooperation with the National Agencies for the Erasmus+: Youth in Action Programme.
Participants of projects that finished in 2015 were asked 2-11 months later, whether they had used their Youthpass certificate when applying somewhere – for example a job or an internship, or for studies.

30% had presented their certificate
68% of them said that Youthpass had been helpful in the application process

**This is how young people describe their experiences**

I joined the Erasmus+ program in 2014. Three years and twelve projects later I was sitting in an interview for my Undergraduate study. I mentioned working with people and how I have non-formal education experience in this area.

**I had brought my Youthpass certificates.** The certificates proved to be extremely useful because they served as a physical evidence of my participation in the youth exchanges and the knowledge gained.

**I stood out from more than 600 candidates** in the interview and ultimately successfully enrolled in the desired study.

Among other competences, the experience of the Erasmus+ programme positively influenced my self-confidence and self-esteem.

Finally, **Youthpass has taught me self-assessment skills and how to become aware** of the knowledge and competences that I acquired, both of which help me in everyday life.

Getting a Youthpass is an important thing about Erasmus+. I have always included my Youthpass certificates in my applications and I am sure they have helped me: I have been a lucky girl more than once - just few weeks ago (hooray!) I got a job as baby club coordinator in a holiday resort.

Of course I am not saying you can get a job just because you own a Youthpass, I just think it is a kind of a certificate of your personal skills - open-minded, independent, team worker... - which are as important as the professional ones.

Also it helps you during the interview, you can talk more about yourself and about what you have learned, it is a nice way to capture the interlocutor’s interest, especially if you have no work experience yet.

Want to know more about Youthpass, and how to use it in your project? Go to youthpass.eu

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1 Exploring Erasmus+: Youth in Action. Effects and outcomes of the Erasmus+: Youth in Action Programme from the perspective of project participants and project leaders. Transnational Analysis 2015/16.
2 Shortened versions of stories submitted to the competition ‘My Youthpass Experience’, organised by the Croatian National Agency for Erasmus+: Youth in Action.