Youthpass is both a tool and a process that helps to reflect on, document and recognise learning outcomes from youth work and solidarity activities. It is available to participants in projects funded by the European Solidarity Corps and the Erasmus+ Youth programmes and is aimed at young people as well as youth workers.

“...why is Youthpass so important to me? It’s because it taught me how to reflect on my own learning outcomes, how to think about everything I’ve learned and how to apply that in my everyday work.” - Valentina Gambiroža Staković*

“...through tools like Youthpass, I have become aware of what I kept hearing during my studies at the university: reflective practice.” - Branimira Penić*

YOUTHPASS IN NUMBERS**

Since it was launched in 2007, more than 1.2 million Youthpass certificates have been created for over 76,000 projects run by around 29,000 organisations. In 2021, 110,368 Youthpass certificates were issued to participants in 6,698 projects run by 3,908 organisations.

The Covid-19 pandemic influenced Youthpass statistics in 2020, as many activities could not take place or had considerably fewer participants than usual. In 2021, as projects adjusted to the new circumstances, the numbers increased, however the pandemic still continued to influence the number of realised projects and in turn also the number of Youthpass certificates issued. As circumstances for mobility projects improve in the coming years, Youthpass numbers are also expected to continue recovering.

*From the video testimonials prepared by the National Agency Croatia ‘Agencija za mobilnost i programe Europske unije’.
**Numbers are retrieved from the Youthpass database on 4 Jan 2022.
The Youthpass Strategy was launched in September, as the strategy for the recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning in the European youth field. The Strategy describes the future directions for Youthpass, helps implement relevant policy processes and offers inspiration for cooperation with other stakeholders.

To mark the publication of the Youthpass Strategy, a 3D paper sculpture known as Youthpass cat: More than a certifiCATe was designed.

YANS – the Youthpass Automatic Notification System – entered the world! YANS is a supportive feature of the Youthpass tool, which sends out short encouraging emails to guide project organisers through their Youthpass-related tasks and help them stay on track as they support participants’ learning.

Once the facilitated edition in February was completed, the Massive Open Online Course Youthpass <3 Corps – Guiding the learning journey was launched as a self-paced course covering the rest of the year. Over 500 participants took part in the course. It aims to equip support staff active in the European Solidarity Corps with the information and competences they need as they implement the Youthpass process.

The training course ‘One 2 One – supporting learning face-to-face’ took place: once online, realised by JINT, the National Agency of Belgium Flanders, and once as an in-person event, this time offered by Hungary’s National Agency Tempus Közalapítvány. 38 youth workers were supported in developing the competences they need to work individually with young people and strengthen their learning.

The online course ‘See Beyond – Training of Trainers on Youthpass’ brought together trainers from across Europe to promote and discuss the learning dimension of European youth projects. The course was implemented with the support of Italy’s National Agency Agenzia Nazionale per i Giovani.

The ‘Recognition and Youthpass in the spotlight’ online info session took place in June. The event was part of the ‘Spotlight on SALTO’ series, organised by the network of SALTO Resource Centres to highlight their work and introduce the programme strategies to a broader public audience.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

The renewed Youthpass certificates will be launched in early 2022, accompanied by relevant support measures. This will be followed by further conceptual and technical developments to help facilitate the process of issuing Youthpass certificates and create more ownership over the learning process.