#### **YOUTHPASS OVERVIEW 2023** 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 for projects funded by the Erasmus+ Youth\* and European Solidarity Corps programmes and is aimed at young people as well as youth workers. It also represents one of the pillars of the EU's efforts to promote recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning in the European youth field. The work around Youthpass is guided by the Youthpass Strategy. \* Except for the general DiscoverEU action. **YOUTHPASS IN NUMBERS** Since Youthpass was launched in 2007, more than 1.6 million Youthpass certificates have been created in over 90,000 projects run by 34,000 organisations. In 2023, 202,321 Youthpass certificates were issued to participants in 10,059 projects run by 195 927 5,333 organisations. 158.484 128.06 117 174 110 287 86 7 1 9 50 402 Certificates 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2022 2023 Year 2021

# **YOUTHPASS HIGHLIGHTS AND MILESTONES IN 2023**

**Youthpass respects digital rights** – To ensure close compliance with EU data protection laws, Youthpass projects that ended more than six years ago are no longer stored in the Youthpass database. The statistics and verification functions are not influenced by this change and continue to be fed by anonymised data.



## DiscoverEU trips managed by organisations are also eligible for Youthpass -

The certificates are adapted to the needs of DiscoverEU travellers and are part of their Learning Cycle. Individual travellers under the DiscoverEU general calls will continue using the DiscoverEU certificates.

**Youthpass enabled learner accounts** – Participants can now also have their own Youthpass account. They can use it to edit their data and download their Youthpass certificates directly from the website once available. This is a first step towards giving learners more ownership over their learning process and Youthpass certificates. A text-based electronic signature solution for the first page of the certificates has also been introduced.



500 000



**Youthpass certificates are available in 7 languages** – Youthpass supports multilingualism. With the support of the respective National Agencies, Youthpass certificates have been translated into Czech, French, German, Hungarian, Polish and Spanish, in addition to the existing English version.

**Youthpass numbers keep growing** – In July 2023, the 1.5 millionth Youthpass certificate was issued to a participant in a training course. As every learning journey is unique, we are naturally more interested in the individual stories behind the statistics. Yet these impressive numbers also unlock new opportunities for raising general awareness of Youthpass and of the learning value of EU youth programmes.

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#### "What T

consider the advantage of Youthpass certificate is that it is written by the participants themselves based on what they have learned and acquired during the project. Completing the Youthpass itself implies a developed skill of self-assessment, i.e., self-evaluation." Petra Vukas

### **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

FOCUS Learning is a long-term project that explores learning in youth work and provides educational materials for trainers and educators of youth workers on this topic. In 2023, five new articles were added to the website. They focus on youth workers as drivers of positive change, reflective learning for youth workers,



reflection in youth work, game-design based learning, and conditions of learning in youth work. Additional contributions are in preparation and will be shared on the website throughout 2024.

Hosted by the National Agengy of Greece (Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation), the training course LIST: Learning in short-term projects brought together 23 youth workers. The course aimed to enhance the competences of youth workers and provide methods to support reflection and learning in short-term group projects involving young people. The course concept will be used as a basis for other similar initiatives in the coming years.

The series of online Youthpass workshops for trainers which started in 2022 continued with three workshops on tools for engaging reflection moments in training settings, tools for online learning in training,

and tools for writing a self-assessment. Each session attracted more than 120 participants. This good experience will be continued in 2024, this time targeting a broader range of youth work practitioners. The Youthpass Heart Corps open online course continued as a self-paced, free access course for the project organisers, mentors, coaches and youth workers involved in the European Solidarity Corps projects, with over 250 people accessing the course in 2023.

The National Agency of Lithuania (Jaunimo reikaly agentūra) hosted the training course One2One supporting learning face-to-face. The course aimed



to enhance the competences of the 16 participating youth workers to work one-on-one with young people and strengthen their learning.

In a move to compile and promote quality projects funded by the EU programmes in the fields of youth, education and training, SALTO Network organised the SALTO Awards 2023. A special mention category was reserved for a good practice hu project on competence development. Of the 183 applications received for the category, the <u>#SMILE project</u> was the winner.

Youthpass also figured in individual initiatives of organisations such as the yearly assembly of NINFEA (Italian National Association of Youth Workers) and a public online info-session for youth workers organised by Eurodesk Belgium. The Conference on Value and Recognition of Youth Work organised by the National Agency of Croatia on 4-7 December 2023 offered space for a workshop and discussions on Youthpass.

## WHAT COMES NEXT?

In 2024, Youthpass will focus on gathering information about its impact on the youth field through a dedicated study and on providing more targeted support to its various users through tutorials. We will continue to explore learning, reflection and validation in connection with Youthpass. In addition, various technical development projects, including first steps towards the Youthpass Reflection Tool will be on the agenda.



The SALTO Training and Cooperation Resource Centre is responsible for implementing the Youthpass Strategy across Europe. You can contact the Youthpass team at youthpass@salto-youth.net.







