

# Erasmus+: state of play and outlook

*UNICA IR officers meeting – 12 December 2025*

**Stefan ZOTTI, Deputy Head of Unit “Higher Education,  
DG EAC**

# Key data

4.2 million  
**participants** and  
99 000 distinct  
**organisations** in  
Erasmus+

+73 000  
**participants** in  
European Solidarity  
Corps  
40% with **fewer**  
**opportunities**  
close to 5 000  
distinct  
**organisations**

+100 000 **projects**  
supported by  
Erasmus+

+10 000 **projects**  
supported by  
European Solidarity  
Corps

- **99%** of Erasmus+ participants have benefitted from their mobility experience and **95%** consider they have increased their sense of belonging
- **95%** of Corps' participants acknowledge the programme's positive impact

# Erasmus+ Interim evaluation - Main findings (1/2)

## Effectiveness

- **On track** to achieve its **key outputs, results and impacts**
- Significant **benefits for learners**, generating skills development and fostering European identity
- Participants with fewer opportunities benefitting in the **same way** as others
- Progress to enhance the programme's **inclusivity**, but some challenge still persist

## Efficiency

- Programme management systems (National Agencies, EACEA) considered appropriate and well-established
- High **cost-effectiveness** of Key Action 1
- Programme **budget not sufficient** to fund all quality projects
- **Simplification** measures widely appreciated by stakeholders and beneficiaries
- Need to better capture **long term impact**



# Erasmus+ interim evaluation - Main findings (2/2)

## Coherence

- **Good alignment** of objectives and programme structure
- **High external coherence** with other EU programmes with similar or complementary objectives
- Some **overlaps** with the **European Solidarity Corps**

## Relevance

- Objectives, priorities and activities adequately reflect EU's **current and emerging** socio-economic needs
- **Responsive** to the diverse **needs** of its **participants** and beneficiary **organisations**
- Further efforts needed to facilitate access for all

## EU added Value

- **Unique and consistent framework** for mobility, cooperation, and policy development across Europe and beyond
- **Significant European added value** for individuals and organisations
- Essential role in promoting **common EU values in Europe and beyond**



# Areas of improvement identified

## **Expanding the reach of the programme**

support greater  
inclusiveness and  
broader international  
scope

## **Enhancing management and implementation**

ease access, simplify  
management,  
strengthen monitoring  
processes, incl.  
optimising related tools

## **Increasing sustainability and scalability**

reinforced  
dissemination and  
exploitation of results  
and synergies with  
other EU programmes

## **Strengthening resilience through increased flexibility**

reinforced  
preparedness to  
unforeseen events



# 2028-2034

Builds on the strengths of the current and past programmes while improving and introducing some novelties



# Overall principles and objectives



Erasmus+ dual DNA  
**Skills development**  
**Democratic participation**



Ensure that **everyone has at least one Erasmus+ experience in their life** - as a school pupil, VET learner, volunteer, student, or in up-/reskilling



Strive to be as **inclusive** as ever



Integrate volunteering + opportunities for young people under one framework by **merging with the European Solidarity Corps.**

# Structure

- Now structured around **two pillars offering a leaner menu of opportunities**  
& no more chapters

## Learning opportunities for all

Learning mobility and  
volunteering

Talent and excellence  
development

## Capacity building support

Cooperation among  
organisations  
and institutions

Support to policy  
development





# Structure

Proposed new structure	Current structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Learning opportunities for all</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Learning mobility and volunteering</li><li>○ Talent and excellence development</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Capacity building support</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Cooperation among organisations and institutions</li><li>○ Support to policy development</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learning <b>mobility</b></li><li>• <b>Cooperation</b> among organisations and institutions</li><li>• Support to <b>policy development and cooperation</b></li><li>• <b>Jean Monnet</b> actions</li></ul>



# Pillar I - Learning opportunities for all

## Learning mobility and volunteering

- Learning mobility of learners and staff in **education and training**
- Learning mobility of learners and staff in **youth**, DiscoverEU, activities supporting youth participation, European Solidarity Corps volunteering
- Learning mobility of **athletes** and people active in grassroots sport and sport **staff**
- +
- Support to **teaching and learning about the EU**, incl. European integration, values & citizenship
- Support measures e.g. language support, prep visits, training and virtual cooperation

New

Building on Jean Monnet

## Talent and excellence development

- Erasmus+ scholarships in strategic educational fields
- Erasmus Mundus Scholarships
- Jean Monnet Actions in field of Higher Education
- Support to designated Jean Monnet institutions

New



# Pillar II – Capacity building support

## Cooperation among organisations and institutions

- Partnerships for cooperation incl. small scale
- Partnerships for excellence and innovation
  - European Universities Alliances
  - Centres of Vocational Excellence
  - European Teacher Academies
  - European School Alliances **New**
  - European Youth Together **Moved**
  - Joint Study Programmes **New**
  - Sport Collaborative Alliances **New**

## Support to policy development

- Experimentation, preparation and implementation of the Union's policy agendas and tools
- Support to programme implementation, including online platforms, tools for virtual cooperation and tools to facilitate learning mobility
- Dissemination and communication



# Inclusion

- Preserve and strengthen the inclusive approach across all activities through effective measures to promote inclusion, diversity, and fairness and support access to the Programme for all



Targeted financial support



Accessible learning formats



Prep activities & continuous support (before, during & after participation)



User-friendly, easy understandable and accessible information



Support for staff on inclusion & diversity



Awareness-raising

# Budget and governance



**40.82 billion €**

No budget earmarking  
per field or  
management mode

Synergies: possible  
funding from different  
EU programmes under  
single set of rules



Global Europe

Possibility for third  
countries to join  
through full or partial  
association



Continued management  
mode combining indirect  
and direct management

# Thank you!

