

2. Voluntary Activities

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Volunteering in Hungary has mostly been intertwined with the so-called 'civil sector' until a conceptual and policy shift in the early 2010s, with the adoption of the National Volunteer Strategy (Nemzeti Önkéntes Stratégia) and a stronger emphasis on socialisation of young people, with the obligatory School Community Service of secondary school students (see sub-chapters [2.1 General context](#) and [2.4 Youth Volunteering at national level](#)).

Volunteering is administered by the Ministry of Human Capacities, within the Deputy State Secretariat for Youth Policy and Equal Opportunities. The most important funding scheme regarding specifically youth volunteering is the HRDOP 1.2.3 project (Complex Youth Developments – New Generation Reloaded). The most important Government actor in funding volunteering is the National Cooperation Fund ([Nemzeti Együttműködési Alap](#)).

Definitions of volunteering can be found in the 2005 act on voluntary activities and the National Volunteer Strategy (see sub-chapter [2.1 General context](#)). There is no strategy or law regarding youth volunteering, also, the National Volunteer Strategy does not define explicit goals to achieve in connection with young people, yet they are mentioned several times among the target groups (see sub-chapter [2.3 National strategy on Youth Volunteering](#)).

In higher education, the legislation opens up the possibility to include voluntary activities in one's studies (see sub-chapter [2.7 Skills recognition](#)).