

2.5 Cross-border mobility programmes

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EU programmes?

Hungary participates in the [Erasmus+ Programme](#) which funds the implementation of the most significant youth voluntary programme, the [European Voluntary Service](#) (hereinafter referred to as EVS). In 2014, Hungary sent 139 EVS volunteers abroad, and the total budget was EUR 1 345 790. The Hungarian kick-off event of the European Solidarity Corps took place in December 2018.

Within [Tempus Public Foundation](#) it is the Erasmus+ Youth Unit which is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the EVS accreditation process. In terms of measuring the impact of the Erasmus+ youth project, Hungary, as a member of the so-called RAY international research network, carries out different quantitative and qualitative [research projects](#). The [Ray Network](#)'s research called '[Long Term Effects of Erasmus+: Youth In Action on Participation And Active Citizenship](#)' for example aims at exploring how the participants' citizenship competences developed with their participation in such youth projects as youth exchanges, EVS or [Structured Dialogue](#).

Other Programmes?

Since 2010, within the framework of the programme called 'Without Borders' ('[Határtalanul!](#)') approximately 300 thousand Hungarian students took part in study visits outside of the country. ('[Határtalanul!](#)', 2019) The programme included voluntary activities as well, for example, the Transcarphatia action plan of 2015, which apart from collecting donations also provided room for getting involved in volunteer activities. ('[Határtalanul!](#)', 2015)

Besides, the Youth Department of the Ministry of Human Capacities ([Emberi Erőforrások Minisztériuma](#)) coordinates the preparation and implementation of the [Hungary Helps Volunteer Programme](#) with the State Secretariat for the Promotion of Persecuted Christians in the Prime Minister's Office. A pilot programme will be launched in 2020, during which 15-20 young volunteers with special skills will travel for 2-3 weeks to countries in the Middle East where there is daily persecution of Christians (Jordan and Lebanon). The training will include

1. security,
2. self-defence,
3. cultural,
4. religious,
5. health and
6. general volunteering elements.

Accreditation of the outbound training program is ongoing and, following accreditation, will be implemented by the New Generation Center, expected between January and February 2020. Later, based on the experience of the pilot program, the volunteers' stay abroad can be extended to 3-6 months, and later up to 1 year.

Legal framework applying to foreign volunteers

Foreign volunteers' activities are regulated by Act LXXXVIII. of 2005 on Public Interest Volunteer Activities ([2005. évi LXXXVIII. törvény](#) a közérdekű önkéntes tevékenységről). Paragraph 6 of Article 4 states:

'A citizen of a state which is not a state party of the Agreement on the European Economic Area (except for persons recognised as refugees or persons in a refugee-like situation, immigrants or permanent residents, and direct line relatives or spouses of citizens of a state party of the Agreement on the European Economic Area) may pursue public interest volunteer activity if the host organisation has concluded liability insurance covering damages caused by the volunteer; meals, accommodation and return transportation of volunteer is provided for; and the volunteer is eligible to healthcare services or has an insurance covering the costs of healthcare services.'