



Empowering Participation in Democratic Life through Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation

In the report on Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation in Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps (2021-2022) you will be able to answer the following questions:

- How present are Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation within the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Programmes in the youth, education and training sectors?
- What are the most favourable activities within these programmes to develop such projects?
- Are there any elements that hinder or support the implementation of these topics?
- How are they related to the horizontal Erasmus+ priority “Participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement”?

Media and Information Literacy within Erasmus+

- **Media and Information Literacy** is mostly present in School Education, especially through KA210-SCH (Small-Scale Partnerships In School Education) and KA220-SCH (Cooperation Partnerships in School Education). Post-School Education, the Youth field is the second most favourable sector for the development of projects related to Media and Information Literacy.
- **“Digital Skills and Competences”** appears to be the most covered Media and Information Literacy area in Erasmus+ projects across all sectors, with an average of more than 50% of projects related to Media and Information Literacy including this label.
- **Top priorities for future Erasmus+ projects are:** “Media and Information Literacy”, together with “Media and Information Literacy and Human Rights”, closely followed by “Critical Thinking” and “Safer Internet”.
- **Key factors for successful Erasmus+ projects related to Media and Information Literacy include** a) Deep analysis of target groups, b) Attractive and engaging content, c) Trained professionals on Media and Information Literacy areas, and d) Collaboration between partners.
- **Barriers to implementing projects related to Media and Information Literacy include** a) Professionals' workload, b) Lack of institutional support, c) Training gaps in Media Literacy, Limited resources, and d) Short-term nature of non-formal initiatives.

Media and Information Literacy within European Solidarity Corps

- **Solidarity Projects** were identified as the most suitable project type for Media and Information Literacy projects.
- **“Critical Thinking”** and **“Media and Information Literacy and Human Rights”** are the top priorities for the future European Solidarity Corps Media and Information Literacy projects.
- **Key factors for successful European Solidarity Corps projects related to Media and Information Literacy include** a) Highly motivated and committed participants, b) Adapting the projects to participants' interest, c) Collecting data and feedback to make necessary adjustments, and d) Partnerships with the youth communities.
- **The main barriers to apply Media and Information Literacy to European Solidarity Corps projects are** a) Lack of digital literacy, b) Workload of professionals, and c) Limited resources.

Digital Participation within Erasmus+

- **School Education Key Actions** are the most favourable for carrying out Erasmus+ projects related to this topic.
- **Vocational Education and Training in addition to Adult Education fields** were shown to be the least favourable type of action to conduct projects related to Digital Participation.
- **“Digital Citizenship and Society”** is considered the top priority for future projects within Digital Participation topics, followed by **“Participatory Tools and Spaces”**, and **“Emerging Technologies”**.
- **Key factors for successful Erasmus+ projects related to Digital Participation include** a) Skilled professionals, b) Analysis of participants’ needs, c) Participants’ trust of the virtual tools, d) Synergies between partners, actors and fields.
- **Some of the observable barriers to implementing Digital Participation in Erasmus+ are** a) Limited digital competences of participants (in non-formal education) and facilitators (in formal education), b) Online safety, and c) Budgetary restraints.

Digital Participation within European Solidarity Corps

- **Solidarity Projects** were identified as the most suitable project type to conduct projects related to Digital Participation.
- **“Digital Citizenship and Society”**, followed by **“Participatory Tools”** and **“Digital Activism”**, are the identified priorities for future European Solidarity Corps projects.

Recommendations for enhancing Media and

Information Literacy and Digital Participation topics

What should project organisations focus on?

- Analysing the needs of professionals and participants.
- Establishing collaboration and synergies between fields and actors.
- Integrating Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation into the Vocational Education and Training sector.
- Experimenting with Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation areas.

What should National Agencies focus on?

- Promoting synergies and collaboration between organisations.
- Producing ready-to-use materials for organisations to develop Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation projects.
- Fostering collaboration within the teams of NAs.
- Enabling projects that promote the use of digital tools for inclusion.

What should SALTO Participation & Information Resource Centre focus on?

- Establishing Media and Information Literacy and Digital Participation guidelines for NAs, Regional SALTOs and European Stakeholders.
- Supporting cross-sectoral cooperation and networking.
- Promoting and disseminating resources.

What should policymakers focus on?

- Including a Digital Participation topic label within the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Results Platforms.
- Aligning Media and Information Literacy topic labels with UNESCO's Media and Information Literacy framework.
- Providing more information on Volunteering Projects.

