



## Europski status volontera u programima dobrovoljnog rada\* - Approved GA 17 May 2024

\*(Najmanje 20 sati tjedno i na razdoblje od najmanje tri mjeseca do najdulje 12 mjeseci bez prekida)

### CEV ističe da:

1. Postoje mnogi javni i privatni programi i sustavi koji olakšavaju i potiču „dugoročne“ volonterske angažmane u Europi. Ta se politika posebno odnosi na volontere u programima dobrovoljnog rada te vrste, koji uključuju volontiranje najmanje 20 sati tjedno i za razdoblje od najmanje tri mjeseca, a ne dulje od dvanaest mjeseci bez prekida. Posebna značajka ovih programa često je njihov rezidencijalni karakter, što znači da se volonteri mogu preseliti da bi obavljali svoje zadatke, angažirajući se u novim zajednicama i okruženjima
2. Lako postoje dobri primjeri pravnih okvira koji štite prava volontera u takvim okolnostima, u mnogim slučajevima volonteri su prepušteni sami sebi, bez odgovarajućeg prepoznavanja njihova statusa. To često dovodi do smanjenja ili gubitka drugih prava, poput socijalne sigurnosti, osobne pomoći i drugih socijalnih naknada.
3. Nedostatak pravnog statusa predstavlja prepreku za prihvaćanje angažmana s punim radnim vremenom u dobrovoljnom radu, posebice za one koji se nalaze u zemljama različitim od mjesta prebivališta potencijalnog volontera, kao i za one iz teže dostupnih skupina koje imaju manje mogućnosti.
4. [Preporuka Vijeća o mobilnosti mladih volontera u Europskoj uniji](#) preporučuje da Europska komisija i države članice promiču transnacionalno volontiranje, što uključuje volontiranje kao dio javnih i privatnih programa dobrovoljnog rada u EU-u i šire te kroz programe EU-a za mlade, koji su sastavni dio [Strategije EU-a za mlade](#).

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5. Dokument iz 2023. godine „[Bolji uvjeti za volontiranje mladih](#)” poziva na uvođenje „Statusa EU volontera”.
  6. Europska komisija radi na [Prijedlogu zakonodavne inicijative o prekograničnim aktivnostima udruženja](#) da bi prevladala administrativne i registracijske prepreke s kojima se suočavaju neprofitne organizacije i koje negativno utječu na demokratski prostor EU-a.

**CEV believes that:**

1. Volunteers play a critical role in EU democracy, as they embody and spread EU values through their activities. Volunteering is based on recognised and essential principles and the legal status should serve to protect and defend those principles.
2. A specific legal status on the European Level for Volunteers of all ages in Voluntary Service programmes is needed in order to fully realise the potential of the role volunteers play in European society Europe. It would formally recognize and protect volunteers, distinguishing them from paid workers and ensuring they receive proper protections like health and social security coverage as well as insurance. This legal framework would significantly facilitate mobility for volunteers, not just within Europe but also for those coming from outside Europe, by removing administrative and legal barriers that currently hinder international volunteering efforts.
3. A specific legal status on the European Level for Volunteers of all ages in Voluntary Service would standardise the rights and obligations of volunteers and organisations involved in providing voluntary service opportunities, including the coverage of costs (out of pocket expenses) associated to undertaking the voluntary service, leading to more consistent and fair volunteering experience across Europe, promoting organisational accountability, ensuring that hosts adhere to best practices in volunteer management and support including the necessary training.
4. The new EU legal status should bring added value and complement already existing ones at Member State level.
5. The status should only be granted to volunteers meeting the time commitment outlined above and engaging in the volunteering activity in the context of a properly accredited and/ or recognised organisation that meets the required quality and legal standards for volunteering opportunities in their jurisdiction and takes account of European norms.
6. Volunteers should complement and supplement the activities and impact of an organisation, they should not be used as a substitute for paid employment and their full time commitment should not be exploited in any way. Suitable mechanisms to report such abuse should be established alongside processes for corrective measures e.g removing an organisation from an accredited list.

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**CEV asks that:**

1. European Union Institutions and the Member States should not exploit volunteering or instrumentalise it; the establishment of this new status should serve to help maintain the ethical and values base for volunteering by taking quality standards into account when granting the status.
2. The legislative process towards the new legal status for volunteers in Voluntary Service programmes in Europe, including the processes for accreditation of organisations, should include a strong and central civil dialogue component involving all the interested parties according to the intended implementation of article 11 TEU regarding regular and transparent open dialogue with civil society.
3. The status for volunteers in Voluntary Service programmes should be fully compatible with other status' that a person may enjoy such as student, family carer, disabled person, and should not prejudice any rights with regard to any status and should be able to be benefited from in parallel according to the specific situation.
4. The European Commission legislative initiative on cross-border activities of associations includes suitable and appropriate references to the status of cross-border volunteers, in particular those involved in Voluntary Service programmes placements.
5. The European Union Institutions and the Member States recognise the importance of volunteer actions in the protection of EU values and acknowledge the role volunteers have played, currently play and will play for EU society resilience and at the same time ensure good and clear communication about the rights of volunteers including rights and opportunities for validation learning outcomes acquired whilst volunteering.
6. The European Union Institutions and the Member States make more of an effort to support all volunteering, including and beyond voluntary service programmes, taking the [Blueprint for European Volunteering 2030](#) as their main guidance and developing a clear and coordinated European Civic Engagement and Volunteering Strategy.

Annex:

**Examples of “Voluntary Service Programmes” in Europe.**

[European Solidarity Corps](#)

[Austrian Voluntary Social Year](#)

[Italian Civic Service](#)

[German Federal Voluntary Service](#)

[French Civic Service](#)

[Belgian Civic Service](#)