



Inclusive Societies and Participatory Opportunities



What is an inclusive society?



Inclusion is a positive drive in our society. It brings out different ideas and perspectives on the world.

Inclusive practice respects what makes people different, celebrates diversity and uses a needs-based approach.

From this perspective, inclusion is not fixed, but constantly evolving according to the people involved and their needs. Inclusion challenges prejudice, discrimination and stereotypes.



Foundations of an inclusive society



Equality and Equal Opportunities



Active Participation and Accountability



Diversity and Respect



Education and Awareness-raising



Accessibility



Adaptability



Is your initiative inclusive?

- How did you ensure diversity within the team? How did the mix of experiences and backgrounds enrich the project?
- What differences between team members have you emphasised to enhance inclusiveness?
- Did you adapt your proposal to meet the different needs of the participants? If so, how?
- What tools, activities or practices have you used to create an inclusive participation environment?
- How will you include issues of inclusiveness in the project content and activities?
- What additional measures can you take to improve access and participation for all groups



Let's talk about active participation

Participation is one of the main pillars of inclusive communities.

Active participation is a fundamental concept in the dynamics of personal and social development, particularly for young people. It concerns the active and conscious engagement of participants in activities that not only involve them, but also prompt them to become active participants in decision-making and change processes. In an educational and social context, active participation helps to develop key competences such as:



Leadership Critical thinking Responsibility Collaboration



Participatory opportunities

- [European Voluntary Service \(EVS\)](#): Now integrated into the European Solidarity Corps (ESC), it offers international volunteering opportunities for young people aged 18-30. Includes: coverage of travel expenses, food, accommodation, insurance and language training.
- [SCI International \(International Civil Service\)](#): An organisation that promotes peace through volunteering. Other forms of civil service such as National and Universal.
- **Youth Exchanges**: enables young people to participate in short-term international experiences with other young Europeans.
- [DiscoverEU](#): Initiative offering young people aged 18 and over free tickets to travel around Europe by train, discover its culture and meet other young people.



Design opportunities /entrepreneurship

- [Solidarity Projects \(ESC\)](#): local initiatives proposed and led by young people to tackle problems in their communities. They are aimed at young people aged between 18 and 30 who are registered on the European Solidarity Corps portal. Projects must last between 2 and 12 months and can be implemented locally or regionally.
- Youth Participation Activities ([Erasmus+](#)): Youth Participation activities are innovative projects promoting the active participation of young people in democratic life.
- [Youth Guarantee](#): A European initiative implemented in Italy to help young people NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) enter the labour market. It offers: personalised guidance, training courses, internships and paid traineeships.
- [Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs](#): A European programme that enables young entrepreneurs to carry out an exchange experience in a company in another EU country.



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