European Commission

# Erasmus+ Programme
# ERASMUS+ VIRTUAL EXCHANGES (EVE)

## What is an EVE project?

Virtual exchanges projects consist of **online people-to-people activities that promote intercultural dialogue and soft skills development**. They make it possible for every young person to access **high-quality international and cross-cultural education without physical mobility**. While virtual debating or training does not fully replace the benefits of physical mobility, participants in virtual exchanges ought to reap some of the benefits of the international educational experience. **Virtual exchanges also help spreading European values**. Moreover, in some cases, virtual exchanges can give **ideas and prepare the ground for future physical exchanges not funded under this action**.

Virtual exchanges in higher education and youth take place in **small groups** and are always **moderated by a trained facilitator**. They should be easily **integrated into youth (non-formal education) projects or higher education courses**. Virtual exchanges can draw participants from both sectors, even if, depending on specific projects, they could involve participants from either only one of them or from both. All projects under this call will involve **organisations and participants coming from both EU Member States and third countries associated[1] to the Programme, and third countries not associated to the Programme in eligible regions.**

## What does an EVE project do?

The virtual exchanges should be organised in one of the following thematic areas, which correspond to the priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme:

- Inclusion and diversity;
- Digital transformation;
- Environment and fight against climate change;
- Participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement.

Projects will be funded based on work plans that integrate online cooperation activities, including:

- **Online-facilitated discussions** between young people of youth organisations based in different countries as part of youth projects. They could include role playing simulations;
- **Training for youth workers** willing to develop a virtual exchange project with colleagues from other countries;
- **Facilitated online discussions between students of higher education** institutions based in different countries as part of higher education degrees;
- **Training for university professors/staff** willing to develop a virtual exchange project with colleagues from other countries;
- **Interactive open online courses** including traditional course materials such as filmed lectures, readings, and problem sets (like the well-known MOOCs, Massive Open Online Courses, but putting an emphasis on interactive user forums in small groups to support community interactions among students, professors, teaching assistants, young people and youth workers).

[1] The third countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme are the following: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, and Türkiye. **Switzerland and the UK also plan to associate to the programme in 2027, bringing the total of associated third countries to eight.**

## Who can apply and take part in Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges? How?

The applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities, if applicable) must be legal entities (public or private bodies) and may fall under the following categories:

- entities active in the field of higher education or youth (non-formal education);
- youth organisations;
- higher education institutions, associations or organisations of higher education institutions, as well as legally recognised national or international rector, teacher or student organisations.

Applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities, if applicable) must be established in one of the eligible countries:

- an EU Member State
- a third country associated to the Programme or
- a third country not associated to the Programme from an eligible region. The eligible regions covered by this action are Regions 1, 2[2], 3 and 9.

**The coordinating organisation must be a youth organisation or higher education institution and be legally established and located in an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme.** Other entities may participate in other consortium roles, such as associated partners.[3]

Partnership composition

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of **at least 6 applicants** (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities), which complies with the following conditions:

- Minimum **6 independent entities** (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities) from 6 different eligible countries;
- Minimum **3 higher education institutions or youth organisations from 3 different EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme and 3 higher education institutions or youth organisations from 3 eligible third countries not associated to the Programme belonging to the same eligible region**;
- Organisations from different eligible regions cannot participate in the same projects. **Cross-regional projects are not eligible**;
- The number of organisations from EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme **must not be higher** than the number of organisations from third countries not associated to the Programme.

Only beneficiaries (not affiliated entities) count for the consortium composition. Associated partners do not count for the consortium composition.

How to apply:

**Funding opportunities for 2021-2027 and information on how to apply are announced on the European Commission's Funding & Tender Opportunities portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home**

Detailed information on the **criteria and funding rules**: Erasmus+ Programme Guide

**Look at some examples** of EVE projects:

2022 funded projects
EU Funded projects | EU Funding & Tenders Portal (europa.eu)
2023 funded projects
EU Funded projects | EU Funding & Tenders Portal (europa.eu)

[2] Organisations from Belarus (Region 2) are not eligible to participate in this action and organisations from Belarus (Region 2) and the Russian Federation (Region 4) are not eligible to participate in this action as associated partners.