

NO Left **BE** Behind **BY** 
No One

FINAL EVENT 2025

Brussels, from 24 to 28 November 2025

Closing event

On 28 November, from 09:45 to 12:30 at the Press Club,
Rue Froissart 95, 1040 Brussels




DYNAMO 
INTERNATIONAL

Street Workers Network



Funded by
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PRESS RELEASE DYNAMO INTERNATIONAL

From 24 to 28 November 2025, Dynamo International is organizing a week of exchanges between young people and social street workers as part of the NOLEBY project (No One Left Behind).

Funded by the European Union (Erasmus+ Youth Programme), the NOLEBY project brings together partners from the social street work network in 13 countries across the European region. This event takes place in the final phase of a three-year action plan (2023–2025) that has already included several activities.

In addition to strengthening ties with members by involving and empowering young people in situations of vulnerability, this final meeting aims to ensure that young people's voices are heard.

The Dynamo International Street Workers Network (DISWN) brings together social street workers and organizations from around the world. Its mission is to promote the values and specific approaches of social street work, while strengthening the capacities of social actors through training, the sharing of practices, and the development of educational tools. The network represents approximately 10,000 social street workers in 58 countries across Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas. In Europe, 23 countries are members.

Inclusion and Empowerment of Young People: What Role Does Social Street Work Play in Ensuring That No One Is Left Behind ?

On 28 November 2025, a seminar will mark the closing of the Noleby project, bringing together social street workers and the young Europeans who took part in the initiative. It will be an opportunity to share their collective recommendations focused on three key priorities :

- Highlighting the importance of the Erasmus+ programme ;
- Strengthening the integration of the "Leave No One Behind" approach, with particular attention to the most disadvantaged young people ;
- Emphasizing the crucial role of social street work in promoting, including, and empowering young people.

The Erasmus+ Programme and the European Solidarity Corps (ESC)

In 2018, an [Eurobarometer survey](#) identified Erasmus+ as the **fourth greatest achievement of the EU**, just after freedom of movement, peace, and the single currency. This recognition is reflected in increasing participation: in 2024, the programme reached **16.5 million participants**, which is [twice as many as in 2014](#).

As discussions open regarding the new multiannual financial framework (2028–34) for European programmes dedicated notably to young people and youth workers, attention must be paid to the change in direction announced by the Commission as it restructures the programme around **two main pillars**:

- **Learning opportunities for all**
- **Support for capacity building**

While we welcome the increase to approximately €40 billion in the budget planned for Erasmus+ for the 2028–34 period, **we are concerned that through the first pillar—and the intention to strengthen European economic competitiveness—international youth exchange projects may become strictly or primarily tied to formal education, with a focus on enhancing young people’s professional skills. This risks overlooking the key dimensions of non-formal education currently supported by the existing Erasmus+ Programme, which fosters individual and collective youth participation through the development of responsible, active, critical, and solidarity-based citizenship.**

Another significant change is the integration into Erasmus+ of the [European Solidarity Corps](#), the EU programme that promotes solidarity and volunteering among young people. There is a risk that the autonomy, visibility, and resources dedicated to volunteering activities may be reduced, since it will have to compete with other initiatives within the new Erasmus+ framework for funding and attention.



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Young People with Fewer Opportunities

Trapped in social exclusion, young people experiencing precarity and having fewer opportunities often remain on the margins of society and ultimately have very limited possibilities to take part in the social process. Moreover, we have entered a society of multiple connections, where the richest experiences are often the most unexpected. **Socially formative experiences increasingly stem from encounters and exchanges. Yet this new model is one of the most unequal, as it is largely reserved for an elite with the means to embrace cosmopolitanism.** Ensuring that all young people who wish to do so can participate in a mobility project or a civic engagement initiative must remain a major priority of the Erasmus+ programme.

In Europe, some young people continue to be excluded from society. This marginalisation may be linked to their origin, socio-economic situation, school dropout, or the area in which they live. To address this, particular attention must be devoted to these young people by providing them with reinforced support that facilitates their access

to, and full participation in, European programmes. It is essential that no young person be left behind at a time when many children and young people in Europe are at risk of poverty or social exclusion, lacking access to their rights to assistance and protection. Preventing and combating the social exclusion of young people is essential for social progress and sustainable development.

In this regard, we join the demands of the Erasmus+ Coalition, which highlights the need to [maintain consolidated quotas](#) for **youth activities** to prevent resources from being absorbed by higher and university education (which already accounts for 70% of the current programme’s budget) at the expense of other priorities. Without such safeguards, youth organisations risk suffering from competition with more structured institutions, which could have negative effects on civic participation and local volunteering.

Social Street Work: An Approach for the Promotion, Inclusion, and Empowerment of Young People

It is requested that Erasmus+, in addition to funding activities for its beneficiaries, also **support the organisations** that bring Erasmus+ to life in the field, particularly those that reach out to the most disadvantaged groups, such as social street work organisations.

Civil society organisations, in all their diversity, play a fundamental role: they represent the plurality of programme beneficiaries and possess key expertise needed to ensure its effective and inclusive implementation.

For **social street workers**, the goal is to be as easily and simply accessible as possible to communities of children and young people living in precarity and experiencing multiple forms of exclusion. Because of their proximity to, or integration within, the most marginalised environments, they constitute the first and often the last link in the chain of social support and education when all other institutions have failed. In

practice, social street work supports those for whom formal systems designed to address social problems and symptoms are inadequate. This support enables them to integrate into society and play an active role in it, while fully thriving.

We therefore advocate for the creation of a dedicated European **budget line for social street work initiatives in all Member States**. A European framework should be developed to professionalise and recognise social street workers and, through the Erasmus+ programme, to support cross-border exchanges of methods and training among practitioners.

Social street work is an effective and proven approach to reaching people who are often excluded from traditional services, such as street-connected youth and children, undocumented migrants, people experiencing homelessness, and individuals living in highly disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

By meeting them where they are, building trust, and connecting them to essential services (education, health, housing, employment, protection), street work fosters inclusion and the exercise of rights in line with the values of European integration.

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