



STATE  
OF  
THE  
UNION  
2017

# EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS: ONE YEAR ON



*'I am particularly proud of the young Europeans volunteering to give language courses to Syrian refugees or the thousands more who are serving in our new European Solidarity Corps. They are bringing European solidarity to life.'*

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017

The European Solidarity Corps was announced by President Juncker in his 2016 State of the Union Address before the European Parliament.

Since the launch of the European Solidarity Corps on 7 December 2016:



**36,294** young people  
have registered  
from all Member States



**1,500** young people  
have obtained a placement  
with around 950 organisations

By the end of 2017, one year since the opening of the online registration tool, 3,600 placements are expected.

## EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS IN ACTION: HELP WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED

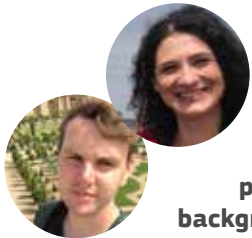
In August 2017, 16 European Solidarity Corps volunteers arrived in Norcia, Italy, one of the towns that were hit hard by several severe earthquakes between August 2016 and January 2017. They help with the ongoing efforts to repair damage and rebuild social services for the local community. In total, by 2020, **230 volunteers** will have been deployed in the Italian earthquake regions.

The European Solidarity Corps is about showing solidarity to the people who need it most after dramatic events such as natural disasters, but also to help the most vulnerable in our societies.



Aaron, from the Netherlands, is deployed in Berlin, where he volunteers at a school and day-care centre to **teach Syrian refugees** and create theatre projects with them, in order to help them with their integration in society.





Denisa from Romania and Andrew from Ireland are deployed in Rotterdam where they **organise activities for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds**, including cultural activities, games and sports for children with special needs.



And Theodoros from Greece is volunteering in Stuttgart where he helps **improving the chances of young people** in the Danube region to find a job that matches well their skills and educational background.

## MORE THAN VOLUNTEERING

From the start, the European Solidarity Corps has been about more than only volunteering. Its aim is also to create opportunities for young people to develop their skills and increase their future labour market prospects via a **job or a traineeship**. Until March 2019, up to **6,000 young people** will benefit from a solidarity-related job or traineeship.

## 100,000 PLACEMENTS BY 2020

The aim is to have 100,000 young people taking part in the European Solidarity Corps. To achieve this ambition, the Commission proposed in May 2017 to give the European Solidarity Corps **a budget of more than €340 million** for the next three years, and to extend the types of activities.

Young people who have registered are kept up to date through regular newsletters. Online training modules are also available for young people waiting for a placement, to increase their chances of finding one or to get prepared.



**TO REGISTER, GO TO**  
[europa.eu/solidarity-corps](http://europa.eu/solidarity-corps)

## SOLIDARITY CORPS TIMELINE

**14 September  
2016**

President Juncker announces the creation of a European Solidarity Corps in his State of the Union Address 2016 before the European Parliament

**7 December  
2016**

The European Solidarity Corps is launched

**8 March  
2017**

Matching of young people with organisations begins

**20 March  
2017**

The first European Solidarity Corps member starts her placement

**30 May  
2017**

The Commission proposes more than €340 million for the European Solidarity Corps

**17 August  
2017**

First Solidarity Corps volunteers arrive in Norcia, Italy

**End of 2017**

Expected adoption of the proposal to strengthen the Solidarity Corps, as stated in the Joint Declaration of 13 December 2016 of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission