



Erasmus+



**RESEARCH PROJECT
ON THE RESEARCH-BASED
ANALYSIS AND MONITORING OF
THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS
(RAY-SOC)**

SUMMATIVE REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

JULY 2023 – JUNE 2024

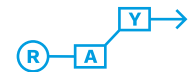
Research project on the analysis and monitoring of the European Solidarity Corps (RAY-SOC)

Report of activities 2023/2024

RAY-SOC was introduced as a new monitoring strand of the RAY Network in 2019, following the establishment of the European Solidarity Corps as a stand-alone programme. 28 Research Partners joined the project, namely all RAY-MON Research Partners who were also made responsible for the European Solidarity Corps in their respective countries. The working group of the project is supported by the RAY Network partners from Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Germany and Slovenia.

During the reporting period, the following research coordination activities were implemented:

- Development of revised research concept notes, budgets and research schedules for the project for discussion by network partners
- Support of the long-winded, complex and complicated process of obtaining a data processing agreement for contact data, which was signed in January 2023
- Finalisation of surveys for youth project and networking activity participants as well as project teams in the European Solidarity Corps with an extremely ambitious timeline
- Coordination of the translation of surveys into all network languages and support to national partners for translation, including taking over the translation into French
- Upload of the surveys in English and all languages onto the dedicated RAY survey server at surveys.researchyouth.net
- Continuous cleaning of contact data, invitation of potential respondents to surveys, sending out timed reminders and overall contact data management
- Extraction and provision of data snapshots to national partners in September 2023 to support mid-term evaluation
- Extraction and provision of national datasets to national partners in January 2024, including documented dataset cleaning and harmonisation
- Preparation, facilitation and follow-up of the analysis meeting for the project in December 2023 in Reykjavik
- Development of initial key findings in cooperation with the Heads of Agencies Core Group for the Director's General Summit
- Transnational analysis and development of key finding presentation and input for the Triangular Summit in March 2024
- Thematic analysis and development of thematic inputs for a number of staff trainings and conferences
- Production of a factsheet for solidarity projects and a research report for the finalised programmatic study
- Contribution to the development process for the upcoming Open Data Portal of RAY, including two weekly development sprints
- Participation in team retreats of the transnational research team and a joint team retreat with the network coordination team
- Contribution to the preparation of and support to the meetings of the RAY Strategy Group in 2023 and 2024



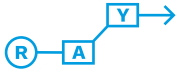
- Development of a concept note for the next phase of the project including the context of the origin of the project, the aims and objectives, the research questions as well as the research design and instruments for the next project phase
- Production of a summative report and a report of expenditure for this project phase

During the reporting period, the following research communication activities were implemented:

- Presentation of progress and plans during Network Meeting in September 2023
- Participation in several coordination meetings with institutional partners in 2023 and 2024
- Participation in coordination and contents meetings with thematically related SNACs
- Participation in and contribution to the analysis seminar in Reykjavik in December 2023
- Participation in and contribution to the Triangular Summit in Helsinki in May 2024
- Contribution to the Think Tank Meeting in Tallinn in June 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during NA Business Meeting in October 2023
- Presentation of key findings of the project during Directors General Meeting in March 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during E+ NA-Commission Meetings in 2023 and 2024
- Presentation of initial findings during Volunteering Conference in Podgorica in October 2023
- Presentation of key findings of the project during TCA/NET Meeting in Riga in March 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during CIOST Staff Training in May 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during YWM Staff Training in June 2024
- Presentation of findings at a webinar for Eurodesk Information Officers in March 2024
- Presentation of findings at Youth Research Dialogues in 2023 and 2024
- Participation in and contribution to the monthly digital RAY Network Exchanges
- Thematic contributions to the monthly newsletter for the RAY Network
- Participation in and contribution to the monthly coordination and update meetings
- Contribution to the development of the RAY-SOC project page on researchyouth.net

During the reporting period, the following additional research coordination activities were implemented, which started in previous reporting periods and will continue beyond this reporting period:

- Continuous review of technical and legal tools and frameworks required for programmatic and thematic research in the context of Erasmus+ Youth, and ongoing discussion of the implications for the technical tools and frameworks of the programme itself
- Contribution to the input and feedback process on the preliminary opinion on data protection and scientific research by the European Data Protection Supervisor from the perspective of youth and learning mobility research
- Participation in the European Commission's Interservice Group for the Midterm Evaluation of the Solidarity Corps
- Setup and maintenance of a dedicated server for the surveys of the RAY Network



ANNEXES

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- 2. QUESTIONNAIRE PROJECT PARTICIPANTS**
- 3. QUESTIONNAIRE NET ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS**
- 4. QUESTIONNAIRE PROJECT TEAMS**
- 5. UPLOADED QUESTIONNAIRE EXAMPLE**
- 6. TRANSLATED QUESTIONNAIRE EXAMPLE**
- 7. CONTACT DATA CLEANING SYNTAX EXAMPLE**
- 8. DATASET HARMONISATION SYNTAX EXAMPLE**
- 9. DATASET CLEANING SYNTAX EXAMPLE**
- 10. INITIAL FINDINGS SNEAK PEAK**
- 11. NATIONAL DATASETS SYNTAX EXAMPLE**
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- 13. KEY FINDINGS KEYNOTE TRIANGULAR SUMMIT**
- 14. FACTSHEET SOLIDARITY PROJECTS**
- 15. PROGRAMMATIC STUDY RESEARCH REPORT**
- 16. CONCEPT FOR NEXT PROJECT PHASE**