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*Plenary sitting*

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**A8-0060/2018**

7.3.2018

**\*\*\*I**  
**REPORT**

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU  
(COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))

Committee on Culture and Education

Rapporteur: Helga Trüpel

Rapporteurs for the opinions (\*) :

Brando Benifei, Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Eleonora Forenza, Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

\* Associated committees - Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure



### ***Symbols for procedures***

- \* Consultation procedure
- \*\*\* Consent procedure
- \*\*\*I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- \*\*\*II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- \*\*\*III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

### ***Amendments to a draft act***

#### **Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns**

Deletions are indicated in ***bold italics*** in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in ***bold italics*** in both columns. New text is indicated in ***bold italics*** in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

#### **Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text**

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated using either the ▯ symbol or ~~strikeout~~. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in ***bold italics*** and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.

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## DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

**on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))**

**(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2017)0262),
- having regard to Article 294(2) and Articles 165(4) and 166(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C8-0162/2017),
- having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to its resolution on the European Solidarity Corps of 6 April 2017, No. 2017/2585(RSP)<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to the reasoned opinions submitted, within the framework of Protocol No 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, by the Czech Senate, the Spanish Parliament and the Portuguese Parliament, asserting that the draft legislative act does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity,
- having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 19 October 2017<sup>2</sup>,
- having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of...<sup>3</sup>,
- having regard to the European Year of Volunteering 2011 Policy Agenda for Volunteering in Europe (PAVE) document and the related EYV2011 5 year review from 2015, “Helping Hands”;
- having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Culture and Education and the opinions of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Regional Development and the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (A8-0060/2018),

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<sup>1</sup>

<sup>2</sup>

<sup>3</sup>

1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

Amendment 1

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Title**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Proposal for a  
REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL  
laying down the legal framework of the  
European Solidarity **Corps** and amending  
Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No  
1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No  
1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and  
Decision No 1313/2013/EU

Proposal for a  
REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL  
laying down the legal framework of the  
European Solidarity **and Voluntary  
Service** and amending Regulations (EU)  
No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU)  
No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU)  
No 1306/2013 and Decision No  
1313/2013/EU

*(This amendment applies throughout the  
text, with the exception of recitals 2,3, 38a  
and 38b. Adopting it will necessitate  
corresponding changes throughout.)*

**Amendment 2**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(1) **The** European Union is built **on  
solidarity, among its citizens and among  
its Member States**. This common value  
guides its actions **and** provides the  
necessary unity to cope with current and  
future societal challenges, which young  
Europeans are willing to help address by  
expressing their solidarity in practice.

(1) **Solidarity, among Union citizens  
and among EU Member States, is one of  
the universal values on which the**  
European Union is built. This common  
value guides its actions, provides the  
necessary unity to cope with current and  
future societal challenges, which young  
Europeans are willing to help address by

expressing their solidarity in practice, *and stimulates young people's interest in the common European project. The principle of solidarity is enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union and in the preamble of the Charter on Fundamental Rights of the European Union.*

### Amendment 3

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) The State of the Union address of 14 September 2016 *emphasized* the need to invest in young people and announced the establishment of a European Solidarity Corps with a view to creating opportunities for young people across the Union to make a meaningful contribution to society, show solidarity and develop their skills, thus *getting* not only work but also invaluable human experience.

*Amendment*

(2) The State of the Union address of 14 September 2016 *emphasised* the need to invest in young people and announced the establishment of a European Solidarity Corps with a view to creating opportunities for young people across the Union to make a meaningful contribution to society, show solidarity and develop their skills, *competences and knowledge* thus *gaining* an invaluable human experience, *which is also key for the emergence of an active and engaged Union citizenship.*

### Amendment 4

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(2a) The European Solidarity and Voluntary Service (ESVS) is aimed to be an advancement towards a comprehensive policy agenda for volunteering in the Union based on the outcomes of the 2011 European Year of Volunteering.*

### Amendment 5

#### Proposal for a regulation



## Recital 2 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(2b) The Union and the Member States should, on principle, undertake to establish arrangements that make involvement in the European Solidarity and Voluntary Service (ESVS) as attractive as possible.**

## Amendment 6

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016<sup>18</sup>, the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes have been mobilised to offer volunteering, traineeship or job opportunities to young people across the EU. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016<sup>18</sup>, the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for **high quality** solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national **regional** and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of **what was then called** the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes have been mobilised to offer volunteering, traineeship or job opportunities to young people across the **Union**. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of **what was then called** the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 3 a (new)

**(3a) Solidarity means a sense of responsibility on the part of everyone to with regard to everyone to commit oneself to the common good, which is expressed through concrete actions without consideration of return service.**

## **Amendment 8**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities while acquiring useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, **thereby improving their employability**. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

*Amendment*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in **high quality** solidarity activities, which **would bring positively affect society while also enabling** them to express their commitment **in solidarity with, and** to the benefit of, **local** communities **and to enhance social cohesion**, while acquiring useful experience, **knowledge** skills and competences for, **first and foremost**, their personal **development, thus boosting their self-esteem, autonomy and motivation to learn, as well as stimulating their** educational, social, **artistic, linguistic, cultural**, civic and professional development. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees **or employees in accordance with national labour mobility law**.

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(4a) Special attention should be paid to multilingualism because some of the solidarity placements will be cross-border in nature.***

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should be of high quality, in the sense that they should ***respond to unmet*** societal needs, contribute to strengthening communities, offer young people the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge and competences, be financially ***accessible*** to young people, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions.

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should be of high quality, in the sense that they should ***help to overcome significant, clearly identified societal challenges and respond to significant, clearly identified needs and contribute to strengthening local or national communities and social cohesion and to enhancing active citizenship.*** Solidarity activities should ***respond to personal needs and contribute to the professional development of participants,*** offer young people the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge, ***skills*** and competences, be financially ***sustainable*** and ***effectively accessible*** to young people, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions. ***Solidarity activities should guarantee a geographical balance and the effective inclusion of, and accessibility for, in particular, disadvantaged young people. Solidarity activities should never replace corporate social responsibility policies or have a negative impact on existing jobs or traineeships.***

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(5a) The ESVS should provide young people with an opportunity to gain invaluable experience, develop their skills and contribute to society, involving more and better opportunities covering a broad range of activities, while at the same time providing access to proper training, followed by formal recognition of the skills and experience gained.**

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(6) The European Solidarity **Corps** would provide a **single** entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity **Corps** should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. **It should also complement the efforts made by Member States to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment**

(6) The **ESVS** would provide a **main** entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes **and should not jeopardise the financing of the existing relevant programmes in the area of solidarity**. The **ESVS** should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service **and Youth in Action**. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes **and the ESVS should be ensured**, in particular with solidarity, **volunteering, civil service** and mobility schemes for young people **operating at national, regional or local level. It should be ensured that the ESVS remains free from discrimination based on gender, social or economic considerations, and it should build on good practices where appropriate. The**

*Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured.*

Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular *national* solidarity *schemes* and mobility schemes for young people, and the *European Solidarity Corps* should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

*ESVS should not substitute national schemes. Access for all young people to national solidarity activities should be guaranteed in all Member States by means of adequate legal frameworks and national resources. Partnerships with European networks which are specialised in certain urgent social problems which are insufficiently tackled by Member States such as extreme poverty, homelessness, destitution among minorities, such as Roma Communities and the exclusion of asylum seekers, should be established.*

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*<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).*

### **Amendement 13**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 6 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

*(6a) Solidarity placements, projects and networking activities in the field of agriculture and rural development, offer young people a unique opportunity to exchange best practices.*

### **Amendment 14**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 7**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the *European Solidarity Corps*, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the *ESVS*, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the

Europe for Citizens programme, the European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the **European Solidarity Corps** by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the **concerned programmes**. Once they have obtained a valid **European Solidarity Corps** quality label, the **beneficiaries** should be given access to the **European Solidarity Corps** portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the **ESVS** by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the **programmes concerned with a view to securing greater involvement of young people, civil society, and existing volunteering schemes in Member States**. Once they have obtained a valid **ESVS** quality label, the **participating organisations** should be given access to the **ESVS** portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 8

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) The **European Solidarity Corps** should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should contribute to enhancing **their** personal, educational, social, civic and professional development. The **European Solidarity Corps** should also support networking activities for **European Solidarity Corps** participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes.

#### *Amendment*

(8) The **ESVS** should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should **help respond to unmet societal needs and contribute to strengthening communities and should** contribute to enhancing **the** personal, educational, social, civic and professional development **of young people**. The **ESVS** should also support networking activities for **ESVS** participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes. **It should also contribute to supporting and strengthening existing organisations implementing solidarity actions.**

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 9

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) Voluntary activities constitute a rich experience in a non-formal and informal learning context which enhances young people's personal, socio-educational and **development**, active citizenship and **employability**. Voluntary activities **should not** have an adverse effect on potential or existing paid employment, **nor** should **they** be seen as a substitute for it. **In order to ensure continuity with respect to the volunteering activities that are supported at Union level, the volunteering activities under the European Voluntary Service that fall within the geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps should be supported by the latter in the form of cross-border volunteering placements. The other volunteering activities under the European Voluntary Service that do not fall under the geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps should continue to be supported under the Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing 'Erasmus+': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport<sup>20</sup>. With respect to the interpretation of related legislation at Union level, both the cross-border volunteering placements under the European Solidarity Corps and the volunteering activities that continue to be supported under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should be considered equivalent to those carried out under the European Voluntary Service.**

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<sup>20</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing

*Amendment*

(9) Voluntary activities constitute a rich experience in a **formal and** non-formal learning context which enhances young people's personal, socio-educational development **and** active citizenship. **However, given the cross-sectoral nature of solidarity-related activities, the different status of non-profit entities and organisations potentially involved into those activities, and the socio-economic significance of the solidarity sector in the Union, provisions should be included in this Regulation to ensure that** voluntary activities **do not** have an adverse effect on potential or existing paid employment, **and solidarity activities should not** be seen **or effectively deployed** as a substitute for it. **For that reason, solidarity placements in the form of volunteering should be exclusively offered by participating organisations that operate from the non-profit sector, foundations and social enterprises.**

*'Erasmus+': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport and repealing Decisions No 1719/2006/EC, No 1720/2006/EC and No 1298/2008/EC, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 50.*

Amendment 17

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 10**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) **Traineeships** and jobs in solidarity-related areas can offer additional opportunities for young people to make a start on the labour market while contributing to addressing key societal challenges. ***This can help foster the employability and productivity of young people while easing their transition from education to employment***, which is key to ***enhancing*** their ***chances on*** the labour market. The traineeship placements offered under the ***European Solidarity Corps*** should be remunerated by the participating organisation and follow the quality principles outlined in the Council Recommendation on establishing a Quality Framework for Traineeships of 10 March 2014<sup>21</sup>. ***The traineeships and jobs*** offered should constitute a stepping stone for young people to enter the labour market and should therefore be accompanied by adequate post-placement support. The traineeship and job placements should be facilitated by relevant labour market actors, in particular public and private employment services, social partners and Chambers of Commerce. As participating organisations, they should be able to apply for funding via the competent implementing structure of the ***European Solidarity Corps*** in view of intermediating between the young participants and employers offering traineeship and job placements in solidarity sectors.

*Amendment*

(10) ***The ESVS should also provide for a framework for traineeships*** and jobs in solidarity-related areas ***to help build social, economic and civic cohesion***. ***Traineeships and jobs should be clearly separate from voluntary activities, both from a financial and organisational point of view, as they*** can offer ***different and additional opportunities for young people to make a start and can increase their chances*** on the labour market and ***career prospects*** while contributing to addressing key societal challenges. ***Traineeships and jobs should never lead to job substitution***. ***Remunerated traineeships and jobs, however, can represent an incentive for disadvantaged young people and those with fewer opportunities to participate in solidarity-related activities that they might not otherwise be able to access***. ***Traineeship placements can ease the transition of young people from education to employment***, which is key to ***achieving*** their ***sustainable integration into*** the labour market. The traineeship placements offered under the ***ESVS*** should ***always*** be remunerated by the participating organisation and ***should*** follow the quality principles outlined in the Council Recommendation on establishing a Quality Framework for Traineeships of 10 March 2014<sup>21</sup>. ***Traineeship placements should, moreover, be distinguished from voluntary work and based on a written agreement concluded at the beginning of the traineeship between the trainee and***



*the participating organisation. Such written agreements should indicate the educational and training objectives, the working conditions and the duration of the traineeship, the remuneration of the trainee and the rights and obligations of the parties under the applicable national law, applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the traineeship takes place. Traineeship placements offered should constitute a stepping stone for young people to enter the labour market and **should not substitute jobs. Traineeship placements should be temporary and should have a reasonable duration as defined in this Regulation. Job placements should be based on a written contract and should respect all the terms and conditions of employment as defined in national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the job is carried out. Financial support to participating organisations offering job placements should not exceed twelve months. Traineeships and jobs should be clearly distinguished, in terms of funding and substance, from voluntary activities,** and should therefore be accompanied by adequate **preparation, on-the-job training and** post-placement support **in relation to the participation of the participant in the ESVS** The traineeship and job placements should be facilitated by relevant labour market actors, in particular public and private employment services, social partners and Chambers of Commerce. As participating organisations, they should be able to apply for funding via the competent implementing structure of the **ESVS** in view of intermediating between the young participants and employers offering traineeship and job placements in solidarity sectors.*

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<sup>21</sup> Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships, OJ C 88, 27.3.2014, p. 1.

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<sup>21</sup> Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships, OJ C 88, 27.3.2014, p. 1.

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 11

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(11) Young people's spirit of initiative is an important asset for society and for the labour market. The **European Solidarity Corps** should contribute to fostering this aspect by offering young people the opportunity to devise and implement their own projects aimed at addressing specific challenges to the benefit of their local communities. Those projects should be an opportunity to try out ideas and **support young people to be themselves** drivers of solidarity actions. They could also serve as a springboard for further engagement in solidarity activities and could be a first step towards encouraging **European Solidarity Corps** participants to engage in **self-employment or setting up** associations, NGOs or other bodies active in the solidarity, non-profit and youth sectors.

*Amendment*

(11) Young people's spirit of initiative is an important asset for society. The **ESVS** should contribute to fostering this aspect by offering young people the opportunity to devise and implement their own projects aimed at addressing specific challenges **in solidarity with, and** to the benefit of, local communities, **particularly communities located in rural, isolated or marginalised areas**. Those projects should be an opportunity **for young people to develop innovative solutions and to try out ideas in a sustainable way** and to **experience being the** drivers of solidarity actions. They could also serve as a springboard for further engagement in solidarity activities and could be a first step towards encouraging **ESVS** participants to engage in **social entrepreneurship or as volunteers in** associations, NGOs, **youth organisations** or other bodies active in the solidarity, non-profit and youth sectors **and the setting up of their own associations**. **Necessary support should be given to young people and youth and student organisations in order to ensure that they can effectively develop the solidarity activities. Post-placement support could include support and advice to participants interested in setting-up and piloting associations, cooperatives, social enterprises, youth organisations and community-centres.**

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 12

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) Young people and organisations participating in **the European Solidarity Corps** should feel that they belong to a community of individuals and entities committed to enhancing solidarity across Europe. At the same time, participating organisations need support to strengthen their capacities to offer good quality placements to an increasing number of participants. The **European Solidarity Corps** should support networking activities aimed at strengthening young people and participating organisations' engagement in this community, **at fostering a European Solidarity Corps spirit, as well as at** encouraging the exchange of useful practices and experience. Those activities should also contribute to raising awareness about **the European Solidarity Corps** among public and private actors as well as to collect feedback from participants and participating organisations on the implementation of the **European Solidarity Corps**.

Amendment 20

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the **European Solidarity Corps**, in particular by offering training, language support, insurance, administrative and post-placement support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their **European Solidarity Corps** experience.

*Amendment*

(12) Young people and organisations participating in **the ESVS** should feel that they belong to a community of individuals and entities committed to enhancing solidarity across Europe **and beyond**. At the same time, participating **non-profit** organisations **of a general interest character or with a social aim** need support to strengthen their capacities to offer good quality *placements* to an increasing number of participants. The **ESVS** should support networking activities aimed at strengthening **the capacity of** young people and participating **non profit** organisations' engagement in this community, encouraging the exchange of useful **solidarity** practices and experience. Those activities should also contribute to raising awareness about **solidarity** among public and private actors, such as **non-profit entities with a social aim** as well as to **collecting** feedback from **participants** and participating organisations on the implementation of the **ESVS**.

*Amendment*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the **ESVS**, in particular by offering **online and offline** training **and** language support, insurance, **simplified** administrative **procedures and pre-placement** and post-placement support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their **ESVS** experience. **That support should be developed and provided in collaboration with youth organisations and other non-profit and civil society organisations in order to tap into their expertise on the**

*field. Where activities undertaken by participants are to be carried out in hazardous environments, such as post-disaster environments, preventive security courses should be provided. Post-placement support should also prioritise the continuous civic engagement of the participants in their community, guiding them towards local organisations or projects with which to engage after the completion of the placement.*

Amendment 21

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 14**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) To ensure the impact of **European Solidarity Corps** placements on the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participants, the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of **the** placement should be properly identified **and** documented, in accordance with national circumstances and specificities, as recommended in the Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning<sup>22</sup>.

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<sup>22</sup> Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning, OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1.

*Amendment*

(14) To ensure the impact of **ESVS** placements on the personal, educational, **artistic**, social, civic, and professional development of the participants, the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of **targeted training undertaken before the solidarity** placement should be properly identified, documented, **assessed, certified and recognised** in accordance with **European guidelines and** national circumstances and specificities, as recommended in the Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning<sup>22</sup>. **As a recognition tool, a Youth Pass certificate should be used in order to describe and validate the non-formal and informal learning outcomes acquired through their ESVS experience. The Youth Pass certificate will improve the recognition of the learning outcomes of young people.**

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<sup>22</sup> Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning, OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1.

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 14 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(14a) In order to support solidarity activities among young people, participating organisations should be non-profit sending or receiving organisations, and may include non-governmental organisations or civil society organisations, youth organisations, churches and religious associations or communities.**

Amendment 23

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 15

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(15) A quality **label** should be put in place to ensure **compliance of the** participating organisations with the principles and requirements of the **European Solidarity Corps** Charter, as regards their rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. Obtaining a quality label should be a precondition for participation but should not automatically lead to funding **under the European Solidarity Corps**.

(15) **Separate quality labels and monitoring frameworks should be put in place for volunteering and for traineeships and jobs in partnership with relevant stakeholders in order** to ensure **that** participating organisations **effectively and continuously comply** with the principles and requirements of the **ESVS** Charter, as regards their rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. **To avoid differing quality standards, the ESVS Charter should take into account the Charter of the European Voluntary Service of the Erasmus+ programme.** Obtaining a quality label should be a precondition for participation but should not automatically lead to funding **under the ESVS. Quality labels should ensure that ESVS activities are not used as a substitute for actual jobs or traineeships. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should not create additional bureaucracy that would dissuade organisations, from contributing to the ESVS. A quality label should also ensure that the participating**

*organisations comply with the ex-ante conditionality on social inclusion and, in particular, with its investment priority on the transition from institutional to community-based health and social services set out in Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1a</sup>, to prevent Union funding from being used to support, even indirectly, the segregation of health and social infrastructures.*

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<sup>1a</sup> *Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).*

## **Amendment 24**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 16**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(16) A **European Solidarity Corps** Resource Centre should assist the implementing bodies, the participating organisations and the young people taking part in the **European Solidarity Corps** in order to raise the quality of the implementation and of the activities of the **European Solidarity Corps** as well as to enhance the identification **and** validation of competences acquired through these

*Amendment*

(16) A **ESVS** Resource Centre should assist the implementing bodies, the participating organisations and the young people taking part in the **ESVS** in order to raise the quality of the implementation and of the activities of the **ESVS** as well as to enhance the identification, validation **and certification of knowledge, skills and** competences acquired through these activities.

activities.

## Amendment 25

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 17

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(17) **A European Solidarity Corps** Portal should continuously be developed in order to *ensure* easy access to the **European Solidarity Corps** and to provide **a one-stop shop** for both interested individuals and organisations as regards, inter alia, registration, identification and matching of profiles and opportunities, networking and virtual exchanges, online training, language and post-placement support as well as other useful functionalities, which may arise in the future.

*Amendment*

(17) **An ESVS Portal, available in all the official languages of the participating countries and accessible to people with disabilities**, should continuously be developed and **updated** in order to **contribute to ensuring** easy access to the **ESVS** and to provide **an interactive, multilingual platform** for both interested individuals and **non-profit** organisations as regards, inter alia, registration, identification and matching of profiles and opportunities, networking and virtual exchanges, **information on existing solidarity placements or projects and on participating organisations, relevant European and national contact points**, online training, language, **pre-placement and** post-placement support, **direct feedback and evaluation mechanisms**, as well as other useful functionalities, which may arise in the future. **The ESVS Portal and its use should be explained in detail in the programme guide. Interoperability with the European Youth Portal should be ensured.**

Amendment 26

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 17 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(17a) **A quality framework with quality standards for ESVS placement offers should be developed. The basis of this quality framework should be existing law that protects the rights of workers, interns and volunteers both at Union and national level, in terms of social**

*protection, minimum income, stability, employment protection, employment rights, mental and physical health. The standards should be defined by means of an inclusive process with the full participation of social partners, youth organisations and volunteering organisations.*

## **Amendment 27**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 17 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(17b) It is essential for the good functioning of the ESVS and the timely deployment of the relevant actions that mechanisms are put in place within the ESVS work programmes to guarantee that offers are presented to registered young people within a reasonable and relatively predictable amount of time. Periodic information and updates on available placements and participating organisations that are actively involved in the ESVS should therefore be sent to registered individuals in order to stimulate their engagement with the ESVS after their registration, while also offering them the opportunity to directly get in touch with the actors involved in the field of solidarity at both national and European level.*

## **Amendment 28**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 18**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope of ***EUR 341,5 million in current prices*** for the period 2018-2020



reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. ***The prime reference amount includes redeployments from the Erasmus+ programme (EUR 197.7 million) and from the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EUR 10 million) for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, and it is complemented by contributions from several Union programmes under different headings, such as the European Social Fund, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the LIFE programme and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.***

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

Amendment 29

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 18 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Inter-institutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. ***The financial envelope should include the amount of EUR 197,7 million that was originally earmarked to finance the intra-Union European Voluntary Service activities under the Erasmus+ programme for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, given that those activities are to be transferred to the ESVS programme. In view of the need to avoid any negative impact on the financing of existing multiannual programmes, the remaining amount for the financing of the ESVS should be drawn exclusively from unallocated margins under the multiannual financial framework ceilings and fresh resources should be used in future financial years.***

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

*Amendment*

***(18a) Investing in the ESVS should not come at the expense of other Union programmes that already offer very valuable opportunities to young people, particularly the Erasmus+ programme and the Youth Employment Initiative. Investment in the ESVS should be***

*accompanied by increased investment in other complementary Union programmes and, in particular, in the case of Erasmus+ programmes.*

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 19

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(19) In order to ensure continuity in the activities supported by the programmes contributing to the **European Solidarity Corps**, the financial support to solidarity placements and projects **should indicatively follow an 80%-20% split between volunteering placements and solidarity projects on the one hand and traineeship and job placements on the other hand.**

*Amendment*

(19) In order to ensure continuity in the activities supported by the programmes contributing to the **ESVS**, the financial support to solidarity placements and projects **should indicatively be 95 % for volunteering placements and solidarity projects and 5 % for traineeship placements and for job placements.**

## Amendment 31

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 20

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the **European Solidarity Corps**, **provisions should be made to allow** participating countries **to** make additional national funding available in accordance with the rules of the **European Solidarity Corps**.

*Amendment*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the **ESVS**, participating countries **should be able to** make additional national, **regional or local** funding available in accordance with the rules of the **ESVS**.

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 20 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(20a) Civil protection and humanitarian aid cannot be dependent on young people via the ESVS. The Commission and the Member States should guarantee continued investment in structured civil protection and humanitarian aid.***

### **Amendment 33**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 21 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(21a) As a general rule, the grant request by participants will be submitted to the National Agency of the country where the organisation is based. Grant requests for placements organised by Europe-wide or international organisations, will be submitted to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission.***

### **Amendment 34**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 21 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(21b) The Commission should take initiative to develop a Union Agenda for Volunteering, taking into account the Policy Agenda for Volunteering (PAVE), aimed at guaranteeing the recognition and respect of the rights of volunteers and organisations involved with volunteers and the reduction of administrative and legal barriers to volunteering and organisations involved with volunteers across Europe, in addition to fostering,***

*promoting and supporting a wider culture of solidarity and volunteering in Europe.*

## Amendment 35

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 22

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(22) In addition to the Member States, the **European Solidarity Corps** should **also** be open to **the participation of other countries on the basis of bilateral agreements**. This participation should be based, **where relevant**, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with the concerned countries.

*Amendment*

(22) **As in the European Voluntary Service**, in addition to the Member States, the **ESVS** should be open to **Erasmus+ and Youth in Action programme countries and partner countries, paying particular attention to countries neighbouring the Union, from its inception in order to promote the equality of opportunities between young people from Member States and third countries**. This participation should be based, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with the concerned countries.

## Amendment 36

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 23

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(23) The **European Solidarity Corps** should target young people aged 18-30. Participation in the activities offered by the **European Solidarity Corps** should **require** prior registration in the **European Solidarity Corps** Portal.

*Amendment*

(23) The **ESVS** should target young people aged 18-30. Participation in the activities offered by the **ESVS** should **be managed either through** prior registration in the **ESVS** Portal **or by an official application or recruitment process managed by the participating organisation. Where necessary, other complementary tools should be provided for the purposes of registration, in order to facilitate the participation of all young people, especially those in the most vulnerable situations and those who are not digitally literate. To that end, existing application processes provided by**

*coordinating and sending organisations could be used.*

## **Amendment 37**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(23a) The target group of young people should be as broad and inclusive as possible, so that young people with different backgrounds, levels of education, skills, capabilities, knowledge and experience participate in the ESVS.**

## **Amendment 38**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(23b) It is necessary to promote a wider policy strategy which is aimed at creating a conducive environment for volunteering in Europe and does not overlap with other ongoing programmes, but rather strengthens successful existing initiatives, such as the European Voluntary Service.**

## **Amendment 39**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 24**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the

*European Solidarity Corps* are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones. Special measures should therefore *be put in place* to promote social inclusion, *the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as* to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the *European Solidarity Corps*. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community, OJ L314, 30.11.2001, p.1.

*ESVS* are accessible *in practice* to all young people, in particular the most disadvantaged *young people such as young people with special needs*. Special measures *and individualised support* should therefore *be provided, in order to reach out to all categories of young people with fewer opportunities*, to promote social inclusion, and to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the *ESVS*. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community, OJ L314, 30.11.2001, p.1.

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 25

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the *European Solidarity Corps*, whether funded by the *European Solidarity Corps* budget, by another Union programme or by a different funding source, should receive a quality label provided that the appropriate

*Amendment*

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the *ESVS*, whether funded by the *ESVS* budget, by another Union programme or by a different funding source, should *first* receive a quality label provided that the appropriate conditions are fulfilled *and*

conditions are fulfilled. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous basis by the implementing structures of the European Solidarity *Corps*. The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

*that the activity concerned does not fall under the list of excluded activities.* The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous, *public and transparent* basis by the implementing structures of the *ESVS*. *Unnecessary administrative burdens should be avoided in that process.* The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

## Amendment 41

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 26

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(26) *An* entity willing to apply for funding to offer placements under the *European Solidarity Corps* should have first received a quality label as a precondition. *This requirement* should not apply to natural persons seeking financial support on behalf of an informal group of *European Solidarity Corps* participants for their solidarity projects.

*Amendment*

(26) *A non-profit* entity willing to apply for funding to offer placements under the *ESVS* should have first received a quality label as a precondition. *The attribution of the quality label* should not apply to natural persons seeking financial support on behalf of an informal group of *ESVS* participants for their *programmes and* solidarity projects. *The competent implementing bodies should carry out equivalent quality controls to ascertain compliance, by those natural persons, with the requirements of the ESVS.*

## Amendment 42

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 26 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(26a) *The needs and expectations of local communities should be an important criterion for the evaluation of the quality*

*of projects. Accordingly, appropriate indicators should be put in place and re-assessed every year.*

## Amendment 43

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 27

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(27) Effective performance management, including monitoring and evaluation, requires the development of specific, measurable and realistic indicators which can be measured over time and which reflect the logic of the intervention.

*Amendment*

(27) Effective performance management, including monitoring and evaluation, requires the development of specific, measurable and realistic ***qualitative and quantitative*** indicators which can be measured over time and which reflect the logic of the intervention.

Amendment 44

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 28

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the ***European Solidarity Corps*** should be ensured at European, national and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely on all the implementing bodies of the ***European Solidarity Corps, including, when relevant, with the support of other key stakeholders.***

*Amendment*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the ***ESVS*** should be ensured at European, national, ***regional*** and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely, ***without increasing bureaucracy, on all the implementing bodies of the *ESVS*, on Commission websites, and on Union programmes already associated with the *ESVS*.***

## Amendment 45

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 28 a (new)



**(28a) In order to better achieve the objectives of the ESVS, the Commission, Member States and national agencies should work closely together in partnership with NGOs, youth organisations and local stakeholders having expertise in solidarity actions.**

Amendment 46

**Proposal for a regulation  
Recital 29**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(29) In order to ensure greater efficiency in communication to the public at large and stronger synergies between the communication activities undertaken at the initiative of the Commission, the resources allocated to communication under this Regulation should also contribute to covering the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, ***provided that these are*** related to the general ***objective*** of this Regulation.

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(29) In order to ensure greater efficiency in communication to the public at large and stronger synergies between the communication activities undertaken at the initiative of the Commission, the resources allocated to communication under this Regulation should also contribute to covering the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, ***such as social integration, cohesion, environmental protection and climate change mitigation, as*** related to the general objective of this Regulation ***and be consistent with the objectives of the funding sources of the ESVS.***

**Amendment 47**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Recital 30**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(30) In order to ensure efficient and effective implementation of this Regulation, the ***European Solidarity Corps*** should make maximum use of existing management arrangements already in place. The implementation of the ***European Solidarity Corps*** should therefore be entrusted to existing

*Amendment*

(30) In order to ensure efficient and effective implementation of this Regulation, the ***ESVS*** should make maximum use of existing management arrangements already in place. The implementation of the ***ESVS*** should therefore be entrusted to existing structures, i.e. the Commission, the

structures, i.e. the Commission, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency and the National Agencies designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013.

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency and the National Agencies designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013. ***A consultative body involving European solidarity and volunteering NGO networks ought to be established.***

## Amendment 48

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 35

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(35) In compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union<sup>26</sup>, the Commission should adopt work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The work programme should set out the measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the ***European Solidarity Corps***, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. Work programmes and any amendments to them should be adopted ***by implementing acts in accordance with the examination procedure.***

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<sup>26</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

##### *Amendment*

(35) In compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union<sup>26</sup>, the Commission should adopt work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The work programme should set out the measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the ***ESVS***, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. Work programmes and any amendments to them should be adopted ***by means of delegated acts and based on the needs and demands of beneficiaries.***

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<sup>26</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

## Amendment 49

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 37

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(37) For reasons of efficiency and effectiveness, the committee established under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should also assist the Commission in the implementation of this Regulation. With respect to the ***European Solidarity Corps***, that committee should convene in a specific configuration ***and its mandate should be aligned in order to fulfil this new role***. It should be for the participating countries to appoint the relevant representatives for those meetings, taking into account the volunteering and occupational dimensions of the ***European Solidarity Corps***.

*Amendment*

(37) For reasons of efficiency and effectiveness, ***a dedicated sub-committee of*** the committee established under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should also assist the Commission in the implementation of this Regulation. With respect to the ***programme***, that committee should convene in a specific configuration. It should be for the participating countries to appoint the relevant representatives for those meetings, taking into account the volunteering and occupational dimensions of the ***ESVS. The European Youth Forum, the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) and other relevant civil society organisations, including networks representing employers and trade unions, ought be included as permanent observers without voting rights in a Programme Committee and their presence provided for in the rules of procedure of that committee.***

## Amendment 50

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 38 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(38a) In its resolution of 2 February 2017 on the implementation of the Erasmus+ Regulation<sup>1a</sup>, the European Parliament encouraged the Commission and the Member States to make a budgetary effort to accommodate the new initiative of the European Solidarity Corps without underfunding other current and priority programmes.***

Amendment 51

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 38 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(38b) In its resolution of 5 July 2017 on the mandate for the trilogue on the 2018 draft budget<sup>1a</sup>, the European Parliament expressed its concern that, despite its warnings, the legislative proposal adopted on 30 May 2017 envisaged that three fourths of the European Solidarity Corps budget would be financed by redeployments from existing programmes, and mainly from Erasmus+ (EUR 197,7million), and reiterated that any new political commitments should be financed with new appropriations and not redeployments from existing programmes.*

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*<sup>1a</sup>Texts adopted, P8\_TA-PROV(2017)0302.*

**Amendment 52**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 38 c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(38c) Separate funding and budgetary allocations should be guaranteed for the ESVS and should not result in a reduction in the budget for other policies promoting youth, education, training, employment or solidarity. Optimal and transparent use of financial resources should be ensured.*

**Amendment 53**

**Proposal for a regulation**

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## Recital 39

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(39) The financial envelope of the **European Solidarity Corps** under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework **also** builds on funds redeployed from the Erasmus+ programme. These funds should **mainly** come from appropriations aimed at financing European Voluntary Service activities that would fall under the scope of the volunteering placements supported under this Regulation. ***In addition, some appropriations of the Student Loan Guarantee Facility, which are unlikely to be absorbed under Erasmus+, should be redeployed with a view to providing adequate co-financing to the operating costs of national agencies and be brought more in line with the absorption capacity of this action.***

*Amendment*

(39) The financial envelope of the **ESVS** under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework builds on funds redeployed from the Erasmus+ programme. These funds should ***exclusively*** come from appropriations aimed at financing European Voluntary Service activities that would fall under the scope of the volunteering placements supported under this Regulation.

## Amendement 54

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 40 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(40a) Given the therapeutic value of working with animals, special attention should be paid to providing young people with mental and physical disabilities with opportunities to work on care farms.***

## Amendment 55

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 41

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(41) ***This Regulation should apply from 1 January 2018.*** In order to allow for the

(41) In order to allow for the prompt application of the measures provided for in

prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union —

this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

## Amendment 56

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at **addressing unmet** societal **needs** to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, **which may take** the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, entrepreneurship, in particular social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, **agriculture** and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, reception and integration of third-country nationals, **territorial cooperation and cohesion**;

##### *Amendment*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity **of general interest** aimed at **tackling important** societal **challenges** to the benefit of a community **and the society as a whole** while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, **artistic**, social, civic and professional development; **The solidarity activity takes** the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as **formal, non-formal and informal** education and training, **youth work**, employment, gender equality, social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, **intercultural dialogue, social inclusion, the inclusion of people with disabilities**, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, **social farming** and rural development, territorial cooperation and cohesion, **the** provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance, and welfare, **and the** reception and integration of third-country nationals, **such as asylum seekers and refugees**;

## Amendment 57

### Proposal for a regulation

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## Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(1a) “solidarity” means the readiness to make an effort for the common good as part of specific activities, without any expectation of consideration in return;**

## Amendment 58

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(2) “participant” means a young person who **has registered in the European Solidarity Corps Portal and** takes part in a solidarity activity under the **European Solidarity Corps** offered by a participating organisation;

(2) “participant” means a young person who takes part in a solidarity activity under the **ESVS** offered by a participating organisation **or developed by a group of young people registered in the ESVS Portal;**

## Amendment 59

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(3) “**disadvantaged young people**” means individuals who need additional support because of disability, **educational** difficulties, economic obstacles, cultural differences, health problems, social obstacles, geographical **obstacles**;

(3) “young **person with fewer opportunities**” means an **individual aged 17 to 30** who need additional, **targeted support because he or she is at a disadvantage due to the fact that he or she faces one or more exclusion factors or obstacles such as disability, learning difficulties, social and economic obstacles, cultural differences, health problems, institutional or geographical barriers or discrimination based on any of the grounds enshrined in Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;**

## Amendment 60

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) “participating **organisation**” means any public or private **entity** that has been attributed the European Solidarity **Corps** quality label, **which** offers a placement to a participant in the European Solidarity **Corps** or implements other activities in the framework of the European Solidarity **Corps**

*Amendment*

(4) “participating **organisation**” means a **non-profit** public or **non-profit** private **entities that carries out an activity of general interest or with a social aim, that plays a fundamental role in encouraging, promoting and facilitating accessibility to and partnerships in the volunteering sector** and that **has** been attributed the **ESVS** quality label; such an entity offers a **solidarity** placement to a participant in the **ESVS** or implements **and supports** other activities in the framework of the **ESVS, in which it participates either as a sending or as a receiving organisation.** “**Sending organisation**” means an organisation in charge of preparing and supporting participants before, during and after the solidarity placement. “**Receiving organisation**” means an organisation which offers a placement to a participant;

Amendment 61

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) “Solidarity placement” means a volunteering activity, traineeship or job in a solidarity related area, which **is** organised by a participating organisation **and which** contribute to addressing key societal challenges while enhancing the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development **and the employability of the European Solidarity Corps participant who undertakes it, either** in a country other than the country of residence (cross-border) or in the country of residence of the participant (in-country);

*Amendment*

(5) “Solidarity placement” means a volunteering activity, traineeship or job in a solidarity related area, **that has a European added value and does not substitute nor replace national volunteering schemes,** which are organised by a participating organisation, **and that** contributes to addressing **clearly identified** key societal challenges while enhancing the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development **of the ESVS participant who undertakes it, preferably** in a country other than the country of



residence (cross-border) or in the country of residence of the participant (in-country) *if so needed*;

## Amendment 62

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 6

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) “volunteering” means **a full-time** unpaid voluntary **service** for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and professional development, and which will also contribute to improving their employability;

##### *Amendment*

(6) “volunteering” means **an** unpaid voluntary **placement within a participating organisation in the non-profit sector, undertaken** for a period of up to twelve months, **either on a full time basis or on a flexible basis of at least 10 hours per week**, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of **non-profit** organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out **and particularly of those in need within such communities** including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain, **validate and certify** skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and professional development, and which will also contribute to improving their employability; **this activity is characterised by a fixed period, clear objectives, content, tasks, structure and framework; appropriate allowance, and legal and social protection and cannot substitute or replace paid employment;**

## Amendment 63

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 7

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) “volunteering teams’ placements” means placements allowing teams of

##### *Amendment*

(7) “volunteering teams’ placements” means placements allowing teams of **ESVS**

*European Solidarity Corps* participants from different participating countries to volunteer together for a common objective, by carrying out manual or intellectual tasks, on a worthwhile community service project for a period between two weeks and two months;

participants from different participating countries to volunteer together for a common objective, by carrying out manual or intellectual tasks, on a worthwhile community service project *in collaboration with public authorities, non-profit organisations, foundations and social enterprises* for a period between two weeks and two months;

## Amendment 64

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 8

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from *two* to *twelve* months, remunerated by the organisation hosting the *European Solidarity Corps* participant, *based on a written traineeship agreement, which includes a learning and training component, and undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment;*

##### *Amendment*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from *three* to *six* months, *renewable once and for a maximum duration of 12 months within the same participating organisation*, remunerated by the organisation hosting the *ESVS* participant, *which includes a learning and training component, is undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to developing competences useful for the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participant, is based on a written agreement concluded at the beginning of the traineeship between the participant and the participating organisation, indicating the educational objectives, the working conditions and duration of the traineeship, the remuneration of the participant and the rights and obligations of the parties under national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the traineeship takes place, and does not substitute jobs;*

## Amendment 65

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 9

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) "job" means a period of work ***from two to twelve*** months, remunerated by the participating organisation employing the ***European Solidarity Corps*** participant, ***carried out in a participating country and based on an employment contract in accordance with the national regulatory framework of that participating country;***

*Amendment*

(9) "job" means a period of work ***of at least six*** months, ***based on a written employment contract which respects all the terms and conditions of employment as defined in national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the job is being carried out,*** that is remunerated by the participating organisation employing the ***ESVS*** participant;

## Amendment 66

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 10

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) "solidarity project" means a local initiative for a period from two to twelve months, which is set up and carried out by groups of at least five ***European Solidarity Corps*** participants, with a view to addressing key challenges within their local community while linking them to a broader European perspective;

*Amendment*

(10) "solidarity project" means a local initiative for a period from two to twelve months, which is set up and carried out by groups of at least five ***ESVS*** participants, with a view to addressing key challenges within their local community while linking them to a broader European perspective ***and with existing local solidarity initiatives;. The organisation of guidance as well as pre-placement and post-placement support by a participating organisation or the local authorities is mandatory for a solidarity action to take place in order to ensure the sustainability of the project and the quality of the services delivered;***

## Amendment 67

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 10 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(10a) “social farming” means the use of agricultural resources to improve the social, physical and mental well-being of individuals, making it possible for those who are psychologically or socially vulnerable to take part in farm work;**

## Amendment 68

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 11

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(11) “quality label” means the certification attributed to a public or private entity or an international organisation willing to provide placements under the **European Solidarity Corps** following a procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with the principles and requirements of the **European Solidarity Corps** Charter;

(11) “quality label” means the certification attributed to a public or private entity or an international organisation **wishing to become a participating organisation and** willing to provide placements under the **ESVS** following a procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with the principles and requirements of the **ESVS and at ensuring the quality of services delivered by the participating organisations;**

## Amendment 69

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 12

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(12) “European Solidarity **Corps** Charter” means the document that sets out the respective rights and responsibilities **that** all the entities willing to join the **European Solidarity Corps** must agree to adhere **to**;

(12) “European Solidarity **and Voluntary Service** Charter” means the document that sets out the respective rights and responsibilities **to which** all the entities willing to join the **ESVS** must agree to adhere;

## Amendment 70

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 13

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) “European Solidarity **Corps Resource Center**” means the additional functions performed by a designated national agency to support the development and implementation of activities under the **European Solidarity Corps** as well as the identification of the competences acquired by the participants through **their placements and projects**;

*Amendment*

(13) “European Solidarity **and Voluntary Service Resource Centre**” means the additional functions performed by a designated national agency to support the development and implementation of activities under the **ESVS** as well as the identification of the competences acquired by the participants through **the targeted training undertaken before the solidarity placement**;. **The respective national agencies should be involved in the process of drawing up the functions to be performed by the European Solidarity Initiative Resource Centre**;

## Amendment 71

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 14

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) “**European Solidarity Corps Portal**” means a web-based tool that provides **relevant** online services to the European Solidarity **Corps** participants and participating organisations, **including** providing information about the **European Solidarity Corps**, registering participants, searching for participants for placements, advertising and searching for placements, searching for potential project partners, managing contacts and offers for placements and projects, training, communication and networking activities, informing and notifying about opportunities, as well as other relevant developments related to the **European Solidarity Corps**;

*Amendment*

(14) “**ESVS Portal**” means a **multilingual interactive web-based tool** , **available in all official languages of participating countries, accessible to people with disabilities** that provides **additional** online services to the **ESVS** participants and participating organisations; **those services complement the activities of participating organisations and include** providing information about the **ESVS**, registering participants, searching for participants for placements, advertising and searching for placements, searching for potential project partners, managing contacts and offers for placements and projects, training, communication and networking activities,

informing and notifying about opportunities, ***providing a feedback mechanism regarding the quality of placements*** and as well as other relevant developments related to the ***ESVS***;

Amendment 72

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 14 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14a) In order too encourage young people to take part in voluntary activities that are entirely unpaid, and taking into account that the working week in a professional environment should last no longer than 40 hours, it shall not be permitted for young people to volunteer for more than 25 hours a week.***

**Amendment 73**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

The objective of the ***European Solidarity Corps*** is to ***enhance*** the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion ***and solidarity in Europe***, supporting communities and ***responding*** to societal challenges.

The objective of the ***ESVS*** is to ***promote solidarity as a value and volunteering in Europe and beyond in order to build an inclusive society, by enhancing*** the engagement of young people and ***non-profit*** organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and ***citizenship***; it aims to complement ***existing actions and structures of organisations that support local communities, in particular the most vulnerable communities***, and to ***swiftly respond*** to societal challenges, ***environmental protection, climate change mitigation, and greater social integration*** .

Amendment 74

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point -a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(-a) to ensure that the solidarity activities offered to participants contribute to tackling significant societal challenges and strengthening communities and are of high quality and properly validated;*

**Amendment 75**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their skills **and** competences for personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, **as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market**, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, **trainees and workers**;

(a) **to provide** young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity **and voluntary** activities while improving their skills, competences **and knowledge** for personal, educational, social, civic, **cultural** and professional development, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, **which can also lead to improved employability, while ensuring that the substitution of paid work for unpaid labour is avoided**;

**Amendment 76**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(aa) to increase the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in the ESVS by creating adapted formats and promoting special guidance and support measures;*

## Amendment 77

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the **European Solidarity Corps** participants contribute to addressing concrete, unmet societal needs and strengthening communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

*Amendment*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity **and voluntary** activities that are offered to the **ESVS** participants contribute to **overcoming significant societal challenges and meeting public interest** needs **for the benefit of the community**, addressing concrete, **clearly identified** unmet societal needs and strengthening communities, are of high quality, properly validated and **implemented** and **respect the principles and meet the requirements of the ESVS Charter**.

Amendment 78

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ba) to support the development, support and maintenance of an EU Agenda for Volunteering with the aim of guaranteeing the recognition and respect of the rights of volunteers and organisations involving volunteers and the reduction of administrative and legal barriers to volunteering and organisations involving volunteers across the Union, in addition to fostering, promoting and supporting a wider culture of solidarity and volunteering in the Union.**

## Amendment 79

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(bb) to promote the strengthening of a common European outlook among Union**



*citizens, through engagement in solidarity activities;*

## **Amendment 80**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(bc) to ensure that the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of participants, and the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of the placement are properly identified, documented, assessed and certified.*

## **Amendment 81**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b d (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(bd) to increase the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in the ESVS by creating adapted formats and promoting tailored and personalised guidance and support measures with a dedicated budget;*

## **Amendment 82**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b e (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(be) to prevent organisations from turning social responsibility measures ESVS measures and, in so doing, from making improper use of funding;*

## Amendment 83

### Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The actions of the **European Solidarity Corps** shall be consistent with and complementary to the relevant policies and programmes relating to the areas mentioned in Article 2(1) as well as existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities of the **European Solidarity Corps**.

*Amendment*

1. The actions of the **ESVS** shall be consistent with and complementary to the relevant **Union** policies and programmes relating to the areas mentioned in Article 2(1) as well as existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities of the **ESVS**.

## Amendment 84

### Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Commission and the participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, **vocational training and** youth on the one hand and actions under the **European Solidarity Corps** on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

*Amendment*

2. The Commission and the participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, youth on the one hand and actions under the **ESVS** on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

## Amendment 85

### Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**3a. The Commission shall take the initiative of developing an EU Agenda for**

*Volunteering, with the aim of guaranteeing the recognition and respect of the rights of volunteers and organisations involving volunteers and the reduction of administrative and legal barriers to volunteering and organisations involving volunteers across the Union, in addition to fostering, promoting and supporting a wider culture of solidarity and volunteering in the Union.*

## **Amendment 86**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph 3 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**3b.** *The Commission and the Member States shall cooperate to achieve convergence and complementarity regarding volunteering policies among the different national laws via the open method of coordination.*

## **Amendment 87**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) solidarity placements, projects and networking activities

(a) solidarity placements, ***in the form of:***  
(i) ***volunteering;***  
(ii) ***traineeships or jobs;***  
(iii) projects and networking activities;

## **Amendment 88**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 2a (new)**

**2a.** *A European framework shall be developed for voluntary solidarity placements, solidarity projects and networking activities. The European framework shall identify the rights and responsibilities and shall facilitate mobility and recognition of skills in form of a Charter;*

## **Amendment 89**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality of solidarity placements, including training, language support, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, post-placement support as well as the *development of a certificate* that identifies and documents the knowledge, skills and competences acquired during the placement;

*Amendment*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality *and accessibility* of solidarity placements, including *off-line and on-line training for preparation before and guidance during the solidarity placement*, language support, *financial and* administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, *pre-placement and* post-placement support as well as the *further use of the Youth Pass* that identifies and documents the knowledge, skills and competences acquired during the placement, *the total number of hours volunteered, and the duration of the volunteering placement, in the development of which youth organisations may be involved as experts;*

## **Amendment 90**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating

*Amendment*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating *or willing to participate* in the *ESVS*,

in the *European Solidarity Corps*.

*which must be entirely consistent with, and also complement, proven experience on the ground, in particular alongside good volunteering and civil protection practice.*

## **Amendment 91**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2b. Participation in solidarity placements shall be governed by an ESVS Charter setting out the rights and obligations of participating organisations and participants and indicating the basis for the “quality label” certification process for participating organisations. The ESVS Charter shall ensure the quality of services to be delivered such as ensuring decent living conditions to participants and provide adequate food, accommodation and minimum allowance for volunteers. Separate quality labels for volunteering placements and for traineeship and job placements shall be established. The ESVS Charter shall comply with Article 7a and shall include a list of activities that are potentially harmful to participants and society, or inappropriate for participants, such as volunteering in residential institutions for children, which shall not be carried out in the framework of solidarity placements. In developing the ESVS Charter, the Commission shall take into account the Charter of the European Voluntary Service.**

## **Amendment 92**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 2 c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2c.** *The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article XX supplementing this Regulation by adopting the ESVS Charter and amendments thereto.*

### **Amendment 93**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(aa)** *activities and measures performed by civil society organisations and entities that support young people in accessing or developing solidarity placements and projects;*

### **Amendment 94**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ab)** *activities and measures aimed at ensuring the quality of solidarity placements provided by participating organisations which support young people in accessing volunteer activities and developing solidarity projects of their own, as well as, where relevant, post-placement support provided to participants interested in setting-up and piloting associations, cooperatives, social enterprises, youth organisations and community-centres;*

## **Amendment 95**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ac) the development of a European framework for volunteering actions that identifies rights and responsibilities and facilitates mobility and recognition of skills;*

*Justification*

*The European Parliament resolution (2016/2872) of 26 October 2016 on European Voluntary Service and the promotion of volunteer asks for a European legal framework for volunteering actions*

## **Amendment 96**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a d (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ad) the development of a clear and detailed procedure addressed to participants and organisations, establishing the steps and timing of all phases of the placements;*

## **Amendment 97**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a e (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ae) activities and measures performed by participating organisations that support young people in accessing and developing solidarity placements and projects;*

## Amendment 98

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a f (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(af) measures that encourage social enterprises to support ESVS activities or allow employees to engage themselves in volunteering activities in the framework of the ESVS;*

## Amendment 99

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(b) the development and maintenance of *a* quality *label* for entities willing to provide placements for the *European Solidarity Corps* in order to ensure compliance with the principles and requirements of the *European Solidarity Corps* Charter;

(b) the development and maintenance of quality *labels* for entities willing to provide *respectively volunteering placements or traineeships and job placements* for the *ESVS* in order to ensure compliance with the principles and requirements of the *ESVS* Charter. *A separate accreditation procedure for entities wanting to provide volunteering placements and entities wanting to provide job and traineeship placements with different evaluation criteria, limiting the access to the programme to the actions they are accredited for;*

## Amendment 100

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)



*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ba) the use of Youth Pass, a Union tool for the recognition of learning outcomes;**

## **Amendment 101**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) the establishment, maintenance and updating of the **European Solidarity Corps** Portal and other relevant online services as well as the necessary IT support systems and web-based tools.

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) the establishment, maintenance and updating of the **ESVS** Portal, **including participants' field reports**, and other relevant online services, **which shall be available in all official languages of the Union, primarily to disseminate the aims of this Regulation and publicise its accessibility**, as well as the necessary IT support systems and web-based tools.

## **Amendment 102**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(da) the development of a quality framework with quality standards for ESVS placement offers;**

## **Amendment 103**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***This Action necessitates overcoming the digital divide so as to make the solidarity efforts proposed by the European Solidarity Corps accessible to all young Europeans, in particular those from rural areas.***

## **Amendment 104**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### ***Article 8a***

***The ESVS shall provide equal opportunities for all young people in the Union, regardless of national opportunities. It shall also position solidarity actions and volunteering at the heart of the European project and boosts the importance of solidarity across European borders.***

## **Amendment 105**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – introductory part**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 includes a financial envelope of EUR 294 200 000<sup>33</sup> in current prices ***supplemented by contributions from:***

2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 includes a financial envelope of EUR 294 200 000<sup>33</sup> in current prices ***increased by unallocated margins and using fresh resources in future financial years.***

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<sup>33</sup> This financial envelope constitutes the prime reference amount within the meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement (2013/C 373/01) between the European Parliament,

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<sup>33</sup> This financial envelope constitutes the prime reference amount within the meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement (2013/C 373/01) between the European Parliament,

the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management.

the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management.

#### *Justification*

*The European Solidarity Corps should not undermine functioning of other EU programmes while its primary focus should be on youth and volunteers within the Erasmus+ programme and it should be mainly financed from the EVS allocation and not from other Erasmus+ parts or EU programmes (note: this amendment would require deletion of articles 27-31).*

#### **Amendment 106**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(a) the European Social Fund, contributing with EUR 35 000 000 in current prices;*

*deleted*

#### **Amendment 107**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(b) the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, contributing with EUR 6 000 000 in current prices;*

*deleted*

#### **Amendment 108**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(c) the LIFE programme, contributing with EUR 4 500 000 in current prices;*

*deleted*

## Amendment 109

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(d) the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, contributing with EUR 1 800 000 in current prices.**

**deleted**

## Amendment 110

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**The remaining amount shall be financed by the use of all financial means available under the existing MFF Regulation;**

## Amendment 111

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the European Parliament and the Council within the limits of the multiannual financial framework.**

## Amendment 112

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3. The financial support to solidarity placements and projects referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 7(1) shall indicatively be **80%** for volunteering

3. The financial support to solidarity placements and projects referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 7(1) shall indicatively be **95%** for volunteering

placements and solidarity projects; and **20%** for traineeship and job placements.

placements and solidarity projects and **5%, for traineeship placements and for job placements.**

## **Amendment 113**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The financial allocation may also cover expenses pertaining to preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities which are required for the management of the ***European Solidarity Corps*** and the achievement of its objectives, in particular, studies, meetings of experts and information and communication actions, expenses linked to the establishment, maintenance and updating of the ***European Solidarity Corps*** Portal and the necessary IT support systems, and all other technical and administrative assistance expenses incurred by the Commission for the management of the ***European Solidarity Corps***.

*Amendment*

4. The financial allocation may also cover expenses pertaining to preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities which are required for the management of the ***ESVS*** and the achievement of its objectives, in particular, ***tailored and personalised support to participating young people with fewer opportunities***, studies, meetings of experts and information and communication actions, expenses linked to the establishment, maintenance and updating of the ***ESVS*** Portal and the necessary IT support systems, and all other technical and administrative assistance expenses incurred by the Commission for the management of the ***ESVS***.

## **Amendement 114**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***4a. The Commission and the Member States shall continue to fund civil protection and humanitarian aid so that the *ESVS* is not used to compensate for public spending cuts by engaging young volunteers in those social sectors where jobs were destroyed.***

## Amendment 115

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. If necessary, appropriations may be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover similar expenses, in order to enable the management of actions not yet completed by 31 December 2020.

*Amendment*

5. If necessary, **payment** appropriations may be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover similar expenses, in order to enable the management of actions not yet completed by 31 December 2020.

## Amendment 116

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

6. A participating country *may* make **national** funding available to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the **European Solidarity Corps** and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the **European Solidarity Corps**, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures.

*Amendment*

6. A participating country, **regional or local entity shall, in accordance with its resources**, make **additional** funding **available** to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the **ESVS** and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the **ESVS**, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures. **Member States may make new additional funding available.**

## Amendment 117

### Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**1a. In order to simplify requirements**

*for beneficiaries, lump sums, unit costs and flat-rate funding shall be used to the maximum possible extent.*

## **Amendment 118**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. *The Member States shall participate in the European Solidarity Corps.*

*Amendment*

1. *The ESVS shall operate in the Union and in third countries.*

## **Amendment 119**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. *The European Solidarity Corps shall be open for the participation of other countries on the basis of bilateral agreements. Cooperation shall be based, where relevant, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with those countries.*

*Amendment*

2. *By 2020 the ESVS shall be open to all other countries participating in the European Voluntary Service and shall be open to other countries based on bilateral and multilateral agreements. Cooperation, with particular regard to neighbourhood countries as well as low and medium income countries shall be based, where relevant, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with those countries.*

## **Amendment 120**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Young people aged **17** to 30 years willing to participate in the **European Solidarity Corps shall** register in the European Solidarity **Corps** Portal. However, at the moment of commencing a placement or a project a registered young person shall be at least 18 years of age and not older than 30.

*Amendment*

1. Young people aged **17** to 30 years **shall be able to participate in the ESVS. Young people of 17 years of age** willing to participate in the **ESVS may** register in the **ESVS Portal or apply for a solidarity placement via application processes provided by a participating organisation holding the quality label.** However, at the moment of commencing a placement or a project a registered young person shall be at least 18 years of age and not older than 30. **The Commission shall endeavour to provide placements to all receivable applications.**

**Amendment 121**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 12 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. When implementing this Regulation, the Commission and the participating countries shall ensure that **particular efforts are made** to promote social inclusion, in particular for the participation of **disadvantaged** young people.

*Amendment*

2. When implementing this Regulation, the Commission, **the Member States** and **other** participating countries shall ensure that **specific and effective measures are taken** to promote social inclusion **and equal access conditions**, in particular for the participation of young people **with fewer opportunities, including people with disabilities, people identifying as LGBTI and people coming from marginalised communities. Those measures may include adjusted, tailor - made support systems and guidance, special contacts persons during the assignments and special formats such as short-term placements. Any additional costs associated with the participation of people with special needs shall be covered at a rate of 100%;**



## Amendment 122

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The **European Solidarity Corps** shall be open to the participation of public **or private** entities, or international organisations, provided that they have received a **European Solidarity Corps** quality label.

*Amendment*

1. The **ESVS** shall be open to the participation of **non-profit** public **or non-profit private** entities, international organisations, such as **NGOs and civil society organisations**, provided that **their activities correspond to the definition of solidarity activity within this Regulation**, that they have received a quality label **and that the activity they offer does not fall under the list of excluded activities**.

## Amendment 123

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a **European Solidarity Corps** participating organisation shall be assessed by the competent implementing body of the **European Solidarity Corps** in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the requirements **of the European Solidarity Corps**.

*Amendment*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a **ESVS** participating organisation shall be assessed by the competent implementing body of the **ESVS** in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the **principles and requirements set out in the ESVS Charter**. **Any entity which substantially changes its activities shall inform the competent implementing body for reassessment. The application and registration process shall be user-friendly. Administrative burdens shall be avoided. The process that leads to the volunteering component shall be differentiated from the process leading to the attribution of a quality label for the occupational component, taking into consideration the specific characteristics of each component.**

## Amendment 124

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 13 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the **European Solidarity Corps** quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed **periodically** and may be revoked.

*Amendment*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the **ESVS** quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed **regularly and at least every two years, without creating excessive administrative burdens**, and may be revoked **as soon as the activities of that entity no longer adhere to the principles and requirements set out in the ESVS Charter. However it may then be re-attributed following a further assessment. The results of the re-assessments of entities shall form part of the monitoring and evaluation referred to in Article 15 of this Regulation and in particular of the progress report that the Commission shall publish in 2020.**

## Amendment 125

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 13 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. Any entity which has received the **European Solidarity Corps** quality label shall be given access to the **European Solidarity Corps** Portal and shall be allowed to make offers for solidarity activities to registered individuals.

*Amendment*

4. Any entity which has received the **ESVS** quality label shall be given access to the **ESVS** and shall be allowed to make offers for solidarity activities to registered individuals. **The Commission shall establish separate accreditation procedures for entities intending to provide volunteering placements and entities intending to provide job and traineeship placements with different evaluation criteria and limiting the access to the programme to the parts they are accredited for.**

## Amendment 126

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 6 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**6a.** *At all stages of the application and accreditation processes, the administrative burden shall be kept as low as possible in order to avoid frustration, additional costs or a lack of incentive on the part of the participating organisation in offering placements.*

## Amendment 127

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 6 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**6b.** *Participating organisations whose solidarity assignments receive funding in the context of volunteer activities may independently provide the training stipulated in the programme for the purposes of preparation, support during solidarity assignments and follow-up, insofar as they do not opt to entrust responsibility for such training to the appropriate national agency. The participating organisations shall receive financial support for their own training schemes.*

## Amendment 128

### Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Any public or private entity established in a participating country as well as international organisations carrying out

Any *non-profit* public or private *entity* established in a *Member State or another* participating country as well as

solidarity activities in the participating countries may apply for funding under the **European Solidarity Corps**. In the case of the activities referred to in point (a) of Article 7(1), a quality label shall be obtained by the participating organisation as a pre-condition for receiving funding under the **European Solidarity Corps**. In the case of the solidarity projects referred to in point (b) of Article 7(1), natural persons may also apply for funding on behalf of informal groups of **European Solidarity Corps** participants.

international organisations carrying out solidarity activities in the participating countries may apply for funding under the **ESVS**. In the case of the activities referred to in point (a) of Article 7(1), a quality label shall be obtained by the participating organisation as a pre-condition for receiving funding under the **ESVS**. In the case of the solidarity projects referred to in point (b) of Article 7(1), natural persons may also apply for funding on behalf of informal groups of **ESVS** participants, **provided that equivalent quality controls are carried out by the competent implementing bodies;**

## Amendment 129

### Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall regularly monitor the performance of the **European Solidarity Corps** towards **achieving its objectives**.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with **Member States and** the participating countries, **the executive agencies and participating and sending organisations as well as Union and national stakeholders such as youth organisations**, shall regularly **and effectively** monitor the performance of the **ESVS in the achievement of** its objectives. **To that end, a special programme monitoring committee should be established. The programme monitoring committee shall include representatives of the Commission, the Member States, the other participating countries, the executive agencies, participating organisations and Union and national stakeholders**

## Amendment 130

### Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. Progress on the specific objectives shall be measured by using indicators, such as:

2. Progress on the specific objectives shall be measured by using ***a set of qualitative and quantitative*** indicators, such as:

### **Amendment 131**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) number of participants in volunteering placements (in-country and cross-border);

(a) number ***and profile*** of participants in ***high quality*** volunteering placements, ***by country, age and gender*** (in-country and cross-border);

### **Amendment 132**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point a a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(aa) number of participants declaring that they have increased their knowledge, skills and competences;***

### **Amendment 133**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point a b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ab) rate of achievement of project objectives in terms of identified community needs;***

### **Amendment 134**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

## Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) number of participants in solidarity projects;

*Amendment*

(d) number **and profile** of participants in **high quality** solidarity projects by country, age and gender;

## Amendment 135

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point d a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(da) number of participants declaring they have gained skills, competences and knowledge for personal, educational, social, civic, including European citizenship, and professional development, by age, country and gender;**

## Amendment 136

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point d b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(db) number of participants with special needs or young people with fewer opportunities;**

## Amendment 137

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ea) number of participants who have received a certificate, such as Youth Pass, or another type of formal recognition of their participation in ESVS;**

## **Amendment 138**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(eb) employment rate of former participants;***

## **Amendment 139**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ec) percentage of participants declaring that they intend to continue being involved in solidarity activities, by country, age and gender (e...) number of solidarity projects;***

## **Amendment 140**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e d (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ed) number of organisations holding the quality label whose solidarity activities have received funding under the ESVS by country;***

## **Amendment 141**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e e (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ee) quality and effectiveness of the entire procedure, namely the. level of the administrative burden borne by the participants and the participating***

*organisations;*

#### **Amendment 142**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e f (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ef) overall satisfaction rate of participants and participating organisations with regard to the quality of the ESVS placements, training, language support, administrative support, insurance and post-placement support;*

#### **Amendment 143**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e g (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(eg) efficiency and effectiveness of the procedures and criteria used for the attribution of and further re-assessment of the attribution of the quality label;*

#### **Amendment 144**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e h (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(eh) quality of the placement, in particular with regard to assistance and follow-up of the participants;*

#### **Amendment 145**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e i (new)**



*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ei) quality of results and impact of the solidarity activities;*

#### **Amendment 146**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e j (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ej) effectiveness of the specific measures adopted to promote and guarantee social inclusion and equal access conditions to participants, in particular for the participation of disadvantaged young people;*

#### **Amendment 147**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

At the *latest six months after the* entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall establish a detailed programme for monitoring the outputs, results and impacts of this Regulation.

*By...\**, the Commission shall establish a detailed programme for monitoring the outputs, results and impacts of this Regulation.

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*\* Date of entry into force of this Regulation.*

#### **Amendment 148**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3. In **2020** the Commission shall publish a report taking stock of the

3. In **2019** the Commission shall publish a report *on the results obtained*

progress made towards achieving its results, including the target of offering 100 000 young people opportunities under the **European Solidarity Corps** by 2020 (covering all the placements and projects referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 7(1)).

**and the qualitative and quantitative aspects of programme implementation**, taking stock of the progress made towards achieving its results, including the target of offering 100 000 young people opportunities under the **ESVS** by 2020 (covering all the placements and projects referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 7(1)), **as well as the cost-effectiveness of the programme, and submit it to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the Regions.**

#### **Amendment 149**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**3a. The quality of the placements shall be evaluated by using common monitoring standards in all participating countries so that a common level of implementation quality can be achieved. Participating organisations shall assist in developing a set of quality standards.**

#### **Amendment 150**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

4. **Four years after the date of application of this Regulation** the Commission shall carry out an independent evaluation of this Regulation and present a report on the main findings to the European Parliament, the Council, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee.

4. The Commission shall carry out an independent **ex-post** evaluation of this Regulation **to assess the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the programme in view of the programme objectives** and shall, **no later than 30 June 2021**, present a report on the main findings, **including recommendations for the future of the programme**, to the European Parliament, the Council, the Committee of

the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee. *As part of the evaluation, the Commission shall ensure regular consultation of all relevant stakeholders, including participants, participating organisations and the local communities concerned. The results of the evaluation shall feed back into future programme design and resource allocation proposals.*

## Amendment 151

### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall ensure the dissemination of information, publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the *European Solidarity Corps*.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries ***and union-level networks pertinent to the activity of the ESVS***, shall ensure the dissemination of information, publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the ***ESVS, particularly through ICT solutions such as a portal available in all official languages of the Union with a particular focus on equal opportunities and accessibility.***

## Amendment 152

### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The national agencies referred to in Article 20 shall develop a consistent policy with regard to effective outreach as well as dissemination and exploitation of results of activities supported under the actions they manage, shall assist the Commission in the general task of disseminating information concerning the *European Solidarity Corps*, including information in respect of actions managed at national and Union level, and

*Amendment*

2. The national agencies referred to in Article 20 shall develop a consistent policy with regard to effective outreach ***which shall also target remote areas***, as well as dissemination and exploitation of results of activities supported under the actions they manage, shall assist the Commission in the general task of disseminating information concerning the *ESVS*, including information in respect of actions managed

their results, and shall inform relevant target groups about the initiatives undertaken in their country.

at national and Union level, and their results, and shall inform relevant target groups about the initiatives undertaken in their country.

#### **Amendment 153**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Communication activities shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, provided that they are related to the general objective of this Regulation.

*Amendment*

3. Communication activities shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, provided that they are related to the general objective of this Regulation ***and represent added value and visibility for the Union.***

#### **Amendment 154**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***3a. National agencies shall cooperate with specialised youth information services that inform, reach out, guide and support young people, especially those from a disadvantaged background, in order to ensure a coherent and diverse dissemination and outreach.***

#### **Amendment 155**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 17 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(aa) the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency - EACEA at Union level;***

## Amendment 156

### Proposal for a regulation Article 19 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The national authority shall designate an independent audit body. The independent audit body shall issue an audit opinion on the yearly management declaration referred to in Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

*Amendment*

1. The national authority shall, ***in accordance with the principle of transparency***, designate an independent audit body. The independent audit body shall issue an audit opinion on the yearly management declaration referred to in Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

## Amendment 157

### Proposal for a regulation Article 19 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### ***Article 19a***

#### ***Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency***

***1. At Union level, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency - EACEA shall be responsible for managing all stages of the grant for projects and actions of the ESVS listed in Article 7 of this Regulation submitted by Union-wide or international organisations.***

***2. The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency - EACEA shall also be responsible for the accreditation and monitoring of Union-wide or international organisations.***

## Amendment 158

### Proposal for a regulation

## Article 20 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In each country participating in the **European Solidarity Corps**, the national agencies designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of the Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 in their respective countries shall also act as national agencies in the framework of the **European Solidarity Corps**.

*Amendment*

In each country participating in the **ESVS**, the national agencies designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of the Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013<sup>1</sup> in their respective countries shall also act as national agencies in the framework of the **ESVS**. **EURES network organisations as referred to in article 7 of the Regulation (EU) No 2016/589 shall assist those national agencies in the management of the solidarity actions in the form of traineeship and job placements and in the relevant quality and support measures in the framework of the ESVS.**

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<sup>1</sup> **Regulation (EU) 2016/589 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 April 2016 on a European network of employment services (EURES), workers' access to mobility services and the further integration of labour markets, and amending Regulations (EU) No 492/2011 and (EU) No 1296/2013 (OJ L 107, 22.4.2016, p. 1).**

Amendment 159

## Proposal for a regulation Article 20 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Without prejudice to Article 28(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013, the national agency shall also be responsible for managing all stages of the project lifecycle of those actions of the **European Solidarity Corps** listed in the implementing acts referred to in Article 24, in accordance with point (c)(v) and (vi) of Article 58(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and with Article 44 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No

*Amendment*

2. Without prejudice to Article 28(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013, the national agency shall also be responsible for managing all stages of the project lifecycle of those actions of the **ESVS** listed in the implementing acts referred to in Article 24, in accordance with point (c)(v) and (vi) of Article 58(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and with Article 44 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012<sup>34</sup>. **The Commission shall**

1268/2012<sup>34</sup>.

*provide the national agencies with concrete training and guidance to enable them to carry out all of the project lifecycle properly and tackle all obstacles that individuals and organisations could face.*

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<sup>34</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

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<sup>34</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

## Amendment 160

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) stipulate the internal control standards for national agencies and the rules for the management of the Union funds for grant support by the national agencies;

*Amendment*

(a) stipulate the internal control standards for national agencies and the rules for the management of the Union funds for grant support by the national agencies, *taking into consideration the simplification requirements and, therefore, not imposing additional any burden on participating organisations;*

## Amendment 161

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(aa) *specify annual priorities;*

## Amendment 162

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 – point a b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ab) consult national agencies for the establishment of procedures, instruments and tools, ensuring adequate resources for management fees;*

### **Amendment 163**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 7**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

7. The Commission shall organise regular meetings with the network of national agencies in order to ensure coherent implementation of the **European Solidarity Corps** across all participating countries.

*Amendment*

7. The Commission shall organise regular meetings with the network of national agencies, ***with the participating and sending organisations as well as with civil society stakeholders involved in the activities of the ESVS, such as youth organisations***, in order to ensure coherent implementation of the **ESVS** across all participating countries. ***The Commission shall invite existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the ESVS, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, European Volunteer Centre (CEV) and The European Youth Forum (YFJ) and other relevant civil society organisations including networks representing employers and trade unions to attend those meetings.***

### **Amendment 164**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 22 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. National agencies shall be responsible for the primary controls of grant beneficiaries for the actions of the **European Solidarity Corps** which are entrusted to them. Those controls shall give

*Amendment*

3. National agencies ***and the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency - EACEA***, shall be responsible for the primary controls of grant beneficiaries for the actions of the



reasonable assurance that the grants awarded are used as intended and in compliance with the applicable Union rules.

*ESVS* which are entrusted to them. Those controls shall ***be proportionate and adequate and*** give reasonable assurance that the grants awarded are used as intended and in compliance with the applicable Union rules, ***taking into consideration the simplification requirements and, therefore, not imposing any additional burden on participating organisations. Furthermore, in order to simplify requirements for beneficiaries, lump sums, unit costs or flat rate funding shall be used to the fullest extent possible.***

## Amendment 165

### Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. ***In order to implement this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt work programmes by way of implementing*** acts. Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission ***is empowered to*** adopt ***delegated acts in accordance with Article 25a concerning the adoption of work programmes.*** Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, ***including joint actions at cross-border level,*** an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

*Justification*

*Parliament and the Council should be consulted about the implementing measures for this regulation.*

## Amendment 166

### Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. After two years of implementation of this Regulation by the Commission through work programmes, the result indicators of the ESVS shall be submitted to further scrutiny by Council and Parliament, in order to assess the appropriate integration of the envisaged objectives and activities in a formal youth policy framework to be put in place after 2020.***

## Amendment 167

### Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***2. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 25(2).*** *deleted*

## Amendment 168

### Proposal for a regulation Article 25

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Article 25*** *deleted*

#### ***Committee procedure***

***1. The Commission shall be assisted by the committee established by Article 36 of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.***

**2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.**

*Justification*

*Parliament and the Council should be consulted about the implementing measures for this regulation.*

**Amendment 169**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 25 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 25a**

***Exercise of the delegation***

- 1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.**
- 2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 24 shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from [date of entry into force of this Regulation]. The Commission shall draw up a report in respect of the delegation of power not later than nine months before the end of the five-year period. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for periods of identical duration, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months before the end of each period.**
- 3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 24 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the**

*validity of any delegated acts already in force.*

*4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016.*

*5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.*

*6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 24 shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.*

## **Amendment 170**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 27**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Article 27*

*Amendment to Regulation (EU) No  
1293/2013*

*In Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No  
1293/2013, the following paragraph is  
added:*

*‘3. A maximum of EUR 3 000 000 in  
current prices from the sub-programme  
for Environment corresponding to the  
priority area Environment Governance  
and Information and of EUR 1 500 000 in*

*Amendment*

*deleted*

*current prices from the sub-programme for Climate Action corresponding to the priority area Climate Governance and Information shall be allocated to finance projects within the meaning of Article 17(4) implemented by the European Solidarity Corps in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the priority areas within the meaning of Articles 9 and 13. This allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013. ’*

## **Amendment 171**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 28**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*Article 28*

*deleted*

*Amendments to Regulation (EU) No  
1303/2013*

*Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 is  
amended as follows:*

*1. Article 58(1) is amended as  
follows:*

*(a) the first subparagraph is replaced  
by the following:*

*‘At the initiative of the Commission, the  
ESI Funds may support the preparatory,  
monitoring, administrative and technical  
assistance, evaluation, audit and control  
measures necessary for implementing this  
Regulation and support actions pursuant  
to Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX as referred  
to in the third subparagraph in so far as  
those actions pursue the aim of economic,  
social and territorial cohesion. ’*

*(b) In the third subparagraph, the  
following point (m) is added:*

*‘ (m) actions financed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX on the European Solidarity Corps in order to enhance the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of young people, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market. ’*

**2.** *In Article 91(3), the following subparagraph is added:*

*‘EUR 35 000 000 in current prices of the amount allocated to technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission shall be allocated to the European Solidarity Corps to support its actions, in accordance with point (a) of article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Fund-specific Regulations. ’*

## **Amendment 172**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 29**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 29**

**deleted**

**Amendment to Regulation (EU) No  
1305/2013**

*In Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, the following subparagraph is added under the first subparagraph:*

*‘The EAFRD may also finance actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps with an amount of EUR 1 800 000 in current prices in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities for rural development. The allocation shall be implemented solely in*

*accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013. ’*

*Justification*

*The European Solidarity Corps should not undermine functioning of other EU programmes while its primary focus should be on youth and volunteers within the Erasmus+ programme (note: this amendment would require deletion of articles 27-31).*

**Amendment 173**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 30**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 30**

**deleted**

**Amendment to Regulation (EU) No  
1306/2013**

*In Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013, the following point (j) is added:*

*‘(j) actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities in the area of agriculture and rural development and notably the actions referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Fund-specific Regulations. ’*

**Amendment 174**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 31**

**Article 31**

**deleted**

**Amendment to Decision No  
1313/2013/EU**

***In Article 19(1) of Decision No  
1313/2013/EU, the following  
subparagraph is added after the second  
subparagraph:***

***‘EUR 6 000 000 in current prices from  
the financial envelope derived from  
Heading 3 "Security and Citizenship"  
shall be allocated to finance actions  
implemented by the European Solidarity  
Corps in accordance with Regulation  
(EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one  
or more of the Union priorities in the area  
of civil protection. The allocation shall be  
implemented solely in accordance with the  
Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the  
exclusion of the specific requirements of  
Decision No 1313/2013/EU. ’***



## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The European Solidarity Corps (ESC) is a valuable Commission initiative aimed at boosting solidarity in Europe. There is a greater need than ever for this: continuing youth unemployment, currency crises and increasing Euroscepticism mean that more commitment and solidarity are required at European level. In order to address these challenges in a long-term way and promote solidarity as early as possible, the ESC is focusing on the future of Europe: young people. The Commission's proposed programme comprises an extended European Volunteer Service and an employment strand covering jobs and practical training for the solidarity sector.

As rapporteur I am in favour of reduce the employment part of the programme from the proposed 20% to 5% of the total allocation of the Programme, in order to ensure the success of the ESC, avoid a deterioration in quality of the posts and reinforce the value of the volunteer service as a whole. Since the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) has exclusive responsibility for amending the paragraphs concerning the employment strand, I look forward to constructive cooperation on this with EMPL members.

I have decided to highlight the concept of solidarity in the programme. The ESC should not be a programme which primarily promotes employment, and it certainly should not be a response to youth unemployment. These issues are addressed by existing initiatives such as the *Youth Guarantee* and the *Youth Employment Initiative*, which were set up precisely with this in mind. These initiatives need to be expanded, and not devalued by the introduction of a new programme.

In addition, the broader question arises of whether working in a profit-oriented company is compatible with the concept of solidarity. The wording of the Commission proposal regarding quality control and follow-up is kept very vague, and this results in dangerous gaps in the area of employment, which will have a negative impact on those taking part.

My report focuses on promoting solidarity among young people as successfully as possible. To this end, the inclusion of disadvantaged young people must be a primary aim. The way to reach this target group is not by way of online portals but through direct contact with individuals. This requires the active involvement of the actors and organisations which organise the volunteer services. The target group can be reached only by building relationships on a personal level. For this reason I call for the targeted promotion of follow-up structures and flexibly-aligned operational bodies which will enable disadvantaged young people to experience volunteer activities. In this context I also support making volunteer services more flexible so that alternative ways of life will be compatible with the ESC and new target groups for the programme can be reached.

In this context I propose changing the name of the European Solidary Corps" to "European Solidarity and Voluntary Service", to maintain the focus on 'solidarity' but eliminate misunderstandings and the negative association of the military-sounding 'corps'.

12.1.2018

## OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))

Rapporteur: Brando Benifei

(\*)Associated committee – Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure

### SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The European Commission announced the European Solidarity Corps Initiative in December 2016, following President Juncker’s speech on the State of the Union. The overarching objective is both to encourage a sense of belonging to the European project by fostering one of its most basic values, solidarity, and to help young Europeans improve their job prospects, given the persistent coexistence of high levels of youth unemployment and skills mismatch. After being already kicked off in its “first phase”, the Commission considered appropriate to propose an *ad hoc* legal framework, publishing on 30 May 2017 the proposal for a Regulation which is under scrutiny in Parliament and Council. The Regulation sets the legal basis for the Solidarity Corps, defining the budgetary and implementation arrangements for the initiative, as well as setting specific objectives and defining key terms.

The Employment and Social Affairs Committee has been tasked to produce an Opinion on the aspects of the proposal concerning specifically the so-called “occupational strand”, in particular on the definitions of “traineeship” and “job” included in the text. The Employment and Social Affairs Committee has exclusive competences on these parts of the Commission proposal under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament.

Your EMPL rapporteur, broadly speaking, welcomes the Commission proposal, however he clearly signals, and addresses with his amendments, critical elements in its design. His primary objective is to ensure that the European Solidarity Corps do not open the doors to a possible distortion whereby volunteers are used to carry out tasks which should be performed under regular gainful employment. In this sense, any risk of substitution in the legislation must be dispelled. For this reason, he considers necessary to clearly separate volunteering from traineeships and jobs, also with regard to the funding allocated to both strands. Reference to employment safeguards within the text must be strengthened and the necessity for jobs and traineeships to fully respect national applicable legislation, to be obligatorily remunerated and

to be of the highest quality needs to be explicitly mentioned.

The rapporteur also believes that in order to avoid abuses in this field, it is imperative to confine the access to volunteering only to public authorities or the participating organisations in the non-profit sector. This would for example exclude the possibility, currently foreseen in the European Voluntary Service, for big companies or corporations to take up EU funded volunteers, which not only appears disputable from an ethical and financial viewpoint, but could also be turned into an unacceptable form of corporate advertising. Besides, the solidarity sector, given its cross-sectorial nature, as well as its socio-economic significance, needs to be treated with particular attention by regulators, in order to avoid any potential disruptive effect in the labour market.

Instead, for-profit companies should be allowed to take part to the ESC, only insofar they offer a remunerated job or traineeship to young people. A possible alternative option to this approach, which still needs to be explored, could be that if companies or social enterprises actors wish to get involved with the ESC initiative, they should develop partnerships or fund placements in not-for-profit entities expert in the relevant solidarity field.

The European Solidarity Corps, with the proposed adjustments, will offer new opportunities to young people in Europe to engage in solidarity activities and gain meaningful experience on the ground.

Your rapporteur would kindly ask to the Members of the Employment Committee to focus their work on the parts of the text that have a clear relevance for the activities of the EMPL Committee. This would be functional to facilitate the rapid adoption of EMPL position and would be a sign of positive and loyal cooperation with the Culture and Education Committee and the work of its Rapporteur.

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 1

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) The European Union is built on solidarity, among its citizens and among its Member States. This common value guides its actions and provides the necessary unity to cope with current and future societal challenges, which young Europeans are willing to help address by expressing their

###### *Amendment*

(1) The European Union is built on solidarity, among its citizens and among its Member States. This common value guides its actions and provides the necessary unity to cope with current and future societal challenges, which young Europeans are willing to help address by expressing their

solidarity in practice.

solidarity in practice. ***The principle of solidarity is enshrined in Article 2 TEU and the preamble to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.***

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) The State of the Union address of 14 September 2016<sup>17</sup> emphasized the need to invest in young people and announced the establishment of a European Solidarity Corps with a view to creating opportunities for young people across the Union to make a meaningful contribution to society, show solidarity ***and develop*** their skills, thus getting ***not only work but*** also invaluable human experience.

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<sup>17</sup> The State of the Union 2016: Towards a Better Europe – A Europe that Protects, Empowers and Defends, IP/16/3042 ([http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-3042\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3042_en.htm)).

##### *Amendment*

(2) The State of the Union address of 14 September 2016<sup>17</sup> emphasized the need to invest in young people and announced the establishment of a European Solidarity Corps with a view to creating opportunities for young people across the Union ***and enabling them*** to make a meaningful contribution to society, show solidarity ***while also developing*** their ***informal and non-formal*** skills, thus getting ***practical experience in community-based activities and*** also invaluable human experience.

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<sup>17</sup> The State of the Union 2016: Towards a Better Europe – A Europe that Protects, Empowers and Defends, IP/16/3042 ([http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-3042\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3042_en.htm)).

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 2 a (new)

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

##### *Amendment*

***(2a) The European Union and Member States should undertake on principle to establish arrangements making involvement in the European Solidarity Corps as attractive as possible.***

## Amendment 4

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016<sup>18</sup>, the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes have been mobilised to offer volunteering, traineeship or job opportunities to young people across the EU. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

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<sup>18</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Solidarity Corps, COM(2016) 942 final of 7.12.2016.

## Amendment 5

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 4

*Amendment*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016<sup>18</sup>, the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national, ***regional*** and local ***governmental and non-governmental*** actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes have been mobilised to offer volunteering, traineeship or job opportunities to young people across the EU. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

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<sup>18</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Solidarity Corps, COM(2016) 942 final of 7.12.2016.

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which ***could enable them*** to express their commitment to the benefit of communities ***while acquiring*** useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their ***employability***. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

*Amendment*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which ***would bring positive effects to society while also enabling them in the first place*** to express their commitment to the benefit of communities ***and in parallel to acquire*** useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their ***skills and enhancing occupational strength which they can go on to apply in an employment setting***. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

## **Amendment 6**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should ***be of high quality, in the sense that they should*** respond to unmet societal needs, contribute to strengthening communities, ***offer young people*** the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge and competences, ***be financially accessible to young people***, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions.

*Amendment*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should ***help*** respond to unmet societal needs and challenges ***and contribute to strengthening communities and citizenship and respond to personal and professional development needs of the participants***. ***Solidarity activities should be of high quality and effectively accessible to all young people, offering them*** the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge and competences ***and to have their efforts recognised***, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions. ***Particular efforts should be made to ensure the effective inclusiveness and accessibility of the solidarity activities offered, notably in relation to young people with fewer opportunities, in particular young people with disabilities***. ***Solidarity activities should never replace corporate social***

*responsibility policies, nor should have a negative impact on existing jobs or traineeships.*

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 6

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a **single** entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member States to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition **under the Youth Guarantee**<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

#### *Amendment*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a **main** entry point for solidarity activities **undertaken by young people** throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service, **and should not jeopardise financing of the already existing relevant programmes in the area of solidarity**. It should also complement the efforts made by Member States to support young people **in accessing volunteering opportunities and those developed to** ease their school-to-work transition by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, **the European Youth Forum (YFJ), the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) and other relevant civil society organisations including the social partners**, should also be ensured. **Partnerships with European networks which are specialised in certain urgent social problems which are insufficiently**

*tackled by Member States such as extreme poverty, homelessness, destitution among Roma communities, exclusion of asylum seekers, should be established.*

Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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*<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).*

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 7

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the concerned programmes. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the **beneficiaries** should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

#### *Amendment*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the concerned programmes. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the **participating organisations** should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.



## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 8

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) The European Solidarity Corps should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should contribute to enhancing their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development. The European Solidarity Corps should also support networking activities for European Solidarity Corps participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes.

*Amendment*

(8) The European Solidarity Corps should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should ***help respond to unmet societal needs and contribute to strengthening communities and should*** contribute to enhancing ***the*** personal, educational, social, civic and professional development ***of young people***. The European Solidarity Corps should also support networking activities for European Solidarity Corps participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes. ***It should also contribute to supporting and strengthening existing organisations implementing solidarity actions.***

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 8 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(8a) As an asset on a CV, the European Solidarity Corps should help to accelerate and facilitate the labour market integration of young Europeans.***

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation

## Recital 9

### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) Voluntary activities constitute a rich experience in a non-formal and informal learning context which enhances young people's personal, socio-educational and professional development, active citizenship and employability. **Voluntary** activities **should** not have an adverse effect on potential or existing paid employment, nor should they be seen as a substitute for it. In order to ensure continuity with respect to the volunteering activities that are supported at Union level, the volunteering activities under the European Voluntary Service that fall within the geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps should be supported by the latter in the form of cross-border volunteering placements. The other volunteering activities under the European Voluntary Service that do not fall under the geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps should continue to be supported under the Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing 'Erasmus+': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport<sup>20</sup>. With respect to the interpretation of related legislation at Union level, both the cross-border volunteering placements under the European Solidarity Corps and the volunteering activities that continue to be supported under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should be considered equivalent to those carried out under the European Voluntary Service.

### *Amendment*

(9) Voluntary activities constitute a rich experience in a non-formal and informal learning context which enhances young people's personal, socio-educational and professional development, active citizenship and employability. **However, given the cross-sectorial nature of solidarity-related activities, the different status of entities and organisations potentially involved into these activities, as well as the socio-economic significance of the solidarity sector in the EU, provisions should be taken in this Regulation to ensure that voluntary activities do not have an adverse effect on potential or existing paid employment, nor should they be ever seen or effectively deployed as a substitute for it. For this reason, solidarity placements in the form of volunteering under this Regulation should be offered exclusively by and limited to public bodies or participating organisations in the non-profit sector.** In order to ensure continuity with respect to the volunteering activities that are supported at Union level, the volunteering activities under the European Voluntary Service that fall within the geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps should be supported by the latter in the form of cross-border volunteering placements. The other volunteering activities under the European Voluntary Service that do not fall under the geographical scope of the European Solidarity Corps should continue to be supported under the Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing 'Erasmus+': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport<sup>20</sup>. With respect to the interpretation of related legislation at Union level, both the cross-border

volunteering placements under the European Solidarity Corps and the volunteering activities that continue to be supported under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should be considered equivalent to those carried out under the European Voluntary Service.

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<sup>20</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing 'Erasmus+': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport and repealing Decisions No 1719/2006/EC, No 1720/2006/EC and No 1298/2008/EC, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 50.

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<sup>20</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing 'Erasmus+': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport and repealing Decisions No 1719/2006/EC, No 1720/2006/EC and No 1298/2008/EC, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 50.

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 10

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) ***Traineeships*** and jobs in solidarity-related areas can offer additional opportunities for young people to make a start on the labour market while contributing to addressing key societal challenges. ***This can help foster the employability and productivity of young people while easing their transition from education to employment***, which is key to ***enhancing*** their ***chances on*** the labour market. The traineeship placements offered under the European Solidarity Corps should be remunerated by the participating organisation and follow the quality principles outlined in the Council Recommendation on establishing a Quality Framework for Traineeships of 10 March 2014<sup>21</sup>. ***The traineeships and jobs*** offered should constitute a stepping stone for young people to enter the labour market and should therefore be accompanied by adequate post-placement support. The

#### *Amendment*

(10) ***The European Solidarity Corps should also provide for a framework for traineeships*** and jobs in solidarity-related areas ***to help build social, economic and civic cohesion. Traineeships and jobs should be clearly separate from voluntary activities, both from a financial and organisational point of view, as they can offer different and additional opportunities for young people to make a start and can increase their chances*** on the labour market and ***career prospects*** while contributing to addressing key societal challenges. ***Traineeships and jobs should never lead to job substitution. Remunerated traineeships and jobs, however, can represent an incentive for disadvantaged young people and those with fewer opportunities to participate in solidarity-related activities that they might not otherwise be able to access. Traineeship placements can ease the***

traineeship and job placements should be facilitated by relevant labour market actors, in particular public and private employment services, social partners and Chambers of Commerce. As participating organisations, they should be able to apply for funding via the competent implementing structure of the European Solidarity Corps in view of intermediating between the young participants and employers offering traineeship and job placements in solidarity sectors.

***transition of young people from education to employment***, which is key to ***achieving their sustainable integration into*** the labour market. The traineeship placements offered under the European Solidarity Corps should ***always*** be remunerated by the participating organisation and ***should*** follow the quality principles outlined in the Council Recommendation on establishing a Quality Framework for Traineeships of 10 March 2014<sup>21</sup>. ***The traineeship placements should, moreover, be distinguished from voluntary work and based on a written agreement concluded at the beginning of the traineeship between the trainee and the participating organisation. Such written agreements should indicate the educational and training objectives, the working conditions and the duration of the traineeship, the remuneration of the trainee and the rights and obligations of the parties under the applicable national law, applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the traineeship takes place. Traineeship placements offered should constitute a stepping stone for young people to enter the labour market and should not substitute jobs. Traineeship placements should be temporary and should have a reasonable duration as defined in this Regulation. Job placements should be based on a written contract and should respect all the terms and conditions of employment as defined in national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the job is carried out. Financial support to participating organisations offering job placements should not exceed twelve months. Traineeships and jobs should be clearly distinguished, in terms of funding and substance, from voluntary activities, and should therefore be accompanied by adequate preparation, on-the-job training and post-placement support in relation to the participation of the participant in the European Solidarity Corps. The traineeship and job placements should be***

facilitated by relevant labour market actors, in particular public and private employment services, social partners and Chambers of Commerce. As participating organisations, they should be able to apply for funding via the competent implementing structure of the European Solidarity Corps in view of intermediating between the young participants and employers offering traineeship and job placements in solidarity sectors.

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<sup>21</sup> Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships, OJ C 88, 27.3.2014, p. 1.

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<sup>21</sup> Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships, OJ C 88, 27.3.2014, p. 1.

## Amendment 13

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 11

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(11) Young people's spirit of initiative is an important asset for society and for the labour market. The European Solidarity Corps should contribute to fostering this aspect by offering young people the opportunity to devise and implement their own projects aimed at addressing specific challenges to the benefit of *their* local communities. Those projects should be an opportunity to *try out ideas* and support young people to be themselves drivers of solidarity actions. They could also serve as a springboard for further engagement in solidarity activities and could be a first step towards encouraging European Solidarity Corps participants to engage in *self-employment* or setting up associations, NGOs or other bodies active in the solidarity, non-profit and youth sectors.

#### *Amendment*

(11) Young people's spirit of initiative is an important asset for society and for the labour market. The European Solidarity Corps should contribute to fostering this aspect by offering young people the opportunity to devise and implement their own projects aimed at addressing specific challenges to the benefit of *the* local communities. Those projects should be an opportunity to *develop innovative solutions in a sustainable way* and support young people to be themselves drivers of solidarity actions. They could also serve as a springboard for further engagement in *various forms of* solidarity activities and could be a first step towards encouraging European Solidarity Corps participants to engage in *entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship* or setting up associations, NGOs or other bodies active in the solidarity, non-profit and youth sectors, *and become increasingly involved in associative activities. Necessary support*

*should be given to young people and youth and student organizations, for achieving effective development for the initiatives. Post-placement support could include support and advice to participants interested in setting-up and piloting associations, cooperatives, social enterprises, youth organisations and community-centres. Such support could include a feasibility study, choice of the legal form, business plan development, financial and fiscal advice, risk assessment, advice on communications, promotion and marketing activities.*

## **Amendment 14**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 12**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) Young people and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps should feel that they belong to a community of individuals and entities committed to enhancing solidarity across Europe. At the same time, participating organisations need support to strengthen their capacities to offer good quality placements to an increasing number of participants. The European Solidarity Corps should support networking activities aimed at strengthening young people and participating organisations' engagement in this community, at fostering a European Solidarity Corps spirit, as well as at encouraging the exchange of useful practices and experience. Those activities should also contribute to raising awareness about the European Solidarity Corps among public and private actors as well as to collect feedback from participants and participating organisations on the implementation of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(12) Young people and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps should feel that they belong to a community of individuals and entities committed to enhancing solidarity across Europe. At the same time, participating organisations need support to strengthen their capacities to offer good quality placements to an increasing number of participants. The European Solidarity Corps should support networking activities aimed at strengthening *the capacity of* young people and participating organisations' engagement in this community, at fostering a European Solidarity Corps spirit, as well as at encouraging the exchange of useful practices and experience. Those activities should also contribute to raising awareness about the European Solidarity Corps among public and private actors as well as to collect feedback from participants and participating organisations on the implementation of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 13

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the European Solidarity Corps, in particular by offering training, language support, insurance, administrative and post-placement support to participants *as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their European Solidarity Corps experience.*

*Amendment*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the European Solidarity Corps, in particular by offering *adequate online and offline* training, language support, insurance, administrative and *pre- and* post-placement support to participants. *This support should be created in collaboration with youth organisations, other civil society organisations in order to tap into their expertise on the field. Post-placement support should also prioritise the continuous civic engagement of the participants in their community, guiding them towards local organisations or projects to engage with after the placement.*

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 14

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) To ensure the impact of European Solidarity Corps placements on the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participants, the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of the placement should be properly identified *and* documented, in accordance with national circumstances and specificities, as recommended in the Council Recommendation of 20 December

*Amendment*

(14) To ensure the impact of European Solidarity Corps placements on the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participants, the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of the placement should be properly identified, documented, *assessed and certified*, in accordance with national circumstances and specificities, as recommended in the Council

2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning<sup>22</sup>.

Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning<sup>22</sup>. *This process should be facilitated by the European Commission which published for this purpose the European Guidelines for validating non-formal and informal learning and a European Inventory on validation.*

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<sup>22</sup> Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning, OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1.

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<sup>22</sup> Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning, OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1.

## Amendment 17

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 15

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) A quality label should be put in place to ensure compliance of the participating organisations with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter, as regards their rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. Obtaining a quality label should be a precondition for participation but should not automatically lead to funding under the European Solidarity Corps.

#### *Amendment*

(15) A quality label ***and monitoring framework respectively for the volunteering and for traineeships and jobs*** should be put in place, ***in partnership with relevant stakeholders***, to ensure compliance of the participating organisations with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter, as regards their rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. Obtaining a quality label should be a precondition for participation but should not automatically lead to funding under the European Solidarity Corps. ***The quality labels should ensure that European Solidarity Corps activities do not substitute for actual jobs or traineeships. The process that leads to attribution of a quality label should not create additional bureaucracy that would dissuade organisations, in particular private businesses in the occupational component, from contributing to the European Solidarity Corps. A quality label should also ensure that the***



*participating organisations comply with the ex-ante conditionality on social inclusion and particularly with its investment priority on the transition from institutional to community-based health and social services set out in the Common Provisions Regulation on the European Structural and Investment Funds, to prevent that EU funding can be used to support (even in an indirect way) segregating health and social infrastructures.*

#### *Justification*

*Since 2013, the European Union has steadily moved towards the deinstitutionalisation of health services, meaning the process replacing long-stay psychiatric hospitals with less isolated community mental health services, with the inclusion of an ex-ante conditionality in the European Structural and Investment Fund, according to which these funds cannot be dedicated to institutional health services. The European Solidarity Corps should include provisions in this sense.*

### **Amendment 18**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Recital 17**

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(17) A European Solidarity Corps Portal should continuously be developed in order to ensure easy access to the European Solidarity Corps and to provide a one-stop shop for both interested individuals and organisations as regards, inter alia, registration, identification and matching of profiles and opportunities, networking and virtual exchanges, online training, language and post-placement support as well as other useful functionalities, which may arise in the future.

#### *Amendment*

(17) A European Solidarity Corps Portal ***in all EU official languages*** should continuously be developed in order to ensure easy access to the European Solidarity Corps and to provide a one-stop shop for both interested individuals and organisations as regards, inter alia, registration, identification and matching of profiles and opportunities, networking and virtual exchanges, ***information on existing solidarity placements or projects and on participating organisations, social partners, relevant Union and national contact points***, online training, language and ***pre and*** post-placement support, ***peer reviews of the placements and direct feedback mechanisms*** as well as other useful functionalities, which may arise in

the future. *Particular attention will be made for the Portal to be fully accessible by all young people regardless of their abilities.*

## **Amendment 19**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 17 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(17a) It is essential for the good functioning of the programme and the timely deployment of the actions that mechanisms are put in place within the European Solidarity Corps work programmes to guarantee that offers are presented to registered young people within a reasonable and relatively predictable amount of time. Periodic information and updates on available placements and actively involved participating organisations should therefore be sent to registered individual in order to stimulate their engagement with the European Solidarity Corps after their registration, while also offering them the opportunity to directly get in touch with the actors involved in the field of solidarity at both national and European level.*

## **Amendment 20**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 17 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(17b) A quality Framework with quality standards for European Solidarity Corps placement offers should be developed. The basis of this should be the existing legislation protecting the rights of workers, trainees and volunteers both at EU and national level, in terms of social*

*protection, minimum income, stability, employment rights, mental and physical health. The definition of the standards should be an inclusive process with the full participation of social partners, youth organisations and volunteering organisations.*

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 18

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. The prime reference amount includes redeployments from the Erasmus+ programme (EUR 197.7 million) and from the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EUR 10 million) for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, and it is complemented by contributions from several Union programmes under different headings, such as *the European Social Fund*, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the LIFE programme *and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development*.

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on

##### *Amendment*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. The prime reference amount includes redeployments from the Erasmus+ programme (EUR 197.7 million), *which should not under any circumstances undermine the funding of mobility projects already earmarked under the Erasmus+ programme*, and from the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EUR 10 million) for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, and it is complemented by contributions from several Union programmes under different headings, such as the Union Civil Protection Mechanism *and* the LIFE programme.

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on

cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

## **Amendment 22**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 18 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(18a) In the forthcoming discussions on the next budgetary planning period, the funding of the European Solidarity Corps should not in any way undermine the funding of the Erasmus+ mobility programme or other fundamental programmes, such as the ESF or the EAFRD;***

## **Amendment 23**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(23a) The target group of young people should be as broad and inclusive as possible, so that young people with different backgrounds, levels of education, skills, capabilities, knowledge and experience participate in the European Solidarity Corps.***

## **Amendment 24**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 25**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps, whether funded by the European Solidarity Corps budget, by another Union programme or by

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps, whether funded by the European Solidarity Corps budget, by another Union programme or by

a different funding source, should receive a quality label provided that the appropriate conditions are fulfilled. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous basis by the implementing structures of the European Solidarity Corps. The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

a different funding source, should **first** receive a quality label provided that the appropriate conditions are fulfilled. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous basis by the implementing structures of the European Solidarity Corps. ***Unnecessary administrative burdens must be avoided in this process.*** The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

## Amendment 25

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 40

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(40) The financial envelope of the European Solidarity Corps under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework should additionally be supplemented by financial contributions from other programmes and headings, which require the amendment of Regulations (EU) No 1293/2013<sup>27</sup>, (EU) No 1303/2013<sup>28</sup>, (EU) No 1305/2013<sup>29</sup>, (EU) No 1306/2013<sup>30</sup> as well as of Decision No 1313/2013/EU<sup>31</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council.

#### *Amendment*

(40) The financial envelope of the European Solidarity Corps under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework should additionally be supplemented by financial contributions from other programmes and headings, which require the amendment of Regulations (EU) No 1293/2013<sup>27</sup>, (EU) No 1303/2013<sup>28</sup>, (EU) No 1305/2013<sup>29</sup>, (EU) No 1306/2013<sup>30</sup> as well as of Decision No 1313/2013/EU<sup>31</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council. ***That financial envelope should be supplemented whilst ensuring that there is no detrimental impact on existing funding provisions for volunteering, social inclusion, employment, but also for mobility, already provided in existing programmes, in particular by Erasmus+ programme. Furthermore, in order to ensure the success and effectiveness of the initiative and in particular to support young people with fewer opportunities, the budget should be increased by the use of appropriate financial means available***

***under the existing MFF-Regulation.  
Investment in the European Solidarity  
Corps should be accompanied by  
increased investment in other  
complementary EU programmes such as  
Erasmus+ and the Youth Employment  
Initiative.***

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<sup>27</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 185).

<sup>28</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p.320).

<sup>29</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 487).

<sup>30</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013,

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<sup>27</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 185).

<sup>28</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p.320).

<sup>29</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 487).

<sup>30</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013,

p. 549).

<sup>31</sup> Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, (OJ L347 20.12.2013, p. 924).

p. 549).

<sup>31</sup> Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, (OJ L347 20.12.2013, p. 924).

## Amendment 26

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 41

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(41) This Regulation should apply from 1 **January** 2018. In order to allow for the prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

#### *Amendment*

(41) This Regulation should apply from 1 **March** 2018. In order to allow for the prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing unmet societal needs to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, **entrepreneurship, in particular** social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture and rural development,

#### *Amendment*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing unmet societal needs to the benefit of a community **and the society as a whole** while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities **which have European and international added value and a transnational dimension**, developed in relation to different areas, such as **formal and non-formal** education and training, **youth work**, employment, **social inclusion, equality and anti-discrimination**, gender equality, social entrepreneurship, citizenship and

provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, reception and integration of third-country nationals, territorial cooperation and cohesion;

democratic participation, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, **civic** agriculture and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, **youth assistance, disabilities, solidarity between generations**, reception and integration of third-country nationals, **including asylum seekers and refugees**, territorial cooperation and cohesion;

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) “**disadvantaged** young people” means individuals who need additional support because **of** disability, educational difficulties, economic obstacles, cultural differences, health problems, social obstacles, geographical obstacles;

##### *Amendment*

(3) “young people **with fewer opportunities**” means individuals who need additional support because **they are in disadvantage compared to their peers since they face one or more exclusion factors or obstacles such as** disability, **learning** difficulties, economic obstacles, social obstacles, cultural differences, **physical and mental** health problems, geographical obstacles;

## Amendment 29

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) “participating organisation” means any public or private entity that has been attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label, which offers a placement to a participant in the European Solidarity Corps or implements other activities in the

##### *Amendment*

(4) “participating organisation” means any public or private entity that has **already** been attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label, which offers a **volunteering, traineeship or job** placement to a participant in the European Solidarity



framework of the European Solidarity Corps;

Corps or implements other activities in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps;

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 5

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) “solidarity placement” means a volunteering activity, traineeship or job in a solidarity-related area, which is organised by a participating organisation and which contributes to addressing key societal challenges while enhancing the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development and the employability of the European Solidarity Corps participant who undertakes it, either in a country other than the country of residence (cross-border) or in the country of residence of the participant (in-country);

##### *Amendment*

(5) “solidarity placement” means a volunteering activity, traineeship or job in a solidarity-related area, which is organised by a participating organisation and which contributes to addressing key societal challenges while enhancing the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development and the employability of the European Solidarity Corps participant who undertakes it, either in a country other than the country of residence (cross-border) or, ***exceptionally for young people with fewer opportunities***, in the country of residence of the participant (in-country);

## Amendment 31

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 6

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) “volunteering” means ***a full-time***<sup>32</sup> unpaid voluntary ***service*** for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational,

##### *Amendment*

(6) “volunteering” means ***an*** unpaid voluntary ***placement within a public authority or a participating organisation in the non-profit sector, either full-time***<sup>32</sup> ***or part-time*** for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the

social and professional development, and which will also contribute to improving their employability;

young volunteer(s) to gain, ***validate and certify*** skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and professional development, and which will also contribute to improving their employability;

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<sup>32</sup> As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.

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<sup>32</sup> As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 8

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from ***two*** to ***twelve*** months, remunerated by the organisation hosting the European Solidarity Corps participant, ***based on a written traineeship agreement, which includes a learning and training component, and undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment;***

#### *Amendment*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from ***three*** to ***six*** months, ***renewable once and for a maximum duration of twelve months within the same participating organisation,*** remunerated by the organisation hosting the European Solidarity Corps participant, ***which includes a learning and training component, is undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to developing competences useful for the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participant, is based on a written agreement concluded at the beginning of the traineeship between the participant and the participating organisation, indicating the educational objectives, the working conditions and duration of the traineeship, the remuneration of the participant and the rights and obligations of the parties under national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the traineeship takes place, and does not substitute jobs;***

## Amendment 33

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 9

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) "job" means a period of work ***from two to twelve*** months, remunerated by the participating organisation employing the European Solidarity Corps participant, ***carried out in a participating country and based on an employment contract in accordance with the national regulatory framework of that participating country;***

*Amendment*

(9) "job" means a period of work ***of at least six*** months, ***based on a written employment contract which respects all the terms and conditions of employment as defined in national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the job is being carried out,*** that is remunerated by the participating organisation employing the European Solidarity Corps participant;

## Amendment 34

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 10

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) "solidarity project" means a local initiative for a period from two to twelve months, which is set up and carried out by groups of at least five European Solidarity Corps participants, with a view to addressing key challenges within their local community while linking them to a broader European perspective;

*Amendment*

(10) "solidarity project" means a local initiative for a period from two to twelve months, which is set up and carried out by groups of at least five European Solidarity Corps participants, with a view to addressing key challenges within their local community while linking them to a broader European perspective. ***The organisation of guidance as well as pre-support and post-support by an intermediary organisation or the local authorities is mandatory for a solidarity action to take place in order to ensure the sustainability of the project and the quality of the services delivered;***

## Amendment 35

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 11

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(11) “quality label” means the certification attributed to a public or private entity or an international organisation willing to provide placements under the European Solidarity Corps following a procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter;

*Amendment*

(11) “quality label” means the certification attributed to a public or private entity or an international organisation ***wishing to become a participating organisation and*** willing to provide placements under the European Solidarity Corps following a procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter ***and at ensuring the quality of services delivered by the participating organisations; a separate quality label for volunteering placements and for traineeship and job placements shall be established in partnership with relevant stakeholders;***

**Amendment 36**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 12**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) “European Solidarity Corps Charter” means the document that sets out the respective rights and responsibilities that all the entities willing to join the European Solidarity Corps must agree to adhere to;

*Amendment*

(12) “European Solidarity Corps Charter” means the document that sets out the respective rights and responsibilities that all the entities willing to join the European Solidarity Corps must agree to adhere to ***in advance and comply with at all times in order to obtain and keep the quality label;***

**Amendment 37**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) “European Solidarity Corps Resource Center” means the additional functions performed by a designated

*Amendment*

(13) “European Solidarity Corps Resource Center” means the additional functions performed by an entity selected

national agency to support the development and implementation of activities under the European Solidarity Corps as well as the identification of the competences acquired by the participants through their placements and projects;

for this purpose, *following a tender allocation process*, to support the development, implementation *and quality* of activities under the European Solidarity Corps as well as the identification of the competences acquired by the participants through their placements and projects;

## Amendment 38

### Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The objective of the European Solidarity Corps is to *enhance* the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities *as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe, supporting communities and responding to societal challenges*.

*Amendment*

1. The objective of the European Solidarity Corps is to *contribute to the strengthening of cohesion and to promote solidarity in Europe, to support communities and swiftly and effectively respond to societal challenges by enhancing* the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities.

## Amendment 39

### Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete, *unmet* societal needs and strengthening communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

*Amendment*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete societal needs and strengthening communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ba) to ensure that the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participants, the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of the placement are properly identified, documented, assessed and certified.*

#### **Amendment 41**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(bb) to increase the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in the Corps by creating adapted formats and promoting tailored and personalised guidance and support measures with a dedicated budget;*

#### **Amendment 42**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(bc) to prevent organisations from turning social responsibility measures into Solidarity Corps measures and, in so doing, from making improper use of funding;*

#### **Amendment 43**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) solidarity placements, ***projects and networking activities***

*Amendment*

(a) solidarity placements, ***in the form of***  
(i) ***volunteering;***  
(ii) ***traineeships or jobs;***  
(iii) ***projects and networking activities;***

**Amendment 44**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) solidarity placements in the form of volunteering, traineeships or jobs, including individual cross-border and in-country placements as well as volunteering teams' placements;

*Amendment*

(a) solidarity placements in the form of volunteering, traineeships or jobs, including individual cross-border ***placements - and, in the case of young people with fewer opportunities,*** in-country placements - as well as volunteering teams' placements;

**Amendment 45**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating ***or willing to participate*** in the European Solidarity Corps.

**Amendment 46**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality of solidarity placements, including training, language support, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, post-placement support as well as the development of a certificate that identifies **and** documents the knowledge, skills and competences acquired during the placement;

*Amendment*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality **and accessibility** of solidarity placements, including **online and offline comprehensive** training, language support, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, **pre and** post-placement support as well as the development of **an official** certificate, **building on the experience of the Youth Pass**, that identifies, documents, **assesses and certifies** the knowledge, skills and competences acquired during the placement; **where relevant, post-placement support to participants interested in setting-up and piloting associations, cooperatives, social enterprises, youth organisations and community-centres;**

**Amendment 47**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) the development and maintenance of **a** quality **label** for entities willing to provide placements for the European Solidarity Corps in order to ensure compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter;

*Amendment*

(b) the development and maintenance of quality **labels** for entities willing to provide **respectively volunteering placements or traineeships and job** placements for the European Solidarity Corps in order to ensure compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter. **A separate accreditation procedure for entities wanting to provide volunteering placements and entities wanting to provide job and traineeship placements with different evaluation criteria, limiting the access to the programme to the actions they are accredited for;**



## Amendment 48

### Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***This action necessitates overcoming the digital divide so as to make the solidarity efforts proposed by the European Solidarity Corps accessible to all young Europeans, in particular those from rural areas.***

## Amendment 49

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(a) the European Social Fund, contributing with EUR 35 000 000 in current prices;***

***deleted***

## Amendment 50

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(d) the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, contributing with EUR 1 800 000 in current prices.***

***deleted***

## Amendment 51

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***The remaining should be financed by the use of all financial means available under the existing MFF-Regulation;***

## Amendment 52

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The financial allocation may also cover expenses pertaining to preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities which are required for the management of the European Solidarity Corps and the achievement of its objectives, in particular, studies, meetings of experts and information and communication actions, expenses linked to the establishment, maintenance and updating of the European Solidarity Corps Portal and the necessary IT support systems, and all other technical and administrative assistance expenses incurred by the Commission for the management of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

4. The financial allocation may also cover expenses pertaining to preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities which are required for the management of the European Solidarity Corps and the achievement of its objectives, in particular, ***tailored and personalized support to participating young people with fewer opportunities***, studies, meetings of experts and information and communication actions, expenses linked to the establishment, maintenance and updating of the European Solidarity Corps Portal and the necessary IT support systems, and all other technical and administrative assistance expenses incurred by the Commission for the management of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 53

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 13 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a European Solidarity Corps participating organisation shall be assessed by the competent implementing body of the European Solidarity Corps in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the requirements of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a European Solidarity Corps participating organisation shall be assessed by the competent implementing body of the European Solidarity Corps in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the requirements of the European Solidarity Corps. ***Any entity which substantially changes its activities shall inform the competent implementing body for reassessment. The application and***

*registration process shall be user-friendly. Administrative burdens shall be avoided. The process that leads to the volunteering component shall be differentiated to the process leading to the attribution of a quality label for the volunteering component, taking into consideration the specific characteristics of each component.*

## **Amendment 54**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall **regularly** monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall **put a monitoring and evaluation framework in place as a priority and use this to** monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

## **Amendment 55**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ea) number of organisations holding the quality label whose solidarity activities have received funding under the European Solidarity Corps.**

## **Amendment 56**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 20 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In each country participating in the European Solidarity Corps, the national agencies designated for the management of

*Amendment*

In each country participating in the European Solidarity Corps, the national agencies designated for the management of

the actions referred to in Chapter III of the Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 in their respective countries shall also act as national agencies in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

the actions referred to in Chapter III of the Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 in their respective countries shall also act as national agencies in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps. ***EURES network organisations as defined in article 7 of the Regulation (EU) No 2016/589 shall assist those national agencies in the management of the solidarity actions in the form of traineeship and job placements and in the relevant quality and support measures in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.***

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	European Solidarity Corps
<b>References</b>	COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.6.2017
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	EMPL 12.6.2017
<b>Associated committees - date announced in plenary</b>	5.10.2017
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Brando Benifei 18.9.2017
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	10.10.2017      4.12.2017
<b>Date adopted</b>	11.1.2018
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+:                    35 -:                    4 0:                    5
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Laura Agea, Brando Benifei, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Enrique Calvet Chambon, David Casa, Martina Dlabajová, Lampros Fountoulis, Elena Gentile, Arne Gericke, Czesław Hoc, Danuta Jazłowiecka, Agnes Jongerius, Rina Ronja Kari, Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Jean Lambert, Jérôme Lavrilleux, Jeroen Lenaers, Verónica Lope Fontagné, Javi López, Thomas Mann, Anthea McIntyre, Joëlle Mélin, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Emilian Pavel, João Pimenta Lopes, Sofia Ribeiro, Claude Rolin, Romana Tomc, Yana Toom, Marita Ulvskog, Tatjana Ždanoka
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Maria Arena, Georges Bach, Deirdre Clune, Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, António Marinho e Pinto, Ivari Padar, Evelyn Regner, Anne Sander, Sven Schulze, Jasenko Selimovic, Helga Stevens, Flavio Zanonato
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Daniele Viotti

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

35	+
ALDE	Enrique Calvet Chambon, Martina Dlabajová, António Marinho e Pinto, Jasenko Selimovic, Yana Toom
PPE	Georges Bach, David Casa, Deirdre Clune, Danuta Jazłowiecka, Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Jérôme Lavrilleux, Jeroen Lenaers, Verónica Lope Fontagné, Thomas Mann, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Sofia Ribeiro, Claude Rolin, Anne Sander, Sven Schulze, Romana Tomc
S&D	Maria Arena, Brando Benifei, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Elena Gentile, Agnes Jongerius, Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, Javi López, Ivari Padar, Emilian Pavel, Evelyn Regner, Marita Ulvskog, Daniele Viotti, Flavio Zanonato
VERTS/ALE	Jean Lambert, Tatjana Ždanoka

4	-
ENF	Joëlle Mélin
GUE/NGL	Rina Ronja Kari, João Pimenta Lopes
NI	Lampros Fountoulis

5	0
ECR	Arne Gericke, Czesław Hoc, Anthea McIntyre, Helga Stevens
EFDD	Laura Agea

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

30.11.2017

## **OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))

Rapporteur: Eleonora Forenza

### **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

The Commission proposal seeks to lay down a legal framework for the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) by amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, and (EU) No 1306/2013, and Decision No 1313/2013/EU; the future solidarity corps is also to encompass the pre-existing European Voluntary Service (EVS). One point to note is that the European Solidarity Corps and the European Voluntary Service are not placed within the same sphere of responsibility, given that the EVS has implemented volunteering programmes in countries outside the EU. The rapporteur therefore considers it important to ensure that activities carried out under the earlier programme are not jettisoned when the two programmes are merged.

Under the European Solidarity Corps programme, 100 000 young people aged from 18 to 30 are to be mobilised by 2020 through projects focusing on conservation and environmental protection or on social cohesion. The Commission proposal is based on the philosophy of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights<sup>1</sup>. The countries that will have access to the programme will be EU Member States and possibly other countries under bilateral agreements, but it should be borne in mind that people are now passing through the EU without a passport of any Member State. That is why the programme needs to include young people even when they do not hold an identity card issued by a Member State, and it should be made easier for them to obtain residence permits and visas.

Solidarity is one of the principles on which the EU is founded; it defines the European project

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/charter/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/charter/index_en.htm) (2012/C 326/02) (OJ C 326, 26.10.2012, p. 391).

and provides the unity necessary to cope with emergencies and current and future crises. When they celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, the European Council, Parliament, and the Commission reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing solidarity, which seeks to promote the overall development of the human sphere<sup>1</sup>.

The rapporteur thinks it vital that young people, who are being harder hit by the economic crisis and hence are more vulnerable, should be encouraged and helped to engage in every type of measure aimed at improving systems and policies within a context of solidarity, since that helps to strengthen the culture of human rights on which the EU is built.

It is important to stress that the rights of women, LGBTQI people, and migrants are human rights and that, as these groups are particularly vulnerable, a gender perspective and a migration perspective need to be incorporated into the programme guidelines.

The Commission is to be applauded for making special provision for disadvantaged young people as regards access to the voluntary training programme, which must not, under any circumstances, replace paid work or those traineeships which are regulated by the relevant local laws and intended to lead to employment contracts. The Commission and the Member States should therefore be called upon to exercise oversight in order to rule out such cases.

The rapporteur finds it worrying that resources already earmarked or committed in the education and culture sectors – Erasmus+, for example – are being transferred to the newly established European Solidarity Corps programme: Erasmust+ has proved to be one of the best means of cementing a European consciousness. Experience acquired through Erasmus+ is culturally and educationally valuable, and that fact could also be turned to account in order to guarantee a high standard of training under the European Solidarity Corps programme.

The rapporteur believes, in addition, that the social partners and all civil society stakeholders have to be involved in the process of making *ex ante* assessment of, and activating, supervising, and monitoring, the programme, without interfering with the voluntary civil protection networks which, whether in the field of environmental protection or because they have been involved in recovery processes in the wake of natural disasters, have contributed to, and collaborated in, Commission programmes of disaster response or environmental protection operations.

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### **Amendment 1**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 4**

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/03/25/rome-declaration/#>



*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities while acquiring useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

*Amendment*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities while acquiring useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers ***and should be in accordance with national labour mobility laws.***

## **Amendment 2**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should be of high quality, in the sense that they should respond to unmet societal needs, contribute to strengthening communities, offer young people the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge and competences, be financially accessible to young people, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions.

*Amendment*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should be of high quality, in the sense that they should respond to unmet societal needs, contribute to strengthening ***local communities and social cohesion,*** offer young people the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge and competences, be financially accessible to young people, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions.

## **Amendment 3**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a single entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other

*Amendment*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a single entry point, ***free from discrimination based on gender or social class,*** for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and

relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member States to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing *Union level* networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).

complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member States to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing *Union-level* networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, *including schemes operating at regional or local level*, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).

#### **Amendment 4**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 7**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the

##### *Amendment*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the

European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the concerned *programmes*. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the beneficiaries should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the *programmes* concerned ***with a view to securing greater involvement of young people, civil society, and existing volunteering schemes in Member States***. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the beneficiaries should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

## Amendment 5

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 18

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. ***The prime reference amount includes redeployments from the Erasmus+ programme (EUR 197.7 million) and from the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EUR 10 million) for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, and it is complemented by contributions from several Union programmes under different headings, such as the European Social Fund, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the LIFE programme and the European***

*Amendment*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. ***With the exception of redeployments, the prime reference amount should be financed through the use of all financial means available under Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013<sup>23a</sup>.***

***Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.***

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

<sup>23a</sup> ***Council Regulation (EU) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 (OJ L 347 20.12.2013, p. 884).***

**Amendment 6**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Recital 18 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(18a) Where the actions of the European Solidarity Corps are not directly related to financial means available under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013, the Commission should ensure that new additional funding is available.***

*Justification*

*The actions undertaken by the European Solidarity Corps must be related with the funds and programmes through which they are financed; for those actions which are not, the Commission must ensure there are additional sources of funding through which to implement those actions.*

**Amendment 7**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Recital 20**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, ***provisions should be made to allow*** participating countries to make additional national

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, ***Member States, and, where applicable, competent sub-state bodies with their own exclusive***

funding available in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps.

*legislative powers, as well as* participating countries, *should adopt provisions* to make additional national, *regional and local* funding available in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 24

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones. Special measures should therefore be put in place to promote social inclusion, the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the European Solidarity Corps. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community,

##### *Amendment*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones. Special measures should therefore be put in place to promote social inclusion, the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the **Member States and the** participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the European Solidarity Corps. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community,

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 25

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps, whether funded by the European Solidarity Corps budget, by another Union programme or by a different funding source, should receive a quality label provided that the appropriate conditions are fulfilled. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous basis by the implementing structures of the European Solidarity Corps. The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

*Amendment*

*(Does not affect the English version.)*

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 28

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured at European, national and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely on all the implementing bodies of the European Solidarity Corps, ***including, when relevant, with the support of other key stakeholders.***

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured ***by means of website portals*** at European, national, ***regional*** and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities, should rely on all the implementing bodies of the European Solidarity Corps, ***and on Union programmes already associated with the European Solidarity Corps.***

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 29

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(29) In order to ensure greater efficiency in communication to the public at large and stronger synergies between the communication activities undertaken at the initiative of the Commission, the resources allocated to communication under this Regulation should also contribute to covering the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, ***provided that these are*** related to the general ***objective*** of this Regulation.

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(29) In order to ensure greater efficiency in communication to the public at large and stronger synergies between the communication activities undertaken at the initiative of the Commission, the resources allocated to communication under this Regulation should also contribute to covering the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, ***such as social integration, cohesion, environmental protection and climate change mitigation, as*** related to the general objective of this Regulation ***and be consistent with the objectives of the funding sources of the European Solidarity Corps.***

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 37

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(37) For reasons of efficiency and effectiveness, the committee established under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should also assist the Commission in the implementation of this Regulation. With respect to the European Solidarity Corps, that committee should convene in a specific configuration and its mandate should be aligned in order to fulfil this new role. It should be for the participating countries to appoint the relevant representatives for those meetings, taking into account the volunteering and occupational dimensions of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(37) For reasons of efficiency and effectiveness, the committee established under Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 should also assist the Commission in the implementation of this Regulation. With respect to the European Solidarity Corps, that committee should convene in a specific configuration and its mandate should be aligned in order to fulfil this new role. It should be for the ***Member States and*** participating countries to appoint the relevant representatives for those meetings, taking into account the volunteering and occupational dimensions of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 13

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 40**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(40) The financial envelope of the European Solidarity Corps under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework should additionally be supplemented by financial contributions from other programmes and headings, which require the amendment of Regulations (EU) No 1293/2013<sup>27</sup>, (EU) No 1303/2013<sup>28</sup>, (EU) No 1305/2013<sup>29</sup>, (EU) No 1306/2013<sup>30</sup> as well as of Decision No 1313/2013/EU<sup>31</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council.**

*deleted*

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<sup>27</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 185).

<sup>28</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p.320).

<sup>29</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Council



*Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 487).*

<sup>30</sup> *Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 549).*

<sup>31</sup> *Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, (OJ L347 20.12.2013, p. 924).*

## Amendment 14

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing unmet societal needs to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, entrepreneurship, in particular social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, reception and integration of third-country nationals,

##### *Amendment*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing unmet societal needs to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and **formative** development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, **disability**, reception and integration of third-country nationals as well as territorial cooperation

territorial cooperation and cohesion;

and cohesion;

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) “disadvantaged young people” means individuals who need additional support because of disability, educational difficulties, economic obstacles, cultural differences, health problems, social obstacles, geographical obstacles;

##### *Amendment*

(3) “disadvantaged young people” means individuals who need additional support because of disability, educational **or integration** difficulties, economic obstacles, cultural differences, health problems, social obstacles, geographical obstacles;

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 6

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) “volunteering” means a full-time<sup>32</sup> unpaid voluntary service for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and **professional** development, and **which** will also **contribute to improving** their employability;

##### *Amendment*

(6) “volunteering” means a full-time<sup>32</sup> unpaid voluntary service for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and **formative** development, and **hence** will also **improve** their **potential** employability;

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<sup>32</sup> As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.

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<sup>32</sup> As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.

## Amendment 17

### Proposal for a regulation

## Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 7

### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) “volunteering teams’ placements” means placements allowing teams of European Solidarity Corps participants from different participating countries to volunteer together for a common objective, by carrying out manual or intellectual tasks, on a worthwhile community service project for a period between two weeks and two months;

### *Amendment*

(7) “volunteering teams’ placements” means placements allowing teams of European Solidarity Corps participants from different ***Member States and other*** participating countries to volunteer together for a common objective, by carrying out manual or intellectual tasks, on a worthwhile community service project for a period between two weeks and two months;

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 14

### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) "European Solidarity Corps Portal" means a web-based tool that provides relevant online services to the European Solidarity Corps participants and participating organisations, including providing information about the European Solidarity Corps, registering participants, searching for participants for placements, advertising and searching for placements, searching for potential project partners, managing contacts and offers for placements and projects, training, communication and networking activities, informing and notifying about opportunities, as well as other relevant developments related to the European Solidarity Corps.

### *Amendment*

(14) "European Solidarity Corps Portal" means a web-based tool that provides relevant online services to the European Solidarity Corps participants and participating organisations, including providing information about the European Solidarity Corps, registering participants, ***managing quality labels***, searching for participants for placements, advertising and searching for placements, searching for potential project partners, managing contacts and offers for placements and projects, training, communication and networking activities, informing and notifying about opportunities ***and disseminating the results of solidarity actions***, as well as other relevant developments related to the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 3 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The objective of the European Solidarity Corps is to enhance the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe, supporting communities and responding to *societal* challenges.

*Amendment*

The objective of the European Solidarity Corps is to enhance the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe, supporting communities and responding to *epoch-making* challenges, *especially those related to greater social integration, education and employment, as well as environmental protection and climate change mitigation.*

**Amendment 20**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 5 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Commission *and the* participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, vocational training and youth on the one hand and actions under the European Solidarity Corps on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

*Amendment*

2. The Commission, *the Member States and other* participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, vocational training and youth, *without prejudice to the legislative powers of sub-state authorities*, on the one hand, and actions under the European Solidarity Corps on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

**Amendment 21**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 6 – paragraph 1 – introductory part**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The European Solidarity Corps shall pursue its objectives through the following types of actions:

*Amendment*

The European Solidarity Corps shall pursue its objectives through the following types of actions *within the framework of the objectives of its funding sources*:

## Justification

Given that funding for the European Solidarity Corps is coming from Erasmus+, EaSI, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, LIFE, the ESF and the EAFRD, the objectives of the Corps must be related with those pursued under the funds through which it is financed.

### Amendment 22

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) solidarity placements, projects and networking activities

*Amendment*

(a) solidarity placements, projects and networking activities **concerning civil society**;

### Amendment 23

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps, **which shall be entirely consistent with, and complement, proven experience on the ground at local and regional level, and, in particular, good volunteering and civil protection practice.**

### Amendment 24

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality of solidarity placements, including training, language support, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, post-placement support as well as the development of a certificate that identifies and documents the knowledge, skills and competences

*Amendment*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the **high** quality of solidarity placements, including **a comprehensive training programme**, language support, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, post-placement support as well as the development of a certificate that identifies

acquired during the placement;

and documents the knowledge, skills and competences acquired during the placement;

## **Amendment 25**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) the establishment, maintenance and updating of the European Solidarity Corps Portal and other relevant online services as well as the necessary IT support systems and web-based tools.

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) the establishment, maintenance and updating of the European Solidarity Corps Portal, ***including participants' field reports***, and other relevant online services, ***primarily to disseminate the aims of this Regulation and publicise its accessibility***, as well as the necessary IT support systems and web-based tools.

## **Amendment 26**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 9 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 includes a financial envelope of EUR 294 200 000<sup>33</sup> in current prices supplemented by contributions from:***

***(a) the European Social Fund, contributing with EUR 35 000 000 in current prices;***

***(b) the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, contributing with EUR 6 000 000 in current prices;***

***(c) the LIFE programme, contributing with EUR 4 500 000 in current prices;***

***(d) the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, contributing with EUR 1 800 000 in current prices.***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

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<sup>33</sup> ***This financial envelope constitutes the prime reference amount within the***

*meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement (2013/C 373/01) between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management.*

*Justification*

*We believe that new initiatives should not be financed from relocation from existing programmes and funds; they should rather be financed from all other resources available under the existing MFF.*

**Amendment 27**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 9 – paragraph 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

6. A participating country *may* make national funding available to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the European Solidarity Corps, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures.

*Amendment*

6. A participating country ***shall, in accordance with its resources,*** make national funding ***available*** to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the European Solidarity Corps, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures. ***Member States may make new additional funding available.***

**Amendment 28**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 11 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Member States shall participate in the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

1. The Member States shall participate in the European Solidarity Corps. ***In Member States where powers relating to the performance of European Solidarity Corps actions have been transferred to sub-state authorities, mechanisms shall be developed, through national agencies***

*acting as implementing bodies, to enable the direct participation of those authorities.*

## **Amendment 29**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. When implementing this Regulation, the Commission and the participating countries shall ensure that particular efforts are made to promote social inclusion, in particular for the participation of disadvantaged young people.

*Amendment*

2. When implementing this Regulation, ***the Member States and other*** participating countries shall ensure that particular efforts are made to promote social inclusion, in particular for the participation of disadvantaged ***and more vulnerable*** young people, ***and shall, to that end adopt a gender-sensitive approach.***

## **Amendment 30**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open to the participation of public or private entities, or international organisations, provided that they have received a European Solidarity Corps quality label.

*Amendment*

1. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open to the participation of public or private entities, or international organisations, provided that they have received a European Solidarity Corps quality label ***in line with the objectives of this Regulation.***

## **Amendment 31**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a European Solidarity Corps participating organisation shall be

*Amendment*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a European Solidarity Corps participating organisation shall be



assessed by the competent implementing body of the European Solidarity Corps in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the requirements of the European Solidarity Corps.

assessed by the competent implementing body of the European Solidarity Corps in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the requirements **and objectives** of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed periodically and may be revoked.

*Amendment*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed **at least every two years, without creating excessive administrative burdens**, and may be revoked.

## Amendment 33

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The European Solidarity Corps quality label shall not automatically lead to funding under the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

5. The European Solidarity Corps quality label shall not automatically lead to funding under the European Solidarity Corps, **but shall be an essential prerequisite for such funding**.

## Amendment 34

### Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Any public or private entity established in a participating country as well as international organisations carrying out solidarity activities in **the** participating countries may apply for funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of

*Amendment*

Any public or private entity established in a **Member State or other** participating country as well as international organisations carrying out solidarity activities in **a Member State or other** participating countries may apply for

the activities referred to in point (a) of Article 7(1), a quality label shall be obtained by the participating organisation as a pre-condition for receiving funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the solidarity projects referred to in point (b) of Article 7(1), natural persons may also apply for funding on behalf of informal groups of European Solidarity Corps participants.

funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the activities referred to in point (a) of Article 7(1), a quality label shall be obtained by the participating organisation as a pre-condition for receiving funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the solidarity projects referred to in point (b) of Article 7(1), natural persons may also apply for funding on behalf of informal groups of European Solidarity Corps participants.

### **Amendment 35**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 1**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall regularly monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

##### *Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the ***Member States and other*** participating countries, shall regularly monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

### **Amendment 36**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point a**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) number of participants in volunteering placements (in-country and cross-border);

##### *Amendment*

(a) number of participants in volunteering placements, ***including disadvantaged young people*** (in-country and cross-border);

### **Amendment 37**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point b**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) number of participants in

##### *Amendment*

(b) number of participants in

traineeship placements (in-country and cross-border);

traineeship placements, **including disadvantaged young people** (in-country and cross-border);

## Amendment 38

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) number of participants in job placements (in-country and cross-border);

(c) number of participants in job placements, **including disadvantaged young people** (in-country and cross-border);

## Amendment 39

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) number of participants in solidarity projects;

(d) number of participants in solidarity projects, **including disadvantaged young people**;

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point d a(new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(da) number of solidarity projects;**

## Amendment 41

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 16 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall ensure the dissemination of information,

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the **Member States and other** participating countries, shall ensure the

publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

dissemination of information, publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps **and to everything relating to registration and the accessibility of the procedures.**

## Amendment 42

### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 2

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The national agencies referred to in Article 20 shall develop a consistent policy with regard to effective outreach as well as dissemination and exploitation of results of activities supported under the actions they manage, shall assist the Commission in the general task of disseminating information concerning the European Solidarity Corps, including information in respect of actions managed at national and Union level, and their results, and shall inform relevant target groups about the initiatives undertaken in their country.

#### *Amendment*

2. The national agencies referred to in Article 20 shall develop a consistent policy **and a suitable strategy** with regard to effective outreach as well as dissemination and exploitation of results of activities supported under the actions they manage, shall assist the Commission in the general task of disseminating information concerning the European Solidarity Corps, including information in respect of actions managed at national and Union level, and their results, and shall inform relevant target groups about the initiatives undertaken in their country.

## Amendment 43

### Proposal for a regulation Article 17 – paragraph 1 – point b

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) the national agencies **at national level** in the participating countries.

#### *Amendment*

(b) the national agencies **appointed** in the **Member States and other** participating countries.

#### *Justification*

*The differing situation on the ground in Member States where powers have been transferred to a sub-state level with own legislative powers must be factored into the equation.*

## Amendment 44

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 18 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In each country participating in the European Solidarity Corps, the national authorities designated for the management of actions referred to in Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 shall also act as national authorities in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps. Paragraphs 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of Article 27 of that Regulation shall apply to the European Solidarity Corps by analogy. For countries referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 11 of this Regulation, where a national authority is not identified for that country, it shall be designated in accordance with paragraphs 2 to 6 and 8 to 15 of Article 27 of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013.

*Amendment*

In each country participating in the European Solidarity Corps, the national authorities designated for the management of actions referred to in Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 shall also act as national authorities in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps. ***In Member States where powers relating to that Chapter have been transferred to sub-state authorities with their own exclusive legislative powers, mechanisms shall be developed, through national agencies acting as implementing bodies, to enable the direct participation of those authorities.*** Paragraphs 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of Article 27 of that Regulation shall apply to the European Solidarity Corps by analogy. For countries referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 11 of this Regulation, where a national authority is not identified for that country, it shall be designated in accordance with paragraphs 2 to 6 and 8 to 15 of Article 27 of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013.

**Amendment 45**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 20 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In each country participating in the European Solidarity Corps, the national agencies designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of the Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 in their respective countries shall also act as national agencies in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

In each ***Member State and other*** country participating in the European Solidarity Corps, the national agencies designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of the Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 in their respective countries shall also act as national agencies in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps. ***In Member States where powers relating to that Chapter have been transferred to sub-state authorities with their own exclusive legislative powers,***

*mechanisms shall be developed, through national agencies acting as implementing bodies, to enable the direct participation of those authorities.*

## **Amendment 46**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. *In order to implement this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt work programmes by way of implementing acts.* Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission *is empowered to* adopt *delegated acts in accordance with Article 25a concerning the adoption of work programmes.* Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

*Justification*

*Parliament and the Council should be consulted about the implementing measures for this regulation.*

## **Amendment 47**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. *Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 25(2).*

*Amendment*

*deleted*

*Justification*

*Parliament and the Council should be consulted about the implementing measures for this regulation.*

**Amendment 48**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 25**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 25**

**deleted**

**Committee procedure**

**1. The Commission shall be assisted by the committee established by Article 36 of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.**

**2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.**

*Justification*

*Parliament and the Council should be consulted about the implementing measures for this regulation.*

**Amendment 49**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 25 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 25a**

**Exercise of the delegation**

**1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.**

**2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 24 shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from [date of entry into force of this**

*Regulation]. The Commission shall draw up a report in respect of the delegation of power not later than nine months before the end of the two-year period. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for periods of identical duration, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months before the end of each period.*

*3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 24 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.*

*4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016.*

*5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.*

*6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 24 shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.*



*Justification*

*Parliament and the Council should be consulted about the implementing measures for this regulation.*

**Amendment 50**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 26**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*[...]*

*deleted*

**Amendment 51**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 27**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*Article 27*

*deleted*

*Amendment to Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013*

*In Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, the following paragraph is added:*

*‘3. A maximum of EUR 3 000 000 in current prices from the sub-programme for Environment corresponding to the priority area Environment Governance and Information and of EUR 1 500 000 in current prices from the sub-programme for Climate Action corresponding to the priority area Climate Governance and Information shall be allocated to finance projects within the meaning of Article 17(4) implemented by the European Solidarity Corps in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the priority areas within the meaning of Articles 9 and 13. This allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the*

*exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.*

## **Amendment 52**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 28**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **Article 28**

*deleted*

*Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013*

*Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 is amended as follows:*

*1. Article 58(1) is amended as follows:*

*(a) the first subparagraph is replaced by the following:*

*‘At the initiative of the Commission, the ESI Funds may support the preparatory, monitoring, administrative and technical assistance, evaluation, audit and control measures necessary for implementing this Regulation and support actions pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX as referred to in the third subparagraph in so far as those actions pursue the aim of economic, social and territorial cohesion.*

*‘(m) actions financed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX on the European Solidarity Corps in order to enhance the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of young people, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market.*

*‘EUR 35 000 000 in current prices of the amount allocated to technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission shall be allocated to the European Solidarity Corps to support its actions, in accordance with point (a) of article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX. The allocation shall be implemented solely in*

*accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Fund-specific Regulations.*

#### **Amendment 53**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 29**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

##### **Article 29**

*deleted*

*Amendment to Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013*

*In Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, the following subparagraph is added under the first subparagraph:*

*‘The EAFRD may also finance actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps with an amount of EUR 1 800 000 in current prices in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities for rural development. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013.*

#### **Amendment 54**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 30**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

##### **Article 30**

*deleted*

*Amendment to Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013*

*In Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013, the following point (j) is*

*added:*

***‘(j) actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities in the area of agriculture and rural development and notably the actions referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Fund-specific Regulations.***

## **Amendment 55**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 31**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **Article 31**

*deleted*

#### **Amendment to Decision No 1313/2013/EU**

***In Article 19(1) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU, the following subparagraph is added after the second subparagraph:***

***‘EUR 6 000 000 in current prices from the financial envelope derived from Heading 3 "Security and Citizenship" shall be allocated to finance actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities in the area of civil protection. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Decision No 1313/2013/EU.’***

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	European Solidarity Corps
<b>References</b>	COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.6.2017
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	ENVI 12.6.2017
<b>Associated committees - date announced in plenary</b>	5.10.2017
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Eleonora Forenza 28.6.2017
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	7.9.2017
<b>Date adopted</b>	28.11.2017
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 55 –: 6 0: 1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Margrete Auken, Pilar Ayuso, Catherine Bearder, Ivo Belet, Simona Bonafè, Biljana Borzan, Paul Brannen, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nessa Childers, Birgit Collin-Langen, Miriam Dalli, Seb Dance, Angélique Delahaye, Mark Demesmaeker, Stefan Eck, Bas Eickhout, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Francesc Gambús, Elisabetta Gardini, Arne Gericke, Jens Gieseke, Julie Girling, Sylvie Goddyn, Françoise Grossetête, Andrzej Grzyb, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Karin Kadenbach, Kateřina Konečná, Giovanni La Via, Jo Leinen, Peter Liese, Norbert Lins, Susanne Melior, Rory Palmer, Gilles Pargneaux, Bolesław G. Piecha, Pavel Poc, John Procter, Julia Reid, Frédérique Ries, Daciana Octavia Sârbu, Renate Sommer, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Ivica Tolić, Adina-Ioana Vălean
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Nicola Caputo, Herbert Dorfmann, Christofer Fjellner, Eleonora Forenza, Jan Huitema, Peter Jahr, Gesine Meissner, Ulrike Müller, Younous Omarjee, Christel Schaldemose, Bart Staes, Keith Taylor, Tiemo Wölken
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Richard Ashworth, Pál Csáky, Marco Valli, Tomáš Zdechovský

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

55	+
ALDE	Catherine Bearder, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Gesine Meissner, Ulrike Müller, Frédérique Ries
ECR	Arne Gericke, Bolesław G. Piecha
EFDD	Marco Valli
GUE/NGL	Stefan Eck, Eleonora Forenza, Kateřina Konečná, Younous Omarjee
PPE	Pilar Ayuso, Ivo Belet, Birgit Collin-Langen, Pál Csáky, Angélique Delahaye, Herbert Dorfmann, Christofer Fjellner, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Francesc Gambús, Elisabetta Gardini, Jens Gieseke, Françoise Grossetête, Andrzej Grzyb, Peter Jahr, Giovanni La Via, Peter Liese, Norbert Lins, Renate Sommer, Ivica Tolić, Adina-Ioana Vălean, Tomáš Zdechovský
S&D	Simona Bonafè, Biljana Borzan, Paul Brannen, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nicola Caputo, Nessa Childers, Miriam Dalli, Seb Dance, Karin Kadenbach, Jo Leinen, Susanne Melior, Rory Palmer, Gilles Pargneaux, Pavel Poc, Christel Schaldemose, Daciana Octavia Sârbu, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Tiemo Wölken
Verts/ALE	Margrete Auken, Bas Eickhout, Bart Staes, Keith Taylor

6	-
ECR	Richard Ashworth, Mark Demesmaeker, Julie Girling, John Procter
EFDD	Julia Reid
ENF	Sylvie Goddyn

1	0
ALDE	Jan Huitema

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

5.12.2017

## **OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS**

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))

Rapporteur: Tiemo Wölken

### **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

The rapporteur welcomes the proposal to set up a European Solidarity Corps (ESC) put forward by the European Commission on 30 May 2017. The EU is built on solidarity: solidarity between its citizens, solidarity across borders between its Member States, and solidarity in its actions inside and outside the Union. It is a shared value that is strongly felt within the EU. It is part of the core fabric that makes the European dream inspire generation after generation, creating common values across the Union.

The present ESC proposal provides a dedicated legal base for an initiative that gives young people across the EU the opportunity to act on their aspirations for a better Union and hence push the European project forward while developing their own skills.

However, the rapporteur is of the strong conviction that the Corps deserves its own, dedicated budget. For the period 2018-2020, the Commission proposes funding the ESC by three quarters through redeploying funds from ongoing programmes within their existing financial allocation: EUR 197,7 million is to be taken from Erasmus+ and EUR 10 million from the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EaSI), as well as EUR 47,3 million from programmes in other headings (of which EUR 35 million from the European Social Fund (ESF), EUR 6 million from the Civil Protection Mechanism, EUR 4,5 million from the LIFE programme, and EUR 1,8 million from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)). Only one fourth of the overall ESC envelope would be ‘fresh’ funding.

The rapporteur strongly rejects this set-up that funds the ESC to a large extent at the expense of key activities of other significant EU programmes, which have their own valuable missions, objectives and matching financial envelope, as budgeted for from the start of the

current MFF. What may have been acceptable in a first pilot phase of the ESC to get the activities up and running fast, cannot be a medium- or long-term solution for financing an important programme that merits not only its own legal base, but also an ambitious envelope of fresh money.

New political priorities during the current MFF require fresh resources, through the mobilisation of the flexibility provisions and special instruments included in the MFF regulation, after available margins have been exhausted. If the ESC is indeed a new priority initiative, as stated in the Joint Declaration on the EU's legislative priorities for 2017, it is only logical that it should receive fresh funding so that it may achieve its objectives without harming ongoing EU-funded programmes and projects.

The rapporteur is of the opinion that the flexibility tools provided by the current MFF, and boosted as part of the mid-term revision, such as the Flexibility Instrument and the Global Margin for Commitments, should be used to fund the ESC in the period 2018-2020. Redeployment is only acceptable where transfer of funds has been foreseen from the start of the programme, as in the case of the funding for the intra-EU activities of the European Voluntary Service under Erasmus+. By deleting the contributions of EaSI, the ESF, civil protection, LIFE and the EARD to the ESC and returning these amounts to the budget lines from which they were taken, in line with the original financial programming, the rapporteur sends a clear signal for the financing of this initiative.

LIFE, which tackles environmental and climate challenges, has delivered substantial improvements to the state of the environment in the EU. In order to continue fighting climate change and to be aligned with the Paris agreement reached during the COP21, LIFE's funding should not be redeployed for other purposes.

The EAFRD and the ESF, as part of the EU's structural and investment funds (ESIF), contribute to strengthening the economic, social and territorial cohesion of the Union. The aim of the ESIF is to reduce disparities between the development levels of the various regions. The ESC should not be financed by shifting funds away from cohesion policy.

Through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the Union and Member States coordinate their systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. Bearing in mind the significant increase of the number, severity and complexity of natural and man-made disasters in recent years, including as a result of climate change, a joint and integrated approach to disaster management is increasingly important. In this context, the rapporteur finds it unacceptable to redeploy civil protection funds for the ESC.

Further, the rapporteur proposes to strengthen the provisions regarding monitoring and evaluation of the ESC.

Finally, the rapporteur strongly encourages the Commission to prepare a clear and ambitious proposal for implementing and funding the ESC from 2021, as promised.

## **Amendment 1**



**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 18**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. The *prime reference* amount *includes redeployments from* the Erasmus+ programme (*EUR 197.7 million*) *and from the Employment and Social Innovation programme (EUR 10 million)* for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, *and it is complemented by contributions from several Union programmes under different headings, such as the European Social Fund, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the LIFE programme and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.*

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

**Amendment 2**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 38 a (new)**

*Amendment*

(18) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope *of EUR 341,5 million in current prices* for the period 2018-2020 which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of Point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>23</sup>, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure. The *financial envelope should include the amount of EUR 197,7 million that was originally earmarked to finance the intra-Union European Voluntary Service activities under* the Erasmus+ Programme for the financial years 2018, 2019 and 2020, *given that those activities are to be transferred to the European Solidarity Corps Programme. Considering the need to avoid any negative impact on the financing of existing multiannual programmes, the remaining amount for the financing of the European Solidarity Corps should be drawn exclusively from unallocated margins under the multiannual financial framework ceilings.*

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<sup>23</sup> Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(38a) In its resolution of 2 February 2017 on the implementation of the Erasmus+ Regulation<sup>1a</sup>, the European Parliament encouraged the Commission and the Member States to make a budgetary effort to accommodate the new initiative of the European Solidarity Corps without underfunding other current and priority programmes.***

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<sup>1a</sup> *Texts adopted, P8\_TA(2017)0018.*

### **Amendment 3**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 38 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(38b) In its resolution of 5 July 2017 on the mandate for the trilogue on the 2018 draft budget<sup>1a</sup>, the European Parliament expressed its concern that, despite its warnings, the legislative proposal adopted on 30 May 2017 envisages that three fourths of the European Solidarity Corps budget would be financed by redeployments from existing programmes, and mainly from Erasmus+ (EUR 197,7million) and reiterated that any new political commitments should be financed with new appropriations and not redeployments from existing programmes.***

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<sup>1a</sup>*Texts adopted, P8\_TA-PROV(2017)0302.*

### **Amendment 4**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 38 c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(38c) *Separate funding and budgetary allocations should be guaranteed for the European Solidarity Corps and should not result in a reduction in the budget for other policies promoting youth, education, training, employment or solidarity. Optimal and transparent use of financial resources should be ensured.***

## **Amendment 5**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 39**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(39) The financial envelope of the European Solidarity Corps under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework **also** builds on funds redeployed from the Erasmus+ programme. These funds should **mainly** come from appropriations aimed at financing European Voluntary Service activities that would fall under the scope of the volunteering placements supported under this Regulation. ***In addition, some appropriations of the Student Loan Guarantee Facility, which are unlikely to be absorbed under Erasmus+, should be redeployed with a view to providing adequate co-financing to the operating costs of national agencies and be brought more in line with the absorption capacity of this action.***

(39) The financial envelope of the European Solidarity Corps under Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework builds on funds redeployed from the Erasmus+ programme. These funds should **exclusively** come from appropriations aimed at financing European Voluntary Service activities that would fall under the scope of the volunteering placements supported under this Regulation.

## **Amendment 6**

### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 40**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(40) *The financial envelope of the European Solidarity Corps under***

***deleted***

***Heading 1a of the Multiannual Financial Framework should additionally be supplemented by financial contributions from other programmes and headings, which require the amendment of Regulations (EU) No 1293/2013<sup>27</sup>, (EU) No 1303/2013<sup>28</sup>, (EU) No 1305/2013<sup>29</sup>, (EU) No 1306/2013<sup>30</sup> as well as of Decision No 1313/2013/EU<sup>31</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council.***

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***<sup>27</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 185).***

***<sup>28</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p.320).***

***<sup>29</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 487).***

***<sup>30</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the***

*common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 549).*

*<sup>31</sup> Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, (OJ L347 20.12.2013, p. 924).*

## **Amendment 7**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 6**

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) “volunteering” means a full-time<sup>32</sup> unpaid voluntary service for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and professional development, and which will also contribute to improving their employability;

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<sup>32</sup> As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.

#### *Amendment*

(6) “volunteering” means a full-time<sup>32</sup> unpaid voluntary service for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of *non-profit* organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social and professional development, and which will also contribute to improving their employability;

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<sup>32</sup> As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.

#### *Justification*

*Any volunteering activities not at non-profit organisations must be excluded explicitly. Any other approach would conflict with the national volunteering legislation of some Member States, for example, Belgium and France.*

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their skills and competences for personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers;

*Amendment*

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their **knowledge**, skills and competences for personal, educational, social, civic, **cultural** and professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers;

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(da) the setting up of information campaigns to raise awareness of the actions of the European Solidarity Corps.**

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 includes a financial envelope of EUR **294 200 000**<sup>33</sup> in current prices **supplemented by contributions from:**

*Amendment*

2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 includes a financial envelope of EUR **197 700 000** in current prices, **which corresponds to the amount originally earmarked to finance the intra-Union European Voluntary Service activities under the Erasmus+ Programme. The remaining amount of**

*EUR 143 800 000 for the financing of the European Solidarity Corps shall be drawn exclusively from unallocated margins under the multiannual financial framework ceilings.*

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<sup>33</sup> *This financial envelope constitutes the prime reference amount within the meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement (2013/C 373/01) between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management.*

#### **Amendment 11**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(a) the European Social Fund, contributing with EUR 35 000 000 in current prices;*

*deleted*

#### **Amendment 12**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(b) the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, contributing with EUR 6 000 000 in current prices;*

*deleted*

#### **Amendment 13**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) *the LIFE programme, contributing with EUR 4 500 000 in current prices;*

*deleted*

#### **Amendment 14**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) *the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, contributing with EUR 1 800 000 in current prices.*

*deleted*

#### **Amendment 15**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***2 a. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the European Parliament and the Council within the limits of the multiannual financial framework.***

#### **Amendment 16**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

5. If necessary, appropriations may be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover similar expenses, in order to enable the management of actions not yet completed by 31 December 2020.

5. If necessary, ***payment*** appropriations may be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover similar expenses, in order to enable the management of actions not yet completed by 31 December 2020.

#### **Amendment 17**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**



## Article 13 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a European Solidarity Corps participating organisation shall be assessed by the competent implementing body of the European Solidarity Corps in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the requirements *of* the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

2. An application from an eligible entity to become a European Solidarity Corps participating organisation shall be assessed by the competent implementing body of the European Solidarity Corps in order to ascertain that its activities adhere to the ***principles and*** requirements ***set out in*** the European Solidarity Corps ***Charter***.

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed ***periodically*** and may be revoked.

*Amendment*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed ***regularly and at least every two years***, and may be revoked ***as soon as the activities of that entity no longer adhere to the principles and requirements set out in the European Solidarity Corps Charter***.

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***3a. Any entity which has received the European Solidarity Corps quality label shall be entered into the database of participating organisations which is hosted on the European Youth Portal, which all young Europeans can access.***

*Justification*

*At the moment, the accredited EVS structures are incorporated into the database of EVS*

*organisations on the European Youth Portal. That enables young people to read up on the entities. Therefore it is important that the same is done for the ESC.*

## **Amendment 20**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall regularly monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall regularly monitor **and report on** the performance **and results** of the European Solidarity Corps **as well as adherence to its objectives, specifically its contribution to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe.**

## **Amendment 21**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) number of participants in volunteering placements (in-country and cross-border);

*Amendment*

(a) number **and profile** of participants in volunteering placements (in-country and cross-border);

## **Amendment 22**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) number of participants in traineeship placements (in-country and cross-border);

*Amendment*

(b) number **and profile** of participants in traineeship placements (in-country and cross-border);

## **Amendment 23**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) number of participants in job placements (in-country and cross-border);

(c) number **and profile** of participants in job placements (in-country and cross-border);

#### **Amendment 24**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) number of participants in solidarity projects;

(d) number **and profile** of participants in solidarity projects;

#### **Amendment 25**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(e a) the degree of satisfaction of participants and participating organisations with regard to the quality of the placements, training, language support, administrative support, insurance and post-placement support.***

#### **Amendment 26**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(e b) employment rate of former participants.***

#### *Justification*

*We must not forget that one of the main European Solidarity Corps objectives is to make young people more employable and to ease their transition into the labour market.*

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. In **2020** the Commission shall publish a report taking stock of the progress made towards achieving its results, including the target of offering 100 000 young people opportunities under the European Solidarity Corps by 2020 (covering all the placements and projects referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 7(1)).

*Amendment*

3. In **2019** the Commission shall publish a report ***on the results obtained and the qualitative and quantitative aspects of programme implementation***, taking stock of the progress made towards achieving its results, including the target of offering 100 000 young people opportunities under the European Solidarity Corps by 2020 (covering all the placements and projects referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 7(1)), ***as well as the cost-effectiveness of the programme, and submit it to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the Regions.***

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. ***Four years after the date of application of this Regulation*** the Commission shall carry out an independent evaluation of this Regulation and present a report on the main findings to the European Parliament, the Council, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee.

*Amendment*

4. The Commission shall carry out an independent *ex post* evaluation of this Regulation ***to assess the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the programme against the programme objectives*** and ***shall, no later than 30 June 2021***, present a report on the main findings, ***including recommendations for the future of the programme***, to the European Parliament, the Council, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee. ***As part of the evaluation, the Commission shall ensure regular consultation of all relevant stakeholders, including participants, participating organisations and the local***

*communities concerned. The results of the evaluation shall feed back into future programme design and resource allocation proposals.*

## **Amendment 29**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 26 – paragraph 1 – point 2**

Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013

Article 18 – paragraph 2 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) *up to 1,5 % to* the Student Loan Guarantee Facility;

(c) *3,5 % of* the Student Loan Guarantee Facility;

## **Amendment 30**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 27**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*Article 27*

*deleted*

*Amendment to Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013*

*In Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, the following paragraph is added:*

*‘3. A maximum of EUR 3 000 000 in current prices from the sub-programme for Environment corresponding to the priority area Environment Governance and Information and of EUR 1 500 000 in current prices from the sub-programme for Climate Action corresponding to the priority area Climate Governance and Information shall be allocated to finance projects within the meaning of Article 17(4) implemented by the European Solidarity Corps in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the priority areas within the meaning of Articles 9*

*and 13. This allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013. ’*

## **Amendment 31**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 28**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **Article 28**

**deleted**

#### **Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013**

**Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 is  
amended as follows:**

**1. Article 58(1) is amended as  
follows:**

**(a) the first subparagraph is replaced  
by the following:**

***At the initiative of the Commission, the  
ESI Funds may support the preparatory,  
monitoring, administrative and technical  
assistance, evaluation, audit and control  
measures necessary for implementing this  
Regulation and support actions pursuant  
to Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX as referred  
to in the third subparagraph in so far as  
those actions pursue the aim of economic,  
social and territorial cohesion. ’***

**(b) In the third subparagraph, the  
following point (m) is added:**

***‘(m) actions financed pursuant to  
Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX on the  
European Solidarity Corps in order to  
enhance the personal, educational, social,  
civic and professional development of  
young people, as well as their  
employability and facilitating transition  
into the labour market. ’***

**2. In Article 91(3), the following**

*subparagraph is added:*

***‘EUR 35 000 000 in current prices of the amount allocated to technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission shall be allocated to the European Solidarity Corps to support its actions, in accordance with point (a) of article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Fund-specific Regulations. ’***

### **Amendment 32**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 29**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Article 29***

***deleted***

***Amendment to Regulation (EU) No  
1305/2013***

***In Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No  
1305/2013, the following subparagraph is  
added under the first subparagraph:***

***‘The EAFRD may also finance actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps with an amount of EUR 1 800 000 in current prices in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities for rural development. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013. ’***

### **Amendment 33**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 30**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 30**

***deleted***

***Amendment to Regulation (EU) No  
1306/2013***

***In Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No  
1306/2013, the following point (j) is  
added:***

***‘(j) actions implemented by the  
European Solidarity Corps in accordance  
with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which  
contribute to one or more of the Union  
priorities in the area of agriculture and  
rural development and notably the actions  
referred to in the second subparagraph of  
Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No  
1305/2013. The allocation shall be  
implemented solely in accordance with the  
Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the  
exclusion of the specific requirements of  
Fund-specific Regulations.’***

**Amendment 34**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 31**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 31**

***deleted***

***Amendment to Decision No  
1313/2013/EU***

***In Article 19(1) of Decision No  
1313/2013/EU, the following  
subparagraph is added after the second  
subparagraph:***

***‘EUR 6 000 000 in current prices from  
the financial envelope derived from  
Heading 3 "Security and Citizenship"  
shall be allocated to finance actions  
implemented by the European Solidarity  
Corps in accordance with Regulation***



*(EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities in the area of civil protection. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Decision No 1313/2013/EU. '*

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	European Solidarity Corps
<b>References</b>	COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.6.2017
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 12.6.2017
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Tiemo Wölken 29.6.2017
<b>Date adopted</b>	4.12.2017
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 21 –: 5 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Nedzhmi Ali, Jonathan Arnott, Jean Arthuis, Lefteris Christoforou, Gérard Deprez, Manuel dos Santos, André Elissen, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Esteban González Pons, Bernd Kölmel, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Vladimír Maňka, Siegfried Mureşan, Paul Rübig, Jordi Solé, Eleftherios Synadinos, Indrek Tarand, Isabelle Thomas, Monika Vana, Daniele Viotti, Tiemo Wölken, Marco Zanni
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	John Howarth, Joachim Zeller

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

21	+
ALDE	Nedzhmi Ali, Jean Arthuis, Gérard Deprez
ECR	Zbigniew Kuźmiuk
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Esteban González Pons, Siegfried Mureşan, Paul Rübig, Joachim Zeller
S&D	Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, John Howarth, Vladimír Maňka, Isabelle Thomas, Daniele Viotti, Tiemo Wölken, Manuel dos Santos
VERTS/ALE	Jordi Solé, Indrek Tarand, Monika Vana

5	-
ECR	Bernd Kölmel
EFDD	Jonathan Arnott
ENF	André Elissen, Marco Zanni
NI	Eleftherios Synadinos

0	0

**Key to symbols:**

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

29.11.2017

## **OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))

Rapporteur: Krzysztof Hetman

### **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

Solidarity, being at the foundations of the European Union, is also one of the core values for Europeans. It is no exaggeration to say, that the success story of the European Union is based on solidarity. It has a huge potential of creating empathy, reciprocal care and positive interactions between both nations and individuals. This is why we should uphold and enforce this idea in the minds of Europeans.

Your draftsman believes that European Solidarity Corps is a great tool to achieve this goal and therefore he has very much welcomed the announcement of the idea in the State of Union address of 14 September 2016, followed by the Commission Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016 and a legislative proposal of 1 June 2017. The increased engagement of youth from all European countries in solidarity activities has a potential to strengthen solidarity and cohesion across Europe as well as to contribute to tackling societal challenges and fulfil the unmet needs in participating countries and regions. Moreover, it will support young peoples’ personal and professional development through acquisition of valuable skills.

Your draftsman supports the creation of European Solidarity Corps focused on two types of actions: solidarity projects and volunteer placements on one hand, and traineeship and job placements on the other. While the first should undoubtedly be a base of the future European Solidarity Corps, the latter constitute an important chance for young people to enter the labour market and gain opportunity for quality employment. Therefore, the draftsman proposes to slightly change the indicative proportions of budget division between the two types of actions and increase the financial support for the traineeship and job opportunities to 30%.

The overall amount of EUR 341 500 000 provisioned for the implementation of the European

Solidarity Corps until 31 December 2020 will allow to mobilise 100 000 young people into solidarity activities. The draftsman supports the Commission proposal to mobilise this amount from various existing EU programmes, including i.a. EUR 35 000 000 from European Social Fund. Nevertheless, he believes the main contribution shall come from Erasmus+ programme appropriations aimed at financing European Voluntary Service (EVS) activities that would now fall under the scope of activities supported under this Regulation.

The draftsman hopes the proposal will build on the experience and best practices developed in the EVS, and will develop synergies and complementarity with other EU funds and programmes in order to fulfil its potential to the greatest possible extent.

The Committee on Regional Development considers simplification measures an extremely important factor of improved effectiveness and increased efficiency of the projects, undertaken with the support of EU budget. This is why your draftsman has proposed some changes, which go in line with this principle and assure that beneficiaries will not be burdened by unnecessary requirements and formalities.

Finally, your draftsman believes that the European Solidarity Corps will have a great positive influence not only on the young people thus engaged, but also on regional and local communities, and therefore he has undertaken to strengthen the local and regional dimension of this Regulation.

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) The European Union is built on solidarity, among its citizens and among its Member States. This common value guides its actions **and** provides the necessary unity to cope with current and future societal challenges, which young Europeans are willing to help address by expressing their solidarity in practice.

*Amendment*

(1) The European Union is built on solidarity, among its citizens and among its Member States. This common value guides its actions, provides the necessary unity to cope with current and future societal challenges, which young Europeans are willing to help address by expressing their solidarity in practice, **and stimulates young people's interest in the common European project.**

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016,<sup>18</sup> the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes have been mobilised to offer volunteering, traineeship or job opportunities to young people across the EU. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

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<sup>18</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Solidarity Corps, COM(2016) 942 final of 7.12.2016.

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to

*Amendment*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016,<sup>18</sup> the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national, **regional** and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes have been mobilised to offer volunteering, traineeship, **the means for personal development** or job opportunities to young people across the EU. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

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<sup>18</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Solidarity Corps, COM(2016) 942 final of 7.12.2016.

*Amendment*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to

engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities while acquiring useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities *of Member States* while acquiring useful experience, *knowledge*, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

#### Amendment 4

##### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 5

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should be of high quality, in the sense that they should respond to *unmet* societal *needs*, contribute to strengthening communities, offer young people the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge and competences, be financially accessible to young people, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions.

###### *Amendment*

(5) The solidarity activities offered to young people should be of high quality, *take account of their skills and be closely linked to the development of society*, in the sense that they should respond to *key* societal *challenges*, contribute to strengthening *local* communities *and social cohesion*, offer young people the opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge, *skills* and competences, be financially accessible to young people, and be implemented in safe and healthy conditions.

#### Amendment 5

##### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 6

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a single entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of

###### *Amendment*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide main entry point, *free from any form of discrimination based on background*, for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European

existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member States to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).

Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member States *regions, cities and local communities* to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES the Eurodesk network *and the Youth on the Move programme*, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, *including schemes operating at regional or local level*, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).

## Amendment 6

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 7

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the

##### *Amendment*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, *the*



European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the *concerned* programmes. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the beneficiaries should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

*European Social Fund*, the European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the programmes *concerned and in complementarity with existing Union policies, such as cohesion policy, without having a negative impact on its operational programmes as such and subject to available means, related to their take-up*. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the beneficiaries should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 8

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) The European Solidarity Corps should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should contribute to enhancing their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development. The European Solidarity Corps should also support networking activities for European Solidarity Corps participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes.

##### *Amendment*

(8) The European Solidarity Corps should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop *transnational and cross-border programmes and* solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should contribute to enhancing their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development *and to contribute towards a genuine European citizenship and to improve the solidarity between young people, with a view to improving their subsequent access to the labour market*. The European Solidarity Corps should also support networking activities for European Solidarity Corps participants and organisations *enabling them to exchange best practices* as well as

measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes.

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 10

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) Traineeships and jobs in solidarity-related areas can offer additional opportunities for young people to make a start on the labour market while contributing to addressing key societal challenges. This can help foster the employability and productivity of young people while easing their transition from education to employment, which is key to enhancing their chances on the labour market. The traineeship placements offered under the European Solidarity Corps should be remunerated by the participating organisation and **follow** the quality principles outlined in the Council Recommendation on establishing a Quality Framework for Traineeships of 10 March 2014<sup>21</sup>. The traineeships and jobs offered should constitute a stepping stone for young people to enter the labour market and should therefore be accompanied by adequate post-placement support. The traineeship and job placements should be facilitated by relevant labour market actors, in particular public and private employment services, social partners and Chambers of Commerce. As participating organisations, they should be able to apply for funding via the competent implementing structure of the European Solidarity Corps in view of intermediating between the young participants and employers offering traineeship and job placements in solidarity sectors.

#### *Amendment*

(10) Traineeships and jobs in solidarity-related areas can offer additional opportunities **by ensuring the necessary basis** for young people to make a start on the labour market, while contributing to addressing key societal challenges. This can help foster the employability and productivity of young people, **also based on each individual's personal skills**, while easing their transition from education to employment, which is key to enhancing their chances on the labour market. The traineeship placements offered under the European Solidarity Corps should be remunerated by the participating organisation and **be based on** the quality principles outlined in the Council Recommendation on establishing a Quality Framework for Traineeships of 10 March 2014<sup>21</sup>. The traineeships and jobs offered should constitute a stepping stone for young people to enter the labour market and should therefore be accompanied by adequate post-placement support. The traineeship and job placements should be facilitated by relevant labour market actors, in particular public and private employment services, social partners and Chambers of Commerce. As participating organisations, they should be able to apply for funding via the competent implementing structure of the European Solidarity Corps in view of intermediating between the young participants and employers offering traineeship and job placements in solidarity sectors.

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<sup>21</sup> Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships, OJ C 88, 27.3.2014, p. 1.

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<sup>21</sup> Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships, OJ C 88, 27.3.2014, p. 1.

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 11

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(11) Young people's spirit of initiative is an important asset for society and for the labour market. The European Solidarity Corps should contribute to fostering this aspect by offering young people the opportunity to devise and implement their own projects aimed at addressing specific challenges to the benefit of their local communities. Those projects should be an opportunity to try out ideas and support young people to be themselves drivers of solidarity actions. They could also serve as a springboard for further engagement in solidarity activities and could be a first step towards encouraging European Solidarity Corps participants to engage in self-employment or setting up associations, NGOs or other bodies active in the solidarity, non-profit and youth sectors.

##### *Amendment*

(11) Young people's spirit of initiative is an important asset for society and for the labour market. The European Solidarity Corps should contribute to fostering this aspect by offering young people the opportunity to devise and implement their own projects aimed at addressing specific challenges to the benefit of their local communities, ***particularly communities located in isolated or marginalised areas***. Those projects should be an opportunity to try out ideas and support young people to be themselves drivers of solidarity actions. They could also serve as a springboard for further engagement in solidarity activities and could be a first step towards encouraging European Solidarity Corps participants to engage in self-employment or setting up associations, NGOs or other bodies active in the solidarity, non-profit and youth sectors.

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 13

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the European Solidarity Corps, in particular by offering training, language support,

##### *Amendment*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the European Solidarity Corps, in particular by offering training, including cultural

insurance, administrative and post-placement support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their European Solidarity Corps experience.

awareness and language support, insurance, administrative, **logistical and pre-placement and** post-placement support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their European Solidarity Corps experience. **Where activities undertaken by participants are to be carried out in hazardous environments, such as in post-disaster environments, preventive security courses should be provided.**

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 14

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) To ensure the impact of European Solidarity Corps placements on the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participants, the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of the placement should be properly identified and documented, in accordance with national circumstances and specificities, as recommended in the Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning<sup>22</sup>.

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<sup>22</sup> Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning, OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1.

*Amendment*

(14) To ensure the impact of European Solidarity Corps placements on the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development of the participants, **a system to recognise the skills acquired through European Solidarity Corps voluntary work should be developed, and** the knowledge, skills and competences that are the learning outcomes of the placement should be properly identified and documented, in accordance with national circumstances and specificities, as recommended in the Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning<sup>22</sup>.

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<sup>22</sup> Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning, OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1.

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 15

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) A quality label should be put in place to ensure compliance of the participating organisations with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter, as regards their rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. Obtaining a quality label should be a precondition for participation but should not automatically lead to funding under the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(15) A quality label should be put in place to ensure compliance of the participating organisations with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter, as regards their rights and responsibilities during all stages of the solidarity experience. Obtaining a quality label, ***based on common criteria recognised at Union level***, should be a precondition for participation but should not automatically lead to funding under the European Solidarity Corps.

### **Amendment 13**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 16**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(16) A European Solidarity Corps Resource Centre should assist the implementing bodies, the participating organisations and the young people taking part in the European Solidarity Corps in order to raise the quality of the implementation and of the activities of the European Solidarity Corps as well as to enhance the identification ***and*** validation of competences acquired through these activities.

*Amendment*

(16) A European Solidarity Corps Resource Centre should assist the implementing bodies, the participating organisations and the young people taking part in the European Solidarity Corps in order to raise the quality of the implementation and of the activities of the European Solidarity Corps as well as to enhance the identification, validation ***and certification*** of competences acquired through these activities.

### **Amendment 14**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 17**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(17) A European Solidarity Corps Portal should continuously be developed in order to ***ensure*** easy access to the European Solidarity Corps and to provide a one-stop

*Amendment*

(17) A European Solidarity Corps Portal should continuously be developed in order to ***contribute to an*** easy access to the European Solidarity Corps and to provide a

shop for both interested individuals and organisations as regards, inter alia, registration, identification and matching of profiles and opportunities, networking and virtual exchanges, online training, language and post-placement support as well as other useful functionalities, which may arise in the future.

one-stop shop for both interested individuals and organisations as regards, inter alia, ***information on volunteering placements***, registration, identification and matching of profiles and opportunities, networking and virtual exchanges, online training, language, ***pre-placement*** and post-placement support as well as other useful functionalities, which may arise in the future ***which should be linked to the development of society. The services provided by the European Solidarity Corps Portal should promote and supplement the ones already offered by participating organisations. Interoperability with the European Youth Portal should be ensured.***

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 19

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(19) In order to ensure continuity in the activities supported by the programmes contributing to the European Solidarity Corps, the financial support to solidarity placements and projects should indicatively follow ***an 80%-20%*** split between volunteering placements and solidarity projects on the one hand and traineeship and job placements on the other hand.

#### *Amendment*

(19) In order to ensure continuity in the activities supported by the programmes contributing to the European Solidarity Corps, the financial support to solidarity placements and projects should indicatively follow ***a 70%-30%*** split between volunteering placements and solidarity projects on the one hand and traineeship and job placements on the other hand.

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 20

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, ***provisions should be made to allow*** participating countries ***to*** make additional national

#### *Amendment*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, participating countries ***should be able to*** make additional national, ***regional or local***

funding available in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps.

funding available in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendment 17

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 20 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(20a) Civil protection and humanitarian aid cannot be dependent on young people via the European Solidarity Corps. The Commission and the Member States should guarantee continued investment in structured civil protection and humanitarian aid.***

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 22

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(22) In addition to the Member States, the European Solidarity Corps should also be open to the participation of other countries on the basis of bilateral agreements. This participation should be based, where relevant, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with the concerned countries.

(22) In addition to the Member States, the European Solidarity Corps should also be open to the participation of other countries on the basis of bilateral agreements, ***in particular with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, Eastern Partnership Countries, countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy, accession countries, candidate countries and potential candidates, particularly in the case of cross-border programmes.*** This participation should be based, where relevant, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with the concerned countries.

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 23

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(23) The European Solidarity Corps should target young people aged 18-30. Participation in the activities offered by the European Solidarity Corps should require prior registration in the European Solidarity Corps Portal.

*Amendment*

(23) The European Solidarity Corps should target young people aged 18-30. Participation in the activities offered by the European Solidarity Corps should require prior registration in the European Solidarity Corps Portal. ***Where necessary, other complementary tools should be provided for the purposes of registration, in order to facilitate the participation of all young people, especially those in the most vulnerable situations and those who are not digitally literate. To that end, existing application processes provided by coordinating and sending organisations could be used.***

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(23a) It is necessary to promote a wider policy strategy which is aimed at creating a conducive environment for volunteering in Europe and does not overlap with other ongoing programmes, but rather strengthens successful existing initiatives, such as the European Voluntary Service.***

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(23b) Youth mobility should also be ensured through the Eurail Youth Pass***



*programme.*

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 24

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones. Special measures should therefore be put in place to promote social inclusion, the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the European Solidarity Corps. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community, OJ L314, 30.11.2001, p.1.

*Amendment*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones. Special measures should therefore be put in place to promote social inclusion, the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. ***It is essential that national agencies meet the cost of travel for young people in advance so that they do not need to seek subsequent reimbursement.*** Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the European Solidarity Corps. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community, OJ L314, 30.11.2001, p.1.

## Amendment 23

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 25

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps, whether funded by the European Solidarity Corps budget, by another Union programme or by a different funding source, should receive a quality label provided that the appropriate conditions are fulfilled. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous basis by the implementing structures of the European Solidarity Corps. The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

*Amendment*

(25) Any entity willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps, whether funded by the European Solidarity Corps budget, by another Union programme or by a different funding source, should receive a quality label provided that the appropriate conditions are fulfilled. The process that leads to the attribution of a quality label should be carried out on a continuous, **public and transparent** basis by the implementing structures of the European Solidarity Corps. The attributed quality label should be reassessed periodically and could be revoked if, in the context of the checks to be performed, the conditions that led to its attribution were found to be no longer fulfilled.

## Amendment 24

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 26

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(26) An entity willing to apply for funding to offer placements under the European Solidarity Corps should have first received a quality label as a precondition. This requirement should not apply to natural persons seeking financial support on behalf of an informal group of European Solidarity Corps participants for their solidarity projects.

*Amendment*

(26) An entity willing to apply for funding to offer placements under the European Solidarity Corps should have first received a quality label as a precondition. This requirement should not apply to natural persons seeking financial support on behalf of an informal group of European Solidarity Corps participants for their **programmes and** solidarity projects.

## Amendment 25

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 26 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(27a) The needs and expectations of local communities should be an important criterion for the evaluation of the quality of projects. Accordingly, appropriate indicators should be put in place and re-assessed every year.***

## Amendment 26

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 28

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured at European, national and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely on all the implementing bodies of the European Solidarity Corps, including, when relevant, with the support of other key stakeholders.

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured at European, national, ***regional*** and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely on all the implementing bodies of the European Solidarity Corps, including, when relevant, with the support of other key stakeholders, ***without increasing bureaucracy.***

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 31

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(31) In order to ensure financially sound implementation and close monitoring of the European Solidarity Corps at national level, it is important to use the existing National Authorities designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No

(31) In order to ensure financially sound implementation and close monitoring of the European Solidarity Corps at national level, it is important to use ***-and reinforce when needed -*** the existing National Authorities designated for the management of the actions referred to in Chapter III of

**Amendment 28****Proposal for a regulation****Recital 35***Text proposed by the Commission*

(35) In compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union<sup>26</sup>, the Commission should adopt work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The work programme should set out the measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the European Solidarity Corps, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. Work programmes and any amendments to them should be adopted by implementing acts in accordance with the examination procedure.

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<sup>26</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

*Amendment*

(35) In compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union<sup>26</sup>, the Commission should adopt work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The work programme should set out the **implementing** measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the European Solidarity Corps, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. Work programmes and any amendments to them should be adopted by implementing acts in accordance with the examination procedure.

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<sup>26</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

**Amendment 29****Proposal for a regulation****Recital 36***Text proposed by the Commission*

(36) Since the objective of this

*Amendment*

(36) Since the objective of this

Regulation, namely to establish a European Solidarity Corps, cannot be *sufficiently* achieved by the Member States but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.

Regulation, namely to establish a European Solidarity Corps, cannot be *solely* achieved by the Member States but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 40 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(40a) In view of the relatively small budget of the programme, Commission staff assigned to the European Solidarity Corps should be redeployed so that no additional financial impact is created.***

## Amendment 31

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing *unmet* societal *needs* to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, entrepreneurship, in particular social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing *key* societal *challenges* to the benefit of a community *or the Union as a whole* while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, *including in new technologies*, employment, gender equality, entrepreneurship, in particular social *and*

nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, reception and integration of third-country nationals, territorial cooperation and cohesion;

*sustainable* entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, *youth work* environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture, *including social farming*, and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, *social inclusion, in particular of marginalised communities, activities for the elderly, disabled persons and other people requiring the assistance of others, solidarity between generations*, reception and integration of third-country nationals, territorial cooperation and cohesion; *such activity shall be characterised by: fixed period, clear objectives, content, tasks, structure and framework; appropriate financial support shall be provided;*

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) “participant” means a young person who has registered in the European Solidarity Corps Portal and takes part in a solidarity activity under the European Solidarity Corps offered by a participating organisation;

*Amendment*

(2) “participant” means a young person *aged 18-30* who has registered in the European Solidarity Corps Portal and takes part in a solidarity activity *or project* under the European Solidarity Corps offered by a participating organisation *certified by means of the quality label;*

## Amendment 33

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) “disadvantaged young people” means individuals who need additional support because of disability, educational difficulties, economic obstacles, cultural

*Amendment*

(3) “disadvantaged young people” means individuals who need additional support because of disability, educational difficulties, economic *or social* obstacles,

differences, health problems, social obstacles, geographical obstacles;

health problems, social obstacles, geographical obstacles *or facing any kind of discrimination*;

#### **Amendment 34**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4**

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) “participating organisation” means any public or private entity that has been attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label, which offers a placement to a participant in the European Solidarity Corps or implements other activities in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps;

###### *Amendment*

(4) “participating organisation” means any public or private non-profit entity, that has been attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label, ***based on common criteria recognised at Union level***, which offers a placement to a participant in the European Solidarity Corps or implements other activities in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps;

#### **Amendment 35**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 6**

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) “volunteering” means ***a full-time***<sup>32</sup> unpaid voluntary service for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational, social ***and professional*** development, ***and which will also contribute to improving their employability***;

###### *Amendment*

(6) “volunteering” means ***an*** unpaid voluntary service for a period of up to twelve months, which provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations active in solidarity-related fields, to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out, including a solid learning and training dimension in order to enable the young volunteer(s) to gain skills and competences, which will be useful for their personal, educational ***and*** social development; ***such activity shall characterised by a fixed period, clear objectives, content, tasks, structure, framework and guidance; appropriate financial support; volunteering shall not be used to substitute or replace paid***

*employment;*

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<sup>32</sup> *As a general principle, an activity carried out continuously, 5 days a week for 7 hours a day.*

## **Amendment 36**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 7**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) “volunteering teams’ placements” means placements allowing teams of European Solidarity Corps participants from different participating countries to volunteer together for a common objective, by carrying out manual or intellectual tasks, on a worthwhile community service project for a period between two weeks and two months;

*Amendment*

(7) “volunteering teams’ placements” means placements ***organised by a participating organisation*** allowing teams of European Solidarity Corps participants from different participating countries to volunteer together for a common objective, by carrying out manual or intellectual tasks, on a worthwhile community service project for a period between two weeks and two months;

## **Amendment 37**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 8**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from two to twelve months, remunerated by the organisation hosting the European Solidarity Corps participant, based on a written traineeship agreement, which includes a learning and training component, and undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment;

*Amendment*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice ***for a fixed period*** from two to twelve months, remunerated by the organisation hosting the European Solidarity Corps participant, based on a written traineeship agreement, which includes a learning and training component, ***clear objectives, content, tasks, structure and framework*** and undertaken in order to gain practical and professional ***knowledge and*** experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment; ***traineeships shall not be***



*used to substitute or replace paid employment;*

## **Amendment 38**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 10**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) “solidarity project” means a local initiative for a period from two to twelve months, which is set up and carried out by groups of **at least five** European Solidarity Corps participants, with a view to addressing key challenges within their local community while linking them to a broader European perspective;

*Amendment*

(10) “solidarity project” means a local, **regional or cross-border** initiative for a period from two to twelve months, which is set up and carried out by groups of European Solidarity Corps participants **or by a participating organisation**, with a view to addressing key challenges within their local community while linking them to a broader European perspective;

## **Amendment 39**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 11**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(11) “quality label” means the certification attributed to a public or private entity or an international organisation willing to provide placements under the European Solidarity Corps following a procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter;

*Amendment*

(11) “quality label” means the certification attributed to a public or private non-profit entity or an international organisation **referred to in point 4 of Article 2** willing to provide placements under the European Solidarity Corps, **based on common criteria recognised at Union level and** following a procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter;

## **Amendment 40**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 14**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) “European Solidarity Corps Portal” means a web-based tool that **provides** relevant online services to the European Solidarity Corps participants and participating organisations, **including** providing information about the European Solidarity Corps, registering participants, searching for participants for placements, advertising and searching for placements, searching for potential project partners, managing contacts and offers for placements and projects, training, communication and networking activities, informing and notifying about opportunities, as well as other relevant developments related to the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(14) “European Solidarity Corps Portal” means a web-based tool that **operates as a one-stop shop providing** relevant **information and** online services to the European Solidarity Corps participants and participating organisations, **supplementing the services already provided by the participating organisations as regards, inter alia,** providing information about the European Solidarity Corps, registering participants, **connecting participating organisations and participants,** searching for participants for placements, advertising and searching for placements, searching for potential project partners, managing contacts and offers for placements, **jobs** and projects, training, communication and networking activities, informing and notifying about opportunities, **providing a feedback mechanism regarding the placements' quality,** as well as other relevant developments related to the European Solidarity Corps **while ensuring interoperability with the European Youth Portal.**

**Amendment 41**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The objective of the European Solidarity Corps is to **enhance** the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe, supporting communities and responding to societal challenges.

*Amendment*

The objective of the European Solidarity Corps is to **promote solidarity as the core value of the European project by enhancing** the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe, supporting **local and regional** communities **and the Union as a whole,** and **allow for swift and effective launch of projects** responding to societal challenges, **in line with the 2030 Agenda**

*for Sustainable Development, in both the Union and third countries.*

## Amendment 42

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their skills and competences for personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers;

*Amendment*

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their **knowledge**, skills and competences for personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers;

## Amendment 43

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete, **unmet** societal **needs** and strengthening communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

*Amendment*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete, **key** societal **challenges, such as social integration, environmental protection, counteracting and mitigating effects of climate change and natural disasters** and strengthening **local and regional** communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

## Amendment 44

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The actions of the European Solidarity Corps shall be consistent with and complementary to the relevant policies and programmes relating to the areas mentioned in Article 2(1) as well as existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

1. The actions of the European Solidarity Corps shall be consistent with and complementary to the relevant **Union** policies and programmes relating to the areas mentioned in Article 2(1) as well as existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities of the European Solidarity Corps.

**Amendment 45**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 5 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Commission and the participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, vocational training and youth on the one hand and actions under the European Solidarity Corps on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

*Amendment*

2. The Commission and the participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national, **regional and local** programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, vocational training, **non-formal and informal learning** and youth on the one hand and actions under the European Solidarity Corps on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

**Amendment 46**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) solidarity **placements**, projects and networking activities;

*Amendment*

(a) solidarity projects and networking activities;

**Amendment 47**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) solidarity placements in the form of volunteering, traineeships or jobs, including individual ***cross-border and in-country*** placements as well as volunteering teams' placements;

*Amendment*

(a) solidarity placements in the form of volunteering, traineeships or jobs, including individual placements as well as volunteering teams' placements;

**Amendment 48**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendment*

(c) networking activities for individuals and organisations participating in the European Solidarity Corps ***which must be entirely consistent with, and complement proven experience on the ground, in particular good volunteering and civil protection practice.***

**Amendment 49**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality of solidarity placements, including training, language support, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, post-placement support as well as the development of a certificate that identifies ***and*** documents the knowledge, skills and competences acquired during the placement;

*Amendment*

(a) measures aimed at ensuring the quality of solidarity placements ***whose standards are laid out in the European Solidarity Corps Charter***, including ***comprehensive*** training ***before and during the placement***, language support ***based on experiences from the Erasmus+ Online Linguistic Support***, administrative support for participants and participating organisations, insurance, post-placement support, ***for example through a tutor/supervisor*** as well as the development of a certificate ***recognised at European level and based on experiences from by the Youthpass*** that identifies, documents ***and validates*** the knowledge,

skills and competences acquired during the placement;

## Amendment 50

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(aa) activities and measures provided by non-profit organisations, including youth organisations as well as civil society organisations, which support young people in accessing or developing solidarity placements and projects;***

## Amendment 51

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(b) the development and maintenance of a quality label for entities willing to provide placements for the European Solidarity Corps in order to ensure compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter;

(b) the development and maintenance of a quality label ***awarded on the basis of common criteria recognised at European level*** for entities willing to provide placements for the European Solidarity Corps in order to ensure compliance with the principles and requirements of the European Solidarity Corps Charter;

## Amendment 52

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) the establishment, maintenance and updating of the European Solidarity Corps Portal and other relevant online services as well as the necessary IT support systems and web-based tools.

(d) the establishment, maintenance and updating of the European Solidarity Corps Portal and other relevant online services, ***which shall be available in all official languages of the Union***, as well as the necessary IT support systems and web-

based tools.

## Amendment 53

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 includes a financial envelope of EUR 294 200 000<sup>1a</sup> in current prices consisting of:***

***(a) Erasmus+ programme, contributing with EUR 197 700 000 in current prices;***

***(b) Employment and Social Innovation programme, contributing with EUR 10 000 000 in current prices;***

***(c) unallocated margin under Heading 1a (including Global Margin for Commitments), contributing with EUR 86 500 000 in current prices.***

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***<sup>1a</sup> This financial envelope constitutes the prime reference amount within the meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement (2013/C 373/01) between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management.***

## Amendment 54

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 ***includes a financial envelope of EUR 294 200 000<sup>33</sup> in current prices***

2. The amount referred to in paragraph 1a ***is*** supplemented by contributions from:

supplemented by contributions from:

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<sup>33</sup> *This financial envelope constitutes the prime reference amount within the meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement (2013/C 373/01) between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management.*

## **Amendment 55**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The financial support to solidarity placements and projects referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 7(1) shall indicatively be **80%** for volunteering placements and solidarity projects; and **20%** for traineeship and job placements.

*Amendment*

3. The financial support to solidarity placements and projects referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 7(1) shall indicatively be **70 %** for volunteering placements and solidarity projects; and **30 %** for traineeship and job placements.

## **Amendment 56**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

6. A participating country may make **national** funding available to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the European Solidarity Corps, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures.

*Amendment*

6. A participating country, **regional or local entity** may make **additional** funding available to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the European Solidarity Corps, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures.



## **Amendment 57**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. In order to simplify requirements for beneficiaries, lump-sums, unit-costs and flat-rate funding should be used to the maximum possible extent.***

## **Amendment 58**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1. The Member States shall participate in the European Solidarity Corps.***

***1. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open to the participation of the following countries:***

- (a) the Member States;***
- (b) the acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective framework agreements, Association Council decisions or similar agreements;***
- (c) those EFTA countries that are part of the EAA Agreement, in accordance with the provisions of that agreement;***
- (d) those countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy that have concluded agreements with the Union providing for the possibility of their participation in the Union's programmes, subject to the conclusion of a bilateral agreement with the Union on conditions of their participation in the European Solidarity Corps.***

*The Member States shall participate in the European Solidarity Corps to strengthen social cohesion through solidarity and Union intervention.*

## Amendment 59

### Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open for the participation of other countries on the basis of bilateral agreements. Cooperation shall be based, where relevant, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with those countries.

*Amendment*

2. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open for the participation of other countries on the basis of bilateral **and multilateral** agreements **for cross-border projects with non-EU European countries**. Cooperation shall be based, where relevant, on additional appropriations to be made available in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with those countries.

## Amendment 60

### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Young people aged 17 to 30 years willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps shall register in the European Solidarity Corps Portal. However, at the moment of commencing a placement or a project a registered young person shall be at least 18 years of age and not older than 30.

*Amendment*

1. Young people aged 17 to 30 years willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps shall register in the European Solidarity Corps Portal **or find access to this programme via already existing application processes as provided by coordinating and sending organisations**. However, at the moment of commencing a placement or a project a registered young person shall be at least 18 years of age and not older than 30. **Young people may participate in this project as many times as they wish, regardless of availability.**

## Amendment 61

### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. An application from a young person for a longer-term programme may not be rejected if he or she will reach the age of 30 during the lifetime of the project.***

## Amendment 62

### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. When implementing this Regulation, the Commission and the participating countries shall ensure that particular efforts are made to promote social inclusion, in particular for the participation of disadvantaged young people.

2. When implementing this Regulation, the Commission and the participating countries shall ensure that particular efforts are made to promote social inclusion, in particular for the participation of disadvantaged young people ***with guaranteed specific volunteer training for all participants.***

## Amendment 63

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open to the participation of public or private entities, or international organisations, provided that they have received a European Solidarity Corps quality label.

1. The European Solidarity Corps shall be open to the participation of public or private non-profit entities, or international organisations, ***referred to in point 4 of Article 2***, provided that they have received a European Solidarity Corps quality label ***in line with the objectives of this Regulation, making access to the European Solidarity Corps more flexible, with clear and simple rules.***

## Amendment 64

### Proposal for a regulation Article 13 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed periodically and may be revoked.

*Amendment*

3. As a result of the assessment the entity may be attributed the European Solidarity Corps quality label. The obtained label shall be re-assessed periodically and may be revoked ***but it may then be re-attributed following a further assessment. The results of the re-assessments of entities shall be part of the evaluation and monitoring referred to in Article 15 and in particular of the progress report that the Commission shall publish in 2020.***

## Amendment 65

### Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Any public or private entity established in a participating country as well as international organisations carrying out solidarity activities in the participating countries may apply for funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the activities referred to in point (a) of Article 7(1), a quality label shall be obtained by the participating organisation as a pre-condition for receiving funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the solidarity projects referred to in point (b) of Article 7(1), natural persons may also apply for funding on behalf of informal groups of European Solidarity Corps participants.

*Amendment*

Any public or private non-profit entity, established in a participating country as well as international organisations carrying out solidarity activities in the participating countries may apply for funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the activities referred to in point (a) of Article 7(1), a quality label shall be obtained by the participating organisation as a pre-condition for receiving funding under the European Solidarity Corps. In the case of the solidarity projects referred to in point (b) of Article 7(1), natural persons may also apply for funding on behalf of informal groups of European Solidarity Corps participants. ***The application and distribution of funding should be carried out in the way that will ensure an effective and swift response to the societal challenges.***

## Amendment 66

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Progress on the specific objectives shall be **measured** by using indicators, such as:

Progress on the specific objectives **and the quality of the placements** shall be **evaluated** by using indicators, such as:

## Amendment 67

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) number of participants in volunteering placements (**in-country and cross-border**);

(a) number of participants in volunteering placements, **by country, age and gender**;

## Amendment 68

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(d) number of participants in solidarity projects;

(d) number of participants in solidarity projects, **by country, age and gender**;

## Amendment 69

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(e) number of organisations holding a European Solidarity Corps quality label.

(e) number of organisations holding a European Solidarity Corps quality label, **by country**.

## **Amendment 70**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ea) percentage of participants who have received a certificate such as a Youthpass, a diploma or other kind of formal recognition of their participation to the European Solidarity Corps, by country, age and gender;*

## **Amendment 71**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(eb) percentage of participants declaring that they have increased their personal, educational, social and civic development, by country, age and gender;*

## **Amendment 72**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ec) percentage of participants declaring that they have increased their language skills, by country, age and gender;*

## **Amendment 73**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e d (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ed) percentage of participants*

*declaring that they intend to continue being involved in solidarity activities, by country, age and gender;*

#### **Amendment 74**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e e (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(ee) percentage of participants with a disability, by country, age, gender and type of placement.*

#### **Amendment 75**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*A feedback mechanism shall also be established within the European Solidarity Corps Portal so as to receive comments from the participants on the quality of their placements.*

#### **Amendment 76**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 15 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

At the latest six months after the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall establish a detailed programme for monitoring the outputs, results and impacts of this Regulation.

*Without prejudice to paragraph 1, at the latest six months after the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall establish a detailed programme for monitoring the outputs, results and impacts of this Regulation.*

## Amendment 77

### Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4a.** *Four years after ... [the date of application of this Regulation], in order to evaluate the experience with the European Solidarity Corps, the Commission shall publish a best practices' report on which future policy and cohesion objectives can be based.*

## Amendment 78

### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall ensure the dissemination of information, publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall ensure the dissemination of information, publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps, ***particularly through ICT solutions such as a portal available in all official languages of the Union with a particular focus equal opportunities and accessibility.***

## Amendment 79

### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3. Communication activities shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, provided that they are related to the general objective of this Regulation.

3. Communication activities shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, provided that they are related to the general objective of this Regulation ***and represent an added value and visibility for the Union.***



## Amendment 80

### Proposal for a regulation Article 19 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The national authority shall designate an independent audit body. The independent audit body shall issue an audit opinion on the yearly management declaration referred to in Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

*Amendment*

1. The national authority shall, ***in accordance with the principle of transparency***, designate an independent audit body. The independent audit body shall issue an audit opinion on the yearly management declaration referred to in Article 60(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

## Amendment 81

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) stipulate the internal control standards for national agencies and the rules for the management of the Union funds for grant support by the national agencies;

*Amendment*

(a) stipulate the internal control standards for national agencies and the rules for the management of the Union funds for grant support by the national agencies, ***taking into consideration the simplification requirements and, therefore, not imposing additional burden on participating organisations***;

## Amendment 82

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 – point c a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ca) In connection with the implementation of the European Solidarity Corps, the European Commission shall work closely with the designated national authority for the European Solidarity Corps.***

## Amendment 83

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 7

*Text proposed by the Commission*

7. The Commission shall organise regular meetings with the network of national agencies in order to ensure coherent implementation of the European Solidarity Corps across all participating countries.

*Amendment*

7. The Commission shall organise regular meetings with the network of national agencies ***and other stakeholders involved in the activities of the European Solidarity Corps*** in order to ensure coherent implementation of the European Solidarity Corps across all participating countries.

## Amendment 84

### Proposal for a regulation Article 22 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. National agencies shall be responsible for the primary controls of grant beneficiaries for the actions of the European Solidarity Corps which are entrusted to them. Those controls shall give reasonable assurance that the grants awarded are used as intended and in compliance with the applicable Union rules.

*Amendment*

3. National agencies shall be responsible for the primary controls of grant beneficiaries for the actions of the European Solidarity Corps which are entrusted to them. Those controls shall ***be proportionate and adequate and*** give reasonable assurance that the grants awarded are used as intended and in compliance with the applicable Union rules, ***taking into consideration the simplification requirements and, therefore, not imposing additional burden on participating organisations. Furthermore, in order to simplify requirements for beneficiaries, lump-sums, unit costs or flat rate funding shall be used to the fullest extent possible.***

## Amendment 85

### Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. In order to implement this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt work programmes by way of implementing acts. Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

*Amendment*

1. In order to implement this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt work programmes by way of implementing acts. Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, ***including joint actions at cross-border level***, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	European Solidarity Corps
<b>References</b>	COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.6.2017
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	REGI 12.6.2017
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Krzysztof Hetman 20.6.2017
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	12.7.2017            7.9.2017
<b>Date adopted</b>	23.11.2017
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+:                    26 -:                    6 0:                    2
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Pascal Arimont, Mercedes Bresso, Rosa D'Amato, John Flack, Iratxe García Pérez, Michela Giuffrida, Krzysztof Hetman, Ivan Jakovčić, Marc Joulaud, Constanze Krehl, Sławomir Kłosowski, Martina Michels, Iskra Mihaylova, Andrey Novakov, Konstantinos Papadakis, Stanislav Polčák, Monika Smolková, Maria Spyrali, Ruža Tomašić, Monika Vana, Matthijs van Miltenburg, Lambert van Nistelrooij, Joachim Zeller
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Daniel Buda, Viorica Dăncilă, Andor Deli, Elena Gentile, John Howarth, Ivana Maletić, Jan Olbrycht, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Bronis Ropé, Damiano Zoffoli
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Olle Ludvigsson

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

26	+
ALDE	Ivan Jakovčić, Iskra Mihaylova
ECR	Ruža Tomašić, Sławomir Kłosowski
PPE	Andor Deli, Andrey Novakov, Daniel Buda, Ivana Maletić, Jan Olbrycht, Joachim Zeller, Krzysztof Hetman, Lambert van Nistelrooij, Marc Joulaud, Maria Spyrali, Pascal Arimont, Stanislav Polčák
S&D	Constanze Krehl, Damiano Zoffoli, Elena Gentile, Iratxe García Pérez, John Howarth, Mercedes Bresso, Michela Giuffrida, Monika Smolková, Olle Ludvigsson, Viorica Dăncilă

6	-
ALDE	Matthijs van Miltenburg
GUE/NGL	Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Martina Michels
NI	Konstantinos Papadakis
VERTS/ALE	Bronis Ropė, Monika Vana

2	0
ECR	John Flack
EFDD	Rosa D'Amato

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

14.11.2017

## OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulations (EU) No 1288/2013, (EU) No 1293/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1305/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD))

Rapporteur: Czesław Adam Siekierski

### AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

#### Amendment 1

##### Proposal for a regulation

Recital 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016<sup>18</sup>, the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes *have been* mobilised to offer *volunteering*,

##### *Amendment*

(3) In its Communication “A European Solidarity Corps” of 7 December 2016<sup>18</sup>, the Commission emphasised the need to strengthen the foundations for solidarity work across Europe, to provide young people with more and better opportunities for solidarity activities covering a broad range of areas, and to support national, *regional* and local actors, in their efforts to cope with different challenges and crises. The Communication launched a first phase of the European Solidarity Corps whereby different Union programmes *and initiatives were* mobilised *and designed* to

*traineeship or job* opportunities *to* young people *across the EU*. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

offer *more* opportunities *for* young people *not only to carry out volunteering activities but also to obtain a job, traineeship or apprenticeship with an activity which entails solidarity, at home or abroad*. These activities, whether implemented before or after the entry into force of this Regulation, should continue to apply the rules and conditions set by the respective Union programmes that have financed them under the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps.

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<sup>18</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Solidarity Corps, COM(2016) 942 final of 7.12.2016.

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<sup>18</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Solidarity Corps, COM(2016) 942 final of 7.12.2016.

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 4

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities while acquiring useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers.

##### *Amendment*

(4) Young people should be provided with easily accessible opportunities to engage in solidarity activities, which could enable them to express their commitment to the benefit of communities while acquiring useful experience, **knowledge**, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability. Those activities would also support the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers **and bolster the European Solidarity Corps targeting young people from rural communities**.

### **Amendment 3**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Recital 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(4a) Special attention should be given to multilingualism because some of the exchanges will be transnational.***

### **Amendement 4**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Recital 5 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(5a) The European Solidarity Corps should provide young people with an opportunity to gain invaluable experience, develop their skills and contribute to society, involving more and better opportunities covering a broad range of activities, while at the same time providing access to proper training, followed by formal recognition of the skills and experience gained.***

### **Amendement 5**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Recital 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a single entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member

(6) The European Solidarity Corps would provide a single entry point for solidarity activities throughout the Union. Consistency and complementarity of that framework should be ensured with other relevant Union policies and programmes. The European Solidarity Corps should build on the strengths and synergies of existing programmes, notably the European Voluntary Service. It should also complement the efforts made by Member



States to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).

States, ***regions and cities*** to support young people and ease their school-to-work transition under the Youth Guarantee<sup>19</sup> by providing them with additional opportunities to make a start on the labour market in the form of traineeships or jobs in solidarity-related areas within their respective Member State or across borders. Complementarity with existing Union level networks pertinent to the activities under the European Solidarity Corps, such as the European Network of Public Employment Services, EURES and the Eurodesk network, should also be ensured. Furthermore, complementarity between existing related schemes, in particular national solidarity schemes and mobility schemes for young people, ***including schemes operating at regional or local level***, and the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured, building on good practices where appropriate.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee (2013/C 120/01).

## Amendement 6

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 6 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(6a) Through solidarity placements, projects and networking activities in the field of agriculture and rural development, the European Solidarity Corps offers a unique opportunity for young people to exchange best practices.***

## Amendement 7

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 7

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, the European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the concerned **programmes**. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the beneficiaries should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

*Amendement*

(7) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow other Union programmes such as the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Europe for Citizens programme, **the European Social Fund**, the European Regional Development Fund and the Health Programme to contribute to the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps by supporting activities within its scope. This contribution should be financed in accordance with the respective basic acts of the **programmes** concerned **and as a complement to cohesion policy, with a view to securing greater involvement of young people, civil society and existing volunteering schemes in Member States**. Once they have obtained a valid European Solidarity Corps quality label, the beneficiaries should be given access to the European Solidarity Corps portal and receive the quality and support measures provided according to the type of activity offered.

## Amendement 8

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 8

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) The European Solidarity Corps should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity projects based on their own initiative. Those opportunities should

*Amendement*

(8) The European Solidarity Corps should open up new opportunities for young people to carry out volunteering, traineeship or job placements in solidarity-related areas as well as to devise and develop solidarity **programmes and** projects based on their own initiative.

contribute to enhancing their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development. The European Solidarity Corps should also support networking activities for European Solidarity Corps participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes.

Those opportunities should contribute to enhancing their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development. The European Solidarity Corps should also support networking activities for European Solidarity Corps participants and organisations as well as measures to ensure the quality of the supported activities and to enhance the validation of their learning outcomes.

## **Amendement 9**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 11 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(11a) LEADER, a community-led local development measure, is a clear example of an initiative that already implements several projects with a significant solidarity component, such as the integration of migrants and refugees and the prevention of natural disasters. LEADER thus plays an active role in the on-the-ground implementation, in rural areas, of the European Solidarity Corps and other potential rural development measures that can be used for the benefit of that initiative, such as cooperation measures, activities relating to basic services, village renewal and technical assistance.***

## **Amendement 10**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the European Solidarity Corps, in particular by

(13) Particular attention should be paid to ensuring the quality of the placements and other opportunities offered under the European Solidarity Corps, in particular by

offering training, language support, insurance, administrative and post-placement support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their European Solidarity Corps experience.

offering training, language support, insurance, administrative and post-placement support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their European Solidarity Corps experience. ***The engagement of youth organisations and other civil society organisations is paramount when designing placements and other opportunities under the European Solidarity Corps.***

## Amendement 11

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 19

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(19) In order to ensure continuity in the activities supported by the programmes contributing to the European Solidarity Corps, the financial support to solidarity placements and projects should indicatively follow ***an 80%-20%*** split between volunteering placements and solidarity projects on the one hand and traineeship and job placements on the other hand.

#### *Amendement*

(19) In order to ensure continuity in the activities supported by the programmes contributing to the European Solidarity Corps, the financial support to solidarity placements and projects should indicatively follow ***a 75%-25%*** split between volunteering placements and solidarity projects on the one hand and traineeship and job placements on the other hand.

## Amendement 12

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 20

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow participating countries to make additional national funding available in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps.

#### *Amendement*

(20) In order to maximise the impact of the European Solidarity Corps, provisions should be made to allow participating countries to make additional national, ***regional or local*** funding available in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps.

## Amendement 13

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 23

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(23) The European Solidarity Corps should target young people aged 18-30. Participation in the activities offered by the European Solidarity Corps should require prior registration in the European Solidarity Corps Portal.

*Amendement*

(23) The European Solidarity Corps should target young people aged 18-30, ***irrespective of their sex, gender or physical and mental abilities***. Participation in the activities offered by the European Solidarity Corps should require prior registration in the European Solidarity Corps Portal.

## Amendement 14

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 24

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones. Special measures should therefore be put in place to promote social inclusion, the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the European Solidarity Corps. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

*Amendement*

(24) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that the activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps are accessible to all young people, notably the most disadvantaged ones ***and those from rural areas***. Special measures should therefore be put in place to promote social inclusion, the participation of disadvantaged young people, as well as to take into account the constraints imposed by the remoteness of the outermost regions of the Union and the Overseas Countries and Territories<sup>24</sup>. Similarly, the participating countries should endeavour to adopt all appropriate measures to remove legal and administrative obstacles to the proper functioning of the European Solidarity Corps. This includes resolving, where possible, and without prejudice to the Schengen acquis and Union law on the entry and residence of third-country nationals, administrative issues that create difficulties in obtaining visas and residence permits.

<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community, OJ L314, 30.11.2001, p.1.

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<sup>24</sup> Individuals from an overseas country or territory (OCT) and competent public and /or private bodies and institutions from an OCT may participate in the programmes in accordance with Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Community, OJ L314, 30.11.2001, p.1.

## **Amendement 15**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 26**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(26) An entity willing to apply for funding to offer placements under the European Solidarity Corps should have first received a quality label as a precondition. This requirement should not apply to natural persons seeking financial support on behalf of an informal group of European Solidarity Corps participants for their solidarity projects.

##### *Amendement*

(26) An entity willing to apply for funding to offer placements under the European Solidarity Corps should have first received a quality label as a precondition. This requirement should not apply to natural persons seeking financial support on behalf of an informal group of European Solidarity Corps participants for their *programmes and* solidarity projects.

## **Amendement 16**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 28**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured at European, national and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely on all the implementing bodies of the European Solidarity Corps, including, when relevant, with the support of other key stakeholders.

##### *Amendement*

(28) Appropriate outreach, publicity and dissemination of the opportunities and results of the actions supported by the European Solidarity Corps should be ensured at European, national, *regional* and local level. The outreach, publicity and dissemination activities should rely on all the implementing bodies of the European Solidarity Corps, including, when relevant, with the support of other key stakeholders.

## Amendement 17

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 35

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(35) In compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union<sup>1</sup>, the Commission should adopt work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The work programme should set out the measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the European Solidarity Corps, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. Work programmes and any amendments to them should be adopted by ***implementing acts in accordance with the examination procedure.***

*Amendement*

(35) In compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union<sup>2</sup>, the Commission should adopt work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The work programme should set out the measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the European Solidarity Corps, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. Work programmes and any amendments to them should be adopted by ***means of delegated acts.***

## Amendement 18

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 40 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(40a) In drawing funds from other programmes, the actions of the European Solidarity Corps should reflect the objectives of the budget line of the original fund and this transfer of funds should not compromise the activities of existing programmes.***

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

## Amendement 19

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 40 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(40b) Given the therapeutic value of working with animals, special attention should be given to providing young people with mental and physical disabilities with opportunities to work on care farms.***

## Amendement 20

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing unmet societal needs to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, entrepreneurship, in particular social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and nature protection, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, reception and integration of third-country nationals, territorial cooperation and cohesion;

(1) “solidarity activity” means an activity aimed at addressing unmet societal needs to the benefit of a community while also fostering the individual’s personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, which may take the form of placements, projects or networking activities, developed in relation to different areas, such as education and training, employment, gender equality, entrepreneurship, in particular social entrepreneurship, citizenship and democratic participation, environment and nature protection, ***the sustainable exploitation of natural resources***, climate action, disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery, agriculture and rural development, provision of food and non-food items, health and wellbeing, creativity and culture, physical education and sport, social assistance and welfare, ***solidarity between generations***, reception and integration of third-country nationals, territorial cooperation and cohesion;



## Amendement 21

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 8

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from two to twelve months, remunerated by the organisation hosting the European Solidarity Corps participant, based on a written traineeship agreement, which includes a learning and training component, and undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment;

*Amendement*

(8) “traineeship” means a period of work practice from two to twelve months, **adequately** remunerated by the organisation hosting the European Solidarity Corps participant, based on a written traineeship agreement, which includes a learning and training component, and undertaken in order to gain practical and professional **knowledge and** experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment;

## Amendement 22

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 10 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

**(10a) “social farming” means the use of agricultural resources to improve the social, physical and mental well-being of individuals, enabling those who are psychologically or socially vulnerable to take part in farm work;**

## Amendement 23

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their skills and competences for personal, educational, social, civic and

(a) to provide young people, with the support of participating organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their **knowledge**, skills and competences for personal, educational,

professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers;

social, civic and professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition into the labour market, including by supporting the mobility of young volunteers, trainees and workers, ***while ensuring that the substitution of paid work for unpaid labour is avoided;***

## Amendement 24

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete, unmet societal needs and strengthening communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

*Amendement*

(b) to ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete, unmet societal ***and environmental*** needs and strengthening communities, are of high quality and properly validated.

## Amendement 25

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Commission and the participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, vocational training and youth on the one hand and actions under the European Solidarity Corps on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes.

*Amendement*

2. The Commission and the participating countries shall cooperate to achieve efficiency and effectiveness, by ensuring coherence between national, ***regional and local*** programmes and schemes related to solidarity, education, vocational training and youth on the one hand and actions under the European Solidarity Corps on the other hand. Those actions shall build on relevant good practices and existing programmes ***and shall be designed in collaboration with youth organisations and other civil society organisations.***

## Amendement 26

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 6 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The European Solidarity Corps shall pursue its objectives through the following types of actions:

*Amendement*

The European Solidarity Corps shall pursue its objectives through the following types of actions, ***which shall reflect the objectives of the sources of funds used to finance them:***

## Amendement 27

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

***(da) measures to ensure that voluntary activities do not have an adverse effect on potential or existing paid employment and that they are not seen as a substitute for it.***

## Amendement 28

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The financial support to solidarity placements and projects referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 7(1) shall indicatively be **80%** for volunteering placements and solidarity projects; and **20%** for traineeship and job placements.

*Amendement*

3. The financial support to solidarity placements and projects referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Article 7(1) shall indicatively be **75%** for volunteering placements and solidarity projects; and **25%** for traineeship and job placements.

## Amendement 29

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

**4a.** *The European Solidarity Corps shall not have any negative financial impact on existing programmes such as the Erasmus+ programme or the funds to support European youth employment policies.*

## Amendement 30

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 4 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

**4b.** *The Commission and the Member States shall continue to fund civil protection and humanitarian aid so that the European Solidarity Corps is not used to make up for public spending cuts by engaging young volunteers in those social sectors, where jobs were destroyed.*

## Amendement 31

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

6. A participating country may make national funding available to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the European Solidarity Corps, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures.

6. A participating country **or regional or local authority** may make national funding available to beneficiaries to be managed in accordance with the rules of the European Solidarity Corps and, to this end, use the decentralised structures of the European Solidarity Corps, as long as it ensures the complementary pro rata funding of these structures.

## Amendement 32

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 12 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Young people aged 17 to 30 years willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps shall register in the European Solidarity Corps Portal. However, at the moment of commencing a placement or a project a registered young person shall be at least 18 years of age and not older than 30.

*Amendement*

1. Young people aged 17 to 30 years, ***irrespective of their sex, gender or physical and mental abilities***, willing to participate in the European Solidarity Corps shall register in the European Solidarity Corps Portal. However, at the moment of commencing a placement or a project a registered young person shall be at least 18 years of age and not older than 30.

## Amendement 33

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 15 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall regularly monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

*Amendement*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries ***and with the involvement of youth organisations***, shall regularly monitor the performance of the European Solidarity Corps towards achieving its objectives.

## Amendement 34

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 16 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall ensure the dissemination of information, publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

*Amendement*

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the participating countries, shall ensure the dissemination of information publicity and follow-up with regard to all actions supported in the framework of the European Solidarity Corps, ***with special attention to the debriefing of participants after their***

*participation.*

## **Amendement 35**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

**3a. National youth ambassadors' programmes shall be established with the aim of promoting the European Solidarity Corps in different Member States.**

## **Amendement 36**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

1. ***In order to implement this Regulation***, the Commission ***shall*** adopt work programmes by way of ***implementing acts***. Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable.

1. The Commission ***is empowered to*** adopt ***delegated acts in accordance with Article 25a concerning the adoption of*** work programmes. Each work programme shall ensure that the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 are implemented in a consistent manner and shall outline the expected results, the method of implementation and its total amount. The work programmes shall also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action, an indication of the distribution of funds between the participating countries for the actions to be managed through the national agencies and an indicative implementation timetable. ***Moreover, such work programmes shall also include an analysis and justification guaranteeing that they will not have an adverse effect on potential or existing paid employment.***

## **Amendement 37**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

- 2. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 25(2).** *deleted*

## **Amendement 38**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 25**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

**Article 25**

*deleted*

#### **Committee procedure**

**1. The Commission shall be assisted by the committee established by Article 36 of Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.**

**2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.**

## **Amendement 39**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 25 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendement*

#### **Article 25a**

##### **Exercise of the delegation**

- 1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.**
- 2. The power to adopt delegated acts**

*referred to in Article 24 shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from ... [date of entry into force of this Regulation]. The Commission shall draw up a report in respect of the delegation of power not later than nine months before the end of the five-year period. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for periods of identical duration, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months before the end of each period.*

*3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 24 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A revocation decision shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.*

*4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making.*

*5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.*

*6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 24 shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the*



**Amendement 40**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 29 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

"The EAFRD may also finance actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps with an amount of EUR 1 800 000 in current prices in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities for rural development. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013."

*Amendement*

The EAFRD may also finance actions implemented by the European Solidarity Corps with an amount of EUR 1 800 000 in current prices in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, which contribute to one or more of the Union priorities for rural development ***with the aim of boosting young people's interest in agriculture***. The allocation shall be implemented solely in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/XXX, to the exclusion of the specific requirements of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013.

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	European Solidarity Corps
<b>References</b>	COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.6.2017
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	AGRI 12.6.2017
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Czesław Adam Siekierski 13.9.2017
<b>Date adopted</b>	9.11.2017
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 31 –: 3 0: 3
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	John Stuart Agnew, Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Eric Andrieu, Richard Ashworth, José Bové, Daniel Buda, Michel Dantin, Paolo De Castro, Albert Deß, Herbert Dorfmann, Norbert Erdős, Edouard Ferrand, Luke Ming Flanagan, Martin Häusling, Esther Herranz García, Jan Huitema, Peter Jahr, Ivan Jakovčić, Jarosław Kalinowski, Philippe Loiseau, Mairead McGuinness, Ulrike Müller, James Nicholson, Laurențiu Rebegea, Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Ricardo Serrão Santos, Czesław Adam Siekierski, Tibor Szanyi, Marc Tarabella
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Bas Belder, Franc Bogovič, Stefan Eck, Karin Kadenbach, Norbert Lins, Hannu Takkula, Estefanía Torres Martínez, Vladimir Urutchev

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINIONS

<b>31</b>	<b>+</b>
ALDE	Ivan Jakovčić, Ulrike Müller, Hannu Takkula
ECR	Richard Ashworth, Bas Belder, James Nicholson
GUE	Stefan Eck, Luke Ming Flanagan, Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Estefanía Torres Martínez
PPE	Franc Bogovič, Daniel Buda, Michel Dantin, Albert Deß, Herbert Dorfmann, Esther Herranz García, Peter Jahr, Jarosław Kalinowski, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness, Czesław Adam Siekierski, Vladimir Urutchev
S&D	Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Eric Andrieu, Paolo De Castro, Karin Kadenbach, Ricardo Serrão Santos, Tibor Szanyi, Marc Tarabella
VERTS/ALE	José Bové, Martin Häusling

<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>
EFDD	John Stuart Agnew
ENF	Edouard Ferrand, Philippe Loiseau

<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
ALDE	Jan Huitema
ENF	Laurențiu Rebeca
PPE	Norbert Erdos

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

<b>Title</b>	European Solidarity Corps			
<b>References</b>	COM(2017)0262 – C8-0162/2017 – 2017/0102(COD)			
<b>Date submitted to Parliament</b>	24.5.2017			
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 12.6.2017			
<b>Committees asked for opinions</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 12.6.2017	EMPL 12.6.2017	ENVI 12.6.2017	REGI 12.6.2017
	AGRI 12.6.2017	LIBE 12.6.2017		
<b>Not delivering opinions</b> Date of decision	LIBE 22.6.2017			
<b>Associated committees</b> Date announced in plenary	ENVI 5.10.2017	EMPL 5.10.2017		
<b>Rapporteurs</b> Date appointed	Helga Trüpel 30.5.2017			
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	10.10.2017	22.11.2017		
<b>Date adopted</b>	21.2.2018			
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: –: 0:	19 3 5		
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Isabella Adinolfi, Dominique Bilde, Andrea Bocskor, Nikolaos Chountis, Silvia Costa, Mircea Diaconu, Damian Drăghici, María Teresa Giménez Barbat, Giorgos Grammatikakis, Petra Kammerevert, Svetoslav Hristov Malinov, Curzio Maltese, Rupert Matthews, Stefano Maullu, Luigi Morgano, Momchil Nekov, Michaela Šojdrová, Yana Toom, Helga Trüpel, Julie Ward, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski, Milan Zver, Krystyna Łybacka			
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Algirdas Saudargas, Francis Zammit Dimech			
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Claude Turmes			
<b>Date tabled</b>	7.3.2018			

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

<b>19</b>	<b>+</b>
PPE	Andrea Bocskor, Svetoslav Hristov Malinov, Stefano Maullu, Algirdas Saudargas, Michaela Šojdrová, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Francis Zammit Dimech, Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski, Milan Zver
S&D	Silvia Costa, Damian Drăghici, Giorgos Grammatikakis, Petra Kammerevert, Krystyna Łybacka, Luigi Morgano, Momchil Nekov, Julie Ward
VERTS/ALE	Helga Trüpel, Claude Turmes

<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>
ENF	Dominique Bilde
GUE/NGL	Nikolaos Chountis, Curzio Maltese

<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
ALDE	Mircea Diaconu, María Teresa Giménez Barbat, Yana Toom
ECR	Rupert Matthews
EFDD	Isabella Adinolfi

**Key to symbols:**

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention