

Table of Contents

1. Youth Jobs Research.....	2
1.1. Career aspirations for young people.....	2
2. Why is employment of youth important?.....	3
2.1. The positive effects of teenage part-time employment.....	3
3. The Europass CV- a free system for creating a resume to use in Europe.....	4
3.1. Career aspirant The idea behind the Europass curriculum vitae - CV.....	5
4. How to be successful in a job interview?.....	7
4.1. Stand Tall, Sit Still.....	7
4.1.1. Do your homework.....	7
4.1.2. Stay positive.....	8
4.1.3. Dress the part.....	8
5. What is Erasmus+ ?.....	8
5.1. What is a Youth Exchange?.....	9
6. Our project.....	9
7. How to find projects.....	10
7.1. Salto.....	10
7.2. The European Training Calendar.....	11
7.3. Facebook Groups.....	11
8. Partner Composition.....	12

1. Youth Jobs Research

1.1. Career aspirations for young people

The lack of jobs is one of the biggest challenges young people face today, yet by historic standards, youth unemployment is low after peaking at 1 million NEET in 2021, and a large proportion of those 'economically inactive' are in full-time education.

However, youth long-term unemployment (which can include students) is rising as the number of young people spending 12 or more months NEET increases suggesting a more polarised set of outcomes for young people, and young people are still more likely to be unemployed than those from any other age group or be in insecure, low-paid and part-time employment.

This report is right to highlight a disconnect between what young people aspire to be, and the jobs available – recognising that the labour market of today is far more fluid and less secure than in previous years – a 'job for life' is very unlikely, and the geographic spread of many particular jobs is increasingly unequal.

As such, we agree with the key recommendations in this report but would suggest that the omission of youth work and other such activities is an oversight. We know from extensive research that employers are looking for evidence of this, as 'softer skills' important in turning technical skills into economically productive ones'. This is recognised by pupils and teachers who place higher importance on it, and by businesses who report that 'by far the most important factor employers consider when recruiting school and college leavers is their attitude to work (86%), followed by their aptitude for work (63%) and general academic ability (43%).

So yes, let's absolutely give young people a better understanding of the labour market, their potential future options and also better careers and employment specific advice that will help them make choices. But let's also

provide the key elements that employers are looking for and which are often not given in the formal education system, and ensure that all young people have the best opportunity to gain employment.

Whilst youth work cannot bridge the 'disconnect' between aspirations and reality, it can help increase the options available to young people who are unable to gain that 'dream job', and to support those furthest from the labour market in the first instance.



2. Why is employment of youth important?

2.1. The positive effects of teenage part-time employment

Longitudinal studies in Europe and United States commonly show that teenagers who combine full-time study with part-time work can expect to do better in the adult job market than would be expected, given their backgrounds and academic qualifications. Studies that follow the same cohort of young people from childhood to adulthood have routinely found evidence

of higher earnings and fewer periods of unemployment than would be anticipated.

In an interesting study, Jeylan Mortimer and colleagues explore data from the US Youth Development Study, which follows young people born in the mid-1970s up to the age of 30. They find a positive relationship between working part time at age 14 and 15 and a subjective sense of job achievement in adulthood.



Teenage students who worked were far more likely to agree at age 30 that they were working in a job that they wanted. The exact relationship between working when a teenager and later economic success is not well understood, and the phenomenon is not straightforward: students working excessive hours perform worse in final examinations than would otherwise be expected.

3. The Europass CV- a free system for creating a resume to use in Europe

“Europass” can mean two things — a European train ticket or a system for producing a resume/CV to get a job in Europe — and either way, you’re going to see lots of wheels spinning round and round. Let’s

take a look at some the few pros and numerous cons of using the Europass CV.

The Europass curriculum vitae (CV) system is a well-intentioned initiative to standardize the paperwork that people use to look for jobs in Europe. It's a web-based system for producing a free electronic document that contains your contact info, work experience, education and other credentials that qualify you to obtain employment.

In other words, it's an online generator of what Americans and Canadians call a resume, and what Europeans call a CV. And, sadly, it's a mess. This may be our subjective opinion, but it's also based on considerable experience developing and working with various online resume/CV instruments. The Europass curriculum vitae (CV) is often described as having bad visual design and being outdated. It's what many people call a "discount resume," and it looks like it.

It's an attempt by a sprawling, multilingual European organization to standardize a one-page document that should be all about the job skills of one individual. Theoretically, this free, web-generated document would give anyone in the world equal footing to compete for any job in Europe. But it falls far short of its goals.

3.1. Career aspirant The idea behind the Europass curriculum vitae - CV

The Europass curriculum vitae (CV) exists, in part, because the continent of Europe has engaged in many laudable efforts to unify its disparate parts by removing unnecessary boundaries. In 1999, the European Union achieved the amazing goal of retiring national currencies in favour of the universally accepted euro. Just try that on any other continent!

Europe has become a commonwealth of nations, with different languages, cultures and customs, yet border controls and most other barriers

between individual EU countries no longer exist. So why not standardize a system for Italians to seek employment in Germany, or for the Swiss to find work in Spain? That's the idea behind the Europass CV, to normalize the process of Europeans reaching across borders to get a job.

In 2004, the European Parliament adopted the European Commission's proposal for "a single framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences," which became the Europass CV. Since then, more than 100 million Europass CVs have been created online. The entire [portfolio](#) consists of five Europass documents to use as your digital credentials:

- The [Europass Curriculum Vitae](#) template provides a standardized format for CVs/resumes to use in job applications.
- The [Europass Diploma Supplement](#) provides information on your education, the type of degree you hold and the institution that granted it.
- The [Europass Certificate Supplement](#) provides information on any vocational training you've received and any certification earned.
- The [Europass Language Passport](#) provides information on your language skills, though it's now been incorporated into the Europass profile to be used as a section on your CV.
- The [Europass Mobility](#) document provides information about skills you have gained while traveling, studying or working in a foreign country.

4. How to be successful in a job interview?

4.1. Stand Tall, Sit Still

A successful interview isn't only about what you say; your body language speaks volumes too. Slumping and shuffling in your seat, twirling your hair and folding your arms can lose you valuable points before you've even uttered a word. But practise makes perfect. Run through some interview questions at home – either with a friend or in front of the mirror – and tame those nervous tics before the big day. Then take a deep breath, summon yourself belief and wow them with a strong handshake, genuine smile and plenty of eye contact.



4.1.1. Do your homework

Never walk into an interview unprepared. Read up on the company you're dealing with, learning what they do and how they do it. Be able to articulate why you want to work for them and how your personality and experience would prove a perfect fit. Then show off your knowledge and initiative by asking a few well-informed questions about the business at the end of the meeting.

4.1.2. Stay positive

Even when you're tackling the toughest interview questions, never be pulled down by negativity. There's no need to divulge the ugly details of your last role or badmouth a former boss. Instead, keep your responses upbeat and professional, focusing on your strengths and enthusiasm for the role.

4.1.3. Dress the part

If you're itching to make an avant-garde style statement, interview day isn't the time to do it. In fact, some bosses admit that dress sense can be the decider between similar candidates. So unless you're in the running for a role at a cutting-edge fashion business, it's best to play it safe. Plump for smart business attire and save your trendier togs for that new-job night out.

5. What is Erasmus+ ?

The Erasmus Programme was launched in 1987. Erasmus+ is the EU Programme in the fields of education, training, youth and sport for the period 2021-2027. Education, training, youth and sport are key areas that support citizens in their personal and professional development. Being able to study, gaining knowledge and new experiences, as well as learning new languages in addition to your mother language should be accessible to everyone. And this is what Erasmus+ is offering.

The Programme also encourages its participants, in particular youth, to engage in civic society and raising awareness about EU common values. Strengthening European identity and the participation of young people in democratic processes is of paramount importance for the European Union's future. This issue can also be targeted through non-formal learning activities, which aim at enhancing the skills and competences of young people as well as their active citizenship.

5.1. What is a Youth Exchange?

Youth Exchanges can last from 5 up to 21 days, they are available for people in age 13 - 30. To be a leader of the group you must be at least 18 years old. Erasmus supports non-formal learning mobility of young people in the form of Youth Exchanges, with the objective to engage and empower young people to become active citizens, connect them to the European project as well as to help them acquire and develop competences for life and their professional future. More specifically, Youth Exchanges aim to:

- Foster intercultural dialogue and learning and feeling of being European;
- Develop skills and attitudes of young people;
- Strengthen European values and breaking down prejudices and stereotypes;
- Raise awareness about socially relevant topics and thus stimulate engagement in society and active participation.

6. Our project

Title: Education for a Job

Place: Campina, Romania

Date: 19.03 – 25.03.2022

Participants: 30 young people, 16 - 25 years old and 6 leaders (no age limit for a leader)

Partners: Estonia, Italy, Slovakia, Poland, Spain and Romania.



The project was a youth exchange focusing on an increased unemployment rate. This is due to the concentration on schools of the horizontal approach that prevents active participation, and also because skilled staff have a low level of involvement in supporting non-formal learning

methods. This was the main reason why we have developed this project, which can help and support the process of integration into the labour market of young people from the 6 participating communities. Each participant received at the end of the project the Youthpass Certificate.

Participants were local young people aged 16 - 25 old, motivated to take part in all stages of the project: preparation, implementation, dissemination and follow up. There is no need of previous experience. Group leader should be experienced in working with youth and should have experience with Erasmus+.



7. How to find projects

7.1. Salto

SALTO-YOUTH is a network of seven Resource Centres working on European priority areas within the youth field.

As part of the European Commission's Training Strategy, SALTO-YOUTH provides non-formal learning resources for youth workers and youth leaders and organises training and contact-making activities to support organisations and National Agencies (NAs) within the frame of the European Commission's [Erasmus+ Youth programme](#), [the European Solidarity Corps](#), and beyond.

7.2. The European Training Calendar

Are you curious about what Europe has to offer in training activities in the field of youth and non-formal education? Search this online calendar for interesting international training and use it for promoting your own training offers!

The main focus of the European Training Calendar is the Erasmus+:

Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps programmes. All training activities in the Calendar should be European (or international), not-for-profit and directed to youth workers wishing to develop their competences to further work with and for young people, to share experiences and, on occasion, to make contacts for common future projects. Besides, the calendar can also publish calls for projects in which youth workers will meet other target groups such as youth policy makers, adult learning organisers, among others, in order to learn from each other.

You can contribute to the varied range to make it even more attractive by adding your training offer along those open by National Agencies, NGOs and other partners active in the youth work in Europe.

7.3. Facebook Groups

Erasmus+ Youth Exchanges - this group is created in order to spread and share information about YOUTH EXCHANGES. It is for future participants to find opportunities and for organisations to share their open calls with multicultural community of youth.

Erasmus Plus Projects - this group has been established to share the posts about the Erasmus+ projects and follow them. You can share your announcements, photos, information, and news about Erasmus+ and European projects.



8. Partner Composition

8.1. Asociatia Together **Romania** (host organization)

8.2. STEP - Society for territorial progress **Slovakia**

8.3. Avatud Ühiskond MTÜ **Estonia**

8.4. VulcanicaMente **Italy**

8.5. Stowarzyszenie Grupa Dzialania **Poland**

8.6. JENF - Juntos por la Educacion No Formal **Spain**

This project has been made thanks to all the support and the hard work of the people which took part in and we would like to thank each one of them.