

The owner of this certificate has participated in a project supported by the European Solidarity Corps. This European Union programme enables young people to help build a more inclusive society and respond to societal and humanitarian challenges. It offers opportunities to develop valuable competences abroad or in the individuals' home country. The European Solidarity Corps also enables capacity-building for organisations involved in the programme.



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

FRANCESCO CASTIGLIONE

born on 05/02/2000 in Catania, Italy

volunteered in the project

SEEDS OF SOLIDARITY

in Åmål, Sweden

from 01/09/2022 to 04/04/2023

About the project

The project promoted, among other things, further mobility throughout Europe. One key aim was the promotion of self-confidence in youth with the opportunity to experience life abroad in a new culture. During the project, the volunteers were given the chance to learn a new language, experience new working opportunities, and broaden their knowledge of the European Union. The project reached and engaged many people, presenting an increased opportunity for international migration and cooperation.

The tasks of Francesco Castiglione

The volunteer supported Europe Direct Fyrbodalen with their main aim of providing European citizens with general information on the European Union through social media, event planning, and school visits. The volunteer also supported individuals and groups of young people by informing them about the Erasmus+ Mobility Programme, how to find a partner organisation, how to apply for a project, and how to prepare for it.

This certificate has been issued by The Municipality of Åmål.



Åmåls kommun

Kristin Björk
Project Manager

Åmål, Sweden, 05/07/2023

Youthpass is a Europe-wide validation system for non-formal and informal learning within the European Union youth programmes.

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LEARNING CONTEXT

A European Solidarity Corps Volunteering Project offers an informal and non-formal learning context for volunteers to engage in a community or help overcome societal challenges. The tasks and responsibilities volunteers assume within the project, along with a new cultural context, help them develop new and strengthen existing competences. This process is supported by mentoring provided by the hosting organisation as well as a cycle of training and evaluation activities.

COMPETENCES DEVELOPED BY FRANCESCO CASTIGLIONE

The following summary is the result of a reflection and self-assessment process which took place during and after the project.

Multilingual competence

The native language of the volunteer is Italian, yet the volunteer worked entirely in English during their time in Åmål, maintaining a high standard throughout. The volunteer also worked with people of many different cultures, including Swedish, Belgian, British, American, and more.

Additionally, the volunteer began learning Swedish during their stay.

Personal, social and learning to learn competence

Events were organised by the volunteer for students at local schools so that the students (and teachers) could learn more about the EU. A contact list was required for this, which the volunteer created and made available for others in the office. The contact list has allowed others in the office to maintain a connection, simplifying many tasks for both those working now and in the future.

Citizenship competence

The volunteer remained informed about EU-related news via EU newsletters with the purpose of being able to present clear, trustworthy, and transparent information to the citizens through their other tasks.

Additionally, the volunteer was an ambassador on behalf of the office to the European Citizens Initiative to involve other Swedes to take an active part in EU policy-making.

Entrepreneurship competence

Many of the tasks involved came from the ideas of the volunteer himself. One such example was an EU network with interns from other Europe Direct offices' in Sweden.

The competence description in Youthpass is based on the European Union framework for Key Competences for Lifelong Learning:
<https://education.ec.europa.eu/focus-topics/improving-quality-equity/key-competences-lifelong-learning>



Digital competence

The volunteer promoted EU-related events and activities within the municipality and beyond on Europe Direct's social media accounts. This consisted of Instagram and Facebook.

Additionally, the volunteer produced a podcast alongside two other volunteers, focusing on European youth and the volunteers' experience within Åmål.

REFERENCES

Kristin Björk
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Francesco Castiglione

Åmål, Sweden, 05/07/2023

PROJECT DETAILS

Below are further details about the project in which Francesco Castiglione volunteered.

Individual volunteering

01/09/2022–04/04/2023 | in Åmål, Sweden

Hosting organisation: Åmåls kommun

FURTHER PARTICIPATION DETAILS

Related training activities

The volunteer has taken part in the on-arrival and mid-term training organised in November and March by the Swedish National Agency in Stockholm. The volunteer has also participated in a volunteer meet-up in the city of Örebro with the purpose of discussing innovative ways to involve youngsters in topics such as fast fashion, democratic values and participation, etc.

Further information about the European Solidarity Corps can be found here: https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en
More information about this project can be found in the European Solidarity Corps project database:
https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity/projects_en