

Solidarity – A key concept for forward-looking youth work in Europe

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Abstract

The climate crisis, the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequences of the Russian attack on Ukraine are shaking Europe and the world. European values are being challenged more seriously than ever. Togetherness, community and solidarity in Europe are gaining in importance. Young people in particular are strongly affected by these developments and are looking for ways and opportunities to engage in community. The EU youth programmes and especially the European Solidarity Corps with its solidarity projects offer a suitable framework for strengthening intercultural learning, European awareness and social commitment as well as political participation of young people. In this context, the awareness of European values and their implementation in projects and activities in the sense of active citizenship is crucial. The article therefore takes up the question of how this is achieved in practice, what young people associate with solidarity and how this is implemented in projects.