



Recognition of Competences Acquired by Volunteers

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Recognition and validation of competences from informal or non-formal settings is commonly understood as one of the most important challenges for educational and training sector nowadays.

One of the most powerful informal learning contexts is represented by the volunteering sector, where young people of all education, cultural and social backgrounds, have the opportunity to experience different challenging situations, putting into practice their own skills and getting wide experience and new competences. Most of this new knowledge can represent an asset for volunteers in other areas of their life, as, for example, in professional career.

Volunteering is an opportunity, not only to be socially active and to feel part of civil society, but it is also a way to gain skills and competences.

<https://e-c-c.at/recovol>

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The database with best practice examples is open!

What does the database offer?

The database offers an overview of currently more than 40 projects, initiatives and methods for the validation of non-formal and informal learning. It can be searched by various parameters, such as target group, topic or country of origin. A special feature is the integrated translation system, which not only translates the database but also the examples of good practice into any desired language. Currently, models from eleven European countries are represented; new entries are added every month. The database provides a good overview of how competences acquired through volunteering can be validated and recognised. Such recognition can motivate volunteers to engage in additional learning activities or to increase or improve their employability.

<https://www.e-c-c.at/recovol-database/>

The first version of the catalogue will also be online soon!

In the coming days, the catalogue will be published on the project homepage with an overview of the European legal framework regarding the recognition of formal, non-formal and informal learning and the validation of acquired learning. It will present the situation in the European countries covered by partners of this Erasmus partnership, i.e., Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain as well as the associated partner countries Germany, Denmark, France and Italy.