

## European Volunteering Capital 2021 Call for Candidates



CEV launches the eighth edition of the European Volunteer Capital Competition.

### What is the purpose of the competition?

The European Volunteering Capital Competition 2021 aims to promote volunteering at local level by sharing best practice and **giving recognition to municipalities that support and strengthen partnerships with volunteer centres and volunteer involving organisations in their communities in implementing the CEV 5R policy priorities for volunteering and the recommendations of the Policy Agenda for Volunteering in Europe (PAVE)**. The winning municipality will be granted the title of “European Volunteering Capital 2021” and will be promoted as such during 2020 and 2021 throughout Europe and beyond. The winners and candidates will have the opportunity to join a unique community of practice of municipalities (and other levels of local and regional authorities) that have expertise in, and a shared concern for, strengthening, inspiring and celebrating VOLUNTEERING and SOLIDARITY.

### Who is Eligible to apply?

Municipalities of any size from a member state of the Council of Europe.

### How is the award chosen?

An international Jury of 8 experts appointed by CEV, and including a representative of CEV, individually score the applications from the candidate municipalities. The award is given to the candidate municipality receiving the highest total score, taking into account the individual jury scores submitted. The experts assess the ways in which the municipalities demonstrate their support to volunteers and their policies and practice in relation to the [CEV 5R policy priorities](#) and the [EYV 2011 PAVE recommendations](#). How the municipality intends to engage with the [European Solidarity Corps](#) is also taken into account.

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**The information provided in the online form linked at the end of this document will count as 50% of the final score allocated to each candidate municipality. 25% of the score will be allocated according to a 5 minute video that will be submitted together with the written evidence. 25% of the score will be allocated based on the maximum 10 minute\* presentation of the candidature during the Candidates Reception organised by CEV on 20 November 2019 in Brussels (BE).**

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The video should contribute to demonstrating in a visual way how volunteering policies and programmes are implemented in the municipality. It should provide complementary information to that provided in the application form and during the physical presentation but at the same time be understandable in isolation having in mind that it will be shared online.

(\*The final decision on the number of minutes will be communicated when the total number of candidate municipalities is known).

**The Jury is composed of representatives from:**

1. European Volunteer Centre
2. European Parliament
3. European Commission
4. European Economic and Social Committee Committee of the Regions
5. Municipality of Košice (holder of the EVC 2020 title)
6. Council of Europe
7. Business member of the Employee Volunteering European Network

In the event of a tie, the deciding score will lie with the representative of the European Volunteer Centre (CEV). The Jury's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into by CEV or individual Jury members with candidates in relation to that decision. A short summary of the opinion of the Jury concerning the merits of each candidate municipality will be published following the announcement of the winner in December 2019. The precise membership of the Jury will be defined once the candidate municipalities are known. This is in order to avoid conflicts of interests, in particular concerning the countries or regions from where the EP, EESC and CoR representatives are from.

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**Competition Timeline:**

4 February 2019	Open call for applications
11 June 2019	Deadline for written applications and submission of videos
12 June 2019	Candidates announcement on social media and publication of videos
June/ July 2019	Presentation of a certificate of candidacy in Brussels to an appropriate representative from the National and/or Regional representation to the EU
July / August 2019	Appointment of the Jury
20 November 2019	Presentation of Candidatures as part of the CEV Volunteering Congress at the Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU in Brussels, Belgium. Further details about this event will be communicated in September 2019
December 2019	Announcement of the European Volunteering Capital 2021 Winner (exact date & venue tbc)

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**How to Apply:**

The link to the online application form is found at the end of this document. **Videos should be submitted to [gabriella.civico\[a\]cev.be](mailto:gabriella.civico[a]cev.be) before the deadline i.e June 11th using a suitable file sharing App.**

**Deadline:** 11 June 2019

The **application form needs to be completed in English** providing information on **existing** volunteering policy and practice in your municipality. The sections in the application form reflect the [CEV 5R policy priority](#) fields:

- **Recognition:** The learning achieved by volunteers needs to be properly recognised and accredited when desired. The roadmap for the implementation of the recommendation on the recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning should be fully implemented.
- **Real Value:** The evidence base for volunteering policies should be improved whereby the contribution of volunteering to the economy and social cohesion and convergence be measured and better understood.
- **Regulatory Framework:** Europe still requires a co-ordinated volunteering policy with a single contact point in the EU institutions. Local volunteering strategies need to be rewarded when they are well developed in line with 5R policy priorities and the PAVE recommendations, and supported to improve when they are not, in order to continue to ensure quality volunteering standards.
- **Resources:** Volunteers and their organisations, including infrastructure organisations providing advice, support and training for volunteering, deserve to be properly funded and supported at the local level, including through employee volunteering.
- **Refugees & Social Inclusion:** Volunteers are the backbone to the support being offered to people seeking sanctuary in Europe. It is a current example, and visible symbol, of the importance of volunteers and the way that they embody European values, contribute to resilience, and are available to offer flexible and pragmatic solutions to shared challenges.

You are encouraged to familiarise yourself with these 5R policy priorities as it will assist in making your application. You are also encouraged to liaise with relevant stakeholders in preparing your application such as Volunteer Centres, volunteer organisations and businesses organising employee volunteering opportunities.

The [Policy Agenda for Volunteering in Europe \(PAVE\)](#) document in various languages is available on the CEV website [here](#). If the language needed is not there please enquire with the CEV office. The [“Helping Hands” EYV2011 5 Year Policy Review detailing the 5R policy priorities](#) is also available.

Please distinguish between support and /or situation that exists only in your municipality or when it is the case nationally or regionally.

**NB:** Only information provided directly in the form will be taken into account by the Jury. Other information provided via hyperlinks or other email attachments will not be considered for the purpose of the application.

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#### **Good to know:**

- The winning municipality will be required to sign a **Memorandum of Understanding** with CEV reflecting the agreed framework for cooperation and adherence to communication and visibility guidelines, in particular, the use of the European Volunteering Capital logo that CEV will provide to the winning municipality, and due recognition be given to the co-financers for the competition, namely the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) and the Europe for Citizens Programme
- CEV is not liable for any damage, loss or disappointment suffered by candidate municipalities or any connected individuals for taking part, or not being able to take part, in this competition.
- In the event of unforeseen circumstances, CEV may alter, amend or cancel the competition without prior notice.
- Municipalities that have been awarded the title of “European Volunteer Capital” cannot apply for the next 5 years after having received this recognition.
- CEV reserves the right to change these terms at any time.

**Submission:** Online followed by confirmation email to be sent to [gabriella.civico@cev.be](mailto:gabriella.civico@cev.be)

**Additional requirements:**

1. **Video-** a link to the 5 minutes video on how volunteering policies and programmes are implemented in the municipality to be sent to [gabriella.civico@cev.be](mailto:gabriella.civico@cev.be) (by 11 June 2019)
2. **Scanned signature** of the legal representative- attached to the form
3. **Scan of the official stamp** of the municipality (where available) -attached to the form
4. **Proof of payment:** An application fee of EUR 500 should be paid by every candidate municipality and the proof of payment should be attached to the form. Details are:

<b>Please use the reference:</b>	“name of Municipality” V. Capital Application
<b>Account Holder:</b>	CEV, Rue d’Edimbourg 26, 1050, Bruxelles, Belgium
<b>Bank:</b>	BNP Paribas Fortis
<b>Account Number IBAN:</b>	BE83210007455615
<b>SWIFT:</b>	GEBABEBB

**Candidate European Volunteering Capital 2021 Competition [ONLINE FORM](#)**

**Jury:** For an up to date list of jury members please follow the link:  
<https://www.europeanvolunteercentre.org/ev-capital> .

**Candidates Announcement:** Candidate municipalities will be announced in June 2019

**Decision:** Jury decision is final and will be announced on or near 5 December 2019 International Volunteer Day.

**Useful Resources:**

- The [PAVE communication Tool Kit](#)
- The [Volunteering Infrastructure in Europe](#);
- The [“Helping Hands” EYV2011](#) , 5 Year Policy Review detailing the 5R policy priorities;
- The [Developing European Volunteering Strategies \(DEVS\) Report](#).

**Questions:** [gabriella.civico@cev.be](mailto:gabriella.civico@cev.be)