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Answer given by Mr Micallef  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(22.12.2025)

Youthpass may be obtained for participation in a wide range of learning-oriented activities supported by Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps, including formats that are much shorter than the minimum duration required for the Italian universal civil service and formats that are not related to volunteering.

Solidarity activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps – currently the main EU-level framework for youth volunteering – are intended to complement, rather than replicate, national level schemes. Although volunteering supported by the European Solidarity Corps and the Italian universal civil service may pursue similar objectives, differences in duration and scope mean they are not directly comparable and do not justify automatic equivalence.

With respect to volunteering, the aim of the Youthpass certificate is to ensure that a volunteer's experience in one EU country is recognised and valued in others. As such, the full version of the Youthpass already contains information that may permit the relevant national authorities to grant or refuse functional equivalence between the experience acquired by a Youthpass holder and that of a participant in a national solidarity or civil service scheme, on a case-by-case basis.