

The Laissez-Passer of the Erasmus Generation 2026

**garagErasmus Foundation welcomes back its iconic contest
to once again support European talents.**

This year's prize? €5000!

What is the Laissez-Passer?

The **Laissez-Passer of the Erasmus Generation** is a project launched by garagErasmus Foundation in 2017 on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Erasmus programme that awards a symbolic passport, the Laissez Passer, to **distinguished European talents** providing them with tangible benefits and opportunities to improve their professional projects.

More specifically, the Laissez-Passer consists of a contest where participants that are currently or have been in a mobility experience submit their projects intended to take place within EU countries. **The winner is awarded with a grant allowing them to kickstart their project.**

What is its purpose?

Through the Laissez-Passer of the Erasmus Generation, garagErasmus Foundation aims at:

- Identifying young talented Europeans with mobility experience and proven civic engagement in order to showcase their achievements;
- Valorising skills acquired through international study and professional experiences, as well as volunteering;
- Supporting projects by young Europeans;
- Highlighting the emergence of European role models for the youth;

The expression “Laissez-Passer” is what the Erasmus Generation reckons regarding the barriers and borders of Europe: no obstacles can stop the Erasmus Generation from developing themselves through mobility and work experiences around our European Union.

2026 edition

The **2026 edition** of the Laissez-Passer of the Erasmus Generation, thanks to the collaboration with the **Italian National Agency for Erasmus+ INDIRE**, will award **€5000,00** to the best project pertaining to the theme of **active citizenship**, that consists in initiatives and activities aiming at encourage people to participate actively in their community and democratic society by helping individuals understand their rights and responsibilities, contributing to solving social problems, and strengthening civic engagement.

Active citizenship projects can be regarding (not exhaustive list):

- Community development
- Technology innovations
- Innovative teaching methods
- Environmental conservation
- Health and wellness
- Civic engagement and democracy
- Human rights advocacy
- Rural development
- Promotion of art and culture

and more.

For this edition, the projects will have to be submitted to garagErasmus Foundation describing the project idea in the form and linking a **vertical video (9:16) of not more than 90 seconds**. garagErasmus Foundation will subsequently select the 6 finalists, whose projects will be showcased on its Instagram and TikTok profiles. The project that will get more engagement on gE social media will get a bonus for the final phase (+3 points).

The 6 finalists will then be given the chance to **present their projects** to a Jury selected by garagErasmus Foundation and the National Agency for Erasmus+ of Italy, **during the DIDACTA fair in Florence on 13th of March 2026**, that will subsequently select the winner.

Who can participate?

All those who have completed a mobility period of at least **two months**, for study or work purposes, are entitled to present their candidacy for the Laissez-Passer. Candidates that have completed, or are about to complete, according to the terms of this article, a mobility period, but not within the Erasmus+ programme, will also be accepted.

How to participate?

The form to submit projects can be found on this [link](#). The form requires candidates to provide a description of the project idea and a video that describes the project in any way the candidate prefers, be it simply a person talking, an interview, footage showcasing the problems and solutions, visuals, a compilation etc.

Videos shall have these characteristics:

- **Vertical orientation, 9:16 ratio**
- **Max length: 90 seconds**

Videos that don't respect these parameters will not be considered.

In order for us to receive the video without it losing quality, the form requires a link to an **online cloud** (Dropbox, Google Drive with access, WeTransfer etc) **or to a social media account**, if already published (Youtube, Instagram etc).

Rules of the 2026 Edition

Candidates are required to read the rules carefully before submitting projects.

1. The Laissez-Passer of the Erasmus Generation - 2026 edition - is a project carried out by garagErasmus Foundation with the support of the National Agency for Erasmus+ of Italy.
2. The projects submitted must pertain to the theme of **active citizenship** and must be in line with garagErasmus Foundation's [Ethical Guidelines and Principles](#).
3. garagErasmus will not accept projects that are offensive, against public values or against garagErasmus Foundation's values;
4. All those who have completed a mobility period of at least two months, for study or work purposes, are entitled to present their candidacy for the Laissez-Passer. Candidates that have completed, or are about to complete, according to the terms of this article, a mobility period, but not within the Erasmus+ programme, will also be accepted.
5. garagErasmus Foundation will award a prize of €5.000,00 to the winner, who will be able to invest it in a project of active citizenship as agreed with the Foundation. Please note that there are no additional prizes.
6. Submissions for the Laissez-Passer can be sent **until the 6th of March 2026, 23:59 pm CET**.
7. Submissions will have to respect the parameters required by the form.

8. An internal committee of garagErasmus Foundation will select the best 6 submissions that then will pass to the *final phase*. Under no circumstances appeals against this decision will be admitted.
9. Submissions selected for the *final phase* will be published by garagErasmus Foundation on its social media accounts on Instagram (@garagerasmus_foundation), Facebook and Tik Tok (@garagerasmus). The proposal that will get the highest engagement on garagErasmus social media channels will get +3 points for the *final phase*
10. The final phase will consist in a pitch with the finalists presenting their projects in person to a Jury, **during DIDACTA, the event that will be held in Florence (Italy) on the 13th of March, 2026**. A travel contribution to cover expenses to participate in this event will be provided by garagErasmus Foundation.
11. In order to be allowed access to the final stage of the competition, the candidate has to confirm his/her availability to attend DIDACTA. The event will take place in person.
12. *In the final phase* of the competition, every finalist will be given a certain amount of time to explain to the audience and the jury how they would invest the prize of €5.000,00 in a project of active citizenship, according to the criteria explained above.
13. The winner will be selected by a qualified jury, appointed by the Agenzia Nazionale Erasmus+ INDIRE and garagErasmus Foundation, that will be present at DIDACTA.
14. Under no circumstances appeals against the final decision will be admitted.
15. Subsequently to the final decision, garagErasmus Foundation will contact the Winner who, in order to get the prize of €5.000,00, will have to provide all the financial documents of the project.
16. The grant will cover proven expenses related to the project; no direct money transfer will be done to the winner before the project takes place.

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