



Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

1. What is the EV Capital Competition?

The #EVCapital is an Europe-wide open competition that aims to promote volunteering at the local level by giving recognition to municipalities that support and strengthen partnerships with volunteer centres and volunteer-involving organisations and celebrate and promote volunteering and the impact made by volunteers.

2. Who can participate?

All European Municipalities from Council of Europe Countries can participate. The awarded municipality is chosen from the candidates by an international jury of key personalities connected with volunteering, representing civil society, the private, for-profit sector, as well as the EU institutions.

3. 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.

4. How to Apply (EVCapital 2021)?

All the necessary information is provided in the Call for Applications, available [here](#).

5. Who are the previous winners?

The winners from the former editions are:

Padova 2020 European Volunteering Capital / Kosice 2019 European Volunteering Capital,
Aarhus 2018 European Volunteering Capital / Sligo 2017 European Volunteering Capital,
London 2016 European Volunteering Capital / Lisbon 2015 European Volunteering Capital
Barcelona 2014 European Volunteering Capital.

6. How much does it cost to participate?

Each applicant municipality pays an entry fee of 500 euros.

7. What is the benefit of participation?

- Strengthens volunteering at the local level and connects local volunteering actions, policies and programmes to the European Context.
- Enables volunteers, volunteer-involving and volunteer infrastructure organisations to collaborate more closely with local policy makers in a common cause to strengthen, inspire and celebrate volunteers in their area.
- Requires a detailed audit of volunteer provision at the local level and therefore helps to identify strengths and weaknesses of the approaches taken and provide a catalyst for improvements.
- Enables stakeholders from different fields and sectors to come together and further develop their local volunteering policy and practice frameworks using European standards as guidelines.
- Assists the development of volunteering and solidarity in Europe more widely as the examples shared serve as inspiration for others all across Europe.
- Provides 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.

8. What happens if we win? What do we need to do?

- 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 winner needs to organise a suitable opening and closing ceremony in the winning municipality or in Brussels. They need to be in close contact with the CEV secretariat providing timely and suitable information for online and other media in order to strengthen, inspire and celebrate volunteering in their municipality and across Europe. They should participate in a bid to include an event about Volunteering and Solidarity during EURegionsWeek and assist with hosting the presentation of candidates ceremony of the competition launched during their year as the capital.