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ANKA BRIEFING NOTE

Erasmus+
Programme Guide 2027

What has **changed since 2026?** A point-by-point comparison and a roadmap for applicants

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CALL
EAC/A11/2026

AT A GLANCE

The last guide of the period, the first step into the next

The European Commission published the Erasmus+ 2027 Programme Guide on 18 November 2026. The structure, unit costs and lump sums stay as they were in 2026. The real changes are in four areas: **accreditation, award thresholds, deadlines and policy focus.**

The 2027 Guide is the seventh and last guide of the 2021-2027 programme. Most changes have two origins: the **Education and Skills Package** that the Commission adopted on 5 November 2026, and the preparation of the next Erasmus+ programme for 2028-2034. Projects selected in 2027 stay under the current rules until they close, even if they run into the next period.

This note sets out the differences between the two guides from the applicant's point of view. Each section shows first what has changed and then what it means for an application.

2027 in numbers

€5.36 billion
Total budget of the 2027 Call, about 3% more than in 2026

~~13~~ **18/25**
New minimum score for relevance in Cooperation Partnerships

~~15~~ **21/30**
New minimum score for relevance in Small-scale Partnerships

30.09
Reaccreditation deadline in 2027; validity until 31 December 2034

€1.5 million
Maximum grant per project in Teacher Academies 2.0

~~18~~ **24 months**
New maximum duration of short-term mobility projects

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SUBJECT	Differences between the Erasmus+ Programme Guides 2027 and 2026
COMPARED	Programme Guide 2026 (Version 1, 12.11.2025, 456 pages) · Programme Guide 2027 (Version 1, 18.11.2026, 466 pages)
CALL	EAC/A11/2026 · Official Journal C/2026/6148

HIGHLIGHTS

The 10 changes that matter most

These ten points will do most to decide who gets funded in 2027.

01 No new accreditation call

Organisations applying for the first time in VET, school education, adult education and youth can no longer get accredited. A reaccreditation call for current holders takes its place, with a deadline of 30 September 2027.

02 Higher relevance bar in KA2

At least 18/25 in Cooperation Partnerships (13 in 2026) and 21/30 in Small-scale Partnerships (15 in 2026). The total pass marks stay at 70 and 60.

03 More flexible short-term projects

Consortia can now apply, projects can last 6-24 months instead of 6-18, and the cap of 30 participants is gone.

04 Teacher Academies 2.0 are back

For novice teachers and school leaders; up to €1,500,000 per project, with a deadline of 23 February 2027.

05 School partnerships focus on basic skills

European Partnerships for School Development must aim at a measurable improvement in at least one basic skill. The deadline moves one month earlier, to 9 March 2027.

06 Big deadline shifts

Alliances for Innovation move to 14 September, Capacity Building in VET to 12 May and Virtual Exchanges to 12 October. All sport events close on 19 January.

07 Switzerland and the UK join

Organisations from both countries can apply as full applicants in 2027, and both move into country group 1 of the unit cost tables.

08 Russia fully excluded

Organisations based in Russia and individuals residing there cannot take part in any action in any capacity; Region 4 disappears from the lists.

09 New policy framework

Basic skills, the teaching profession, digital technologies and AI, and VET sit at the centre of KA2. AI literacy appears in the Guide for the first time.

10 Tighter procedures

Written consent is required to use another organisation's PIC/OID, health insurance is compulsory for mobility, and complaints are limited to 7,000 characters.

> In 2027 every project idea has to answer one question: does it prove measurable change, or does it only list activities?

Same priorities, updated content

The four horizontal priorities stay: inclusion and diversity, digital transformation, environment and the fight against climate change, and participation in democratic life. Their content changes in three places.

Digital transformation now covers AI

The text refers to the EU-OECD AI Literacy Framework (2026) and the Commission's updated ethical guidelines on AI and data in teaching. Online safety, digital distraction and healthy screen time are new.

Citizenship becomes a basic skill

Democratic understanding, critical thinking and respect for others now sit next to literacy, mathematics, science and digital skills. Democratic participation is linked to the EU Preparedness Union Strategy.

A quality benchmark for youth participation

The Quality Standards for Meaningful Youth Participation join the reference documents. The SALTO Participation and Information Resource Centre will produce tools and training material.

Protection and insurance

One new sentence sets the tone: **"The programme has a zero-tolerance policy for abuse, sexual harassment and exploitation."** The insurance rules change as well.

INSURANCE	2026	2027
Compulsory	Third-party liability, accident and serious illness, death	Health insurance
Where relevant	Travel insurance	The other four: travel, third-party liability, accident and serious illness, death

Eligible countries



Switzerland and the United Kingdom

Non-associated third countries in 2026; associated countries in 2027, subject to their agreements.

Countries in association talks

Treated as associated if the agreement applies when the grant agreement is signed. This clause did not exist in 2026.

Russia and Belarus

Russian-based organisations and residents of Russia are excluded from all actions. Belarus rules are unchanged.

KEY ACTION 1 · MOBILITY

Accreditation sees the deepest change

The two open accreditation calls of 2026, which did not require Erasmus+ experience, are gone. They are replaced by the call “Reaccreditation in all fields of education, training and youth”.

TOPIC	2026	2027
Who can apply	Any organisation, including newcomers	Only holders of the ECHE, a higher education consortium accreditation, or an accreditation in VET, school education, adult education or youth
Assessment	Scored Erasmus Plan	Pass or fail: final report scores, budget absorption, accreditation report scores, no documented irregularities
Scope	New accreditation	Same type only; a separate application for each field
Thresholds	Scoring set in the Guide	Each National Agency publishes its minimum thresholds before the deadline
Deadline	29 September 2026	**30 September 2027**, 12:00 Brussels time
Validity	—	Until 31 December 2034, the whole 2028-2034 period

New consortium accreditation in higher education

“Erasmus accreditation for a mobility consortium coordinator in the field of higher education” opens as a separate call. It requires at least 70 of 100 points and at least two higher education institutions, with validity from 1 January 2028 to 31 December 2034. Deadline: 30 September 2027. An institution coordinating several consortia can keep only one coordinator accreditation.

A door for newcomers

VET, school and adult education organisations that succeed with short-term projects will later be able to apply for an Erasmus accreditation. Each National Agency will publish the eligibility rules, quality thresholds and maximum number of new accreditations.

Why it matters: According to the Guide, accreditations awarded in 2027 will count as an eligibility criterion at grant stage under the 2028-2034 Regulation. An accredited organisation that misses 30 September 2027 may start the next programme without accredited funding.

KEY ACTION 1 · MOBILITY

Short-term projects open up to smaller organisations

Short-term projects in VET, school education and adult education become more flexible. Four rules change.

RULE	2026	2027
Applicant	Individual organisations only; no consortia	**Consortia allowed: at least one member from the same country, up to €60,000 of third-party support per member**
Duration	6-18 months	**6-24 months**
Cap	30 participants per application	**No participant cap; National Agencies may set a maximum grant**
Repeat grants	Max. 3 grants in 5 consecutive call years	**Limit removed; max. 2 KA1 applications per field and call**
VET: non-associated third countries	Accredited organisations only	**Short-term projects too, up to 20% of the grant**

Courses and training for staff

~~50%~~ **40%**

Maximum share of the grant for "courses and training" in VET and school education

~~€40k~~ **€50k**

Grant ceiling below which projects can still spend €20,000 on courses

New

Beneficiaries can host courses; courses hosted by accredited organisations do not count towards the cap

Other changes by field

- **Adult education:** Group mobility must include joint learning activities with participants from another country and adult learners from at least two EU Member States or associated countries.
- **Higher education:** All student and staff mobility to and from Russia is excluded. Connecting to Erasmus Without Paper moves from "must" to "should".
- **Youth:** Round 1 closes on 11 February, the optional Round 2 on 5 October. Round 2 projects start between 1 February and 30 June. Up to 20% of the budget can go to neighbouring countries.
- **Tie-break rule:** In youth actions, equal scores are decided first by "relevance, rationale and impact", then by "quality of project design".
- **DiscoverEU Inclusion:** Applying informal groups can include young people aged 13 to 30 (18 to 30 in 2026); the group representative must be at least 18.
- **Sport staff mobility:** Up to 15 participants per project instead of 10; a Round 1 grant no longer bars a Round 2 application.
- **Virtual Exchanges:** The deadline moves from 26 March to 12 October 2027.

KEY ACTION 2 · COOPERATION

In partnerships, relevance decides

The 2027 priorities reflect the Education and Skills Package: basic skills, the teaching profession, digital technologies and AI, and VET.

Minimum score for relevance

COOPERATION PARTNERSHIPS

13 → **18** / 25 points



Total pass mark 70 (unchanged) Lump sums: €120k-400k

SMALL-SCALE PARTNERSHIPS

15 → **21** / 30 points



Total pass mark 60 (unchanged) Lump sums: €30k / 60k

In practice: A proposal with a strong work plan and strong impact can now fail on relevance alone. The needs analysis and the link to the priorities should be the best-written part of the application.

Other rule changes

RULE	2026	2027
Venue of activities	Countries of full or associated partners	Only the countries of the beneficiary organisations
New quality criteria	—	Project led by organisations active in the field; partners with demonstrated experience in the field
Small-scale documents	—	Partners sign the Accession and Declaration on Honour forms at application stage

Sector priorities

- **Digital:** Digital and AI literacy, AI readiness, online safety, healthy screen-time routines.
- **School:** Evidence-based measures, measurable goals; the EU Teachers Agenda (mentoring for novice teachers, support for school leaders).
- **VET:** The European Strategy for VET 2026-2030 and its aim of making VET "a first choice".
- **Youth and sport:** Basic skills including citizenship in youth; safe environments and the prevention of harassment, abuse and violence in sport.

Measurable progress for schools

REFOCUSED European Partnerships for School Development

The action that started in 2026 becomes a basic skills action in 2027. The Guide presents it as preparation for the **European School Alliances** proposed for 2028-2034.

One measurable goal

Each partnership must aim to improve at least one basic skill (literacy, mathematics, science, digital or citizenship), based on learner performance data. The 2026 version allowed a wider mix of topics.

Performance improvement plan

A plan with targets, early identification of learning needs, formative assessment, targeted tutoring and additional learning time.

Stricter award criteria

Evaluators look for an evidence base, a baseline with measurable targets and a plan to transfer successful approaches to other schools, coordinated by a steering committee with education expertise.

Deadline and funding

Deadline **9 March 2027** (9 April in 2026). Lump sum of €400,000 per project. Social partners relevant to school education are now eligible partners.

NEW CALL Erasmus+ Teacher Academies 2.0

The 2026 Guide named Teacher Academies but had no call for them. They return in 2027 with a focus on novice teachers and school leaders (ERASMUS-EDU-2027-PEX-TEACH-ACA).

€1.5M MAXIMUM GRANT	**80%** FUNDING RATE	**36 mo.** DURATION	**75/100** PASS MARK
9 orgs AT LEAST, FROM 3 COUNTRIES	**ECHE** COORDINATOR: TEACHER EDUCATION HEI	**23 Feb** 2027, 17:00	**€37.5M** REPORTED TOTAL BUDGET

Each Academy must run joint learning activities, induction and mentoring schemes and mobility windows, recognise learning outcomes and give access to pre-service and novice teachers with fewer opportunities. Each country needs a teacher education institution, a school authority and a school. In a tie, priority goes to countries underrepresented in the Academies funded since 2021.

KEY ACTIONS 2 AND 3

Excellence, capacity and policy support

Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)

Topic 1 still funds projects of up to €4,000,000. The new Topic 2 funds one European Community of Practice of CoVEs of up to €1,500,000. The page limit falls from 120 to 70, and excess pages are hidden from evaluators. Deadline: 16 September 2027.

Alliances for Innovation

Lot 3 "STEM Skills Foundries" does not return. Topic 1 consortia need at least 4 labour market actors and 4 education and training providers (3 and 3 in 2026), with curricula co-designed with industry. The deadline moves from 10 March to 14 September 2027.

Erasmus Mundus

Joint Masters and Design Measures close on 16 February 2027. Design Measures should prepare a joint degree. Residents of Russia cannot receive scholarships. The Latin America share rises from 20% to 24%, Region 3 falls from 18% to 14%.

Capacity Building in Higher Education

Each project must align with one main priority. The limit of two proposals per coordinator is gone. A new initiative of up to €2,000,000 supports a digital higher education environment for students in Gaza. Deadline: 9 February 2027.

Capacity Building in VET

The pass mark rises from 60 to **70** and the relevance minimum from 15 to **20/30**. Coordinators need proven experience in VET; national training and apprenticeship funds become eligible. Deadline: 12 May 2027.

Capacity building in youth and sport

In youth, subcontracting is capped at 10% of the grant; deadline 2 March 2027. In sport, the involvement of clubs, federations or Olympic committees is a new criterion; deadline 9 March 2027.

Sport events: In 2026 there were two deadlines (22 January and 5 March). In 2027 all categories close on **19 January 2027**. Bodies that let Russian athletes compete under full national symbols are excluded from all sport actions.

Key Action 3 and Jean Monnet

European Youth Together

Projects can prepare young people for the 2029 European Parliament elections and work on the Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness. Subcontracting is capped at 10%. The deadline moves from 26 February to 2 March 2027.

Jean Monnet thematic networks

New topics: strategic autonomy, the role of education and culture for integration, EU-Ukraine-Moldova, and EU-Canada including critical raw materials. Lump sums are unchanged; the deadline stays 3 February.

Tighter rules for applications

Most procedural changes look small, but each adds a checkpoint that can lead to a rejected application.

Written consent for PIC and OID

An applicant that lists another organisation's PIC or OID as a beneficiary must have that organisation's explicit written consent. Proof can be requested at any time, and the application may be rejected without it. In 2026 the Guide only mentioned consent to use an OID.

Original content

For National Agency applications, the Declaration on Honour confirms that the applicant or the partnership wrote the content and that no outside party was paid to draft it. Co-writing by a partner inside the consortium is allowed.

Criminal record checks

The granting authority may ask for a clean criminal record certificate for the persons covered by Article 138 of the EU Financial Regulation, such as legal representatives and key project staff.

Contact with National Agencies

Agencies may clarify an application by phone or in an online or in-person meeting. A written summary of the exchange follows.

Complaints

The main text cannot exceed 7,000 characters; attachments and links are disregarded. A complaint that is too long or incomplete is closed if not fixed within two weeks.

Risk management

Agencies can reduce or remove pre-financing, ask for a guarantee and apply reinforced monitoring. A breach of EU values can lead to the termination of an accreditation.

Hidden subcontracting

Core tasks such as financial management, contact with the National Agency and reporting cannot be outsourced. Disguising such outsourcing as employment is no longer possible.

New definitions

Parent, daughter and sister organisations can count as affiliated entities. The Glossary defines an NGO as a voluntary, non-profit organisation independent from government that is not a political party or a trade union.

2027 CALENDAR

This year's deadlines at a glance

National Agency deadlines at 12:00, EACEA deadlines at 17:00 (Brussels time).

New call · Moved significantly · Minor change or unchanged

January
- 19 Sport events (all categories)

February
- 3 Jean Monnet
- 9 Capacity Building in Higher Education
- 11 KA1 youth, DiscoverEU, sport staff · Round 1
- 16 Erasmus Mundus
- 18 KA1 VET, school, adult · HE mobility
- 23 Teacher Academies 2.0

March
- 2 Capacity Building in Youth
- 2 European Youth Together
- 9 Cooperation and Small-scale Partnerships · Round 1
- 9 School Development Partnerships
- 9 Capacity Building in Sport

April

May
- 12 Capacity Building in VET

June

July

August

September
- 14 Alliances for Innovation
- 16 Centres of Vocational Excellence
- 30 Reaccreditation (all fields)
- 30 HE mobility consortium coordinator accreditation

October
- 5 KA1 and KA2 · Round 2
- 12 Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges

November

December

Busy season in February and March: 11 of the 19 deadlines in the calendar fall in these two months. School Development Partnerships moved one month earlier, so preparation should start now. In autumn, Alliances for Innovation, CoVEs and reaccreditation close one after another.

2026 AND 2027 COMPARED

Deadlines side by side

ACTION	2026	2027	CHANGE
New accreditation (VET, school, adult education, youth)	29 September	**No call**	Replaced by reaccreditation
Reaccreditation (all fields)	No call	**30 September**	New; valid until 31.12.2034
HE mobility consortium coordinator accreditation	No call	**30 September**	New
HE consortium accreditation and HE mobility projects	19 February	**18 February**	One day earlier
KA1 VET, school and adult education (Rounds 1 and 2)	19 Feb · 1 Oct	**18 Feb · 5 Oct**	Round 2 four days later
KA1 youth, DiscoverEU Inclusion, sport staff	12 Feb · 1 Oct	**11 Feb · 5 Oct**	Round 2 projects start 1 Feb-30 Jun
Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges	26 March	**12 October**	Spring to autumn
Cooperation and Small-scale Partnerships (Rounds 1 and 2)	5 Mar · 1 Oct	**9 Mar · 5 Oct**	Four days later
European Partnerships for School Development	9 April	**9 March**	One month earlier
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies 2.0	No call	**23 February**	New call
Centres of Vocational Excellence	3 September	**16 September**	13 days later, new Topic 2
Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters and Design Measures	12 February	**16 February**	Four days later
Alliances for Innovation	10 March	**14 September**	Spring to autumn
Capacity Building in Higher Education	10 February	**9 February**	One day earlier
Capacity Building in VET	26 March	**12 May**	About seven weeks later
Capacity Building in Youth	26 February	**2 March**	Four days later
Capacity Building in Sport	5 March	**9 March**	Four days later
Sport events (large-scale · local and European-wide)	22 Jan · 5 Mar	**19 January (all)**	Local events ~6 weeks earlier
European Youth Together	26 February	**2 March**	Four days later
Jean Monnet actions	3 February	**3 February**	No change

BUDGET

€5.36 billion
and a bridge to the next period

The Commission announced about €5.36 billion for the 2027 Call, about 3% more than the roughly €5.2 billion of 2026. About 88% of the budget goes to education and training.

Breakdown of the 2027 Call



€4.71 billion
Education and training

€531 million
Youth

€112 million
Sport

Reported allocations for new and refocused actions



Programme budgets



The Commission proposed the next programme on 17 July 2025 with an increase of about 56% and calls it "the backbone of the Union of Skills". The proposal still awaits adoption by the European Parliament and the Council. Under the 2027 Annual Work Programme (Decision C(2026) 7171), the maximum EU contribution for 2027 is €6,212,985,300.

Data behind the Education and Skills Package: One in three 15-year-olds in the EU struggles with reading and mathematics (PISA 2025). Teacher shortages limit learning in schools attended by 40% of students. 64% of people aged 16 to 24 use generative AI (Eurostat 2026).

IN PRACTICE

What it means for applicants

Türkiye is a country associated to the Programme, so Turkish organisations can still apply as coordinators and full partners in 2027; National Agency applications go to the Turkish National Agency. The 2027 rules call for preparation in five areas.

1. **For accredited organisations, the key date is 30 September 2027.** Check now against the minimum thresholds the National Agency will publish (report scores, budget absorption).
2. **Without an accreditation, the route is short-term projects.** Successful short-term projects open the way to accreditation later, and the consortium option gives smaller organisations a new entry point.
3. **In KA2, relevance decides the application.** Link the needs analysis clearly to the Education and Skills Package and to national priorities; prove partners' experience with concrete projects, participant numbers and results.
4. **Rethink venues and partner roles.** If an activity takes place in a partner's country, that partner must be a beneficiary, not an associated partner.
5. **AI and basic skills projects stand out.** AI projects should build on the EU-OECD AI Literacy Framework; school projects need measurable targets and baseline data.

Checklist before applying

- [ ] Check the accreditation status of your organisation and partners, and their eligibility for reaccreditation.
- [ ] Get written consent for every PIC/OID you list in the application.
- [ ] Link the needs analysis to the four priorities of the Education and Skills Package.
- [ ] Document each partner's experience in the field with concrete data.
- [ ] Confirm that all activities take place in beneficiary countries.
- [ ] Plan health insurance for mobility participants.
- [ ] In sport projects, check that no partner falls under the Russia-related exclusion.
- [ ] Write the application within the partnership; paid external drafting is not allowed.
- [ ] Add the new deadlines to your calendar: 9 March (earlier) and 14 September (later).
- [ ] Follow National Agency announcements and the latest version of the official Guide.



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SOURCES

European Commission, Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2027 (Version 1, 18.11.2026) and Programme Guide 2026 (Version 1, 12.11.2025) · 2027 Call for proposals EAC/A11/2026 (Official Journal C/2026/6148) · 2027 Annual Work Programme, Decision C(2026) 7171 · BRAVO and Brain Tank, "Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2027 Compared with 2026", 18 November 2026.

This note was prepared by ANKA Future and Innovation Association for information only; it is not an official publication of the European Commission. Before applying, always refer to the latest version of the official Programme Guide and the announcements of your National Agency.