TOWARDS YOUTH MOBILITY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FOR ALL

JOINT DECLARATION AND PROPOSALS

We, signatories, NGOs and national bodies, from all over Europe have gathered to foster civic engagement programs at Member States level, encompassing, but not limited to, long term youth volunteering in all its forms, and we,

- encourage all Member States to develop their own programs, similar to existing Civic Service models (including France, Germany, Italy, and others): full or part time, with both a service and an educational component, as well as material and/or financial support to be accessible to all.

- call for the creation of a European coordination framework, associating Public Authorities in charge of present and future Member States' programs mentioned above, and major NGOs involved in those, for exchanges of best practices and fostering initiatives and cooperation.

- ask for the increase of the European Solidarity Corps budget, and within it, the increase of the "in-country" component to allow experimentation of the above mentioned programs.

- ask for more flexibility in the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps, to be able to co-fund the mobility of Member States programs participants within Europe, and also allow all young people to have a combined in-country and out-country, long term experience, similar to Erasmus Mundus, within the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

- ask for a "youth horizontal priority" within all existing EU funds to make it possible to develop such youth programs easier, and recognize them as a major tool to support the implementation of all EU policies.