Erasmus+ 2026 → 2027: comparative analysis of contents

What this document compares. The *Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2026* (Version 1, 12.11.2025, 456 pages) versus the *Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2027* (Version 1, 18.11.2026, 466 pages). The aim is not to list words that change, but **the change in the meaning of the rules**: what applicants can or cannot now do, what is rewarded, what is funded and what is excluded.

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> **Scope note.** This document has been prepared by the association Divergimentes as an indicative comparison of the differences between the Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2026 and the 2027 edition. It is a summary for information purposes only: it is not an official source or a binding interpretation of the rules, it simplifies details and may be misread. Before taking any decision or submitting an application, please check all dates, amounts and conditions against the official Guides, the call published in the Official Journal of the European Union and the instructions of your National Agency. More information: divergimentes.org.

1. Sources used

Document	2026	2027
Programme Guide (primary source)	Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2026, Version 1, 12.11.2025, 456 pp.	Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2027, Version 1, 18.11.2026, 466 pp.

Document	2026	2027
Call in the Official Journal of the European Union (integral part of the Guide)	Call for proposals 2026 – EAC/A12/2025, DO C/2025/6080, 12.11.2025	Call for proposals 2027 – EAC/A11/2026, DO C/2026/6148, 18.11.2026
Annual Work Programme (AWP) on which it is based	C(2025) 7358, adopted on 5.11.2025	C(2026) 7171, of 15.10.2026
Multiannual envelope cited in the Guide (Part A, "WHAT IS THE BUDGET?")	> EUR 26,000 million for 2021-2027 (EUR 24,574 million at current prices + EUR 1,700 million top-up at 2018 prices)	**Identical**: only the year of the AWP referred to changes

Important methodological caveat. The Guide **does not** publish indicative amounts per action: those figures are in the AWP and in the Official Journal call. This report always distinguishes data coming from the Guide (compared text by text) from data coming from the official call.

2. Executive summary: the thirteen changes that really matter

- **1) New single policy framework: the "Education and Skills Package"** (adopted on 5 November 2026). It appears **26 times in the 2027 Guide and zero times in the 2026 one**. All cooperation activity is reoriented towards four fronts: basic skills, the teaching profession, digital technologies and AI, and VET excellence. The 2027 Call is the first to fund the "Erasmus+ for all" priority of that package.
- **2) Citizenship becomes a basic skill.** The 2027 Guide states literally that the package identifies citizenship (democratic understanding, critical thinking, respect for others) as a basic skill alongside reading, mathematics, science and digital. In 2026 democratic participation was a horizontal priority, not a basic skill.
- **3) The 2027 Guide is already the bridge to the 2028-2034 programme.** Re-accreditation is explicitly launched "in preparation for the 2028-2034 Erasmus+ programme proposed by the Commission in July 2025", and accreditation obtained in 2027 "will be recognised as an eligibility criterion in the funding calls of the 2028-2034 Erasmus+ Regulation". It is the early closure of the 2021-2027 cycle for the "accreditation" instrument.
- **4) The "ordinary" Erasmus accreditation call disappears.** In 2026 there were two sections with a deadline of **29 September** (VET/school/adult education, and youth). In 2027 **there is no September date for new accreditation**: only *Re-accreditation in all fields of education, training and youth* (only for organisations already accredited) and a new *Erasmus accreditation for a mobility consortium coordinator in the field of higher education*. Both on **30 September 2027 at 12:00**. Consequence: a youth, school, VET or

adult education organisation **without accreditation cannot obtain one in 2027**; its route in is the short-term project, with the promise of being able to apply for accreditation afterwards.

- **5) The United Kingdom and Switzerland join the Programme.** They become associated countries (with their agreements: DO L 2025/2480 for Switzerland and Decision (UE) 2026/833 for the United Kingdom), appear in the list of countries and in the country groups used for grant rates (e.g. Group 1 of individual support in higher education and group 1 of sport mobility). A new rule is added: applicants from third countries *in official association negotiations* are treated as associated if the agreement applies at the time the grant agreement is signed.
- **6) Total exclusion of Russia.** New footnote in Part A 2027: "organisations based and individuals residing in Russia cannot participate in any of the actions under this Programme in any capacity". In addition, the regions eligible for external action funds change from "(1-12)" to "(1-3 and 5-12)" —Region 4, the Russian Federation, is excluded— and Erasmus Mundus excludes residents of Russia and of the territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia (except Ukrainian nationals).
- **7) Sport integrity rule against those legitimising Russian participation.** In all three sport actions (and replicated in Cooperation), international governing bodies that authorise Russian athletes to compete with full national representation (flag, anthem, symbols), as well as entities organising events with such participation, are *not eligible in any capacity*. It is anchored in the European Council Conclusions of 16.10.2026.
- **8) Erasmus+ Teacher Academies 2.0 is born as a call in its own right.** In 2026 Teacher Academies were mentioned only as a priority: there was no section or call. In 2027 there is a full action (call ERASMUS-EDU-2027-PEX-TEACH-ACA, 23.02.2027, maximum EUR 1,500,000), with a minimum consortium of 9 organisations from 3 countries, a mandatory structure per country (one university holding an ECHE + one education authority + one school) and **5 focus areas**: AI and digital technologies; diverse classrooms; classroom management and stress; collaborative leadership; democracy and resilience.
- **9) Raising the bar on "Relevance" in cooperation.** In Cooperation Partnerships the minimum for the relevance criterion rises from 13 to **18 points** (the 2027 Guide already requires "at least 70% of the maximum points" for relevance, compared with 50% in 2026); in Small-scale Partnerships it rises from 15 to **21 points**. In Capacity Building in VET the overall threshold rises from 60 to **70 points** and the minimum for relevance from 15 to **20**.
- **10) CoVE is split into two topics and a Community of Practice is born.** Topic 1 (Centres of Vocational Excellence, maximum EUR 4,000,000) and Topic 2 (*European Community of Practice for Erasmus+ CoVE*, maximum EUR 1,500,000, "1 project will be funded"). Topic 1 imposes a closed catalogue of activities with minimums per cluster: ≥4 in "Teaching and learning", ≥3 in "Cooperation and partnerships", ≥2 in "Governance and funding".
- **11) Alliances for Innovation is reorganised and drops STEM.** Lot 3 "STEM Skills Foundries" (EUR 1.5 million) disappears and the structure changes from "Lot" to "Topic" (1: Education and Enterprises; 2: Sectoral Cooperation on Skills / Blueprint). The deadline moves from March to **14 September**, which reshuffles the entire annual planning of the universities and companies applying.

- **12) More money, especially for sport and youth.** The total amount of the call rises from **EUR 4,473.447 million (2026) to EUR 5,360 million (2027)**: +19.8%. By pillar: Education and Training (incl. Jean Monnet) EUR 3,977.562 → EUR 4,710 million (+18.4%); Youth EUR 421.83 → EUR 530.95 million (+25.9%); Sport EUR 74.05 → EUR 111.86 million (+51.1%).
- **13) From incentive to control: recognition disappears and measures are tightened.** The **excellence labels** for the best-performing accredited organisations (0 mentions in 2027) and the **maximum number of accreditations** that each National Agency could award are removed. At the same time, precautionary measures are expanded: observation allows binding instructions to be issued and financial or activity restrictions to be imposed, and suspension suspends the **validity** of the accreditation. The full summary of what is dropped is in §4.3.

3. The substantive change: from the “Union of Skills” to the “Education and Skills Package”

In 2026 the overarching narrative was the *Union of Skills* (20 mentions) and the classic horizontal priorities (inclusion and diversity, digital transition, green transition, democratic participation). In 2027 the *Union of Skills* is still cited (22 times), but a new and operational framework is superimposed on it, the **Education and Skills Package**, which appears in all cooperation actions and defines the eligible content:

Anchor cited in the 2027 Guide	Mentions 2026	Mentions 2027	What changes in practice
Education and Skills Package (5.11.2026)	0	26	Defines the fundable priorities of KA2, Teacher Academies, CoVE and Alliances
EU Teachers Agenda	0	7	Requires teacher training to be targeted at newly qualified teachers and school leadership teams
European VET Strategy 2026-2030	0	6	VET Cooperation Partnerships must “deliver” that strategy
Action Plan on Basic Skills / “citizenship as a basic skill”	0	2	Citizenship enters as an assessable basic skill in school projects
European School Alliances (2028-2034 proposal)	0	7	EPSD and school SSPs are conceived as a testing ground for a future action
European Community of Practice of the CoVEs	0	4	New CoVE Topic 2, with a single project
References to “2028-2034” (proposed regulation)	0	9	The 2027 Call is drafted as a transition to the next financial framework

Conceptual effect. Evaluation stops asking only “does the project fit a priority?” and starts asking “does the project produce a measurable result on a basic skill, on a newly qualified teacher, on a VET system?”. This is visible in the terminology: *the proposal demonstrates / foresees* replaces *the existence and quality of…*; the burden of proof shifts from the statement of intentions to what the proposal documents.

New sources of evidence incorporated into the eligible text (they appear as the basis of the focus areas and of the priorities): TALIS 2024, ICILS 2023, the EU-OECD AI literacy framework for primary and secondary education (2026) and the Commission's 2026 ethical guidelines on the use of AI and data in teaching. AI projects in education “are encouraged to draw on” both documents.

4. Architecture of actions: what is created, what is transformed, what disappears

4.1 New in 2027 (no equivalent in 2026)

- **Erasmus+ Teacher Academies 2.0** — full section with a call. Mandatory coordinator: a public or private university providing initial teacher training (ISCED 0-4) and holding an ECHE; a single application as coordinator per call. Consortium: ≥9 organisations from ≥3 associated countries; for each country represented there must be at least (i) one higher education institution with an ECHE providing initial teacher training, (ii) one authority or coordination body responsible for school education and (iii) one pre-school, primary or secondary school (including initial VET and early childhood education). Duration 36 months. Managed by: EACEA.
- **Mandatory geographical balance** in Teacher Academies: the tie-break criterion and the “Relevance” assessment give weight to *underrepresented* countries, with two new numerical definitions: a country is underrepresented *in coordination* if it has had ≤2 coordinating organisations since 2021 (list of 27 countries) and *in composition* if it has had ≤20 participating organisations (list of 24 countries). Both lists already include Switzerland and the United Kingdom.
- **REACCREDITATION IN ALL FIELDS OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH** — replaces the two accreditation sections of 2026. It is aimed only at organisations that already hold an ECHE, a higher education mobility consortium accreditation or an accreditation in VET/school/adult education/youth.
- **ERASMUS ACCREDITATION FOR A MOBILITY CONSORTIUM COORDINATOR IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION** — new. Consortium = a group of organisations from the same country implementing mobility under a joint Erasmus Plan, coordinated by an accredited entity. An organisation eligible for re-accreditation as a consortium coordinator cannot apply for a new accreditation of the same type.
- **CoVE Topic 2: European Community of Practice** — a single project, EUR 1,500,000, for cooperation, mutual learning and synergies between already funded CoVE projects.

- **Sport ineligibility rule due to Russian participation** (see §5.3).
- **Definition of NGO in the glossary**, referring to Article 2(49) of the Financial Regulation: "a voluntary organisation, independent of government, non-profit-making, which is neither a political party nor a trade union". In 2026 the Guide did not define NGO (the entry "European non-governmental organisations" began by saying "they are NGOs that…"). Impact: it settles the discussion about which entity may submit the Cooperation Partnerships reserved for European NGOs (a European structure in existence for ≥2 years with ≥9 entities in 9 different countries).
- **Broadening of the concept of "affiliated entity"**: "parent, daughter and sister organisations that apply to be project partners may be considered affiliated entities" of the applicant/beneficiary (an entity under the same direct or indirect control, e.g. the same owner). Practical impact: groups with common parent companies can participate via an affiliated entity (they contribute to and receive funds, but **do not count** towards the minimum consortium size).
- **New page-limit exception in Part C**: **70 pages for Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)**. The general rule is identical in both Guides (40 pages for grants of ≤EUR 60,000, 120 for those of EUR 4,000,000, 70 for all others) and the same pre-existing exceptions apply (CBHE 40, CBVET 40, VIRT-EXCH 40, Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters 70).

4.2 Sections and calls that disappear or are replaced

2026	2027	Reading of the change
ERASMUS ACCREDITATION IN THE FIELDS OF VET, SCHOOL AND ADULT EDUCATION (deadline 29.09)	Removed; absorbed by Re-accreditation (30.09.2027)	There is no new accreditation call for these fields in 2027
ERASMUS ACCREDITATION IN THE FIELD OF YOUTH (deadline 29.09; assessment 70 points; valid until 31.12.2027)	Removed entirely (no "29 September" date remains in the 2027 Guide)	Access to accredited youth mobility is reserved for organisations already accredited
ERASMUS-EDU-2026-PI-ALL-INNO-STEM (STEM Skills Foundries, Lot 3, EUR 1.5 million)	No longer exists	The STEM initiative is dissolved into the two remaining topics
ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE-CROSS-REGIONAL and CBHE-REGION-1…11	ERASMUS-EDU-2027-CBHE and CBHE-REGION	The regional map of Capacity Building in HE is simplified; the ban on interregional projects in the same proposal is retained
ERASMUS-EDU-2026-PEX-COVE	ERASMUS-EDU-2027-PEX-COVE-TOP1 and -TOP2	A single call → two topics with different ceilings

2026	2027	Reading of the change
Jean Monnet Networks in higher education: NETWORKS-HEI-EU and NETWORKS-HEI-NON-EU-INDIA	NETWORKS-HEI-EU-DIG-ECO; NETWORKS-HEI-EU-EDU-CUL; NETWORKS-HEI-NON-EU-CANADA; NETWORKS-HEI-NON-EU-UKRAINE-MOLDOVA	The intra-EU thematic networks focus on the digital/green transition and on education and culture; the non-EU network leaves India and moves to Canada and Ukraine-Moldova
ERASMUS-SPORT-2026-LSNCESE	ERASMUS-SPORT-2027-LSSNCESE	The call for large-scale European sport events is renamed

4.3 What disappears, one line per item

A summary of what existed in 2026 and no longer exists in 2027. It also indicates whether anything replaces it, because in several cases the disappearance is a merger rather than a loss of content.

Disappears (2026)	What happens in 2027
Call for **Erasmus accreditation in VET, school and adult education** (deadline 29.09)	Replaced by re-accreditation (30.09.2027). No route to new accreditation for those fields
Call for **Erasmus accreditation in youth** (deadline 29.09, assessment 70 points, valid until 31.12.2027)	Removed with no direct replacement: re-accreditation only for those already accredited
Heading **"Maximum number of awarded Erasmus accreditations"** (limit per field and per National Agency)	No maximum is published in 2027; quotas are left to each National Agency
"Recognition of excellence": excellence labels for the best-performing accredited organisations	Removed entirely (0 mentions in 2027). There will be no excellence badge
Heading **"Access to funding for successful applicants"** (youth accreditation)	Disappears with the section; access to funding is explained in "Mobility opportunities for accredited organisations"
Sentence: organisations **under observation or suspension cannot apply for a new accreditation** in the same field	No equivalent: it is recast as a system of precautionary and corrective measures within the re-accreditation system
Lot 3 "STEM Skills Foundries" of Alliances for Innovation (EUR 1.5 million, 2 years)	Not replaced: the STEM initiative is dissolved into Topic 1 and Topic 2

Disappears (2026)	What happens in 2027
Call IDs **CBHE-CROSS-REGIONAL** and **CBHE-REGION-1…11**	Reduced to **CBHE** and **CBHE-REGION**
"EU-Moldova Master's programme in European Affairs" (CBHE, up to EUR 2 million)	Replaced by "Support for Palestinian digital higher education ecosystem" (1 project, up to EUR 2 million)
Jean Monnet Network with **India** (NETWORKS-HEI-NON-EU-INDIA)	Replaced by Canada and Ukraine-Moldova; within the EU, two thematic networks (digital/green and education/culture)
Cap of **30 participants** per short-term project (VET, school, adult education) and rule of **three grants in five years**	Replaced by a maximum amount per project set by each National Agency and published before the deadline
Cap of **10 participants** in sport staff mobility and ban on reapplying in the 2nd round after receiving a grant in the 1st	Rises to 15 participants; the 2nd-round limitation no longer applies
Cap of **two proposals as coordinator** in Capacity Building in VET (and in CBHE)	No cap in the Guide; left to the call's *capping* rules
The pandemic as the framing for Virtual Exchanges; the post-pandemic anchor of European Youth Together	Reframed: digital transformation (VE) and intergenerational fairness / 2029 elections (EYT)
Heading **"Social dimension"** in the CoVE criteria	Integrated into the general principles: the requirement for diversity, gender equality, non-discrimination and social inclusion is retained, without its own heading
Title of the relevance criterion in sport: "objectives **and priorities**"	Reduced to "objectives": relevance is no longer formally anchored in the priorities

5. Political geography: who comes in and who is left out

5.1 Entrants: United Kingdom and Switzerland

- The 2027 list of Programme countries includes “Switzerland” and “United Kingdom”, with specific footnotes (OJ L 2025/2480 for Switzerland; Decision (EU) 2026/833 concerning Protocol I of the TCA for the United Kingdom) and the condition that “all the conditions of the respective association agreement” are respected.

- In the country group tables for individual support (for example, Group 1 of mobility grants in higher education), **Switzerland** and **United Kingdom** are included: their applicants are no longer treated as coming from third countries for the purposes of the amounts.
- The OJ Call adds the rule: applicants established in third countries *officially negotiating* their association are considered to be established in an associated country if the association agreement is applicable at the time of signature of the grant agreement. In 2026 the equivalent wording was "subject to the signature of the association agreements" for candidate countries.

5.2 Exits: Russia and, partially, Belarus

Area	2026	2027
General rule (Part A)	No umbrella rule; only action-specific exclusions	New footnote: "organisations based and individuals residing in Russia cannot participate in any of the actions under this Programme in any capacity", linked to the "EU restrictive measures" section in Part C
Regions eligible for external action funds	"twelve eligible regions (1-12)"	"eligible regions (1-3 and 5-12)": Region 4 (Russian Federation) is excluded
International mobility in higher education	excludes "mobility to Belarus and Russia and staff mobility from Belarus and Russia"	excludes **all mobilities to and from Russia**, **student mobility to Belarus** and **staff mobility to and from Belarus**
Erasmus Mundus (consortium)	organisations from Belarus (Region 2) and Russia (Region 4) not eligible	adds "**in any capacity**" (also as partners or affiliated entities)
Erasmus Mundus (scholarship holders)	No exclusion by name	New footnotes: individuals residing in the Russian Federation are not eligible, regardless of their nationality; nor are those residing in territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia, **with the exception of Ukrainian nationals**
Accredited youth mobility (20 % margin for internationalisation)	non-associated third countries in "regions 1 to 4"	"regions 1 to 3" (Region 4 drops out)
Youth, sport, cooperation	"Activities cannot take place in Belarus or Russia" (unchanged in the youth actions)	The sport integrity clause is added (§5.3)

5.3 The new “sport integrity” clause

Identical text, absent in 2026, appears in the three sport actions and is replicated in Cooperation Partnerships and Small-scale Partnerships. To protect the financial interests and reputation of the Programme, **the following are not eligible to participate in that action in any capacity**: (1) international sport governing bodies that authorise Russian athletes to compete in sporting events with full national representation, including flag, anthem and other symbols; (2) entities organising events at which Russian athletes participate with such representation. The Conclusions of the European Council of 16.10.2026 are expressly cited.

Practical reading. The filter no longer applies to the applicant but to the **entire consortium** (beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners and host entities). A project including a federation that has readmitted Russian athletes with a flag is excluded, even if the federation is not a signatory.

6. Comparative timetable (all Calls)

Sources: the deadline table in the Programme Guide (sections “When to apply?”) and the table in the OJ Call. Brussels time.

Action	2026	2027	Effect
Individual mobility in higher education (Round 1)	19 feb, 12:00	**18 feb**, 12:00	–1 day
Individual mobility in VET, school education and adult education	19 feb, 12:00	**18 feb**, 12:00	–1 day
International mobility with non-associated third countries	19 feb, 12:00	**18 feb**, 12:00	–1 day
Staff mobility in the field of sport (Round 1)	12 feb, 12:00	**11 feb**, 12:00	–1 day
Individual mobility in youth (Round 1)	12 feb, 12:00	**11 feb**, 12:00	–1 day
Individual mobility in youth (Round 2)	1 oct, 12:00	**5 oct**, 12:00	+4 days; the window for projects funded in round 2 changes from “1 ene–31 may” to **“1 feb–30 jun”**
DiscoverEU – Inclusion Action	12 feb, 12:00	**11 feb**, 12:00	–1 day

Action	2026	2027	Effect
Erasmus accreditation in VET / school / adult education	29 sep, 12:00	**no call**	Replaced route: short-term project → accreditation (parameters published by the National Agency)
Erasmus accreditation in youth	29 sep, 12:00	**discontinued**	Reaccreditation only
Reaccreditation in all fields	—	**30 sep 2027, 12:00**	New; for already accredited organisations only
Erasmus accreditation for a mobility consortium coordinator in HE	—	**30 sep 2027, 12:00**	New
Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges	26 mar 2026, 17:00	**12 oct 2027, 17:00**	**Semester change**: the action moves to the second half of the year
Cooperation Partnerships (education/training/youth, excluding European NGOs)	5 mar, 12:00	**9 mar**, 12:00	+4 days
Cooperation Partnerships submitted by European NGOs	5 mar, 17:00	**9 mar**, 17:00	+4 days
Cooperation Partnerships in sport	5 mar, 17:00	**9 mar**, 17:00	+4 days
Small-scale Partnerships (school, VET, adult education, youth)	5 mar, 12:00	**9 mar**, 12:00	+4 days
Small-scale Partnerships in sport	5 mar, 17:00	**9 mar**, 17:00	+4 days
European Partnerships for School Development	**9 abr** 2026, 12:00	**9 mar** 2027, 12:00	**Brought forward by one month** and aligned with KA2 (in 2026 it went with the second deadline on 1 oct)
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies	**no 2026 Call**	**23 feb 2027, 17:00**	New
Erasmus Mundus (EMJM and Design Measures)	12 feb, 17:00	**16 feb**, 17:00	+4 days
Centres of Vocational Excellence	3 sep, 17:00	**16 sep**, 17:00	+13 days (Topic 1 and Topic 2)

Action	2026	2027	Effect
Alliances for Innovation	10 mar, 17:00	**14 sep**, 17:00	**+6 months: the largest shift in the timetable**
Capacity Building in higher education (CBHE)	10 feb, 17:00	**9 feb**, 17:00	–1 day
Capacity Building in VET	26 mar, 17:00	**12 may**, 17:00	**+7 weeks**
Capacity Building in youth	26 feb, 17:00	**2 mar**, 17:00	+4 days
Capacity Building in sport	5 mar, 17:00	**9 mar**, 17:00	+4 days
Local (Type I and II) and European sport events	5 mar, 17:00	**19 ene**, 17:00	**Brought forward by ~6 weeks**
Large-scale European sport events	22 ene, 17:00	**19 ene**, 17:00	Single date for both categories
European Youth Together (KA3)	26 feb, 17:00	**2 mar**, 17:00	+4 days
Jean Monnet Actions and networks	3 feb, 17:00	3 feb, 17:00	No change

7. Evaluation criteria: where the bar is raised

Action	Minimum total score 2026	Minimum total score 2027	Minimum per criterion 2026 → 2027
Cooperation Partnerships	70 / 100	70 / 100	Relevance **13** → **18**; Impact 13; Design 15; Partnership 10. The formula changes: 2026 required “half of the maximum score for each criterion”; 2027 requires “**at least 70 %** for relevance and 50 % for the others”
Small-scale Partnerships	60	60	Relevance **15** → **21** (70 % of the maximum); Impact 10; Design 15; Partnership 10
Capacity Building in VET	**60**	**70**	Relevance **15** → **20**; Design 15; Partnership 10; Impact 10

Action	Minimum total score 2026	Minimum total score 2027	Minimum per criterion 2026 → 2027
Capacity Building in HE	60	60	No change to the formula
Capacity Building in Youth / in Sport	60	60	No change
Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters	70 (Relevance 22…)	70 (Relevance 22…)	No change
Erasmus Mundus Design Measures	60 (Relevance 16…)	60 (Relevance 16…)	No change
Centres of Vocational Excellence	75 (18/13/11/11)	75 (18/13/11/11) in Topic 1 and Topic 2	No change to the thresholds; weights Relevance 35 / Design 25 / Partnership 20 / Impact 20
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies	no Call	75, with minimums **15 Relevance / 16 Design / 11 Partnership / 16 Impact**	Impact weight **30 points**: impact and the use of results carry as much weight as design
Alliances for Innovation	70 (13/16/13/11)	70 (13/16/13/11)	No change
European Youth Together	60 (15/15/10/10)	60 (15/15/10/10)	No change; “the proposal is clear, complete **and concrete**” is added
Not-for-profit European Sport Events	60 + half per criterion	60 + half per criterion	The relevance criterion no longer refers to the action's “objectives **and priorities**”: the evaluable anchor is narrowed
Jean Monnet Actions (all)	70 + 15 per criterion	70 + 15 per criterion	No change
Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges	60 + half per criterion	60 + half per criterion	No change

7.1 Wording changes that shift the burden of proof

- Recurring pattern in Capacity Building and other actions: “the *existence and quality of*…” becomes “the proposal *foresees / demonstrates / presents* valid arrangements…”. It is no longer enough for the mechanism to exist: it must be demonstrated in the proposal.

- In Capacity Building in VET, the sub-criteria “Dissemination” and “Exploitation” are **merged** into “Dissemination and Exploitation”, with a requirement for “means to measure” the use of results during and after the project.
- In the Teacher Academies and in the CoVEs, the impact criterion (“Sharing and use of results”) expressly incorporates the obligation to provide “means to measure usage of results during and after the project”.
- In DiscoverEU – Inclusion the tie-breaker is specified: in the event of equal scores, priority is given to “relevance, rationale and impact”, then to “quality of project design”.
- Under the new re-accreditation system, the evaluation is **pass/fail** and is based on the results of the final reports: performance (scores of the projects completed under the current accreditation and budget execution rate) and compliance (absence of irregularities and significant problems, respect for commitments and deadlines, compliance with the instructions of the National Agency). The exact thresholds are published by each National Agency before the deadline.

8. Financial aspects: amounts, ceilings and top-ups

8.1 Call budget (source: DOUE, not the Programme Guide)

Pillar	2026 Call (DOUE C/2025/6080)	2027 Call (DOUE C/2026/6148)	Change
Total	EUR 4,473.447 million	EUR 5,360 million	**+19.8 %**
Education and Training (incl. Jean Monnet)	EUR 3,977.562 million	EUR 4,710 million	+18.4 %
Youth	EUR 421.83 million	EUR 530.95 million	**+25.9 %**
Sport	EUR 74.05 million	EUR 111.86 million	**+51.1 %**

Note: the Commission's press releases cite “around €5,2 billion” for 2026 and “more than €5,3 billion” for 2027; those figures include lines and instruments other than those of the DOUE Call. This report uses the DOUE figures, which are the legal basis of the Programme Guide.

8.2 Maximum amounts per project: what changes

Action	2026	2027
Cooperation Partnerships (lump sums)	EUR 120,000 / EUR 250,000 / EUR 400,000	**Unchanged**
Small-scale Partnerships	EUR 30,000 / EUR 60,000	**Unchanged**
European Partnerships for School Development	EUR 400,000	**Unchanged**
Centres of Vocational Excellence	max. EUR 4,000,000	**Topic 1: EUR 4,000,000 · Topic 2: EUR 1,500,000 (1 project expected to be funded)**
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies	no Call	**max. EUR 1,500,000**
Alliances for Innovation	Lot 1: EUR 1,000,000 (2 years) / EUR 1,500,000 (3 years); Lot 2: EUR 4,000,000 (4 years); **Lot 3 STEM: EUR 1,500,000 (2 years)**	Topic 1: EUR 1,000,000 (2 years) / EUR 1,500,000 (3 years); Topic 2: EUR 4,000,000 (4 years). **The STEM lot is discontinued**
Capacity Building in HE	Strand 1: EUR 200,000–400,000 · Strand 2: EUR 400,000–800,000 · Strand 3: EUR 600,000–1,000,000 · **EU-Moldova Master's programme: up to EUR 2,000,000**	Same ranges per Strand · **“Support for Palestinian digital higher education ecosystem”: a single project of up to EUR 2,000,000** (under Strand 2)
Capacity Building in VET	max. EUR 500,000	Unchanged (80 % rate; FSTP not allowed)
Capacity Building in Youth	EUR 300,000 (regions 1, 2 and 3) / EUR 450,000 (Region 9)	Unchanged
Capacity Building in Sport	EUR 100,000–200,000	Unchanged
European Youth Together	max. EUR 500,000; FSTP max. EUR 60,000; 80 % rate	Unchanged; a subcontracting cap is added: ≤10 % of the grant and **duly justified**
Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges	max. EUR 500,000; ≤EUR 200 per participant; 95 % rate	Unchanged

Action	2026	2027
Not-for-profit European Sport Events	Type I EUR 200,000; Type II EUR 300,000; European-wide EUR 450,000; Large-Scale EUR 1,000,000–1,500,000	Unchanged (the amounts table is reorganised by Call ID: SNCESE groups Type I/II and European-wide; LSSNCESE only Large-Scale)
Jean Monnet (Teaching & Research EUR 100,000; Centres of Excellence EUR 100,000; Teacher Training EUR 300,000; Networks in other fields EUR 300,000; Learning EU EUR 35,000; Policy Debate EUR 1,000,000 internal / EUR 1,200,000 external; FSTP to third parties ≤EUR 60,000)	**No changes to amounts**; only the country tables are reordered and updated (Switzerland and the United Kingdom enter the higher bands)	
Individual support in higher education mobility (ranges EUR 292–606 / EUR 348–674 / EUR 225–550 per month; top-ups of EUR 250 and EUR 150)	**No changes**	
Travel allowance scales (all actions: EUR 275/285/417/535/785/1,188/1,735 depending on distance bands)	**No changes**	

8.3 Geographical distribution of Erasmus Mundus scholarships (NDICI funds)

Region / country	2026	2027
Region 3 — Southern Neighbourhood	18 %	**14 %**
Tunisia (floor within Region 3)	20 %	**17 %**
Region 10 — Latin America	20 %	**24 %**

Region / country	2026	2027
Region 7 — Near East	3 % of the geographical targets, but the region **was not listed** among those that could receive additional scholarships	3 % **and** region 7 enters the list of regions with additional scholarships: “regions 1, 3, 5, 6, **7**, 8, 9, 10 and 11”
Rest (Sub-Saharan Africa 27 % with an 8 % cap per country and an emphasis on migration countries; Asia 21 %; Central Asia 9 %; Pacific 1 %; Caribbean 1 %; Brazil+Mexico ≤30 %; minimum 35 % for LDCs in Sub-Saharan Africa; minimum 40 % for students with fewer opportunities in the Eastern Neighbourhood)	**No changes**	

A new assessment criterion is added: “the coverage of Global Gateway priorities will be assessed **according to the thematic area and the topic addressed by each proposal**”, that is, it is no longer enough to mention Global Gateway: it must be linked to the content of the project.

8.4 Changes in financial scope in KA1 and in national management

- **Short-term projects (short-term projects) in VET, school education and adult education.** The two rigid limits of 2026 disappear: the cap of **maximum 30 participants** per project (removed in all three actions) and the rule of “**a maximum of three grants in five consecutive call years**”. Instead, the 2027 Programme Guide allows “each National Agency to define a maximum grant amount per project”, with an obligation to publish it **before** the deadline. This is a change of approach: from a uniform European cap to a national cap, which means applicants must check each Agency's website.
- The **accreditation incentive** is explicitly added: “after successfully completing a short-term project, beneficiaries will have the opportunity to apply for Erasmus accreditation”, and it is noted that the eligibility rules, quality thresholds and **maximum number of new accreditations** are published by the National Agency.
- **Staff mobility in sport:** the maximum number of participants per project rises from **10 to 15** (+50 % capacity per grant; preparatory visits and companions of participants with fewer opportunities are not counted).
- **Staff mobility in sport:** the limitation by rounds is relaxed. In 2026, “one application per selection round” applied, as well as “organisations awarded a grant in the first round cannot apply in the second”. In 2027: “one application in the first round; if an additional round is organised, **this limitation does not apply**”.

- **Subcontracting:** the 10 % cap on the grant, which in 2026 appeared only in Capacity Building in HE and in VET, is extended in 2027 to **European Youth Together** and to **Capacity Building in Youth**, in both cases with the requirement to be “duly justified”.

9. Substantive changes action by action

9.1 KA1 — Mobility in VET, school education and adult education

- **Projects last longer: from 6-18 to 6-24 months.** The "Project duration" field of the three actions changes to "From 6 to 24 months" (2026: "From 6 to 18 months"). This is the most operational change in KA1: it allows projects spanning two full school years and changes the planning of subsequent Calls. Consistently, the definition of short-term project no longer fixes a duration ("over a period of six to eighteen months" becomes "as part of a single project").
- The idea of the **single project** is reinforced as against the accumulation of micro-projects (the formula "as part of a single project" replaces the time reference in all three definitions).
- **Renaming of the mobility priority**: "Participation in democratic life" becomes "**Participation in democratic life and civic engagement**" in all three actions. The Programme's horizontal priority ("participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement") is not renamed.
- In adult education, it is added that courses and training **may be organised by the Programme beneficiaries themselves** in order to jointly train their staff and exchange good practices (a new avenue of cooperation between beneficiaries within mobility itself).
- In all three fields, emphasis is introduced on *meaningful* participation and civic engagement, and the language is aligned with basic skills.
- The reference to accreditation ceases to appear as a parallel access route within the action: the 2026 text referring to “Erasmus accreditations are open to all organisations… (for both short-term projects and Erasmus accreditations)” disappears, consistently with the removal of the accreditation Call.

9.2 Youth: youth exchanges, mobility of workers and participation

- **Project windows.** In youth exchanges and projects for workers, the second round no longer funds projects “between 1 January and 31 May” of the following year and instead funds projects “between **1 February and 30 June**”. Practical effect: winter planning shifts and one month is gained in spring.
- **Budget earmarked for the international dimension.** It is made explicit in youth exchanges that up to **20 %** of the action's budget may finance cooperation with non-associated third countries (a margin already existing in accredited mobility, now with regions 1-3 and not 1-4).
- **Preparatory visits.** New note: “participants in a preparatory visit are expected to take part in the main activity as well”. This closes off the possibility of using the preparatory visit as a stand-alone activity (with its own unit cost).

- **Youth participation as a right.** A new legal basis is added at the start of the action: “the participation of young people is a fundamental right rooted in international and European human rights standards, including Articles 10 and 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights (freedom of expression and of assembly and association)”. Conceptual consequence: quality is no longer measured solely by the result of the project, but by the real degree of agency of young people.
- **DiscoverEU – Inclusion.** The group representative is required to be **at least 18 years old**, and it is specified that applicants must be established in a Member State or in a third country **associated** with the Programme.

9.3 European Youth Together (KA3, managed by EACEA)

- **New electoral objective.** Initiatives “may include awareness-raising activities, civic engagement events and dialogue opportunities linked to key democratic processes at European, national, regional or local level, including, where appropriate, **activities in the lead-up to the 2029 elections to the European Parliament**”. This is the only mention of the 2029 elections in the entire Guide: the action becomes an instrument of the European electoral cycle.
- The post-pandemic anchor (“forging solidarity and inclusion in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic”) disappears, replaced by references to the Green Deal, the New European Bauhaus and the new **Strategy on Intergenerational Fairness**.
- **Coordination rule**: the cap remains one application as coordinator, but the counting changes from “per deadline” to “**under this call for proposals**”, which closes the practice of submitting, withdrawing and resubmitting.
- No structural changes: minimum 5 applicants from 5 countries; affiliated and associated entities do not count; 24 months; threshold of 60 points with minimums of 15/15/10/10; 80 % rate; max. EUR 500,000; max. FSTP EUR 60,000.

9.4 Capacity Building in VET: greater demands, more defined profiles

- Threshold 60 → **70 points**, with minimum Relevance 15 → **20** out of a maximum of 30 (see the inconsistency noted in §11).
- **Removal** of the cap “an organisation may not be the coordinator of more than two proposals in this action” (in 2026 it also appeared twice in Capacity Building in HE). The caps therefore remain in the *capping* rules announced in the Call.
- New type of eligible organisation: **national training and apprenticeship funds (national training and apprenticeship funds)**.
- The consortium: “at least 4 applicants” becomes “(beneficiaries, not affiliated **or associated** entities) from at least 3 eligible countries”: associated entities are explicitly excluded from the count.
- The mandatory VET provider changes from “at secondary education level” to “at secondary education level **(ISCED level 3)**”: a quantifiable criterion that excludes providers offering only post-secondary, non-tertiary education.

- New assessable requirement under “Quality of the partnership”: the proposal must demonstrate that **the coordinating organisation has a solid and proven track record in VET** and that the ISCED 3 providers are **actively involved**.
- New result requirement: cooperation between VET centres and the private sector must “**address the needs of the labour market**”.
- Finer regionalisation: the Caribbean is no longer lumped together with Latin America and gets its own bullet (“the Caribbean (either country or region specific)”); the Global Gateway objectives for sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America are qualified as “(either country or region-specific)”; the **enlargement agenda** is added alongside Global Gateway and talent partnerships.
- The “Regional priorities” criterion no longer lists documents (EU-Africa investment package, Global Gateway agenda for LAC, Turin reports…) and refers generically to “the relevant policy documents listed under this action”.

9.5 Capacity Building in youth and in sport

- **Youth:** new specific objective — “support the **closer association of organisations from candidate and potential candidate countries with the EU Youth Dialogue**”. And for the first time in this action, geographical ceilings are set for Region 9: priority to the **least developed countries**, emphasis on the **priority countries in the field of migration** (closed list in the footnote: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan) and **no country may receive more than 8 %** of the funding earmarked for that region.
- **Sport:** in addition to the Russian exclusion, a profile requirement is added to the consortium quality criterion: “the project involves **sport clubs, grassroots sport organisations, sport federations or Olympic Committees**”. Effect: consortia made up solely of consultancies or training entities with no real sporting structure are discouraged.

9.6 Not-for-profit European Sport Events

- Single deadline of **19 January** (2026 split it: 5 March for local/European events and 22 January for large-scale events). Applicants for a local event must have their consortium closed six and a half weeks earlier than in 2026.
- New composition rule: “in Type I and Type II projects, **affiliated entities and associated partners do not count for the consortium composition**” (3-5 and ≥6 organisations, respectively, must be full beneficiaries).
- Same sport profile requirement as in Capacity Building in the field of Sport.

9.7 Erasmus Mundus (EMJM and Design Measures)

- New entries in the academic architecture: under the Design Measures, 2026 allowed in parallel a *joint degree*, *multiple degrees* or a combination; 2027 stipulates that programmes must lead "to a **joint degree** (a single degree awarded by the consortium institutions; **if this is not possible in all the countries involved, awarding multiple degrees is acceptable**) or to a combination". The joint degree moves from preference to **principle**; multiple degrees become a justified exception.
- EMJM renewal window: the exception for those selected "in 2021 with a contract ending before 31 March 2028" becomes "selected in **2022** … before **31 March 2029**".
- New nominal exclusions (§5.2) and the inclusion of Region 7 among scholarships funded with external funds (§8.3).
- Unchanged: consortium of ≥3 institutions from 3 countries (≥2 from Programme countries); two mandatory physical mobility periods (≥30 ECTS each; exception of 20 ECTS in programmes of 60); scholarships of 12/18/24 months; ≤10 % of scholarships per nationality; 18 NDICI scholarships + 2 IPA III; special needs units EUR 3,000 → EUR 60,000 (maximum 2 × EUR 60,000); 15-month Design Measures.

9.8 Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges

- **Six-month shift**: from 26 March to **12 October**. This reshuffles the cycle: consortia will need to have agreed their partnerships and academic calendars well in advance.
- **Tighter location rule**. 2026: "activities must be carried out in the countries of the participating organisations". 2027: "**regardless of the virtual format**, activities must be carried out and attended by organisers, trainers and participants **located in the countries of the organisations participating as beneficiaries**". Twofold effect: the location of the **people** (not just the entities) is pinned down, and only **beneficiary** entities count, not associated or affiliated ones.
- **Conceptual reframing**: from a response to "the global restrictions on mobility caused by the pandemic" to "a valuable tool for responding to the **digital transformation**, accelerated by the pandemic". The action is no longer justified as an exceptional measure and becomes a structural policy tool.
- Open-ended list of activities: "including" becomes "including, **for instance**".
- Unchanged: regions 1, 2, 3 and 9 (Belarus excluded); 36 months; lump sum at a rate of **95 %**; maximum EUR 500,000 and ≤ EUR 200 per participant (which requires ≥2,500 participants to reach the maximum); ages 13-30; only beneficiaries count towards the consortium.

9.9 Accreditation and reaccreditation: the change of regime

- **Who can apply for what in 2027.** (a) If the organisation is already accredited (ECHE, mobility consortium accreditation in HE, or accreditation in VET/school education/adult education/youth), it must go to **Reaccreditation** (30.09.2027). (b) If it is a higher education institution or an organisation with a role in HE that wants to coordinate a mobility consortium, it may apply for **new accreditation as a consortium coordinator** (30.09.2027); an organisation eligible for reaccreditation as a coordinator cannot apply for new

accreditation of the same type. (c) For all others (schools, VET providers, adult education bodies, youth organisations), **there is no accreditation call in 2027**: the route is the short-term project, and the conditions for any subsequent accreditation will be set by each National Agency.

- **Reaccreditation is a performance assessment, not a project assessment.Pass/fail** criteria based on report scores: “Performance” (scores of completed accredited mobility projects and budget absorption rate) and “Compliance” (no documented irregularities or significant problems; compliance with commitments and deadlines; follow-up of the Agency's recommendations). **All** indicators must be passed; the thresholds are published by the National Agency before the deadline.
- **Validity extended until 31 December 2034** (the whole of the next programming period), provided the requirements continue to be met. Accreditation is **not transferable**, except in the case of structural changes (split, merger, change of legal entity, of statutes, of ownership or formal transfer of tasks and resources between public entities) by means of a reasoned application to the National Agency.
- **Enhanced monitoring**: progress on the Erasmus Plan is assessed through a written exercise or a structured monitoring visit **at least once every five years** from the start; compliance with the Erasmus Quality Standards is checked periodically; the Agency may issue mandatory instructions and change the number and frequency of reporting and monitoring exercises depending on performance.
- **Tougher precautionary and corrective measures.** In 2026, observation merely allowed the level of funding that the accredited organisation could request to be "limited". In 2027, the National Agency may, under observation, **issue mandatory instructions and impose financial, activity-related or other restrictions**, and open observation proceedings against "high-risk organisations that have received accreditation for the first time". Suspension now suspends the **validity** of the accreditation (not only access to funding), with possible suspension of ongoing grant agreements; termination may be decided after the organisation has been heard, and occurs automatically if the entity ceases to exist or loses its eligibility under EU or national law.
- **Excellence labels and the maximum quota of accreditations disappear.** The 2026 Guide rewarded the best-performing accredited organisations with *excellence labels* awarded under the call itself (conditions set by each National Agency) and published a maximum number of accreditations per field. In 2027 there is no mention of excellence labels or of maximum numbers: recognition is replaced by the reaccreditation performance assessment, and the quotas are no longer published.
- **Mobility of accredited organisations (youth)**: the grant application deadline moves from 12 to **11 February** (for projects starting on 1 June); the 20 % international margin changes from “regions 1 to 4” to “regions 1 to 3”; and the terminology is aligned — “Erasmus **Youth** Quality Standards” becomes “Erasmus Quality Standards”, applicable “to all fields of education, training and youth”.
- Part A adds a specific note on accreditation calls: they are published in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2021/817 and the 2027 Annual Work Programme; obtaining accreditation **does not oblige** the granting of funds; accreditation is the **first stage of a two-stage procedure** under Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 (the Financial Regulation); and the second stage will be launched under the Erasmus+ Regulation 2028-2034.

9.10 KA2 — Partnerships for Cooperation

- **Systematic repositioning.** In the KA2 introduction, 2026 presented “Partnerships for Cooperation, including Cooperation Partnerships and Small-scale Partnerships”; 2027 adds “**and European Partnerships for School Development**”. School cooperation therefore falls under the less formal umbrella, not under “Excellence”.
- **Cooperation Partnerships.** The 2027 priorities “reflect the Education and Skills Package, in particular basic skills, the teaching profession, digital technologies and AI, and VET”. The VET priorities are to “deliver” the European Strategy for VET 2026-2030 and support the new CoVE Community of Practice. In school education, the focus is on improving basic skills and “paving the way for the European School Alliances included in the Commission's proposal for the 2028-2034 programme”.
- **Small-scale Partnerships**, the entry-level instrument for small organisations, is reoriented in the same way: basic skills, the teaching profession, digital/AI and VET; in school education, cross-border cooperation between schools and education authorities as a testing ground for future school Alliances.
- **AI with a de facto mandatory reference framework**: projects addressing AI in education are encouraged to draw on the EU-OECD AI Literacy Framework and the Commission's 2026 ethical guidelines; the eligible digital content is broadened: digital and AI literacy, AI readiness, digital wellbeing, online safety, managing distractions and healthy screen-use routines.
- **European Partnerships for School Development.** Implicit governance is tightened: applicants must “identify and involve experts to improve the design of the project and of the activities, with a focus on basic skills”; support structures and pre-mobility training must be structured; multiplier training is required as “demonstrated capacity of the organisations to act as multipliers” (previously it was enough to demonstrate the capacity to multiply benefits). The list of eligible entities explicitly includes **social partners relevant to school education**.

9.11 Jean Monnet

- Change in the geography of the networks: within the EU, two new thematic networks (digital and green transition; education and culture); outside the EU, the network is no longer with India and instead is with **Canada** and **Ukraine-Moldova**.
- The country tables of lump sum amounts are rearranged and include **the United Kingdom and Switzerland** in the higher bands (for example, the 151-180 teaching hours band and the EUR 31,000 / 33,000 / 35,000 bands).
- Amounts and thresholds (70 points, minimum 15 per criterion) **unchanged**; identical deadline (3 February, 17:00).
- In Jean Monnet Teacher Training and Learning EU, the ISCED 1-4 anchoring is consolidated and teaching about the EU is explicitly linked to “citizenship as a basic skill” and to teachers' professional development within the EU Teachers Agenda.

10. Part C and Part D: horizontal rules that change how applications are submitted

- **Excess pages: from "not read" to "non-existent".** The general rule in Part B is identical in both Guides (40 pages for grants of ≤ EUR 60,000, 120 for those of EUR 4,000,000, and 70 for the rest), and the 2026 exceptions (CBHE 40, CBVET 40, VIRT-EXCH 40, Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters 70) are retained. New in 2027: (a) the exception **70 pages for the Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)** is added — consistent with the new EUR 4,000,000 ceiling and with the 70 pages for EMJM —; and (b) to the 2026 sentence "Evaluators will not consider any additional pages" a new one is added: "Excess pages **will automatically be made unavailable** to evaluators and will not be taken into consideration". Exceeding the limit is no longer a risk of a negative assessment: the excess pages are withdrawn from the application file before evaluation.
- **Explicit written consent of the declared beneficiaries (new requirement, absent in 2026).** The 2027 Guide includes two twin clauses, one in the block of actions managed by EACEA (referring to the **PIC**) and one in the block of actions managed by the National Agencies (referring to the **OID**): "when an applicant includes another organisation and its PIC/OID in the application form, indicating that it will implement the project as a beneficiary, **the applicant must have the explicit written consent** of that organisation. Evidence of this consent may be requested at any time, and **the application may be rejected** if the applicant fails to provide it". The 2026 Guide had no equivalent obligation (0 occurrences of "written consent"). Impact: including a third party in the consortium without its authorisation now becomes a ground for rejection, and it must be possible to document it.
- **Admissibility criteria: no substantive changes.** The text of the "ADMISSIBILITY CRITERIA" section is identical in both years (submission before the deadline, legibility and accessibility, completeness of mandatory parts and annexes, and the possibility of correcting only **material errors** after the deadline, at the request of the managing agency and for justified reasons). The pages added to the 2027 Guide are in the actions, not in these horizontal rules.
- **Declaration of honour: unchanged.** The exemption for very low-value applications (up to EUR 15,000) under Article 277(8) of the Financial Regulation is retained, with effect from the next multiannual financial framework.
- **Glossary:** the two new elements are the definition of **NGO** and the extension of **affiliated entity** to "parent, daughter and sister organisations" (§4.1). The definitions of *first-time applicant project coordinator* (a coordinator that has not received support under that action, or its predecessor programme, in the last seven years), *established*, ESCO, EQAVET and *youth worker* remain unchanged in substance; only the entries are reordered and the cross-references to footnotes updated.

11. Inconsistencies identified and points to confirm with the National Agency

- **Capacity Building in VET:** the phrase “at least half of the maximum score points in each of the award criteria” coexists with a minimum of **20 points out of 30** for Relevance. The operative figure is 20, but the basis for the calculation should be verified in the call text and in the application form.
- **Capacity Building in VET:** alongside the umbrella note in Part A (Russia does not participate “in any capacity”), a phrase specific to the action remains to the effect that organisations from Belarus and Russia are not eligible “**as associated partners**”. It is unclear whether this is a drafting leftover or a different scope; specific clarification is advisable.
- **Sport events:** the “When to apply?” box in the 2027 Guide gives a single date (19 January) without distinguishing categories. The OJ call confirms 19 January both for “European Local Sport Events” and for “Large-Scale European Events”; even so, it is worth checking the call notice on the Portal in case the practical bottlenecks are split into two (Large-Scale events require budgets and guarantees much earlier).
- **Budget figures:** the Guide does not publish amounts per action. The OJ call gives the total (EUR 5,360 million) and the breakdown by pillar; the AWP may contain higher or different ceilings (including international cooperation instruments). Figures from different scopes must not be mixed in the same analysis.
- **Accreditations:** the 2027 Guide does not specify the maximum number of accreditations that each National Agency will award for the new accreditation of HE consortia, nor the exact reaccreditation thresholds: national publications must be monitored, since they undertake to appear **before** the deadline.

12. Practical implications by applicant profile

Profile	New opportunity	New risk
School / education authority	EPSD with an earlier deadline (9 March) and a focus on a measurable basic skill; SSP as a testing ground for future school Alliances	No longer able to apply for accreditation in 2027: it needs a well-implemented short-term project and must wait for the National Agency to publish the accreditation conditions
VET provider	CoVE Topic 1 with a closed catalogue of activities (≥4/≥3/≥2) and Topic 2 for the Community of Practice; CB VET with +7 weeks of lead time	CB VET rises to 70 points and requires proven experience of the coordinator and ISCED 3 providers; no more 30-participant ceiling, but a national maximum grant per project

Profile	New opportunity	New risk
University / teacher training school	Teacher Academies 2.0: EUR 1.5 million, 36 months, with a national ecosystem requirement (HEI + authority + school) and geographical compensation favouring underrepresented countries	Only one proposal as coordinator; the coordinator must be an HEI with an ECHE and provide initial teacher education (ISCED 0-4); impact carries 30 points
Erasmus Mundus consortium	Near East (Region 7) may receive additional scholarships; Latin America rises from 20 % to 24 %	The joint degree is the rule and the multiple degree a justified exception; exclusion of residents of Russia and temporarily occupied Ukrainian territories; the Mediterranean South falls from 18 % to 14 %
Youth organisation	Youth budget +25.9 %; EYT geared to the run-up to the 2029 elections; CB Youth with objectives in candidate countries	No youth accreditation call in 2027; subcontracting capped at 10 %; round 2 project windows shifted to February-June
Sport organisation	Sport budget +51 %; up to 15 participants per staff mobility project; possibility of reapplying in the second round	Single date of 19 January for events; ban on federations and organisers that accept Russian participation with full national representation; consortium with a required sport profile
Company / sectoral alliance	Topic 2 “Blueprint” (EUR 4 million, 4 years) and Topic 1 (up to EUR 1.5 million)	Farewell to the STEM lot; the deadline moves to mid-September, changing the entire internal preparation schedule
European NGO	Clear definition of NGO anchored in the Financial Regulation; 70 % of the maximum for relevance as an explicit rule	Relevance raises the bar: 60 or 70 total points are no longer enough; 18 or 21 points must be obtained for relevance alone

13. Comparison methodology

- Text extraction from both PDFs (456 and 466 pages) using pdftotext, with the layout option (to preserve tables) and the plain version (for paragraphs).
- Splitting into paragraphs and **one-to-one alignment** with difflib.SequenceMatcher(autojunk=False), producing 612 difference blocks labelled by chapter and section.
- Systematic filtering of noise: changes affecting only the year, the call identifier, a footnote number attached to a word, US/UK spelling (organization/organisation), hyphens and punctuation, URLs and table reordering.

- Chapter-by-chapter review, reading the full context in both documents whenever a passage appeared truncated or ambiguous; two independent readings of the cooperation, youth, sport, Erasmus Mundus and Parts C and D blocks, subsequently cross-checked.
- **Numerical** comparison of the tables (maximum amounts, scales, geographic percentages, minimum scores), not only of text strings.
- External cross-checking limited to the OJ call (2026 and 2027) for the deadlines and overall amounts, which the Guide does not publish.

Final scope note. This document compares the two official Guides in their version 1. The Guides are updated with corrections and with amendments to the Annual Work Programme; the 2027 Guide itself warns that the Commission reserves the right to modify or cancel the accreditation and reaccreditation calls, and grants are subject to the availability of budgetary appropriations. Before submitting an application, the call notice on the EU Funding & Tenders Portal and the publications of the relevant National Agency must be checked.