



solidar & **solidar**
FOUNDATION

Annual General Assembly
ACTIVITY REPORT 2020/2021

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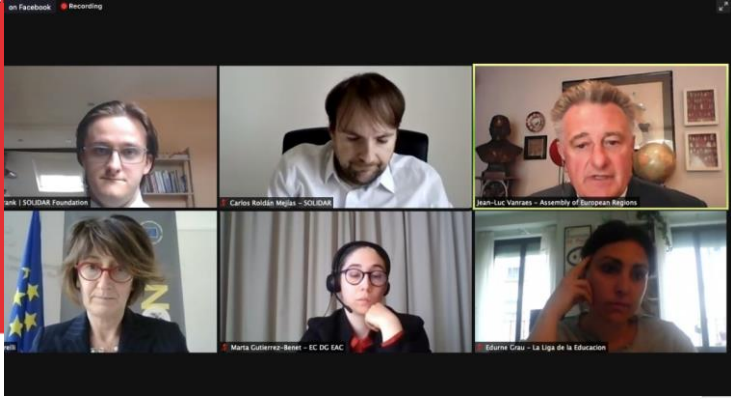
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Civic Competences and Lifelong Learning for the Green & Digital Transitions: is Europe ready?

3 ONLINE SESSIONS
7, 8, 9 APRIL 2021

FEPS FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN PROGRESSIVE STUDIES | **solidar** FOUNDATION



What is a Just Transition?

0:00 / 0:58

Diakie Stokhard
Sharon Barrow

OLUF PALMISTE INTERNATIONAL CENTER | **solidar**

This video was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Oluf Palme International Center and Solidar and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Introductory words from the Secretary General

This annual report is a testimony to all the things that we have done together in this extraordinary year. When 2020 started no one could have foreseen just how dramatic and life changing it would be. Even as I joined in the middle of May most of us were thinking, or perhaps hoping that the worst would have been behind us after summer. But then the second and third waves came, and we have been forced to continue our work in an everchanging political, economic and social reality.

As our private and professional lives saw different levels of restrictions and tragedies, the pace in which the EU have been moving ahead with policy proposals have been extraordinary fast. In many ways it was a ground-breaking year, with the EU moving into new policy territory with higher ambitions than ever before. For SOLIDAR 2020 has been no less eventful and fast paced, with a need for our network to try to move as fast as policy makers, foreseeing and mobilising in relation to important events and decision making in the fields of social affairs, education and lifelong learning and international development cooperation. At the same we have had to adapt, amid the pandemic, to a situation without an office or, for the first half of the year, a Secretary General. Since that board meeting in May I have gotten to know the astonishing staff of SOLIDAR, and I have had the chance to meet almost all our members, to get to know and understand each other better and charter a shared future path. I am a firm believer in the importance of relationships and dialogue, and it has been a wonderful journey together so far, even as I have done most of it sitting all alone in my bedroom closet.

Since the last AGA an ambitious change agenda to rethink and restructure the network started, looking at all governing documents, the structure and organisation of the Secretariat and digitalising our work, and parallel to this we have also developed a new strategic direction for a just transition to social justice. It has been a monumental task that I look very much forward to presenting at the coming AGA. The current parallel crises of the climate and environmental emergency, the social, health, and economic crises, of rising inequality and poverty and increasing precariousness of work in Europe, must be dealt with through a transformation process that leaves no one behind. SOLIDAR now firmly recognises that the social and climate and environmental justice are mutually exclusive and reinforcing. We cannot have one without the other. SOLIDAR has a unique position to bridge the remaining gap between social, environmental and political actors in relation to the need for a just transition and to inspire our members to rally behind the same cause in their respective countries. 2020 has also been a year in which SOLIDAR are finding firmer organisational ground to stand on and we have started a clear path to organisational and financial sustainability. To succeed in this endeavour, we will have to continue to work and support each other as a family of progressive civil society.

Thank you to the staff and to all our members for the work done, it is inspiring to read about it, and thank you for welcoming me so kindly. I look forward to continuing this political journey together in the coming years!



2020-21 Highlights



Our members

Full Members:

1. [Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz](#) (ACPP), Spain
2. [Associazione di Promozione Sociale](#) (ARCI), Italy
3. [ARCS Culture Solidali](#), Italy
4. [Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund](#) (ASBÖ), Austria
5. [Auser](#), Italy
6. [Centres d'Entraînement aux Méthodes d'Education Active](#) (CEMEA), France
7. [International Cooperation Network](#) (CGIL), Italy
8. [Foundation for European Progressive Studies](#) (FEPS), EU
9. [Fagligt Internationalt Center](#) (FIC), Denmark
10. [Foundation Max van der Stoep](#) (FMS), The Netherlands
11. [Fonds voor Ontwikkelingsamenwerking - Socialistische Solidariteit](#) (FOS), Belgium
12. [Humanitas](#), The Netherlands
13. [International Federation of Workers' Education Associations](#) (IFWEA), South Africa
14. [Instituto Sindical de Cooperacion al Desarrollo](#) (ISCOD), Spain
15. [International Solidarity Foundation](#) (ISF - Solidaarisuus), Finland
16. [La Liga Española de la Educación y la Cultura Popular](#) (La Liga Española), Spain
17. [La Ligue de l'Enseignement](#) (La Ligue), France
18. [Movimiento por la Paz, el Desarme y la Libertad](#) (MPDL), Spain
19. [Solidarité Syndicale](#) (OGBL), Luxembourg
20. [Olof Palme International Center](#) (OPIC), Sweden
21. [Solidar Suisse](#), Switzerland
22. [Solidarité Laïque](#), France
23. [Volunteering Matters](#), United Kingdom

Affiliate Members:

1. [Arbeiterwohlfahrt \(AWO\)](#), Germany
2. [Arbeiterwohlfahrt International \(AWO INTL\)](#), Germany
3. [Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund \(ASB\)](#), Germany
4. [Asociácia odborných pracovníkov sociálnych služieb \(AOPSS\)](#), Slovakia
5. [Asociatia pentru Dialog, Ocupare si Migratie \(CONNECT\)](#), Romania
6. [Berufsförderungsinstitut Oberösterreich \(BFI OÖ\)](#), Austria
7. Baltic Platform comprising:
 - [Johannes Mihkelsoni Keskus \(JMK\)](#), Estonia;
 - [Latvian Trade Union of Education and Science Employees \(LIZDA\)](#), Latvia;
 - [Lithuanian Labour Education Society \(LLES\)](#), Lithuania
8. [Central and Eastern European Network for Gender Issues \(CEE Gender Network\)](#), Slovenia/Croatia
9. [Community Development Institute \(CDI\)](#), North Macedonia
10. [Center for Peace Studies \(CMS\)](#), Croatia
11. [Czech Council on Foreign Relations - Rada Pro Mezinarodni Vztahy \(CCFR\)](#), Czech Republic
12. [DGB-Bildungswerk \(DGB BW\)](#), Germany
13. [IFSI-FGTB](#), Belgium
14. [Initiative for Development and Cooperation \(IDC\)](#), Serbia
15. [Institute for Social Integration \(ISI\)](#), Bulgaria
16. [Instituto de Soldadura e Qualidade \(ISQ\)](#), Portugal
17. [Institut für Sozialarbeit und Sozialpädagogik \(ISS\)](#), Germany
18. [International Union of Tenants \(IUT\)](#)
19. [Istituto Sindacale di Cooperazione allo Sviluppo \(ISCOS\)](#), Italy
20. [Multicultural Center Prague \(MCK\)](#), Czech Republic
21. [NEXUS Emilia Romagna](#), Italy
22. [Pour la Solidarité \(PLS\)](#), Belgium
23. [Progetto Sud](#), Italy
24. [Rede Sem Fronteiras](#), Portugal - Brazil
25. [Samaritan International \(SAMI\)](#)
26. [Solroc \(SolSoc\)](#), Belgium
27. [Solidarity Overseas Service \(SOS\)](#), Malta
28. [Union Aid Abroad \(APHEDA\)](#), Australia
29. [Volkshilfe Österreich Bundesverband \(VH\)](#), Austria
30. [WEA](#), United Kingdom
31. [Willi-Eichler Akademie \(WEA\)](#), Germany



Our Board

President

Francisca Sauquillo - [Movimiento por la Paz - MPDL](#), Spain

Vice-President

Sergio Bassoli - [CGIL](#), Italy

Treasurer

Vice- President Sergio Bassoli acts as Treasurer, until end of the mandate of the current Board (2021).

Board members

- Jean-Michel Ducomte, [La Ligue de l'enseignement](#), France
- Claus Larsen Jensen, [Forum for International Cooperation](#), Denmark
- Isabelle Palanchon, [CEMEA](#), France
- Francesca Chiavacci, [ARCI](#), Italy
- Zuzana Schreiberova, [Multicultural Center Prague](#), Czech Republic
- Klaus Thieme, [SOLIDAR Suisse](#), Switzerland
- Alain Canone, [Solidarité Laïque](#), France
- Anna Sundström, [Olof Palme International Center](#), Sweden
- María del Rosario Sánchez, [La Liga Española de la Educación](#) (Cádiz), Spain

Partnerships

European Parliament Political Groups

SOLIDAR Foundation has continued the close cooperation with the **S&D Group** to promote among policy-makers our key advocacy messages. Over the reporting period, we disseminated the findings of our annual publication to influence ongoing policy-making, and advocated for the involvement of CSOs in the Recovery and Resilience Plans as well as the Conference on the Future of Europe. Over the reporting period, SOLIDAR Foundation has also strengthened its relations with the **Greens/EFA Group**, starting a promising cooperation for a wider outreach to policy-makers. SOLIDAR Foundation is regularly in contact with Advisors and MEPs (mainly CULT Committee).

Trade Unions

Over the past year, Foundation has been cooperating closely with ETUCE, achieving mutually reinforcing strategic messages and synergies in voicing them publicly as well as in policy proposals. As a result, the alliance of SOLIDAR Foundation with the Unions is now more consistent and regular. SOLIDAR continues to deepen our cooperation with the ETUC in several arenas and processes. Finding common positions and ways forward in the work building up to the Conference of the Future of Europe, the Global Progressive Forum and as a political ally in questions related to Action Plan of the EPSR.

Foundation for European Progressive Studies

FEPS and SOLIDAR Foundation are engaged on a partnership basis. For the second year, the 2021 edition of our annual publication "Citizenship & Lifelong Learning Monitor" was released and its results publicly presented jointly with FEPS. The reinforced cooperation allows for a greater outreach

of our policy recommendations, and also enriches them thanks to the academic expertise provided by FEPS.

Lifelong Learning Platform

SOLIDAR Foundation has stayed actively involved in all relevant meetings of the Lifelong Learning Platform, including conferences and WGs. In particular, the launch of the 2021-2027 programming period and the revision of strategic frameworks such as the European Education Area and the Digital Education Action Plan, the Skills Agenda and the Green Competences Framework have been the focus of the past year.

Civil Society Europe

SOLIDAR Foundation has been actively engaging in the Civil Society Convention for the Future of Europe, initiated by Civil Society Europe. The team in Foundation coordinates the work of SOLIDAR in the Convention to voice our membership priorities and concerns for the future of Europe, with special regard to Social Europe. The thematic cluster Social Europe of the Civil Society Convention is coordinated by SOLIDAR.

CONCORD

SOLIDAR has been actively involved in CONCORD Financing for Development Working Group with a focus on programming at National and Regional Levels. This space has allowed SOLIDAR to be constantly updated on the programming process and to shape training modules for its members. At the same time, SOLIDAR has provided input into the revision of the Network's strategy.

Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF)

SOLIDAR is a founding member of the GCSPF which was created in 2011 to support the adoption of the ILO Recommendation on Social Protection Floor (R202). SOLIDAR has been supporting the Coalition's demand for international solidarity to fund comprehensive social protection systems in poor countries.

Social Platform

Social Platform is the largest network of civil society organizations in the European Union advocating for a social Europe. SOLIDAR is a member of the board and participates in numerous working groups, among them Social Pillar, Task Force on Income and Just transition.

SDG Watch Europe

SOLIDAR is a founding member of this platform of which steering group is a member since 2016. On February 2021, SOLIDAR has been re-elected as a member of the Steering group. Through this platform, SOLIDAR monitors the implementation of the SDGs in Europe across all sectors, promotes its integration in EU policies and the engaging of CSOs & citizens at local, national and EU level.

Liaison Group of the EESC

Since mid-May 2021, SOLIDAR is officially part of this group, set up in 2004 to provide a framework for political dialogue and cooperation between the EESC and the European organisations and networks on cross-cutting issues of common interest. A unique bridge between CSO's and the European institutions, enabling civil dialogue and promoting participatory democracy. On 4 May, SOLIDAR already organised, together with the Social Platform and this group, a workshop in the framework of the Civil Society Days.

Policy focuses: our 3 pillars

Social Affairs: Realising a Social Europe for all

We work to make full access to social rights a reality for all through the implementation of the European pillar of Social Rights in all relevant policy areas of the EU.

SOLIDAR advocates for political and economic reforms that put social cohesion, social justice, and sustainability at the heart of all EU policies. Over the last decade, industrial and technological developments, new forms of organisation work, outsourcing and the use of new technologies have increasingly contributed to an erosion of conventional employment and working arrangements. This has paved way for labour market segmentation and a widespread acceptance of fragmented jobs that are inherently linked to poor job quality, low income, limited social protection, precariousness, and vulnerability. This necessitates more than ever that the EU, social partners in cooperation with social economy organisation's and other stakeholders are engaged to strengthen access to decent work for all.

The European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) and its long-awaited action plan are at the centre of our advocacy and policy influence efforts. We place special emphasis on policy coherence and the importance of clearly linking the EPSR to a reformed European Semester, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Green Deal as the most important way to guarantee a just transition.

The New Pact on Migration and Asylum, especially the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion for 2021–2024, and related policy initiatives are also a focus. SOLIDAR aims to promote safe and legal pathways for migrants to come to Europe, recognising the crucial role that all types of migration have in our societies and in our economies. We advocate for a legal framework organising migration rather than restricting them, based on full respect of international conventions and the universality of human rights.

SOLIDAR and our member organisations are engaging in joint advocacy actions together with our allies to make the connection between social policy and the green transition, influencing the national recovery plans to ensure that they contribute sustainability, and to place social and labour market inclusion as core parts of migration policies, without distinguishing between those who have the right to stay and those who do not.

Main projects

1. ***Together for Social Europe*** | [EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation \(EaSI\)](#)
Operating Grant | 1/1/2018 –31/12/2021 (prolonged)

Strengthen the capacity of SOLIDAR CSOs to monitor policy developments, to participate in EU decision making processes and to provide evidence-based recommendations on the direction to be taken to tackle the social crisis and increase more active inclusion and social cohesion in a just transition.

2. [Skills and Integration of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Applicants in European Labour Markets \(Sirius\)](#) | Horizon 2020 | 1/1/2018 –31/07/2021 (prolonged)

Research project that aims to develop an evidence-based way to deal with migration and asylum, building on a framework looking to identify enablers and barriers to MRAs integration via the labour market.

3. **NEW! [Sustainable practices for the integration of newly arrived migrants into societies](#) (Spring)**
| Horizon 2020 | 1/03/2021 - 28/02/2023

Research project aiming at making integration policies at national, regional and local levels more effective, more evidence-based, more innovative, more transferable, and more sustainable.

4. **[CIVICUS Monitor: Tracking Civic Space](#)** | Civicus | 01/07/2018 - 30/06/2021

The CIVICUS Monitor rates the conditions for civil society or civic space in 196 countries (all UN member states and Kosovo, Palestine and Taiwan). Solidar reports on the state of freedom of assembly, association and expression of 7 of them: Finland, Denmark, Italy, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands and Norway.

Highlights

1. **Actions and recommendations to feed EU policy-making.**

a. **Annual publication** | [Social Rights Monitor, 2020 edition](#)

- Reports on 17 European countries (14 from the EU, 2 candidates and the UK)
- 18 members and partners involved
- One European-wide overview
- 13 languages.

b. **European conference** | **Joining forces for a socially sustainable post-Covid Europe** Presentation of the 2020 Social Rights Monitor (2 December 2020).

- **Participants at the conference:** In total, 139 people (87 women, 52 men) attended the conference.
- **Policy makers: 3 (Heléne Fritzson, Jiri Svarc, Bruno Ribeiro Barata)**

c. **Thematic publication & roundtable**

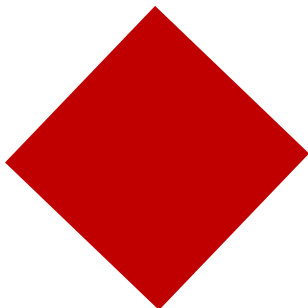
- **Title:** [Inequalities in the European Semester](#) (September 2020)
- **Description:** policy paper exploring the reality of social inequalities in Europe, and how they can be better measured and incorporated in the Semester process and in EU economic governance in general.
- **Collaborators:** SOLIDAR Member's Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) was actively engaged in the development of this publication.
- **European roundtable** (8 October 2020): the publication was presented in the framework of SOLIDAR's European roundtable organized along with FEPS.
 - **Participants at the conference:** 119 people participated as attendees.
 - **Policy makers: 3 (Nicolas Schmit, Olivier Bontout and Miguel Costa Matos)**

d. **Policy workshops**

• **A Social Green Deal for a sustainable recovery** | **Civil Society Days**

4 March 2021

- **Together with Social Platform and the EESC,** SOLIDAR organised Workshop 6 in the framework of the Civil Society Days.
- **Participants at the conference:** 107 people.
- **Policy makers: 1 (Alice Kuhnke)**
- 3 recommendations.



- **Ensuring migrants, refugees and asylum seekers' labour market integration during COVID-19 | SIRIUS Project Policy Roundtable.**
31 March 2021
 - **Participants at the conference: 79 (including panelists)**
 - **Policy makers: 2 (Birgit Sippel, Guido Castellano - DG HOME)**
- **Roadmap to quality employment through a just transition and a fair recovery | SOLIDAR & European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) | Social Platform Flagship Conference.**
4 May 2021
 - This workshop reflected upon ways to create and foster sustainable and quality jobs as part of a fair, inclusive, and resilient recovery and a just transition to greener societies.
 - **Participants: 72 (including panelists)**
 - **Policy makers: 2 (Ana Carla Pereira, Pedro Marques)**
 - **Output:** 2 recommendations that were included in the set of recommendations presented by the Social Platform at the Social Summit in Porto
- **Promoting evidence-based Communities of Practice on migrant integration | Spring Launch Conference**
8 June 2021
 - **People registered:** 151 (at the moment of reporting)
 - The SPRING Launch conference aims to explore how knowledge exchange can be best achieved around sustainable integration practices. It will look at the knowledge needs among researchers, policymakers and practitioners while highlighting positive experiences and identifying possible synergies.

2. Bridge-building actions between EU level and national actors

- a. **3 Briefing papers** providing information on relevant EU policy developments to be distributed to our members, partners and other stakeholders.
 - [The SDGs and the European Semester](#) (December 2020). This briefing paper explores how the SDGs have been incorporated in the various steps of the European Semester process so far.
 - [The New Pact on Migration and Asylum & the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027](#) (December 2020). This paper describes the latest developments in the field of migration and inclusion at the EU level: the New Pact on Migration and Asylum and the Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027.
 - [The Action Plan on the European Pillar of Social Rights](#) (March 2021). This briefing paper sets out the most important points of the document relating to social and education policies and gives SOLIDAR's assessment of the plan.
- b. **Trainings**
 - **Online training for members: Study visit 2: Mainstreaming Sustainable Development Goals** (26-27 November 2021). The training was given by a professional trainer, Anna Tornaghi, with 17 members (14 women and 3men) and 5 members of the SOLIDAR staff attending over the course of three sessions each touching upon a different aspect of the SDGs.

3. Awareness-raising and dissemination

- a. **'Social Services & Covid- 19: What role for EU?'** Together with partner organisations from Social Services Europe, SOLIDAR organised a summit on the investment needs of service providers in the light of Covid-19.
 - **Participants:** It brought together over 300 participants and reached more than 6000 through the [live streaming](#).
 - **Output:** joint position paper
- b. **Social Affairs newsletters:** 12 Social Affairs newsletters were realised and disseminated across our 140 subscribers to inform them on policy procedures and updates in the social and employment policies, events, public consultations, access to EU funds and foster collaboration and sharing of information.

VIPs involved in our events and work

European level

- Nicolas Schmit, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights & Ana Carla Pereira, Cabinet Expert for European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights Nicolas Schmit
- Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President of the European Commission, Commissioner for Democracy and Demography
- MEPs:
 - Heléne Fritzon, MEP, Vicepresident of S&D group and member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, Sweden.
 - Birgit Sippel, MEP Germany, S&D Group and member of the LIBE committee.
 - Dragoş Pîslaru, MEP Romania, Renew Europe, member of the EMPL committee.
 - Alice Kuhnke, MEP and Vice-chair of the intergroup on the Green New Deal.
 - Pedro Marques, MEP and S&D negotiator for the Just Transition Fund.
- European bodies:
 - EESC: Oliver Röpke, President of the EESC's Workers' Group; Giuseppe Guerini, President of CECOP member of the EESC; Javier Doz Orrit, President of the European Semester Group.
 - Committee of the Regions: Antje Grotheer, CIVEX Commission, Rapporteur on the CoR's opinion on the New Pact on Migration and Asylum.
- Unions
 - Esther Lynch, Deputy General Secretary of ETUC
 - Ludovic Voet, Confederal Secretary of the ETUC

National level

- Miguel Costa Matos, Member of the Portuguese Parliament and President of the Juventude Socialista of Lisbon Urban Area.
- Antton Rönholm, Secretary General, Social Democratic Party of Finland.

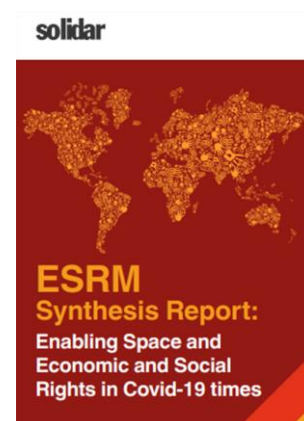
International cooperation: Organising International Solidarity

We work to ensure the progressive realisation of economic and social rights and an enabling space for CSOs and Trade Unions in line with human rights obligations and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

To do so, SOLIDAR monitors and advocates for the EU external policies and programs to contribute to the realisation of decent work, freedom of association and the right to quality health and education and to actively promote an enabling space for CSOs and Trade Unions and defend human right defenders.

SOLIDAR expects that Europe's engagement with civil society in external relations fulfils the strategic purpose enshrined in its 2012 Communication on the matter where an empowered and competent civil society is recognised as "a crucial component of any democratic system and an asset in itself". At the same time, the EU Action Plan for Democracy and Human Rights recognises the importance to enable the actions of CSO, trade union and defend human rights defenders against any form of intimidation and threats.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development frames SOLIDAR international work to monitor that EU policies are coherent with the sustainable development objectives and do not cause harm to partners' countries.



Main projects

Organising International SOLIDARity (December 2018-December 2022)

The program's main objective is to strengthen the capacity of SOLIDAR international cooperation network (SOLIDAR Secretariat, SOLIDAR members headquarter staff, SOLIDAR members' field staff and SOLIDAR members' in-country partners)

- To engage in shaping EU development cooperation policy
- To coordinate to promote the progressive realisation of Economic and Social Rights, the implementation of related Sustainable Development Goals and to promote an enabling environment for CSO and Trade Unions.

The program is part of the Framework Partnership Agreement between SOLIDAR and the European Union.

Majalat (February 2018 - September 2021)

The objective of the project MAJALAT* is to create and promote a space of encounter and constructive dialogue between the civil society of the South of the Mediterranean and the European Union (EU). SOLIDAR is one of the 6 partners of the project.

Highlights

- **Global Day of Action**
 - World [#SocialJusticeDay](#) happens every 20th of February. 1 week social media action, 1 global statement on Just Transition for Social Justice, 1 Annual Publication on Economic and Social Rights and Enabling Space for CSO in times of COVID.

- On FB, during the week of the campaign we reached around 1800 users, with a peak on day 19/2 (the day before the Social Justice Day, identified as the one to make more “noise”) of 400 users.
- On Twitter the campaign left 14.4k impressions in these days (counting until 24/2 included), earning around 1.5k impressions per day.
- **Regional Exchange**
 - 16 members and 25 partners of SOLIDAR
 - From 20 countries (Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Denmark, France, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mali, Mozambique, Netherlands, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania and Togo)
 - 1 Joint declaration “[Setting the right priorities for a sustainable EU-Africa partnership](#)”, 3 languages EN, [French](#) and [Portuguese](#)
- **Regional Reports and Briefing Papers**
 - 19 members and partners participated in the monitoring of the 2030 Agenda with the elaboration of **2 regional Economic and Social Rights Monitoring reports**: [Andean America](#) (10 members and partners - available also in [Spanish](#)) and [Central America](#) (9 members and partners - available also in [Spanish](#)).
 - 5 members contributed to the **Briefing Paper** publication “[Legal pathways for migration: setting the right priorities for a sustainable EU-Africa partnership](#)”. This exercise supported the organisation of members and partners in the Migration Working Group.
 - 2 members contributed to the **Briefing Paper** “[Maquila workers in Central America: falling off the boat in the coronavirus storm?](#)”
 - 3 partners led the development of the **report** “[Diagnosis on the impact of Covid-19 on the local productivity and economy](#)” in Central America and Colombia.
 - 1 member and 1 partner led the development of the publication “[Resilience and uncertainty: Mekong migrant workers amid the pandemic downturn](#)” in the framework of the SGF covering Southeast Asia, in particular Cambodia, Hong Kong, Myanmar and Thailand.
- **National Regional Monitoring Reports**
 - **9 National Reports (Asia, Africa, Latin America)**
 - **83 members**, partners and allies participated
- **Small Grant Facility**
 - 12 projects for SOLIDAR members and their partners
 - 15 countries
 - 65,000 EUR grant awarded
- **In-country meetings between SOLIDAR members and partners**

Some VIPs involved in our events and work

- Members of the European Parliament Carlos Zorrinho, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Maria Arena (Chair of the Human Rights Sub-Committee), Mónica Silvana Gonzalez
- Françoise Millecam, DG DEVCO B3, Head of Sector Employment and Social Inclusion
- Raphaël Warolin, EEAS, Human Rights
- Koumbou Boly Barry, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to education

Country/Region	N° participants
1. Andean America	14 participants
2. El Salvador	14 participants
3. Honduras	4 participants
4. Mozambique	4 participants
5. Burkina Faso	8 participants

Education and lifelong learning: Building learning societies

We work towards creating an inclusive learning society based on openness and democracy, where all members have a chance to participate in lifelong and life-wide learning opportunities. An educated citizenry forms an indispensable part of a democratic society and is a prerequisite for active citizenship.

SOLIDAR Foundation advocates for ensuring that its vision is reflected in the structure of strategic frameworks such as the European Education Area to enable personal emancipation; the enhancement of an individual's full civic, social, and economic participation in society and the development of human talents – to ensure that everyone achieves the maximum according to their abilities. To achieve inclusiveness in participation to the democratic dimension of communities across Europe, SOLIDAR monitors and advocates for the promotion of citizenship and common values of freedom, tolerance, and non-discrimination through education, as outlined in the dedicated 2015 Declaration of the Education Ministers Council in Paris. Our network looks at the Conference on the Future of Europe and similar initiatives as processes for enhanced civic engagement in Europe and fora for the involvement of CSOs in the debate.

Some VIPs involved in our events and work

- MEPs Victor Negrescu, Marcos Ros Sempere, Evin Incir, Gabi Bischoff.
- Prof. Jernej Pikalo (former Minister Education Slovenia)
- Rilli Lappalainen (President of CONCORD)
- Brikena Xhomaqi (co-chair EESC Liaison Group and Director of LLLP), Representatives of DG EAC and DG DEVCO, Jean-Luc Vanraes (Vice President European Assembly of Regions)

SOLIDAR strives to ensure that everyone is prepared to actively participate in a fast-paced and constantly changing society, especially by means of developing skills and competences through all types of education, in a lifelong and life-wide manner, for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, for adapting to the digital revolution and for pursuing environmental and climate justice. It does so by ensuring that such aspects do not fall through the cracks of initiatives such as the European Green Deal, the Digital Education Action Plan, the Updated Skills Agenda and the AI White Paper and the Regulatory Framework for AI, and by promoting transformative global citizenship education.

Main projects

- [Erasmus+ \(Operating Grant\) 1/1/2018 –31/12/2021 \(prolonged\)](#)

Promoting the cross-sectoral cooperation between stakeholders involved in education and training; Education and Lifelong learning Forum (ELF); Activities of ELF.

- [ECO-IN - Algorithm for New Ecological Approaches to Inclusion](#); Erasmus+; 01/01/2020 – 31/12/2022

Setting up good practices for the whole-school approach enabling learning environments to be more inclusive and, at the same time, developing effective monitoring tools. The project will draw conclusions in the form of a white paper for policy makers.

- [#YouthAgainstCyberBullying](#); Erasmus+; 02/09/2019 –30/06/2022 (prolonged)

International Training for young people to become multipliers at the national level of anti-cyber bullying techniques. Development of a dedicated application. Drafting of an e-brochure addressing the issue of cyber bullying among young people.

- NEW! [IMAGES – I Manage and Empower My Skills](#); Erasmus+; 01/10/2020-31/03/2023

Supporting managers of not-for-profit, third sector organisations to identify their competences, their further developmental needs and providing them with opportunities to develop their skill set to the benefit of their organisation as well as for transnational cooperation between CSOs.

- NEW! [SMILE - Social Meaning Impact through Lifelong Learning universities in Europe](#); Erasmus+; 01/12/2020-30/11/2023

Achieving inclusive higher education, focusing on migrant background, women in leadership and socio-economic background divergences when evaluating the way to boost inclusiveness. Improving participation, progress and achievement of disadvantaged learners in higher education institutions.

- NEW! [Value – Solidarity Matters](#); Europe for Citizens; 01/03/2021-31/08/2022

Carried out by a consortium comprising 11 partners and coordinated by SOLIDAR Foundation, the project provides with a deeper understanding for the participants involved of the role of solidarity for societal well-being. Through the 9 Solidarity Labs (Action Trainings), the project fosters civic and democratic engagement at EU level and the debate on the future of Europe.

- NEW! [TRANSVAL-EU - Validation of transversal skills across Europe](#); Erasmus+; 2021-2023

Making the validation processes of transversal skills acquired in non-formal and informal settings explicit and embedding the lessons learned in validation and guidance policies. SOLIDAR Foundation is an associate partner providing with expertise.

Highlights

- **Annual publication - [Citizenship and Lifelong Learning Monitor, 2020](#) edition**

- 11 members & partners involved
- 100 participants in the Conference
- 30 stakeholders actively involved in the dissemination
- 50 policy-makers reached out for dissemination

- **Policy Paper on Global Citizenship Education**

- 8 members involved
- Presented at the LLLWeek in partnership with Bridge47 and CONCORD Europe



- **Position Paper on Artificial Intelligence**

- Basis for the contribution to 10+ conferences, debates, amendments and public consultations

- **5 Briefing Notes**

- Informing the membership on major policy developments at the EU level and gathering their feedback

- Re-envisioning the future of SOLIDAR Foundation to become the Learning Hub of the network: Dedicated workshop with 20+ members and regular consultation and gathering of feedback

A new strategic objective/orientation: Just Transition for Social Justice

Since its 2020 General Assembly, SOLIDAR has undergone a process of revision of the network's strategic direction. Based on input and feedback by members, the Board, staff, partners and alumni, the long-term objective of the organisation points towards ensuring a **just transition** to a social and sustainable Europe and world.

In line with this strategic objective and with SOLIDAR's overall mission of advancing social justice, in early 2021 we kicked-off a one-year project titled "Just Transition for Social Justice". Touching upon all pillars of SOLIDAR's work, the project's goal is to ensure that Just Transition is central to **European recovery** by creating of an alliance among a diverse group of European stakeholders and increasing the capacity of progressive civil society organisations to participate in national and regional policy discussions on a Just Transition. "Just Transition for Social Justice" is supported by the European Climate Foundation (ECF).

The project is composed of a set of activities of different nature. So far, we have worked on the following ones:

- Content development and **information gathering** – On 11 June 2021, we published "Promoting a Just Transition in Europe and Worldwide: How Civil Society and Trade Unions are Driving the Change", a collection of initiatives by SOLIDAR members and allies that showcases how civil society organisations are reconciling the social and environmental agendas.
- Coalition building - We believe that transformative change such as the one needed to attain environmentally sustainable economies and societies is only possible by pooling efforts and creating strong alliances. Therefore, we initiated an exchange with other members of the progressive family to define a common progressive vision for a Just Transition in Europe. Then, we started developing a broad **European Alliance for a Just Transition** that includes social NGOs, climate and environmental movements and other political families. The Alliance will come to life during the summer and will be supported by a Joint Declaration, a sort of "call to action" for a Just Transition in Europe.
- Building the capacity of SOLIDAR members on a Just Transition – We plan to hold **Just Transition Academies**, which are training courses that explore how to integrate Just Transition in the work of an organisation and take part in policy dialogues on the topic. The first Academy is taking place on 11 June 2021, while the other two are planned for after the summer.
- Events on Just Transition – We have organised two **workshops** on Just Transition and quality employment and lifelong learning in the framework of the "Building Social Europe" Flagship Conference held by Social Platform on 4-5 May 2021. Four recommendations stemmed from the workshops, which were presented by Social Platform to the Porto Social Summit on 7 May 2021.

Throughout the rest of 2021, we will also publish five National Monitoring reports and two Case Studies that document civil society's involvement in the recovery process and green transition, hold meetings with high-level EU representatives, organise national and regional civil dialogues on Just Transition with SOLIDAR members, hold events in the framework of the Global Progressive Forum (GPF) in November, run an online campaign and more.

Communication highlights

Outreach in numbers



FACEBOOK

3.5k followers
90k reach



TWITTER

5.5k followers
644k impressions



YOUTUBE

78k total channel views



E-MAILING

2.5k subscribers



WEBSITE

25k users
35k sessions
76% login from desktop



LINKEDIN

1k followers
700 organic impressions/month

Members' intranet

A novel way to stay connected inside the network! Stemming from demands of our members in the Fora meetings, SOLIDAR & SOLIDAR Foundation activated a Basecamp project environment to work together with, but also amongst, members.

With the objective of making collaboration simpler, the tool is being tested in 2021 by the "pioneers" who have registered to be part of the platform and try out all its functionalities.

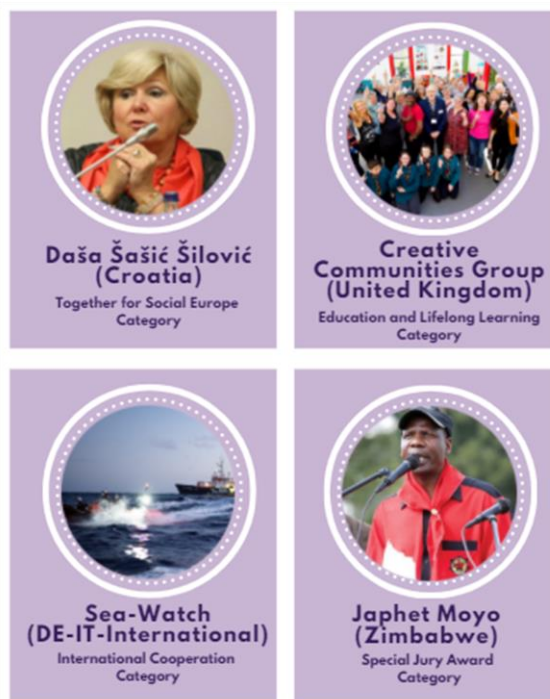
The screenshot displays the Basecamp intranet interface with several key sections:

- Docs & Files:** Includes 'SAF Forum minutes', 'RECORDING', and 'Social Rights Monitor'.
- Schedule:** Features a calendar entry for 'Tue, Jun 8' titled 'SPRING Project - Launch conference: Promoting evidence based Community of Practices on migrant integration' from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.
- Message Board:** Lists several discussions with icons for 'Strategic dialogue on the European Semester', 'Consultation - European Forum on Migration 2021', 'Workshop "Roadmap to quality employment through a', 'Webinar on Collective bargaining & adequate', and 'Consultation Legal Migration'.
- Campfire:** A section for 'Chat casually with the group, ask random questions, and share stuff without ceremony'.
- Automatic Check-ins:** A section for 'Asking 30 people the 1st Monday of each month at 8am' with a question: 'Do you have anything to be featured in this month's SAF newsletter?' and a row of country flags (NL, JA, MA, GB).

Silver Rose Awards 2020

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the traditional format of the Silver Rose Award changed to an online event, where [the 2020 winners](#) were interviewed by the Jury who had selected them at the beginning of the year.

The chosen date to celebrate these social justice fighters was 10th December 2020, coinciding with the International Human Rights Day, and providing a perfect backdrop for the theme of the ceremony: "A pandemic is no excuse to bypass Human Rights".



The 4 awardees exchanged views with **Evin Incir (MEP Sweden)**, **Zita Gurmai (PES Women)**, **Esther Lynch (ETUC)** and **Julie Ward (former MEP UK)** on topics related to their work, addressing issues of gender, migration, trade unionism and lifelong learning in a lively debate.

The [ceremony was livestreamed](#) and reached 513 viewers, apart from the more than 100 registered participants, and counted on the established support of the **S&D Group in the European Parliament and PES**.

For 2021, the format will be adapted and possibly linked to the [Global Progressive Forum](#).

solidar

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solidar FOUNDATION

SOLIDAR is a European and international network of membership based Civil Society Organisations who gather citizens throughout Europe and worldwide. SOLIDAR voices the values of its member organisations to the EU and international institutions across the three main policy sectors; social affairs, lifelong learning and international cooperation.



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