



KA2 PARTNER PROFILE

Cooperation Partnerships in Youth

Prepared for Erasmus+ KA2 partnership applications

Local roots. European reach. Meaningful youth impact.

Full legal name	GENCLIK ZEKA OYUNLARI VE KODLAMA DERNEGI	Acronym	KOZ-DER
Organisation ID (OID)	E10060467	PIC	901146103
VAT	3930984080	Type	NGO / Non-profit organisation
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YOUTH WORK

INCLUSION

DIGITAL SKILLS

NON-FORMAL LEARNING

Version: August 2026 | Experience: 7 years

Background and experience

What are the organisation's main activities?

KOZ-DER (Youth Intelligence Games and Coding Association) is an independent, non-profit youth organisation based in Kilis, Türkiye. The initiative for its establishment began in 2018 and the association acquired legal personality on 2 January 2019. Its mission is to help young people strengthen their intellectual, social, digital and intercultural competences, participate actively in society and gain access to European learning and volunteering opportunities. The name KOZ refers to the local word for walnut: just as the walnut is associated with brain development, the organisation connects intelligence games, robotic coding and creative learning with the development of young people's thinking, problem-solving and self-confidence. KOZ-DER organises regular non-formal learning activities in intelligence and strategy games, robotic coding, digital literacy, media literacy, English communication, environmental awareness, disaster preparedness, active citizenship and volunteering. Workshops are based on learning by doing and enable participants to plan, test, create, collaborate and reflect. Intelligence games develop attention, reasoning, patience and strategic thinking; coding activities promote algorithmic thinking and digital production; speaking activities build communication and intercultural confidence. The organisation also uses role play, LARP, simulations, teamwork, peer learning, discussion circles and creative production to address inclusion, human rights, anti-discrimination, hate speech, migration, democratic participation, sustainability and employability. The organisation carries out face-to-face activities mainly in Kilis and also creates online opportunities when the subject and participant profile make remote participation appropriate. Its regular work includes workshops, speaking clubs, volunteer meetings, Erasmus+ and ESC information sessions, application guidance, community actions, seminars, local dissemination events and experience-sharing meetings with returning participants. Young people are not treated only as beneficiaries: they identify needs, suggest themes, support outreach, facilitate peer activities, produce digital content and contribute to evaluation and follow-up. KOZ-DER's growing volunteer community, generally around 50-100 active or reachable young people, supports this participatory structure. Inclusion is central to KOZ-DER's work because Kilis is a border province affected by migration, economic limitations and restricted access to international opportunities. The organisation prioritises young people with fewer opportunities, including those from low-income families, refugee or migrant backgrounds, rural or geographically isolated communities, and young people who have never travelled abroad or taken part in Erasmus+. It creates safe spaces in which local and displaced young people can learn together, challenge prejudice and build mutual trust. Participation is supported through accessible communication, transparent calls, individual guidance, flexible learning methods and, where needed, additional mentoring. KOZ-DER cooperates with schools, universities, municipalities, youth centres, public institutions, civil-society organisations, local media and European partners. These relationships help the organisation reach diverse participants, obtain expert contributions, use community spaces, disseminate results and connect project outcomes with local needs. It has implemented local and international youth activities and has contributed to Erasmus+ youth exchanges, youth-worker learning activities, small-scale cooperation and European Solidarity Corps projects. It holds an ESC Quality Label as a support and lead organisation and has experience in outreach, inclusive selection, preparation, mentoring, partner communication, safeguarding, travel and visa guidance, monitoring, reporting, dissemination and reintegration. Every activity aims to produce learning that continues after the event. Participants reflect on competences, share their experience with peers, create social-media or website content and take part in local follow-up. The organisation uses feedback forms, observation, reflection sessions, participant testimonies, output tracking and partner review to improve quality. By combining strong local access in south-eastern Türkiye with dependable European cooperation, KOZ-DER turns mobility and project results into continuing youth work, wider community awareness and new opportunities for young people who are often underrepresented in international programmes.

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What are the organisation's activities in the field of this application?

KOZ-DER's work in the field of cooperation partnerships in youth is built around inclusion, participation, digital transformation, game-based learning, environmental responsibility and the development of practical educational tools. The organisation can contribute throughout the full project cycle: needs analysis, co-design, partner planning, participant involvement, piloting, monitoring, dissemination, exploitation and sustainability. Its main added value is the ability to connect European-level project objectives with the realities of young people in Kilis and south-eastern Türkiye, particularly those with fewer opportunities. Before designing an activity, KOZ-DER gathers information through dialogue with young people and volunteers, observations from local activities, partner consultations, feedback from mobility participants and communication with schools and community stakeholders. This allows the team to identify barriers such as limited foreign-language confidence, digital inequalities, economic disadvantage, lack of international experience, social isolation, prejudice and weak participation in decision-making. These needs are translated into accessible learning objectives, realistic activities and measurable indicators. Young people are invited to test ideas and give feedback so that project products are relevant to their everyday lives rather than being developed only by professionals. The organisation has practical expertise in non-formal education. It uses intelligence games to develop strategic thinking, concentration and cooperation; robotic coding to promote algorithmic thinking and digital creation; peer learning to increase ownership; and simulations, role play and LARP to explore social issues safely. Creative workshops, case studies, debates, reflection circles, community mapping and small group challenges are used for media literacy, democratic participation, anti-discrimination, environmental education and active citizenship. KOZ-DER can adapt these methods into session plans, facilitator guidelines, learner worksheets, digital resources, campaigns and pilot modules suitable for different educational contexts. During implementation, KOZ-DER can recruit and support local pilot groups, host workshops and multiplier events, collect qualitative and quantitative feedback and document learning through attendance records, questionnaires, interviews, observation notes and participant-created outputs. The team can contribute to quality assurance by agreeing common standards, reviewing materials for accessibility, monitoring deadlines and risks, comparing pilot results and proposing revisions. Its psychological counselling, educational and youth-work competences strengthen safeguarding, learner-centred facilitation, conflict management, intercultural sensitivity and the inclusion of participants who need additional support. KOZ-DER also contributes operational experience from Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps. It has worked with international partners on participant outreach, selection, preparation, mentoring, practical arrangements, communication, dissemination and follow-up. Its ESC Quality Label as a support and lead organisation reflects established procedures for participant welfare, risk awareness, continuous contact and organisational responsibility. In a KA2 partnership, these competences support clear division of tasks, timely communication, transparent documentation and constructive responses when implementation conditions change. Dissemination is integrated from the beginning. KOZ-DER can communicate project progress and results through its website, social-media channels, volunteer network, local institutions, schools, youth organisations and experience-sharing events. Content is prepared in clear formats for young people and stakeholders, while participants are encouraged to become peer multipliers. Outputs can be tested again in regular KOZ-DER workshops, incorporated into youth meetings and shared with new partner networks after the funded period. The organisation pays attention to consent, privacy, responsible image use and accurate presentation of project results. For sustainability, KOZ-DER links each project output to a responsible team member, a practical use case and a target audience. Training materials can remain in local workshops; digital resources can be kept accessible online; trained volunteers can repeat activities; and stakeholder cooperation can lead to new local or European initiatives. Evaluation findings are discussed with partners and converted into improvements rather than being treated only as reporting evidence. Through this approach, KOZ-DER brings not only implementation capacity but also a testing environment, a disadvantaged target group, a committed volunteer base and a pathway for turning European cooperation into durable local impact.

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What profiles and age groups of learners are concerned by the organisation's work?

KOZ-DER mainly works with young people aged 15-30, while the exact age range is adjusted to the rules and learning objectives of each activity. Its core learner profiles include secondary-school and university students, recent graduates, unemployed young people, first-time volunteers, young people seeking international learning opportunities and young people who want to improve their digital, social, linguistic or civic competences. Many participants have never previously joined an Erasmus+ or European Solidarity Corps activity and need clear information, individual encouragement and practical support before they can see themselves as eligible European participants. The organisation gives particular priority to young people with fewer opportunities. These include young people from Kilis and south-eastern Türkiye, low-income households, rural or geographically isolated areas, refugee or migrant backgrounds, families with limited educational or international experience, and young people facing social, cultural, linguistic or economic barriers. Kilis's border location and migration context make social inclusion and intercultural dialogue especially relevant. KOZ-DER therefore brings local and displaced young people together in learning environments that promote equal participation, mutual respect and cooperation rather than parallel or segregated activities. Learners have diverse starting points. Some have strong academic or digital skills but limited teamwork or intercultural experience; others have motivation and practical talent but low confidence, limited English or little access to technology. KOZ-DER avoids a one-size-fits-all approach. Activities combine visual explanation, demonstration, practice, discussion, games, movement, peer support and reflection. Instructions are divided into manageable steps, group roles are rotated and facilitators monitor whether quieter participants have space to contribute. Digital and game-based methods make abstract subjects more accessible, while face-to-face guidance and mentoring help participants who need additional reassurance. Different activities respond to different learning needs. Intelligence and strategy games are used with young people who want to strengthen attention, logical thinking, planning and decision-making. Robotic coding and digital workshops reach learners interested in technology, employability and creative production. English-speaking activities support communication confidence and preparation for international mobility. Environmental and community actions appeal to young people who prefer practical, visible contribution. Erasmus+ and ESC information sessions, application guidance and returned-participant meetings are especially relevant for first-time applicants who lack networks or reliable information. Youth workers, educators, NGO volunteers, facilitators and community representatives also participate as learners and multipliers, generally within the 18-35 range or according to the specific action. They improve competences in non-formal education, inclusion, digital tools, group facilitation, safeguarding, intercultural learning, project management and dissemination. Their involvement increases sustainability because they can adapt and repeat methods with other young people in their own institutions. Experienced volunteers may take peer-mentor or co-facilitator roles, while new volunteers begin with supported tasks and gradually assume responsibility. KOZ-DER involves learners throughout the process. Young people contribute to identifying needs, selecting themes, testing methods, creating campaign content, organising events and evaluating results. Before mobility or transnational activities, participants receive information about objectives, responsibilities, intercultural learning, travel, insurance, safety and communication. During implementation, regular check-ins and reflection help identify emerging needs. Afterward, participants share their learning through presentations, stories, social-media content, local meetings or peer support for future applicants. This progression helps transform a single activity into continuing participation. Accessibility and fairness guide recruitment. Calls are communicated through the website, social media, volunteer groups, partner institutions and local networks. Selection criteria are linked to project needs and explained transparently. First-time and disadvantaged applicants are actively encouraged, and realistic support measures are discussed with participants rather than assumed on their behalf. Learning outcomes include confidence, initiative, critical thinking, teamwork, digital awareness, intercultural competence, environmental responsibility and active citizenship. Progress is followed through self-assessment, observation, reflection, learner products and feedback.

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How many years of experience does the organisation have working in the field of this application?

7 YEARS

Past participation

Types of projects identified in the organisation's past participation record

Action	As applicant	As partner
Small-scale partnerships in youth (KA210-YOU)	1	0

Newcomer organisation	No	One KA210-YOU project is recorded as applicant.
Less experienced organisation	Yes	No more than two grants are recorded in this action during the relevant period.

Comments or additional information on past participation

KOZ-DER is not a newcomer to Erasmus+ youth work. Its participation record includes one Small-scale Partnership in youth (KA210-YOU) as applicant. Based on the programme definition and the available participation record, the organisation should be marked as less experienced for this action because it has received support in the relevant action no more than twice during the previous seven years. Beyond the automatic record, KOZ-DER brings complementary capacity from youth mobility, local youth work and the European Solidarity Corps. It has coordinated international activities, managed participant selection and preparation, worked with partners across Europe, and delivered dissemination and follow-up in Kilis. The organisation combines institutional continuity with a volunteer-driven structure and direct access to disadvantaged young people.

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Partner selection

How and why did you choose your project partners? What experiences and competences will they bring to the project?

We chose KOZ-DER as a project partner because it combines strong local access to disadvantaged young people with reliable European cooperation experience. Its work in Kilis reaches young people from low-income, refugee, migrant and geographically disadvantaged backgrounds who are often underrepresented in Erasmus+. KOZ-DER will contribute expertise in non-formal education, game-based learning, robotic coding, digital skills, inclusion and environmental education. Its team also brings experience in participant outreach, piloting educational tools, local stakeholder cooperation, dissemination, monitoring and evaluation. The organisation's ESC Quality Label, responsive communication and established volunteer network will support high-quality implementation and sustainable use of the project results at local level.

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Associated persons

At least two contactable persons are listed to ensure continuity.

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