SEVR2026 Country Profile: Poland (based on the information available in April 2026)

Poland's profile rests on a solid legal and funding base. The Act on Public Benefit and Volunteer Work (2003) regulates voluntary services, agreements, insurance and reimbursement and provides a "system of statutory protection", the funding environment is structured across tax-designation and grant layers. Recognition "takes many forms that extend beyond formal competitions", and a national e-platform offers an accessible reference point. Co-creation of policy is recorded as absent, and insurance, while covered by the 2003 Act, is described as a minimum safeguard rather than a comprehensive standard.

Poland shows a dependable statutory and funding foundation and manifests a clear 'informal-ascendant' pattern with informal volunteering recorded as dominant and growing precisely as regular structured participation declines. Crisis reactivity is a defining trait with engagement surging to 37% after the outbreak of Russia's war with Ukraine and is seen as an opportunity for the public organisers to mobilise quickly. The motivational shift toward skills and employability is the one force pulling against informal volunteering, drawing people toward formal organisations, education and business. Digitalisation is viewed as consistently positive, helping participation and improving public-sector efficiency without the ambivalence seen in Portugal or Italy.

	Indicator	SEVR2026 Country Profile: Poland
Emerging Volunteering Patterns **Source: Trends section of CFS**	Flexible/short-term/episodic engagement	Increasing prominence of flexible, short-term, episodic volunteer engagement.
	Digitalisation/online/e-volunteering	Growing digitalisation and e-volunteering, viewed as consistently positive for participation and public-sector efficiency.
	Rise/dominance of informal volunteering	A clear 'informal-ascendant' pattern, with informal volunteering dominant and growing as structured participation declines.
	Decline/falling volunteer numbers	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Ageing/loss of older volunteers	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Professionalisation/skills-based management	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Widening inequality barriers to access	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Corporate / employee / CSR volunteering	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Rising youth/student participation	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Skills/employability-driven motivation	Skills and employability-driven motivation, the one force pulling against informal volunteering and drawing people toward formal organisations, education and business.
	Crisis-driven engagement	Crisis-driven engagement after the outbreak of Russia's attack on Ukraine, an opportunity for public organisers to mobilise quickly.
	Recruitment & retention difficulty	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Public-institution partnership/socialisation	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.

	Formalisation/legal recognition	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
BEV2030 indicators 1.3.2 Volunteer time that does not replace paid jobs can be used for the co-financing/ co-resourcing of grants.	1.3.2 Co-financing with volunteer time	**Not reported.** No evidence reported on mechanisms for recognising or co-financing volunteer time.
1.4.1 Not for profit volunteer centres and platforms receive sufficient public funding.	1.4.1 Sufficient funding	**Partial/emerging.** There is an established, structured base, based on a funding environment across tax-designation and grant layers, but the sector "continues to experience low financial stability" and difficulties securing funds.
1.5.2 The co-creation of public policies becomes the norm and the opportunities offered by participatory decision making processes are fully explored and exploited.	1.5.2 Co-creation of public policies	**Absent.** Recorded as a documented negative.
2.1.4 Suitable and sufficient public support is provided to volunteer infrastructure organisation to have the capacity to support and guide these **new forms** of volunteering.	2.1.4 Suitable & sufficient support to 5 volunteering contexts: informal groups, local administrations, national public authorities, educational institutions, business sector actors.	**Not reported.** Context types are not reported.
2.3.3 Every volunteer has a suitable and accessible point of information or reference point to channel their questions and suggestions.	2.3.3 Accessible point of information	**Partial/emerging.** A national e-platform (SOW) nationally. Regional tier not reported.
3.1.1 Civic education and Service Learning are introduced more widely into the formal education systems to increase awareness of volunteering and civil society not only for children and young people but also their wider networks of families and friends.	3.1.1 Education: Civic / Service Learning	**Not reported.** No evidence reported on civic education or service learning.
3.3.2 Suitable volunteering development strategies that are crosscutting and transversal for different policy fields and sectors are developed.	3.3.2 Strategy	**Partial/emerging.** No national strategy for volunteering is available, but a diverse actor landscape and Solidarity Corps documentation are available.
3.4.1 Legal frameworks for volunteering are adapted and evolve to take this, and other societal and behavioural changes into account. In this way, in addition to the more formal and structured engagement that legal frameworks are frequently focused on, they will be more suitable to facilitate and enable different forms of voluntary engagement, rather than restrict engagement as can be currently the case, unlocking further potential.	3.4.1 Legal framework	**Established.** The Act on Public Benefit and Volunteer Work (2003) regulates voluntary services, agreements, insurance and reimbursement, with a system of statutory protection.
4.1.2 Opportunities for public recognition for the action of	4.1.2 Recognition	**Established.** Recognition takes many forms that extend beyond formal competitions. There is

volunteers, citizens and associations through awards, volunteer weeks and festivals etc. are provided and increased.		an established, multifaceted recognition culture.
5.2.1 Volunteering is included as an integral part of the community planning for crisis prevention and response.	5.2.1 Crisis prevention & response	**Not reported.** No evidence reported on the role of volunteering in crisis prevention and response.
5.4.2 Volunteers are provided with the necessary support and protection through suitable accident and third party liability insurance.	5.4.2 Insurance	**Partial/emerging.** The 2003 Act covers insurance as a minimum safeguard, but these do not constitute a comprehensive quality standard.