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

Malta's volunteering is anchored by a current strategy and a regulatory framework. The OCVO regime (Cap. 492) and a promotional Council are complemented by a newly adopted National Volunteering Strategy 2025–2030 that sets a cross-sectoral agenda of capacity building, collaboration, civic participation and visibility, and a National Volunteer Award provides recognition. The Youth Voluntary Service funding programme "has stopped" (with a successor), policy involves public consultation rather than genuine co-creation, insurance is not universally required and "depends on the organisation", and there is "no national volunteer database", though MCVS runs volunteers.mt. Volunteer hours may count as in-kind co-financing in some programmes.

Malta pairs a fresh, adopted strategy and regulatory base with conditions that are largely present but partial, its outstanding work being universality and continuity rather than establishment. There is a lack of information about crisis-related volunteering. Malta's strongest signal is rising recognition with increased visibility of volunteering being a rare unanimous trend. Persistent under-representation of non-Maltese and minority volunteers is the one clear challenge and the shift towards professionalisation more rigorous, specialised selection is experienced as added complexity by associations and public bodies but as opportunity by schools and business. The community and public organisers of volunteering move largely in parallel, so Malta's tensions are mild compared with the sharp business/associative splits seen elsewhere.

	Indicator	SEVR2026 Country Profile: Malta
Emerging Volunteering Patterns **Source: Trends section of CFS**	Flexible/short-term/episodic engagement	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Digitalisation/online/e-volunteering	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Rise/dominance of informal volunteering	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	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	Widening inequality and barriers to access, with persistent under-representation of non-Maltese and minority volunteers.
	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	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Crisis-driven engagement	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	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 Co-financing with volunteer time	**Partial/emerging.** Volunteer hours may be accepted as an in-kind contribution towards

1.3.2 Volunteer time that does not replace paid jobs can be used for the co-financing/ co-resourcing of grants.		co-financing in certain programmes, provided they do not replace paid staff.
1.4.1 Not for profit volunteer centres and platforms receive sufficient public funding.	1.4.1 Sufficient funding	**Partial/emerging.** Funding exists but with a documented interruption.
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.** There are Public consultations (which MCVS promotes) rather than co-creation. Participation without shared decision-making.
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.	**Partial/emerging.** Support is documented for informal groups via local councils; for business via the ProACT programme; for education via school collaboration. Support documented but on a context-basis.
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 volunteer database does not exist, though MCVS runs volunteers.mt. At the regional level, there is a thin local database.
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	**Partial/emerging.** Civic education and active citizenship are promoted, with the compulsory Systems of Knowledge subject often fulfilled through voluntary work.
3.3.2 Suitable volunteering development strategies that are crosscutting and transversal for different policy fields and sectors are developed.	3.3.2 Strategy	**Established.** Malta has adopted a National Volunteering Strategy 2025–2030 providing a cross-sectoral framework (capacity building, collaboration, civic participation, visibility).
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 OCVO regulatory framework (Cap. 492) and a Council to promote the sector. A second National Volunteering Strategy (2025) builds on the first.
4.1.2 Opportunities for public recognition for the action of volunteers, citizens and associations through awards, volunteer weeks and festivals etc. are provided and increased.	4.1.2 Recognition	**Established.** The National Volunteer Award recognises individual volunteers.
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.** There is no general legal requirement to insure all volunteers. Coverage depends on the organisation.