



European Solidarity Corps 2026

New voluntary position covering accommodation, expenses and allowance

Position: IT Conservation Assistant

Dates: December 2026 – December 2027 (12 Months)

BirdLife Malta is looking for a curious, resourceful and motivated volunteer with IT skills to join our Conservation Department and contribute to a range of IT projects supporting our conservation, research and public engagement work.

This is a unique opportunity to develop practical IT experience while working directly alongside conservationists, researchers and fieldworkers. The role combines web development, artificial intelligence, data management, networking, livestreaming and practical technology with real-world nature conservation.

Projects will include:

- developing and improving conservation databases and web-based platforms;
- helping develop a new digital system supporting BirdLife Malta's wildlife rescue and rehabilitation work;
- helping expand BirdLife Malta's programme of live bird and wildlife cameras, including remote camera installations, livestreaming infrastructure and website integration;
- expanding an ongoing AI-assisted project of digitising decades of ornithological records;
- developing tools for displaying bird migration and tracking data online; and
- supporting other IT needs arising from BirdLife Malta's conservation and research work.

You will also have opportunities to join fieldwork and on-site installations, experiencing first-hand how conservation data is collected and how the systems and technology you work on are used in practice.

Looking for a break from the usual office-based or corporate IT routine? This role offers the chance to apply your technical skills in a very different environment - developing real systems, working with conservation data, installing technology in the field and occasionally swapping the desk for some birdwatching or bird ringing in different areas in Malta, Gozo and Comino.

Are you:

- Aged 18-30
- A citizen of one of the [programme or partner countries](#)
- Interested in developing skills and experience towards a future career in IT
- Passionate about nature, wildlife and conservation
- Interested in applying technology, including AI, to real-world environmental challenges?
- Willing to learn and adapt to the varied needs of a charitable conservation organisation, including occasional flexible or longer working hours?

Please Note: Those who have previously participated in a long-term Erasmus+ European Solidarity Corps (ESC) scheme or long-term Erasmus+ Volunteering scheme are not eligible to apply for this position.

The European Solidarity Corps programme will provide you:

- Accommodation close to our offices in Ta' Xbiex or in the northern part of the island close to our nature reserves
- Coverage of utilities such as electricity, water, gas, and internet
- Reimbursement of the flight and other transport costs (bus, train, metro) to/from Malta, limited according to distance
- €380 monthly allowance
- Private HEALTH insurance provided by Henner

IT Conservation Assistant

This position offers the opportunity to work across several areas of IT while seeing directly how technology can support wildlife conservation, research and public engagement.

Web & System Development

BirdLife Malta develops and maintains a number of its web-based platforms in-house using technologies including **PHP, Laravel, JavaScript, jQuery, HTML, CSS and MySQL**.

Work may include:

- improving bird ringing and bird sighting databases;
- improving an online migration atlas combining ringing, observation and bird-tracking data;
- developing websites and tools to display movements of GPS-tracked birds;
- helping develop a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation system, covering areas such as rescue calls, admissions, case records, rehabilitation progress and reporting;
- supporting a nature-based learning platform for schools;
- maintaining and populating a WordPress website currently being redesigned.

A good grasp of some of the technologies above would be an advantage, although an ability to learn, troubleshoot and develop practical solutions is equally important.

Data Digitization

BirdLife Malta is undergoing a large-scale project to digitise historical ornithological records and incorporate them into its existing databases. A substantial amount of work has already been carried out, including the development of workflows combining scanning, OCR and AI-assisted data extraction.

- Support the continued expansion of BirdLife Malta's ornithological database with historical bird records.
- Assist in further developing, testing and validating an existing digitisation system that integrates intelligent scanning software with OCR, AI and language models, relying on **Python** scripting to process, transform and structure extracted data.
- Help test different models and approaches, improve accuracy and support workflows combining automated extraction with human verification.
- Assist with training and supporting volunteers digitizing and validating paper records.

Live Bird Cams

BirdLife Malta is expanding its use of live bird and wildlife cameras at nature reserves, breeding sites, wildlife gardens, schools and other locations.

- Assist with installing and configuring cameras, networking equipment and remote connectivity.
- Set up livestreams, integrate them into websites and help ensure their smooth day-to-day operation.
- Help troubleshoot and improve remote systems, including monitoring, automation and off-grid installations where required.

On-site visits and Fieldwork opportunities

- Participate in on-site technology installations (e.g. webcams)
- Join bird monitoring surveys, bird ringing sessions and other types of fieldwork to gain first-hand experience in data collection

In this role it would be helpful if you:

- Can communicate well in English;
- Enjoy spending time outdoors and are comfortable taking part in occasional fieldwork and on-site installations;
- Enjoy problem-solving and learning new technologies;
- Are comfortable working both independently and as part of a team;
- Are interested in using IT to solve practical, real-world problems.

This position offers the rare chance to blend technical expertise with environmental impact, gaining valuable skills while helping protect Malta's birdlife.

TO APPLY

Please download and fill in the [application form](#), and return in PDF format to nicholas.galea@birdlifemalta.org with subject: **Application for IT Conservation Assistant**.

We highly recommend that you visit our website on www.birdlifemalta.org for further information before applying.

Applications close on Wednesday 30th September 2026 at 23:00. Online interviews will take place in the following weeks. **Please note that incomplete and/or late applications will not be taken into consideration.**

The logo for BirdLife Malta features a stylized blue bird in flight on the left, a green swoosh above the text, and the words "BirdLife" in large blue and green letters, with "MALTA" in smaller grey letters below.

BirdLife
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