



Greece - Levadia

Diefthinsi Defterovathmias Ekpaidefsis Viotias

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Name of the course	Participation in democratic life
Dates of the course	The whole year
Duration of the course	Depends on the requests
Minimum number of places	10
Maximum number of places	30
Type of course	Mix of Training Course and Job shadowing
If mixed, what is the balance between the activities?	80% course - 20% school visits
The target group is...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Primary teachers or /and ● Secondary teachers ● Pupils
Summary of the activity	<p>In recent years the discussion about Democracy has been highlighted as a central theme, regarding not only Europe, but the whole world as well.</p> <p>The challenge about participation in democratic life includes a strong contrast:</p> <p>Statistics which depict the limited citizens' participation, lack of knowledge and the state bureaucracy that discourages citizens to involve in political life on one side and on the other hand, serious address of the problem and providing help and support so that the citizens can gradually overcome the difficulties in participating in social and political life.</p> <p>Strengthening active citizenship, offering opportunities for participation is a lifelong affaire, including values and ethics and the focus has to be set on the young generation.</p> <p>Young people are the citizens of tomorrow—they are also active citizens today, with strong voices, ideas, and the capacity to shape social and political life. Their creativity and energy, their preference to alternative types of involvement have given ideas</p>

	<p>that can influence public life and policy.</p> <p>And of course, we can be inspired by their engagement, which can take many forms: voting in elections, joining youth councils or organizations, volunteering in communities, creating campaigns on social or environmental issues, or using digital platforms to express their views and mobilize support.</p> <p>We all agree that youth participation today is essential for strengthening democracy as a whole. When young people are included and empowered, democratic life becomes more representative, innovative, and resilient.</p> <p>Why Us?</p> <p>Youth participation in democratic life can never be a miracle of apocalypse.</p> <p>It is in our hands as educators: an opportunity and a responsibility.</p> <p>Schools, training programs, and community spaces are not only places of learning, but also places where young people first experience what it means to take part in democratic life. Dialogue, critical thinking, and active engagement has always been part of the Greek Democracy and together with modern and alternative ways of participation can constitute the base for educators to help students develop the confidence and skills, to express their voices and contribute meaningfully to society. Supporting youth participation, therefore, is not only about politics—it is also about ethics, about education, guidance, and creating a culture of respect and inclusion and youth participation</p>
<p>Objectives, skills & competencies</p>	<p>The course will help the participants to:</p>

1. Understand the present situation about youth participation, identify barriers in formal conditions and in everyday life.
2. Identify democracy, active citizenship, youth participation in a local, national and global context.
3. Explore the rights and responsibilities of young people within democratic societies.
4. Develop practical strategies and educational methodologies to **promote youth voice, agency, and participation** in decision-making.
5. Strengthen collaboration between schools, communities, and civic organizations to **foster** inclusive and participatory democratic cultures.
6. Creative and alternative use of the existing democratic organs in schools:
 - Designing participatory and democratic classroom activities.
 - Facilitating debates, simulations, and youth councils.
 - Using non-formal education tools (role-play, experiential learning, project-based approaches).
7. Support youth in **critical thinking, media literacy, and problem-solving** related to democracy.
8. Guide students in designing and leading civic projects (school councils, community initiatives, advocacy campaigns).
9. Guide students in knowledge of local political institutions.
10. Encouraging active listening and inclusive dialogue.
11. Understand the role of Greek Democracy as the groundwork in modern democratic systems and European Institutions.

	<p>Participants will develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic Competence • Civic & Social Competence • Pedagogical Competence • Intercultural Competence: sensitivity to diversity, ensuring democratic participation is inclusive and respectful of different cultural and social backgrounds. • Reflective Competence: ability to critically reflect on their own teaching practices and institutional contexts to improve democratic education.
<p>Schedule - brief description</p>	<p>Accommodation: Levadia. Hotel in the town. (6 nights)</p> <p>Sunday: Arrival at Levadia</p> <p>Day 1: Monday</p> <p>Welcome, Icebreakers: Who am I?</p> <p>The Model of Competences for Democratic Culture, the four pillars.</p> <p>The concept of youth participation according to Youth Participation Strategy.</p> <p>Group activity: Current practices in our schools.</p> <p>Day 2: Tuesday</p> <p>Cultural excursion to Delphi: The Ancient Greek Democracy: Then and now.</p> <p>Exploring its role in present democratic systems and EU Institutions.</p> <p>Group activity: Depicting democracy in arts.</p> <p>Afternoon: Levadia, the town, the Oracle of Trophonius, the values of living together in an ancient sanctuary.</p> <p>Day 3: Wednesday</p>

	<p>Focusing on the Teacher Reflection Tool as a part of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture (RFCDC),</p> <p>Questionnaire about it.</p> <p>The main points, Structure and Purpose.</p> <p>Exploring our experience.</p> <p>School visit: the present reality about youth participation in an upper High School.</p> <p>Talking with the Pupils' Council about youth participation.</p> <p>Afternoon: Antikira</p> <p>Day 4: Thursday</p> <p>Participation in practice.</p> <p>Group work, simulation.</p> <p>Methods to increase youth participation and strength the youth's voice.</p> <p>Alternative ways of participation.</p> <p>Workshop: participants in groups design projects for their context for different ages of pupils.</p> <p>Afternoon: Meeting with representatives from the local Municipality about the Youth Participation in the local community. The Youth Participation in numbers.</p> <p>Day 5: Friday</p> <p>Active citizenship and digital engagement.</p> <p>Digital tools.</p> <p>The risks, challenges on line, fake news.</p> <p>Building partnership, Platforms, building a <i>Digital European Café</i>.</p> <p>Conclusions, Evaluation of the project</p> <p>Afternoon: Visit a tertiary Education Institute (ASPETE), talking with young adults about their citizenship.</p> <p>Administration. Workshop will be held in proper room with the necessary equipment.</p>
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Cost breakdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course: 400 € • Meals, accommodation and cultural visits upon request
If any other costs, please detail below:	