

Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe

DIVE In

Youth, Democracy & Digital Participation in Europe
Erasmus+ Project • 2025 edition

Horezu, Romania

Mobility: 29.11.2025 – 06.12.2025



Youth Exchange Project

Cofunded by the European Union

Contract No 2025-1-RO01-KA151-YOU-000302169



Editorial



Why DIVE IN Matters?

The DIVE IN mobility brought together young people from Romania, Greece, Hungary, and Türkiye to explore democracy, identity, values, and active participation in a rapidly changing digital world.

For seven days, participants learned, debated, created, explored, and built a community across cultures. They discovered what it means to be active citizens, how digital tools can be used responsibly, and how democracy starts with small actions — dialogue, creativity, respect, and cooperation.

This magazine collects the most important moments, activities, reflections, and creative outputs of the project. It celebrates the voices of young people and the ideas they want to bring into Europe's future.

DIVE IN is more than a mobility — it is a commitment to participation, inclusion, and democratic values. A journey that continues long after the project ends.

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Erasmus+



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About the project



About the Project

DIVE IN - Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe is an Erasmus+ mobility for youth, designed to empower young people with civic competences, critical thinking, digital literacy, and European democratic values.

The Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe (DIVE IN) Youth Exchange is an Erasmus+ initiative designed to empower young people to better understand and actively participate in democratic life. In an era shaped by rapid digital developments and evolving social challenges, the project creates a space where youth can explore what democracy means in practice and how civic engagement can be strengthened in their communities.

Held in Horezu, Romania, and bringing together participants from Romania, Hungary, Turkey, and Greece, the project encourages young people to reflect on European values, diversity, inclusion, and the responsibilities that come with active citizenship. Through collaboration, intercultural dialogue, and hands-on learning, participants are supported in developing essential social, civic, and digital competences.

DIVE IN is built on the belief that young people play a crucial role in shaping a more inclusive, informed, and democratic Europe. The activities offer them the tools, experiences, and motivation to contribute meaningfully to their societies — during the project and far beyond it.

About the Project

The DIVE IN project was designed to provide young people with practical and meaningful experiences that help them understand and actively engage in democratic life. By exploring themes such as democracy, civic participation, digital citizenship, inclusion, and intercultural cooperation, the project aims to strengthen the role of youth as active contributors within their communities. Throughout the exchange, participants take part in hands-on activities, work in mixed international teams, visit local institutions, and create materials intended to inspire and inform others.

At the core of DIVE IN is the goal of improving the quality of youth work across partner organizations. By participating in all project activities, these organizations expand their operational capacity and enhance the services they offer to young people. The project also focuses on empowering youth through non-formal learning methods that encourage democratic participation, social inclusion, respect for diversity, and civic responsibility.

Beyond the immediate activities of the exchange, DIVE IN supports a broader impact in the community. Young people are expected to benefit from follow-up actions carried out by participants, including workshops, exhibitions, information campaigns, and awareness events. These initiatives help spread the project's messages and ensure that learning extends beyond the exchange itself.

More specifically, the project seeks to foster civic engagement and democratic involvement among youth; raise awareness about digital citizenship and responsible online behaviour; and promote equal opportunities for all young people, including those from marginalized backgrounds. It aims to develop critical thinking, intercultural understanding, and social responsibility, while also strengthening cooperation and solidarity among young Europeans.

The DIVE In Project

During the period 01.06.2025 – 31.08.2026, the Pro Dezvoltare DACIA Organization (APDD) from Drăgășani, in partnership with Creative Youth Academy (Hungary), Imece Network Egitim ve Kultur Dernegi (Turkey), and Youthpath (Greece), is implementing the Erasmus+ project “Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe (DIVE In)”, contract number 2025-1-RO01-KA151-YOU-000302169, co-financed by the European Union.

The project represents the first activity of Year 4 of the Erasmus+ Accreditation in the field of Youth, obtained by the Pro Dezvoltare DACIA Organization (APDD) from Drăgășani.

The central element of the project was an 8-day mobility, which took place between 29.11.2025 and 06.12.2025, in the town of Horezu, Vâlcea County, Romania. The activity brought together 34 participants (29 young participants, 4 group leaders, and 1 facilitator) from Romania, Hungary, Turkey, and Greece.

The project aims to support young people in understanding democratic values and the importance of civic engagement in Europe by improving their democratic, digital, and civic competences through non-formal activities. These activities help young people better understand their rights and responsibilities in both online and offline environments, actively engage in their communities, and contribute to improving the quality of youth work activities within the participating organizations.

Objectives

In order to achieve this aim, the project set the following objectives:

To improve responsible digital citizenship skills and civic, democratic, digital, social, and intercultural attitudes of 29 young people from four European countries, in order to increase their active participation in democratic and social life, both online and offline.

To encourage the active involvement of young people in their communities by promoting active citizenship, civic participation, and intercultural dialogue.

To increase the quality of youth services and strengthen the capacity of partner organizations through international cooperation.

To improve the competences of other young people in the community through practical activities and dissemination actions, including online activities, facilitated by the young participants, with impact at local level and beyond.

Before we continue, what is a Youth Exchange?



A Youth Exchange is a program that brings together young people from different countries to learn, collaborate, and experience new cultures in a non-formal learning environment. Participants work together on projects, activities, and workshops that focus on shared themes such as democracy, civic engagement, inclusion, or digital citizenship, while developing important personal, social, and professional skills.

Youth Exchanges encourage intercultural dialogue, teamwork, and active participation, allowing young people to explore different perspectives, develop critical thinking, and take action in their communities.

They are an opportunity not only to gain knowledge but also to create lasting connections and partnerships across Europe.

Through programs like DIVE IN, youth exchanges empower participants to become active, responsible, and engaged citizens, capable of shaping a more inclusive and democratic society.

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About organisations involved in DIVE In



Pro Development DACIA Association (APDD)



The Pro Development DACIA Association (APDD) is a non-political and non-profit association, established in 2016, whose main purpose is to support the development of responsible and active communities from an educational, social, economic, cultural and ecological perspective, by fulfilling the objectives and activities proposed in the Statute.

The organization has, in its institutional development plan and in the service quality improvement plan 2021–2027, the integration and involvement of young people in the community and its internationalisation through mobilities and international cooperation projects (the Erasmus+ Programme and the European Solidarity Corps being one of the opportunities).

APDD bases its organization and functioning on the principles of initiative, involvement and cooperation, volunteering, mutual respect and support, transparency, fairness, competitiveness, responsibility, integrity, equality, and legality.

Partener Organizations

Creative Youth Academy – Hungary

Creative Youth Academy is a dynamic organization dedicated to developing the talents and creative skills of young people in Hungary. Our mission is to provide a platform where young people can explore and express their creativity, whether in the fields of arts, technology, or other innovative areas.

Imece Network Eğitim ve Kültür Derneği – Turkey

Imece Network is an international youth organization focused on education, culture, and sports.

Our vision: A better world characterized by integrated social cooperation, respect for human rights, understanding of cultural diversity, international cooperation, and participation.

Our mission: Imece Network has the passion and courage to create an effective collaboration network among youth organizations, through which we influence general strategies to address the critical challenges of our times that affect young people, thus becoming a key promoter of youth empowerment and the empowerment of youth organizations.

Youthpath – Greece

Youthpath is a youth organization based in Athens, Greece, that offers non-formal education opportunities to young people. Through mobilities and non-formal learning workshops, we develop programs aimed not only at transferring knowledge but also at fostering the development of young people's competences.

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Meet the participants and their reflections



Romanian Team

Claudia Trandafir: As a Group Leader in the project Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe – DIVE IN, I had the opportunity to guide our participants while learning alongside them. I am committed to supporting young people in developing their civic skills, understanding European values and becoming active members of their communities.

Through this project, I gained new methods for encouraging youth participation, tools for promoting inclusion, and practical ways to strengthen democratic engagement. I will continue to share these experiences in my community by organizing activities, presentations and discussions that inspire young people to get involved, express their ideas and contribute to a more active and united European society.



Medeea Toader : For me, before this project, democracy was something abstract — mostly about elections and rules. But through the DIVE IN activities, I understood that democracy is actually something alive, something we practice every day through the way we communicate, collaborate, and make decisions together.

During our group exercises, every person had the right to speak, and this helped me realize that my voice matters just as much as anyone else's. I learned not to be afraid to express myself, to stand by what I believe in, and at the same time to respect the opinions of others.

I was truly impressed by how challenging, yet beautiful, the democratic process can be when everyone is involved and respectful. I feel that I am leaving this project with much more self-confidence and with the desire to be an active member of my community



Alexandra Militaru : The topic of inclusion touched me deeply, maybe because I've had moments in my life when I didn't feel listened to or taken seriously. The project's activities made me realize how important it is to create a space where everyone feels safe and valued.

We did role-playing, empathy exercises, and honest discussions about discrimination and stereotypes . and I saw how easily we can exclude someone without even noticing.

I learned to be more sensitive to the differences between people, to be someone who includes rather than excludes. I also understood that inclusion is not just an abstract idea, but a real responsibility: to listen, to invite others to participate, to explain, to help, to be present.

I feel like I've grown a lot as a person . I'm more open, more aware, and more willing to help create an environment where everyone has the courage to speak.



Romanian Team

Luiza Munteanu: For me, the values of the European Union solidarity, diversity, respect, equality gained a completely new meaning. At first, I saw them as political concepts, something theoretical and distant. But through the group activities, through discussions about real social situations, and by working with people very different from myself, I discovered that these values are essential in everyday life.

I understood how powerful diversity can be when it is respected, and how important cooperation and mutual trust are. I felt inspired to think more about my role as a young European and how I can contribute to a more united community.

I've grown a lot personally: I am more open to new ideas, more tolerant, and much more willing to learn from others. I feel like I gained a wider perspective on the world.



Roxana Craciunescu: Active participation was the most valuable lesson for me. I always believed that changes were made only by people in important positions, but in this project I discovered that each of us has the power to influence the group and the world around us.

We worked on activities simulating decision-making at the European level, created campaigns, analyzed problems, and searched for solutions together. All of this made me understand how important it is to be informed, to care, and to get involved.

I realized that democracy doesn't function on its own it must be supported, protected, and improved constantly. I feel I've matured a lot: I'm more responsible, more determined, and more aware that I can play an active role in society. I'm leaving this project with the desire to get more involved in my community and in future initiatives that promote European values.



Andreea Balasa: For me, the DIVE IN experience was a very intense inner journey. The activities about democracy helped me understand that participation is not just a right, but also a responsibility. I discovered how challenging it can be to reach a common decision when opinions differ, yet how satisfying it is when we manage to find a solution that represents everyone.

By working in diverse groups, I realized how important it is to respect each person's pace, needs, and perspective. The inclusion activities especially opened my eyes to things I had never considered before: how small actions can make someone feel excluded or, on the contrary, accepted.

European values are no longer abstract concepts for me, but principles I started to live by: solidarity, respect, empathy. I feel that I have grown a lot as a person — I am calmer, more open, and more willing to see the world through others' eyes.



Romanian Team

Enescu Danut: Through the activities about inclusion, I understood how much our interactions with others matter. We talked about prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination, and did exercises where we had to put ourselves in someone else's shoes.

It was difficult sometimes, because I had to admit my own mistakes and moments when I had judged too quickly. But this helped me grow. I discovered how much I can evolve as a person when I choose to be open and to truly listen. European values such as equality and respect made me more aware of my words, my behavior, and the way I can help create a safe environment for others.

I'm leaving this project wanting to be a better, more tolerant, and more empathetic person.



Dimoiu Fabian : What fascinated me the most were the activities about European citizenship and how decisions are made at EU level. I didn't realize how many opportunities young people have and how important it is to be informed in order to participate.

The discussions about rights, responsibilities, and freedoms made me see everything differently. I learned that democracy needs not only freedom, but also involvement, dialogue, and compromise.

Our negotiation exercises and voting simulations helped me understand the real process and develop skills like communication, critical thinking, and argumentation.

I feel more mature now, more confident in expressing my opinions, and more aware of my role as a young European. This project truly changed me for the better.



Grigorie Andrei : During the DIVE IN project, I learned something extremely valuable: the power of collaboration. The activities about the values of the European Union showed me how important it is to balance personal interests with the common good. Through our exercises, I understood what solidarity truly means: helping, listening, understanding before reacting.

The democratic activities made me reflect on my role in society. I realized that participation is not only about expressing your opinion, but also about being informed, responsible, and willing to seek compromises. I learned to argue better, to analyze situations, and to look at problems from multiple angles.

I feel that I have matured a lot during these days. I became more tolerant, more empathetic, and more prepared to contribute to an inclusive environment. I feel motivated to get more involved in my community and to promote European values in everything I do."



Turkish Team

Hacire Örnek

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Democracy and Digital Citizenship Erasmus+ project. Even though I study chemistry, this program has contributed to my personal and academic development in ways I did not expect. The sessions on democratic participation, digital literacy, and critical thinking helped me broaden my perspective far beyond my field. I truly learned a lot throughout the week, and I am grateful for the supportive, inspiring environment you created.

Thank you once again for this valuable experience.



Musa Yasin Özdil (21)

Through our engaging Erasmus activities, I gained a crucial practical understanding of Democracy and Civic Engagement. Simulating the separation of powers in the EU highlighted the necessity of checks and balances and consensus-building in complex political structures. By writing our own project and finding solutions to real problems, I developed my civic agency, reinforced my skills in structured problem-solving, and learned the importance of teamwork and compromise. Furthermore, creating funny memes and the 'Democracy Tree' demonstrated how to use creative and accessible communication to make political concepts relatable to wider audiences. My key takeaway is the shift from being a passive observer to an active participant, recognizing that democracy is a continuous process that requires informed and collaborative effort.



Kürşat Elhan

Through our Erasmus activities, I gained a practical understanding of democracy and civic engagement. Simulating EU decision-making taught me the importance of checks and balances, cooperation, and consensus. Working on our own project developed my problem-solving skills and sense of civic agency, while creating memes and the Democracy Tree showed how creativity can make political ideas accessible. Overall, I shifted from being a passive observer to an active participant in democratic processes.



Turkish Team

HPınar Sönmez 22/Law

Through our Erasmus activities, I developed a deeper, more hands-on insight into how democracy truly functions. Experiencing EU role-play exercises revealed how essential dialogue, balance of power, and collaborative decision-making are within any democratic structure. Creating our own project and working on real issues helped me understand what active citizenship means in practice—thinking critically, proposing solutions, and working together toward a common goal.

At the same time, designing creative tools like memes and the Democracy Tree showed me that political concepts can be communicated in simple, engaging, and relatable ways. This experience shifted my role from simply observing democratic processes to genuinely taking part in them, reminding me that democracy grows stronger when each of us chooses to be informed, involved, and responsible.



Aylin Türkücüoğlu/19/Pharmacy

This project, marking my first step into international youth work, challenged me to bridge cultural divides and embrace new perspectives. It taught me that a healthy democracy depends on our ability to listen and think critically together. I leave this experience not just with memories, but with a concrete commitment to be an active, responsible agent of change in my society.



Zeynep Gayhan / 23 / Medicine / Türkiye

This project marked a turning point in how I understand democracy, participation, and our shared role as participants. Throughout the week, I learned to navigate cultural differences, communicate beyond borders, and see how diverse perspectives can shape stronger, more inclusive communities.

By working in mixed teams, engaging in non-formal activities, and exploring what civic engagement looks like across Europe, I realized that democracy is not just a political structure it is something we practice every day through dialogue, respect, and active participation.



Turkish Team

Group Leader of Türkiye- Aysegul Karanfil

As the leader of an EU-funded Erasmus project on democracy and civic participation, I coordinated an international group, supported team members, and guided our collaborative work. Through this experience, I strengthened my leadership and communication skills, learned to manage group dynamics, and encouraged active participation in an intercultural environment. We worked together to solve problems, create posters and presentations, and produce meaningful outputs about digital citizenship and democratic values. As a lawyer, this project also improved my ability to explain complex topics clearly and help the group make informed decisions. Overall, I gained valuable experience in project management, teamwork, and participatory democratic practices



Doğukan Benzer

I learned to work with team spirit and gained insight into democracy. I also improved my skills in sharing ideas with participants from other countries and preparing posters. Thank you everyone.



Hungarian Team

Zana Mahmood

I am Zana, and I was one of the Erasmus participants. I truly enjoyed my time in Horezu, Romania. It was a unique and enriching experience to spend time with people from different countries. Our main topic was democracy, and we had many thoughtful and engaging discussions together. It was genuinely a pleasure to be surrounded by such wonderful and inspiring people.



Mekhribanu

We spent eight days learning, discussing, and participating in different activities that helped me deepen my understanding of democracy and civic engagement. Every day offered new insights — from exploring citizens' rights and responsibilities to understanding how active participation can strengthen our communities.

What makes Erasmus+ so special is not only the knowledge we gain, but also the opportunity to see the world from different perspectives. Being surrounded by participants from Greece, Turkey, and Romania allowed me to learn from their cultures, experiences, and ideas. It reminded me how important diversity is and how much we can grow when we collaborate with people from different backgrounds.



For me, this program was more than just training — it was a chance to challenge myself, discover new ways of thinking, and connect with inspiring young people. I'm truly grateful for this opportunity, and I believe experiences like this help us become more open-minded, responsible, and active citizens.

My name is Khaula & I represented Hungary during the Erasmus Project on Diplomacy and Inclusion. I really liked this project because it helped me to have interesting debates on different point of views & my interaction with people coming from different backgrounds was interesting.



Hungarian Team

My name is
Veramilia

I am arrived in Horezu 29 of December 2025 for Erasmus project .
I leaning about Democracy that really good and amazing.
I am really happy also to meed Local government in Horezu they explain
to me about Democracy is really amazing.
This activity in Horezu and beautiful Craiova to see the most beautiful
Christmas 🎄 🎄 really good for me to learn about another country ,
culture.
i leaning about how European council manage to make Democrac



Dodo

I really liked the topic of this Erasmus+ project because it helped me
understand democracy in a more practical and meaningful way. The
activities encouraged me to think critically, share my opinions freely, and
listen to different perspectives. It was inspiring to see how people from
different backgrounds can come together, discuss important issues, and
learn from one another. This project made me feel more confident as an
active citizen and more motivated to get involved in my community.



Greek Team

My name is Christos, I'm a 25 years old young guy born and raised on a small city called Kanallaki, in the western part of Greece. I recently got my Economics Degree and I'm looking forward to learn even more as I take my next steps in life. When I'm not busy with my responsibilities, I enjoy playing basketball, being around my friends, travelling and listening to music that inspires me. Fun Fact about me: I'm known for having a calm vibe but a competitive spirit.



I'm Konstantinos, a 21-year-old Greek student from Athens. I currently live in Thessaloniki and I study Theatre in Aristotele University of Thessaloniki and I'm in my fourth year of my studies. Some of my interests are hiking, climbing, traveling, music, meeting new people and connecting with them. I would describe myself as energetic but shy as well as colourful and kind of mad. In my free time I prefer hanging out with my friends, listening and discovering new music, partying and exercising.



That's Fyllia and I am a student in Computer Science and Entrepreneurship. I love good food, books, exercise and really random music. You can pretty sure win my heart with a cup of coffee and a cookie. My friends call me Babinioti and I pray to make a small positive change in the world - even by making you smile.



Greek Team

My name is Rafail and I see Erasmus+ as my gateway to the world. I thrive on exploring new landscapes through hiking and breaking the ice with locals over a good board game. For me, it's all about the trails we walk and the connections we build along the way!



Hello, I am Leonidas. I am 23 years old and pursuing a master's degree in Economics. I am the group leader of the Greece national team. I am social, energetic, motivational and have a passion for cooking. I like history and I am rather competitive. I love a challenge and try my best at most things, even if I expect to lose.



I am Androniki I study business administration and economics. I love kids and I want to study kindergarten to become a teacher. I love sleep, sweets, competitive games and coffee ☕.



Greek Team

My name is Giorgos, I study international and European studies in university of Piraeus in Greece. My passions are travelling because it offers me the opportunity to not only see new things and learn about history but also meet new people and creating amazing experiences. I am a really social person who likes to communicate with others and I also enjoy quality movies and music!!!



My name is Panagiotis, I am a Business Administration student from Greece, passionate about travelling, meeting new people and exploring different cultures. I love social interaction and I try to step out of my comfort zone, especially through Erasmus+ programs and youth exchanges. I also enjoy content creation and playing basketball and boxing.



I am Marietta, a young kindergarten teacher from Greece who loves books, dogs and justice. I think this project should be a lesson to all of us, not only for the meaning of democracy, because many are against it, but also for the understanding that in the end justice comes after all and everyone!





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Activities & YOUTH Gallery





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05

day 1 & 2



Day 1

Day 1 – DIVE In (29.11.2025)

The DIVE In mobility, bringing together 34 young people from Greece, Hungary, Turkey and Romania, started in Horezu with a day focused on connection, collaboration and setting the foundation for the entire learning experience.

- ◆ Icebreakers created a positive atmosphere and encouraged open communication.**
- ◆ The full mobility schedule was introduced, and the activity plan was refined based on participants' ideas and needs.**
- ◆ Padlet was presented as the main digital workspace, while the initial evaluation (Mentimeter & Google Forms) revealed expectations and levels of civic preparedness.**
- ◆ The Youthpass session reinforced the importance of recognising non-formal learning outcomes.**
- ◆ The motivational game “Mission of Civic Spirit Rewards” encouraged punctuality, active engagement and creativity.**
- ◆ International teams collaborated to develop and democratically vote the official project rules.**
- ◆ The day closed with a reflection session where participants shared impressions and suggestions for the following days.**
- ❖ A vibrant first day, where collaboration, intercultural exchange and active engagement shaped the beginning of a dynamic and participatory learning process.**



Day 1

Welcome to Romania!

We started the project with our first session, which focused on getting to know each other through a fun introductory game. The activity helped us learn and remember each other's names in an enjoyable and interactive way. By playing together, we broke the ice, created a positive atmosphere, and began building trust and connection within the group. This first game helped us feel more comfortable and prepared for the upcoming sessions.

Presentation of the Youthpass Certificate

During the project, we learned in detail about the Youthpass Certificate, its purpose, and how it supports young people's personal and professional development. We explored how Youthpass is not only a certificate but also a powerful educational tool that helps participants reflect on their learning experiences, identify their strengths, and describe the skills they gained through non-formal education. We gained a better understanding of the eight key competences of Youthpass—such as cultural awareness, communication, teamwork, creativity, and digital skills—and learned how to express what we achieved in a meaningful and structured way. By the end of the activity, we understood how Youthpass can help us in future studies, job applications, and volunteering opportunities, as it officially recognizes our learning within Erasmus+ projects



Presentation of Working Strategy

During the project, we developed and presented a clear working strategy. We focused on three essential rules that guide effective teamwork. For each rule, we identified common behaviors that can support or challenge the working process. We also discussed possible solutions and positive approaches that help create a productive, respectful, and collaborative environment. Through this activity, we learned how important it is to set shared guidelines, communicate openly, and find solutions together when problems arise.



MAKING RULES

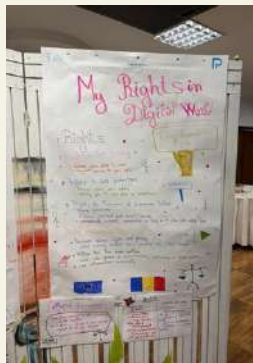
We set our group rules to create a respectful and smooth project experience. We agreed on being on time for every session and participating actively in all activities. With these commitments, we aim to build a positive, responsible, and motivated learning environment together.



Day 2

On Day 2, we explored democracy, digital citizenship, and critical thinking through dynamic and interactive activities such as the Democracy Barometer, the Democracy Tree, digital risk mapping, fact-checking exercises, and the creation of our Manifesto for a Responsible Internet. Participants became true “information detectives,” analyzing news, images, and online narratives, while collaboratively developing a practical Anti-Disinformation Guide.

It was a day full of energy, meaningful dialogue, and hands-on learning, strengthening active citizenship both offline and online.



Day 2



Energizer

The first activity of the morning was a short, lively game that helped us wake up and come together. We moved around, laughed, and interacted, which set a positive and cheerful tone for the day.

Tree of democracy

We created a “Tree of Democracy” to visualize how democratic values grow and shape our society. At the roots, we placed the fundamental values such as freedom, equality, participation, and human rights—showing that these principles are the foundation of every democratic system. The trunk represented key institutions that protect these values, while the branches illustrated the actions needed to keep democracy alive, such as active citizenship, transparency, and community engagement. Finally, on the top of the tree, we added the results that a strong democracy can achieve: stability, social justice, trust, and a peaceful society. This activity helped us understand how each element connects and how every individual plays an important role in supporting democracy.





Democracy & Digital Citizenship: A Powerful Conversation

Today, we explored the concept of digital citizenship in a really engaging and enjoyable way. Through thoughtful discussions, friendly debates, and interactive mini-games, we learned what it means to participate responsibly and respectfully in the digital world. Everyone shared their ideas, listened to each other, and practiced skills that will help us become more aware, ethical, and active digital citizens. It was not only educational but also a lot of fun, showing us how learning about democracy and online responsibility can be exciting when we do it together!

Activity results

My Rights in the Digital World – Poster, Guide, and Democracy Meme

National groups worked together to create a set of amazing resources to explore and promote digital rights. We designed a poster that highlights the essential rights everyone should have online, a practical guide to help navigate the digital world safely and responsibly, and a fun democracy-themed meme that makes the concepts easier to understand and share. Through this project, we not only learned about our digital rights but also practiced creativity, teamwork, and digital citizenship. It was inspiring to see everyone's ideas come together in such a meaningful and visually engaging way!



06

Day 3 & 4



Day 3

Day 3 of our program, DIVE In – Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe, focused on one of the most essential pillars of democratic life: Inclusion and Equal Participation. The sessions throughout the day encouraged us to explore our own experiences, challenge our assumptions, and think critically about the barriers that prevent full participation in society.

Session 1: Feeling the Difference

We began the day with activities designed to help us understand how social inequalities shape people's daily experiences. Through interactive exercises like the Walk of Privilege and Invisible Barriers, participants reflected on how privilege, access, and structural obstacles impact individuals differently. This session helped cultivate empathy and build awareness of the hidden challenges that many people face.

Session 2: Building Inclusive Communities

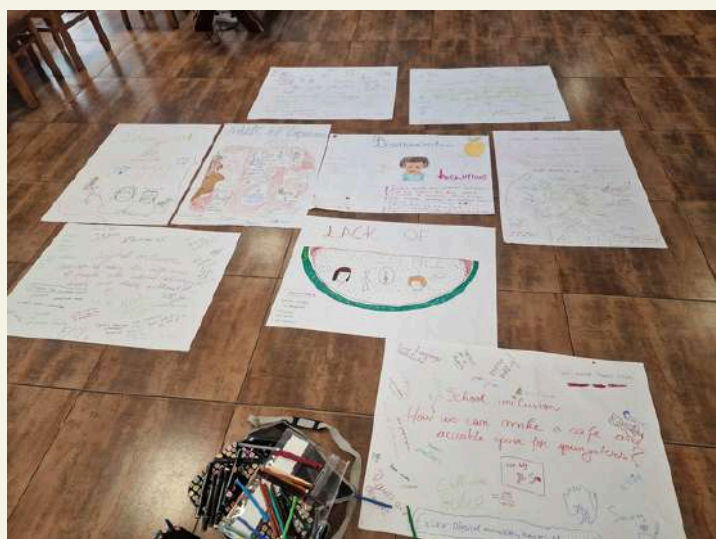
In the second session, the focus shifted to solutions. In a World Café format, participants discussed how to create more inclusive communities, exchanged ideas on tackling local and global inequalities, and explored practical ways to strengthen participation. The guiding question for this session—"How can I contribute?"—encouraged participants to see themselves as active agents of change within their communities.

Session 3: Outdoor Activity & Cultural Exploration

The afternoon took us outdoors for a reflective cultural activity titled "Romania & Europe Through Our Eyes." As it was 1 December, Romania's National Day, we also learned about the significance of this celebration and its place within European identity and history. The activity offered a chance to connect cultural understanding with civic engagement.

Reflection & Evaluation

We closed the day with a reflection circle and evaluation session, allowing participants to share insights, personal growth moments, and key takeaways from the day's activities. It was a moment to gather collective learning and prepare for the journey ahead.



Day 4

Day 4 of our program, DIVE In – Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe, focused on understanding the European Union and transforming awareness into action. The day encouraged us to reflect on our role as active citizens and explore practical ways to engage with our communities.

Session 1: EU & Active Citizenship

We started the day by exploring personal perspectives in the session “What is Europe for me?” Participants shared their thoughts on Europe’s meaning and relevance in their lives. Through discussions on EU for everyone and interactive role-playing exercises, we delved into the rights and responsibilities of European citizens. The session concluded with a focus on My European Rights, highlighting concrete ways to exercise these rights in everyday life.

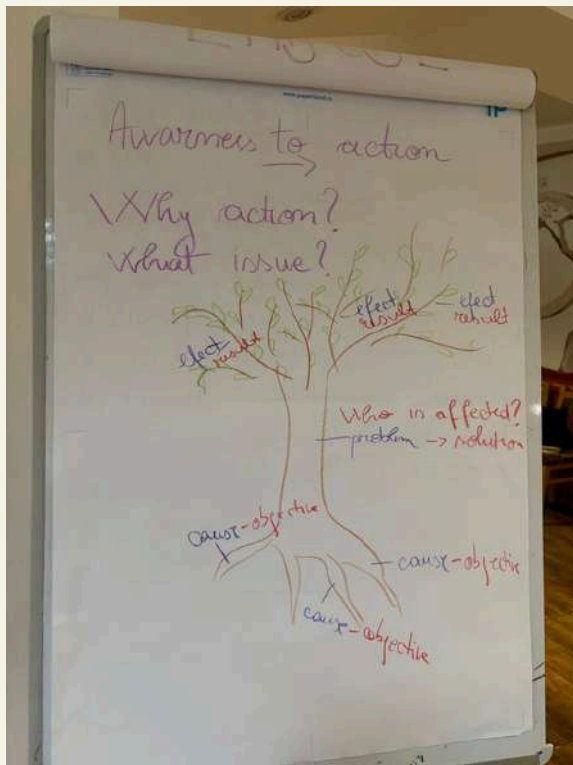
Session 2: From Awareness to Action

The second part of the day encouraged us to move from reflection to concrete initiatives. We discussed Why action matters and identified real issues within our communities. In teams, we designed mini-projects to address these challenges, receiving coaching to develop ideas effectively. The day’s work culminated in presenting our projects, sharing creative solutions, and learning from each other’s approaches.

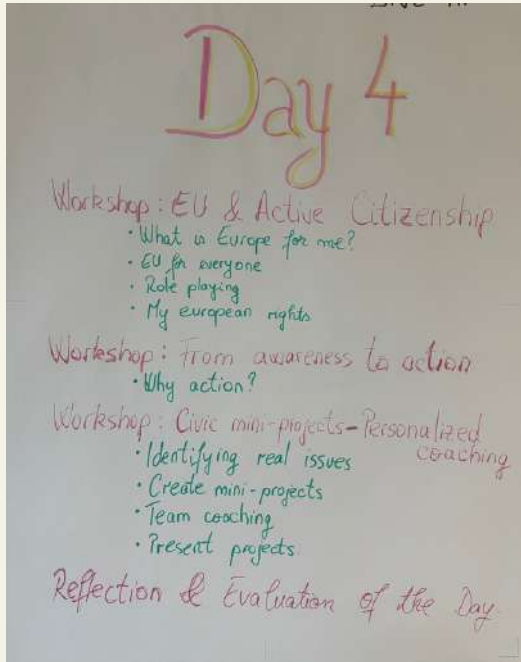
Reflection & Evaluation

We closed the day with a reflection and evaluation session. Participants shared insights, personal growth moments, and key takeaways. It was a chance to recognize how knowledge about Europe and civic engagement can translate into meaningful action at the local level.





Civic Mini - Projects

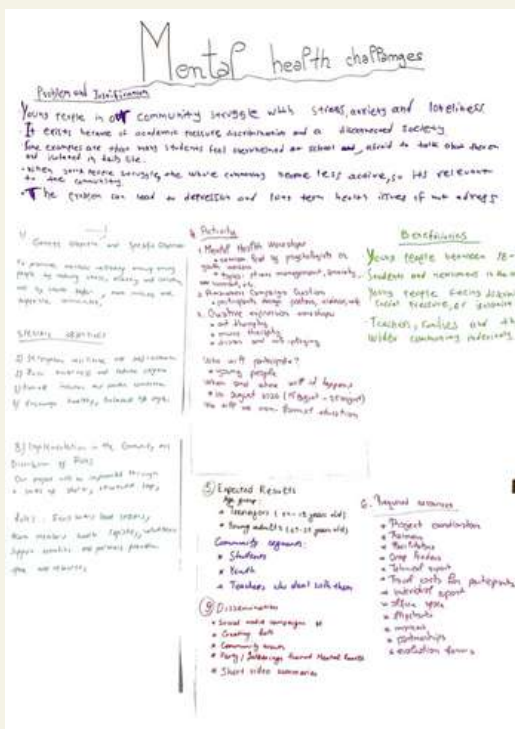


On Day 4, the activities focused on Civic Mini Projects – Personalized Coaching, a practical learning process centered on civic engagement and teamwork. Participants were divided into mixed groups, encouraging intercultural cooperation and the exchange of ideas.

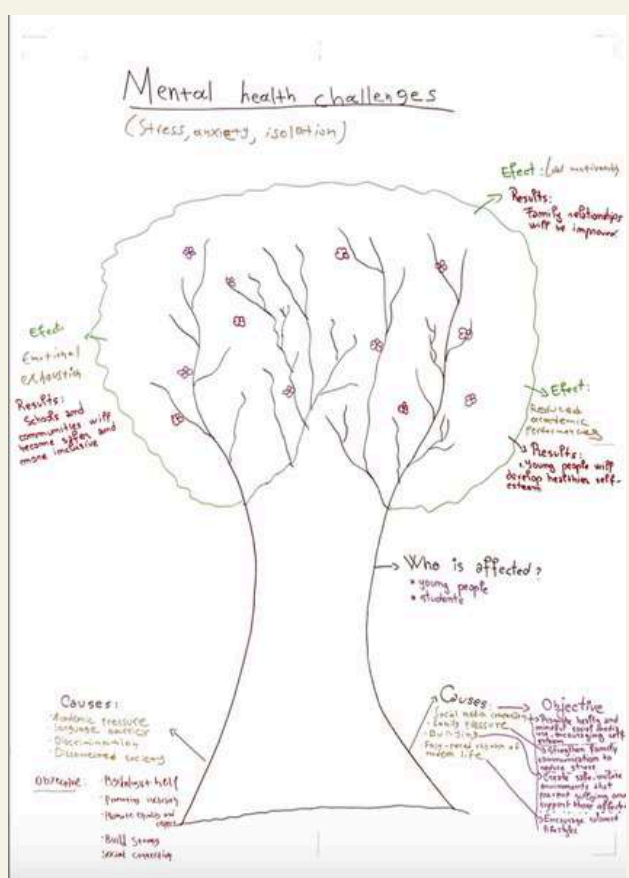
Under the guidance of the facilitator, participants learned how to develop civic mini-projects step by step. The process began with identifying real issues within the community, followed by creating concrete mini-project ideas. Throughout the activity, teams benefited from personalized coaching sessions, which helped strengthen their communication, planning, and collaboration skills.

At the end of the day, each group presented its project, clearly explaining the identified problem, the proposed solution, and the expected impact. This activity played an important role in developing civic competencies, boosting teamwork confidence, and motivating participants to become more actively involved in their communities.

Mental health challenges - mini project



In our community, many young people struggle with stress, anxiety, and loneliness. Academic pressure, discrimination, and a disconnected society make it hard for them to talk about their feelings or feel included. This affects not only the individuals but the entire community, making it less active and more isolated, and can even lead to long-term mental health problems if left unaddressed.



To tackle this, the project aims to promote mental wellbeing among youth, helping them build resilience, raise awareness, reduce stigma, and encourage healthy, balanced lifestyles.

Through workshops led by psychologists, creative expression activities like art therapy, and awareness campaigns designed by the participants themselves, young people will learn how to cope with stress, anxiety, and burnout, while connecting with others in an inclusive environment.

The project will take place in August 2026, reaching teenagers and young adults aged 14–25, along with teachers, families, and the wider community indirectly. Activities will be supported by facilitators, volunteers, and local spaces, using non-formal education methods.

By the end of the project, participants are expected to feel more confident, resilient, and connected, while the community gains awareness about mental health. Social media campaigns, videos, posters, and community events will share the outcomes and inspire others to take care of their mental wellbeing.

Don't be greedy, be more greeny - mini project

In today's world, misinformation and lack of digital knowledge make it hard for young people to understand environmental issues. Fake news about climate change and eco-friendly practices leads to anti-environmental behaviors, misuse of resources, and harm to animals and human health.

The project "Don't be greedy, be more greeny!" aims to educate youth about environmental protection and help them make conscious, eco-friendly choices. Through workshops like "Detect the Future: Global Health," participants aged 15–30 will learn to identify false environmental information, understand the impact of their actions, and cooperate with environmental organizations to promote climate balance.

The project will take place at local youth centers and will use social media, printed materials, and interactive sessions to reach the wider community. By the end, participants are expected to have better awareness, make informed environmental decisions, and share their knowledge with others, helping the community become greener and more responsible.

DON'T BE GREEDY, BE MORE GREENY

1. Title: Don't be greedy, be more greeny!

2. Problem & Justification: Lack of control and digital knowledge
fake news and ignorance

- Increase of misinformation, anti-environmental behaviors, lack of education

Example: fake news about the existence of climate change
Resistance to Community, ~~Respect~~ eco-friendly daily decisions,
Consequences: deadly problems, disbelief in science,
the natural of animals are destroyed, the resources
are being badly used

3. General Objective & Specific Objectives:

education in fake news
digital campaign on consciousness
cooperation with environmental organizations

4. Main Activities:

- Workshop "Detect the Future"
- What will be done: An educational workshop where young people learn to identify false environmental data
- Who will participate: Young people (15-30)
- When and where: Last youth center
Tudor, Budapest

5. Beneficiaries:

- Who benefits: Every youth
- How: through digital environmental news

6. Resource Resource:

- Human
- Material: laptop, internet etc
- Financial: Budget
- 2. Expected Impact
- Better awareness
- 8. Implementation Plan
- Workshop → Campaign → Social media → Event
- Fylla, Pinar, Vera, George, Kirsat

3. Dissemination
Social media
Printed materials



ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

CAUSE

- Ignorance => awareness, consciousness
- Greediness & Over Consumerism
- Uneducated People => educated
- Overpopulation in cities => eco-friendly cities

EFFECTS

- Climate change => environmental balance
- Health problems => healthy societies
- Polluted areas are not appealing to the eye => appealing cities
- Seas, and the atmosphere are polluted => clean earth
- Animals are disturbed in their natural habitats => animals live in peace in nature

SOLUTIONS

- Financial penalties on people who don't recycle
- Strict regulations on industries to be eco-friend
- Educational programs on schools and companies about environmental awareness
- 3.3. regulations and constant attention to factories and communities to ensure compliance with the law

➡ Fylla, Pinar, Vera, George, Kirsat



The corruption - mini project



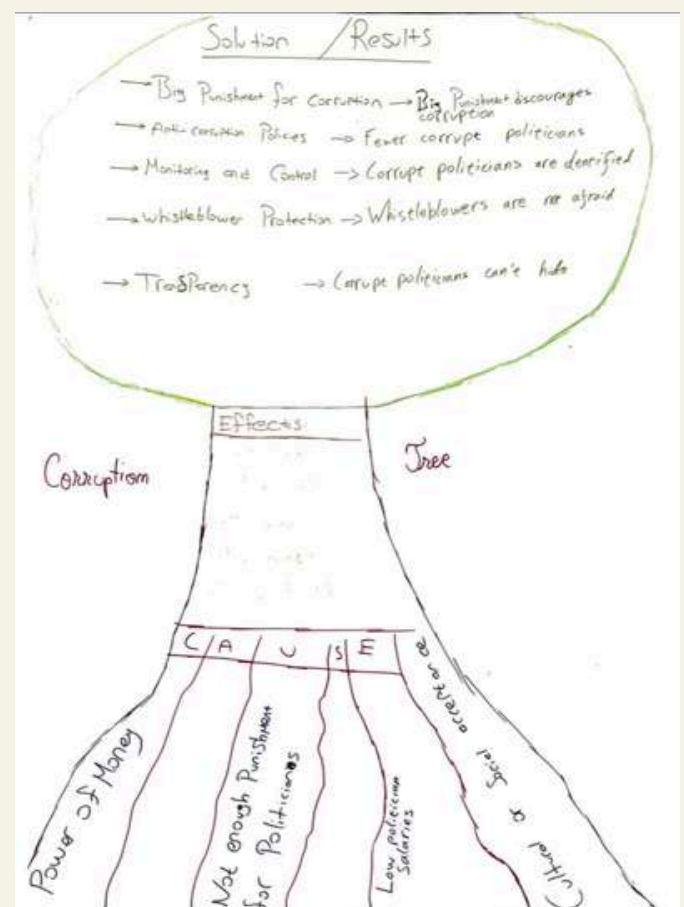
Corruption affects every part of society, causing unfairness, lack of transparency, and weakening public trust.

Many young people are not fully aware of how corruption impacts their communities or how to respond to it.

The project "Corruption: Roots, Effects, and Solutions" aims to raise awareness among youth aged 18–30 about corruption, its consequences, and the importance of ethical behavior and civic responsibility.

Through workshops, presentations, mock debates, and educational materials, participants will learn how to identify corruption, understand its impact, and promote transparency in their communities.

The project will also use social media, newspapers, and other media channels to reach a wider audience. By the end, participants are expected to be more conscious, capable of advocating for integrity, and active in promoting accountability in their society.



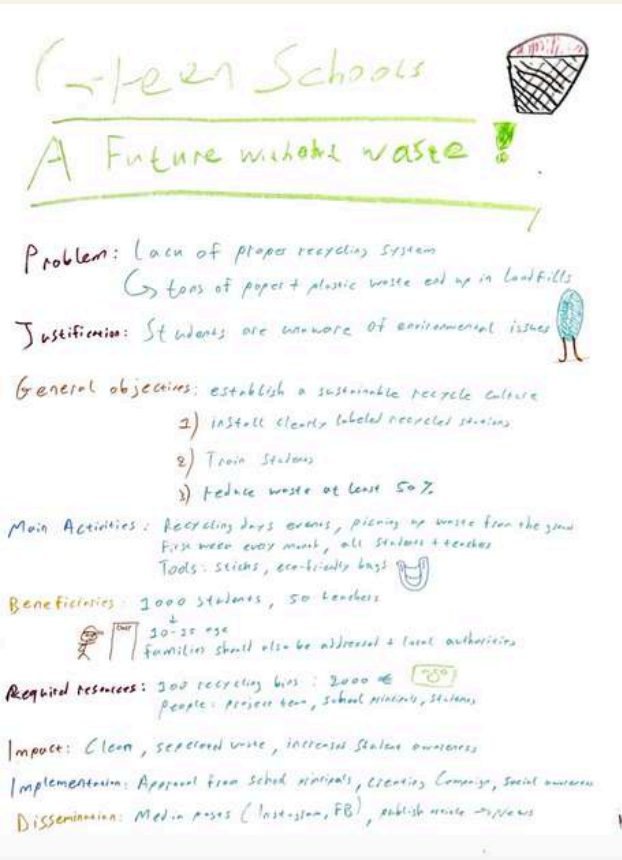
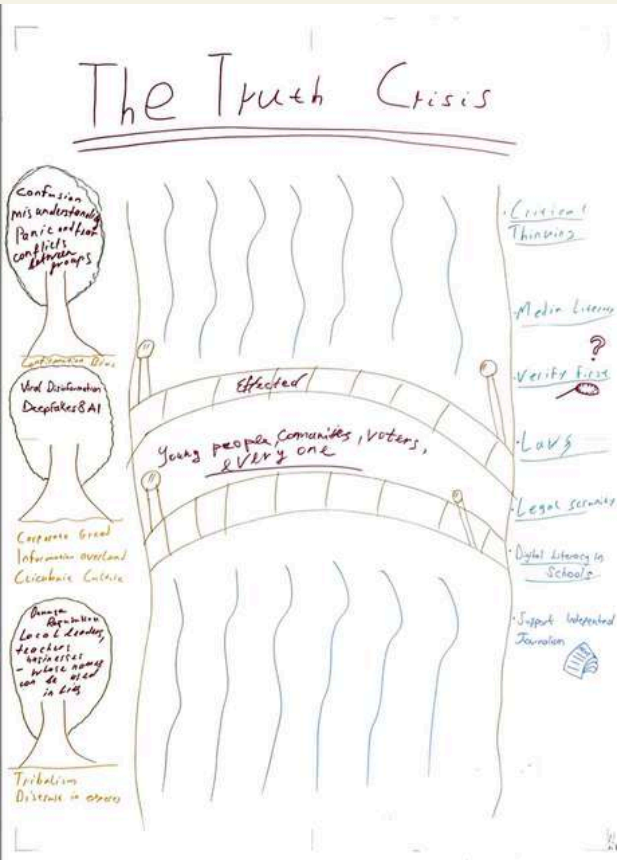
Green schools

A future without waste - mini project

At Green Schools, students noticed that tons of plastic waste were ending up in landfills because there was no proper recycling system. Many students didn't fully understand the impact of waste on the environment, so the school decided to act.

The project aimed to create a sustainable recycling culture. Recycling stations were installed around the school, and students and teachers received training on how to sort and reduce waste. Every month, the school organized Recycling Days, where everyone came together to clean up the school grounds and practice what they had learned.

With 100 recycling bins, eco-friendly bags, and the support of teachers, families, and even local authorities, the school hoped to cut waste by at least 50%. In the end, the project not only made the school cleaner but also helped students understand the importance of taking care of the planet, one piece of plastic at a time.



Pawmap - mini project

Pawmap mini project Our project aims to introduce and promote an efficient animal-feeding machine commonly used in Turkey.

This machine helps farmers save time, reduce labor, and ensure consistent feeding for their animals.

As a team, we work together to study how the machine operates, its benefits, and how it can be applied in our community.

Our goal is to provide a modern solution that improves animal care, supports local farmers, and increases productivity in livestock management.

Through teamwork and shared commitment, we hope to make this technology more accessible and useful for our community.

PAWMAP

1. The problem

- The exact locations are not known
- Food and water levels are not regularly monitored
- Empty or broken machines are not reported

2. Objectives:

- Map for all locations - specific obj
- Awareness in communities - gen obj

3. Activities:

- Add QR code
- Start volunteer program

4. Beneficiaries:

- Animals - stray, wild

5. Resources:

- Human R: Volunteers, team
- Material R: Basic mapping tools (Google maps)
- Financial R: Very low budget
- Time: 4-6 weeks

6. Impact:

- Inclusive society for Animals

7. Dissemination:

- Get participation in org's on Animal rights
- Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, Twitter

8. Train volunteers

- Add QR codes
- Funding for Animal rights org's
- Identify Animal vulnerable areas - Accidents



Problem:

- ① Animal Rescue for stray dogs, cats, animals etc

Cause:

- ① Urbanization causing extinction of natural habitats of animals.

Effect:

- ① Move homeless animals on the roads.

Solution:

- ① More food machines for animals (Automatic)
- ② Promote recycling



Breaking the cycle - mini project

In many communities, young people face challenges related to addiction, often caused by lack of awareness, social isolation, and daily stress. Addiction negatively impacts mental health, relationships, and everyday life, making support and education essential.

The project “Breaking the Cycle” aims to reduce addiction among youth by increasing awareness, providing basic guidance, and promoting healthy habits and coping skills. Activities include awareness workshops, peer-support circles, healthy lifestyle training, and informative materials like posters.

With the support of trainers, facilitators, and accessible resources, the project helps young people adopt healthier behaviors, build resilience, and make informed choices. By the end, participants are expected to have increased awareness, healthier habits, and reduced addictive behaviors, creating a stronger, more supportive community.

Breaking the Cycle

Addiction Awareness & Support Project

Many people struggle with different forms of addiction - such as digital addiction, substance use, or gambling - due to lack of awareness, social isolation, influence from social environment, mental health issues or cultural norms.

Addiction harms mental health, daily life, and relationships, so raising awareness and providing support is essential.

General objective:
To reduce addiction among young people

Specific objectives:

1. Increase awareness about addiction
2. Provide basic support and guidance
3. Promote healthy habits and coping skills

Main Activities

1. Awareness Workshop
2. Peer-Support Circle
3. Healthy Lifestyle Training
4. Info materials and Posters

Target Audience:

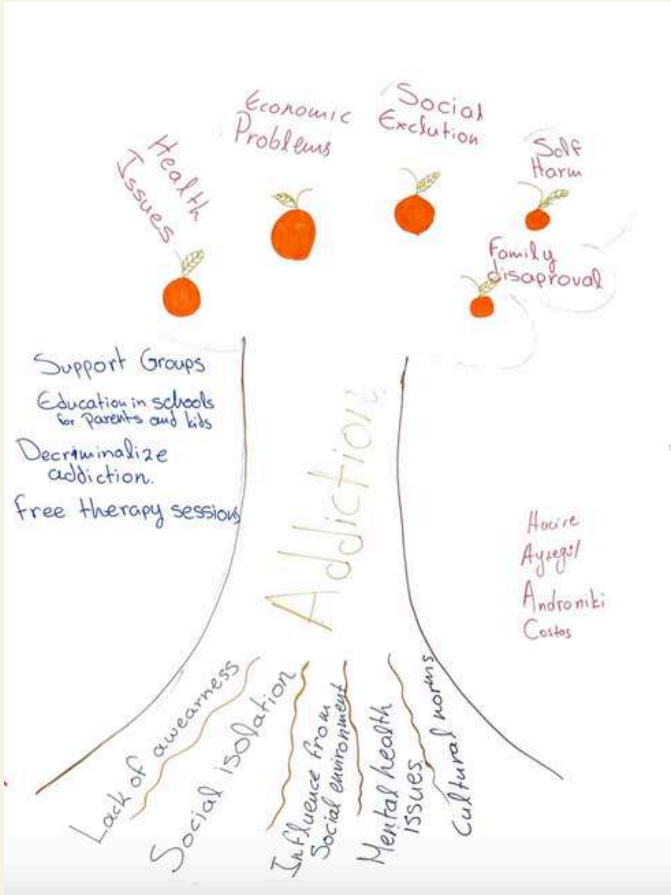
- People who are addicted
- Families
- Local community

Needed Resources:

1. Workshop Room
2. Materials (Paper, Markers, Posters)
3. Trainer/Facilitator
4. Small Budget for Printing

Impact:

1. Increased Awareness
2. Healthier Habits
3. Reduced Addictive Behaviors





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07

Day 5 & 6





Day 5

On the fifth day we visited the town hall of Horezu. The 2 representatives of the developmental projects taking place in Horezu welcomed us in a conference hall and recounted the history of Romania and the new developments in the area. This was punctuated by the explanation of the geographical, cultural and economic setting of the village, which boasts 2 UNESCO heritage sites and is the developmental centre of the surrounding area.

Pictured are the 2 representatives speaking to all of the participants of the project. It was very interesting to hear so much about a country we knew so little about. As they told us, the Romanian democracy is still in its infancy and the strides they have taken in instilling democratic principles in the people and fortifying their democratic institutions is inspiring, to say the very least.

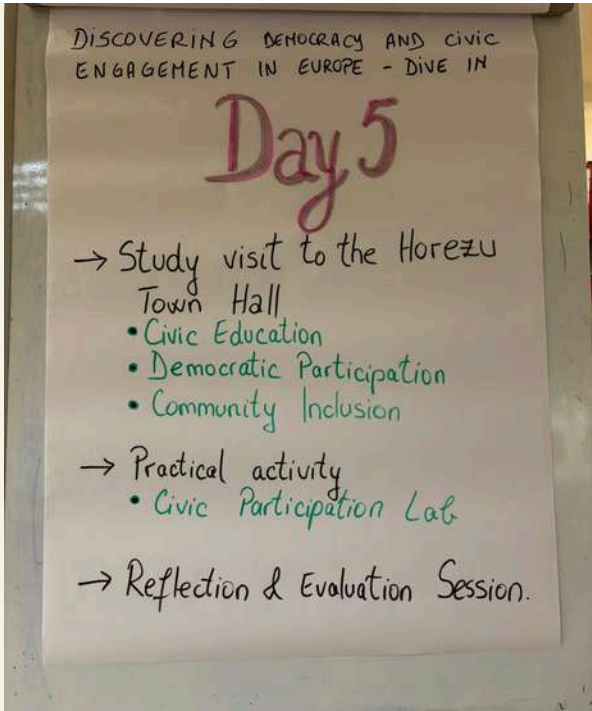
During the discussion we asked all kinds of questions to the representatives about the past of the country and the obstacles it has overcome, in getting rid of communism, liberating the people and the economy and setting into stone the makings of a prosperous nation. The country, while taking care to shed its past, is taking care to develop all facets of its citizens' lives, with projects aimed at creating opportunities for youth. For example, the planning of a new huge park (exceeding 30 square kilometres) is very promising and encouraging to hear, as Romania has had a difficult past.



Despite all of the honeyed words, however, there were still certain problems that were made clear in our time in Horezu. As such, we took part in an engaging activity in which 4 teams had to come up with a problem, and then create a program similar to the one we were attending in order to educate youths and the nearby community alike so as to help alleviate, or ideally, completely eliminate this problem. The main problems identified were permeating bad smell throughout the town, owing to the use of wood as an energy source to heat housing. Also, the bad public transportation was a clear motif in the town. The lack of dedicated areas for young people and the abundance of stray animals.

At the end of the day, we made signposts in preparation for the flashmob in Craiova, which would take place the following day, at around 1pm in the middle of the worldrenowned Craiova Christmas festival. Also, we prepared a choreography for the flashmob.





Exploring Local Democracy

As part of the DIVE IN project, we visited Horezu City Hall to gain a deeper understanding of civic education, democratic participation, and community inclusion. During this visit, participants explored how local institutions operate, how decisions are made, and the various ways in which citizens can actively contribute to the development of their community.

Our Visit to Horezu City Hall

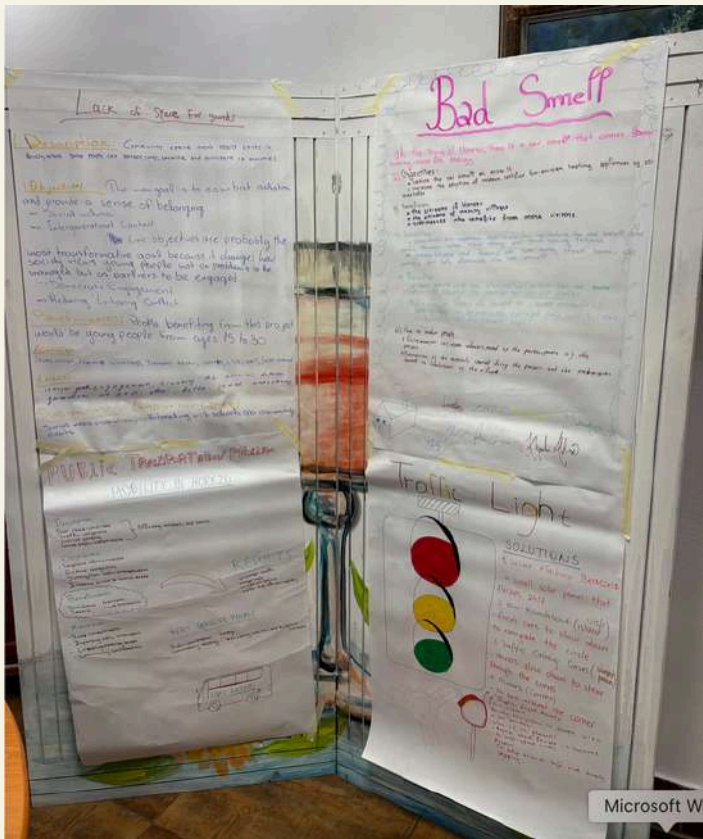
The visit offered a unique opportunity for dialogue with local authorities, allowing participants to ask questions and gain insights into real-life examples of local governance, policy-making, and community initiatives. We learned how collaboration between municipal authorities and citizens can foster inclusive practices, participatory decision-making, and active civic engagement.

Participants were able to witness firsthand the processes that support community involvement, from planning local projects to addressing residents' concerns, which provided them with practical knowledge and inspiration for applying similar approaches in their own communities. The experience highlighted the importance of transparency, communication, and teamwork in creating an environment where all members of the community feel heard and empowered.

Overall, the visit to Horezu City Hall not only enhanced the participants' understanding of democracy in practice but also encouraged them to reflect on the role of active citizenship, showing how young people can contribute meaningfully to shaping their society.



Civic Participation Lab – Exhibition



This photo shows the projects created by the participants during our Civic Participation Lab.

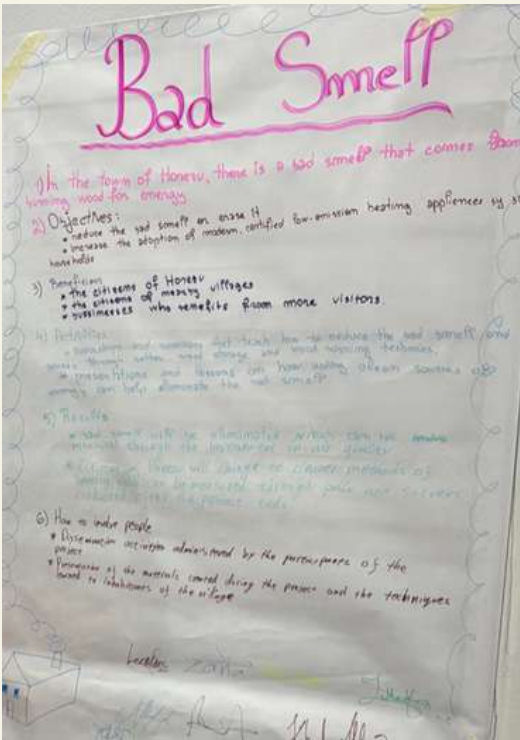
They observed the community, identified real challenges, designed solutions, created prototypes, and presented their ideas during the Civic Ideas Fair.

Participants explored innovation, impact, feasibility, inclusion, and discussed how these projects could be improved in the Debate Round.

Civic Mini-Project – Tackling Horezu’s Odor Challenge

Our civic mini-project focused on a local environmental issue affecting the town of Horezu: the persistent unpleasant smell of smoke that can be felt on many streets.

This problem has a direct impact on the quality of life of local residents and raises concerns related to environmental protection and public health.



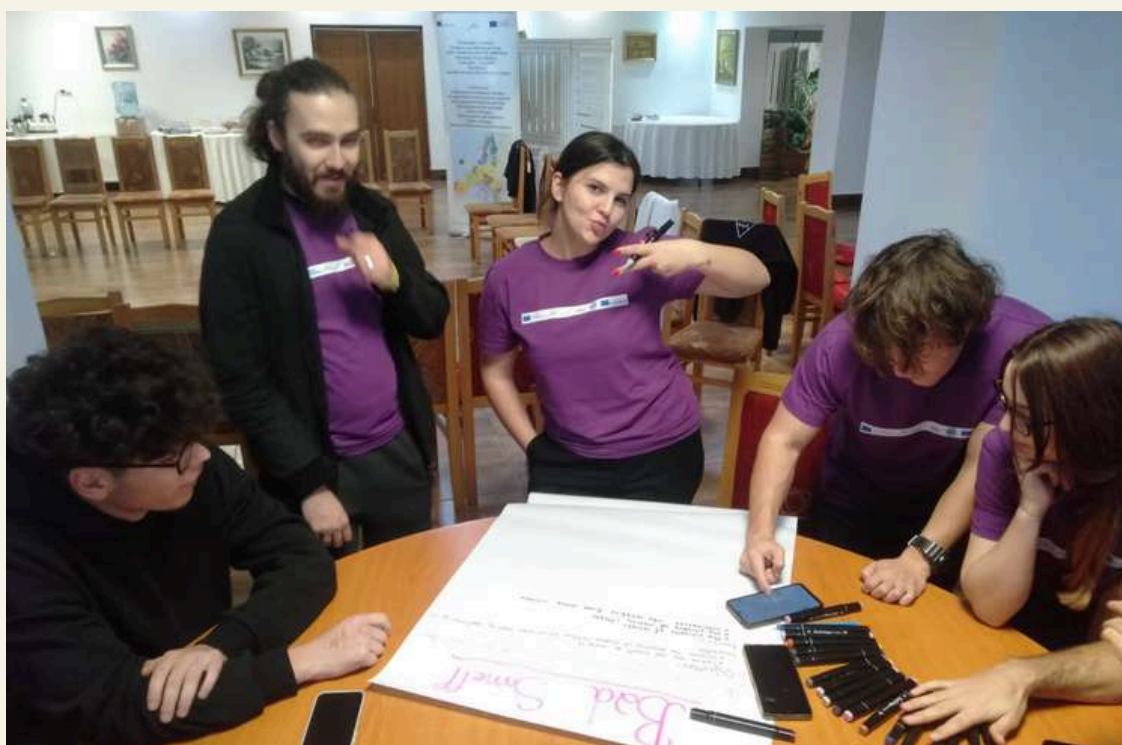
The project team was formed by young people with clearly defined roles: Leo acted as the “brain” of the team, coordinating ideas and planning; Musa represented the “eyes,” observing and documenting the situation; Medea was the “hands,” contributing through practical actions; Zana took on the role of the “ears,” listening to community voices and feedback; and Philia was the “mouth” of the team, responsible for communication and expressing the project’s message.

We became interested in this issue after noticing that many areas of Horezu regularly smell like smoke. This observation led us to reflect on possible causes and consequences, as well as on how young people can take responsibility and get involved in addressing community problems.

As part of the project, we discussed the objectives, the beneficiaries, the activities, and the expected results, as well as ways to actively involve local people in finding solutions. Our objectives included raising awareness about the issue, encouraging dialogue between citizens and local authorities, and promoting responsible environmental behavior.

The main beneficiaries of the project are the local residents of Horezu, who are directly affected by the unpleasant smell, as well as the wider community, which can benefit from improved environmental conditions and increased civic awareness.

Through this mini-project, we demonstrated that young people are capable of identifying real community problems, proposing constructive ideas, and taking initiative. The project represents an important step in developing civic responsibility, critical thinking, and active citizenship, proving that age is not a barrier to meaningful involvement in community life.



Civic Mini Project – Horezu Public Transportation

This civic mini project focuses on improving public transportation and mobility in Horezu, following the identification of several local challenges related to infrastructure and traffic.

The town currently faces poor road conditions, limited public transportation options, and traffic congestion that affects both residents and visitors. These issues reduce accessibility, make daily commuting more difficult, and limit easy access to important tourist areas.

Objectives

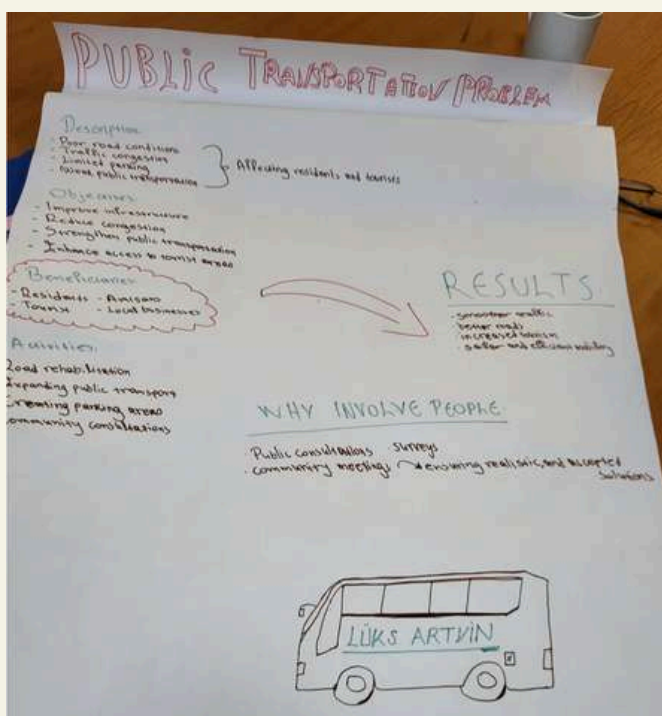
The project aims to improve local infrastructure, reduce traffic congestion, strengthen public transportation services, and enhance access to tourist attractions. Through these objectives, the initiative seeks to improve mobility and the overall quality of life in the community.

Beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries are local residents and commuters, tourists visiting Horezu, and local businesses that rely on efficient transportation and accessibility.

Expected Results

Expected results include smoother traffic flow, improved road conditions, increased accessibility, and safer, more efficient mobility for all users. These improvements are also expected to support local economic development and tourism.



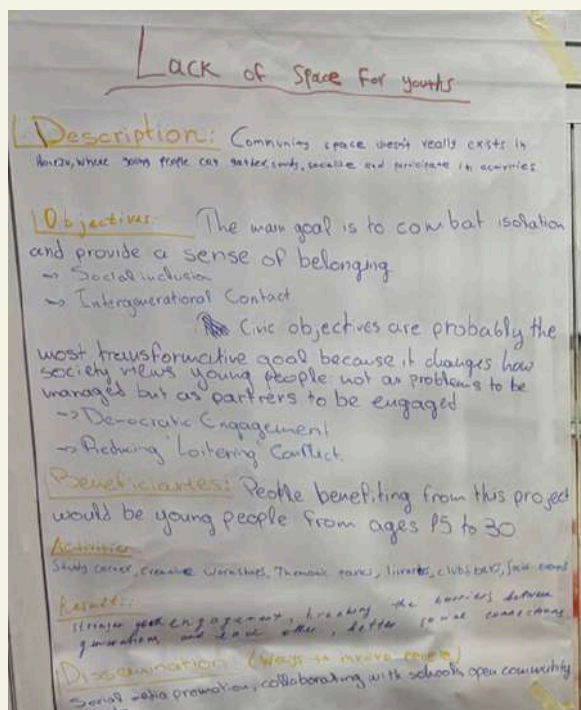
Proposed Activities

Planned activities include road rehabilitation, expansion of public transportation routes, development of parking areas, and community consultations to gather feedback and ensure inclusive solutions.

Why Involve the Community

Community involvement is essential for ensuring realistic and widely accepted solutions. Public consultations, surveys, and community meetings will help align the project with local needs and priorities.

Civic Mini Project – Youth Community Spaces in Horezu



This civic mini project addresses the lack of dedicated spaces for young people in Horezu.

At present, there are very limited community spaces where young people can gather, study, socialize, and participate in meaningful activities in a safe and inclusive environment.

The absence of such spaces contributes to social isolation among youth and limits opportunities for personal development, interaction, and civic participation.

Objectives

The main goal of the project is to combat youth isolation and provide a strong sense of belonging. The project promotes social inclusion and encourages intergenerational contact by creating spaces where young people are seen not as problems to be managed, but as partners to be engaged.

Additional objectives include strengthening democratic engagement and reducing conflicts related to loitering in public spaces.

Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries of this project are young people aged approximately 15 to 30 years, who currently lack accessible and youth-friendly community spaces.

Proposed Activities

Planned activities include the creation of study corners, creative workshops, thematic parks, libraries, clubs, social hubs, and social events. These activities aim to support learning, creativity, social interaction, and active participation in community life.

Expected Results

The project is expected to reduce barriers between young people and the wider community, strengthen social bonds, and improve social cohesion. It will also contribute to better communication, cooperation, and mutual understanding between generations.

Dissemination and Community Involvement

Dissemination will be carried out through social media promotion, collaboration with schools, and open community events. These actions will help involve young people, educators, and local stakeholders, ensuring visibility, participation, and long-term impact.

Civic Mini Project – Traffic Safety Solutions in Horezu

This mini project addresses traffic safety challenges in Horezu, aiming to improve road safety and reduce accidents by implementing practical, low-cost solutions for drivers and pedestrians.

Problem Description

Certain areas in Horezu face issues with speeding vehicles, limited visibility around corners, and unsafe intersections. These challenges increase the risk of accidents and endanger both drivers and pedestrians, particularly on busy or high-speed roads.



Objectives

The main goal of this project is to enhance road safety and ensure safer, more controlled traffic flow in the town. Specific objectives include slowing down traffic in critical areas, improving visibility, and helping drivers navigate intersections more safely.

Proposed Solutions / Activities

The project proposes several practical traffic safety interventions:

- **Solar Flashing Beacons** – Small solar-powered panels that flash 24/7 to alert drivers of upcoming hazards.
- **Mini Roundabouts** – Circular intersections that force drivers to slow down while navigating the roundabout.
- **Traffic Calming Curves** – Steep curves designed to naturally slow down vehicles as drivers steer through them.
- **Convex Mirrors** – Placed at blind corners to improve visibility for drivers and pedestrians.
- **Traffic Lights Ahead Signage** – Warning signs to alert drivers of upcoming traffic lights for timely stopping.

Expected Results

These interventions are expected to improve traffic flow, reduce speeding, increase visibility at critical points, and enhance overall safety for all road users.

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries are local residents, commuters, and tourists who use Horezu's roads, as well as local authorities responsible for traffic management and road safety.

Community Involvement

The project emphasizes awareness and education alongside physical solutions. Local stakeholders, including residents and drivers, will be informed through community meetings and signage, ensuring better adoption and effectiveness of the interventions.



Day 6

Study Visit: Craiova

The day took us to Craiova, where we explored the city's vibrant culture and engaged in activities highlighting European community and civic engagement.

Flashmob: "We are Europe"

One of the highlights was the flashmob "We Are Europe". Despite minor deviations from the planned choreography, the performance attracted a large audience. The final moment, when participants raised signs spelling out "We Are Europe", was a powerful demonstration of unity and European solidarity, perfectly embodying the spirit of active citizenship.

Craiova's European Culture & Community

Following the flashmob, participants had the opportunity to explore Craiova, discovering its historical landmarks, cultural spaces, and festive atmosphere. The city offered a tangible experience of European culture in a local context, reinforcing the day's theme of community and engagement.

Reflection: Craiova Through Our Eyes

The day concluded with a reflection session, "Craiova Through Our Eyes", where participants shared insights and discussed how the experiences connected with civic engagement and European identity. The session highlighted the importance of cultural activities in fostering a sense of belonging and encouraging active participation in society.



On the 6th day, in Craiova, at the city's largest and most beautiful Christmas market — voted as one of the best in Europe — we brought the message 'We are Europe' to life through a vibrant and energetic flashmob!

Surrounded by the festive lights, colorful decorations, and the joyful atmosphere of the market, participants moved together in perfect harmony, creating synchronized choreography that radiated enthusiasm and positivity. A large crowd gathered to watch, their excitement and smiles adding to the energy of the event.

Every step, gesture, and cheer reflected the spirit of collaboration, solidarity, and active engagement, showing how young people can come together to celebrate shared European values. This inspiring event was organized as part of the project 'Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe (DIVE In)', a youth exchange accredited by Erasmus+ and co-financed by the European Union, highlighting the power of youth initiatives in promoting civic participation and European identity.

Flash Mob in Craiova



08

Day 7 & 8



Day 7

Day 7 of the DIVE IN project was a key moment in our journey, dedicated to a comprehensive online campaign meant to share the messages, values and lessons we had gathered throughout the previous activities. The entire day was built around the idea of visibility, reflection, and communicating our experience both within the group and to a wider audience.

For this online campaign, we used a diverse set of visual and written materials: a presentation video, a thematic poster, inspirational quotes selected from our sessions and discussions, as well as photos capturing representative moments from the activities carried out during the project. Each of these elements was designed to communicate, in an accessible and visually engaging way, the essence of our involvement, the atmosphere of the project, and the values promoted by DIVE IN.

In addition to preparing the visual materials, the day also included the creation of a personal statement, a reflective and communicative exercise meant to provide a deeper perspective on the experience. The statement began with an introduction, in which I explained the context of the project—its objectives, its main theme, and the reasons why this declaration was important. I emphasized that this task was not just a technical requirement, but also an opportunity to pause and reflect on what we experienced, what we understood, and how the project influenced us.

In the following part of the statement, I described the activities I was involved in, highlighting both the teamwork process and the concrete results of the online campaign. I talked about how we collaborated to create the materials, the ideas we wanted to share, and the sense of responsibility we felt when presenting the project to a wider audience.

Finally, I reflected on what I learned during this day and throughout the project in general. I mentioned that working on the online campaign helped us develop visual and digital communication skills, encouraged effective teamwork, and strengthened our ability to deliver a clear and authentic message. Moreover, through writing the statement, I gained a better capacity for introspection, organizing ideas, and expressing my own perspective.

Overall, Day 7 was not only productive but also deeply formative, serving as both a moment of synthesis and visibility for our work, and an exercise in becoming more aware of our personal and collective progress within the DIVE IN project.

AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN
EUROPE — DIVE IN

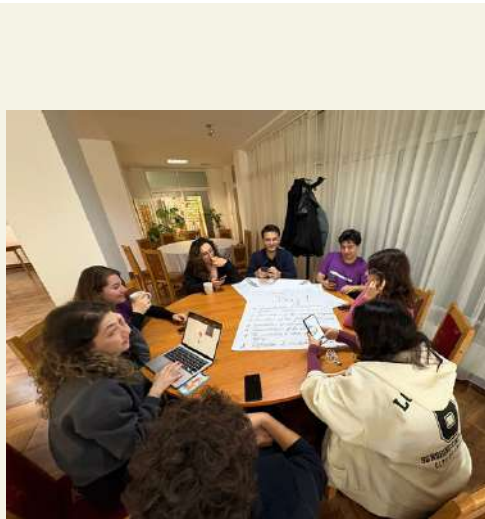
Day 7

Workshop: Final Outputs &
Dissemination Day

- Joint Declaration — Digital Democracy
Pledge
- Digital Dissemination Campaign
#DiveIn4Democracy

Workshop: Final Outputs & Dissemination Day

- DIVE IN Magazine — Digital Project
Brochure
- Reflection & Evaluation Session



Joint Declarations for Democracy and Civic Engagement

As part of the Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe (DIVE IN) project, young participants from Romania, Greece, Hungary, and Türkiye collaboratively developed Joint Declarations reflecting their shared values, perspectives, and commitments to democracy, active citizenship, and social inclusion.

These declarations emerged from a collective learning process that combined dialogue, reflection, and practical experience. Coming from diverse cultural, social, and national backgrounds, the participants engaged in meaningful discussions about the challenges facing democratic societies today—such as misinformation, discrimination, social exclusion, and declining civic participation—while also exploring concrete ways young people can contribute to positive change.

Each national group created its own declaration, shaped by local perspectives and experiences, yet all declarations are united by common principles: freedom of expression, respect, inclusion, critical thinking, digital responsibility, and active participation in democratic life. Together, they form a shared voice that highlights both diversity and unity within Europe.

The Joint Declarations are not merely formal statements, but commitments to action. They express the participants' determination to combat discrimination, hate speech, exclusion, and disinformation, while actively promoting dialogue, equality, empathy, solidarity, and civic engagement—both online and offline.

Through these declarations, young people affirm their belief that democracy is a living process that requires continuous effort, responsibility, and collaboration. They also outline how the knowledge, skills, and attitudes gained during the DIVE IN mobility will be carried forward into their communities through workshops, campaigns, discussions, and civic initiatives.

The following pages present the Joint Declarations developed by each participating country, shared in their entirety as a testament to the participants' collective vision for a more open, inclusive, participatory, and democratic Europe.



JOINT DECLARATION - ROMANIA

We, the participants in this project, DISCOVERING DEMOCRACY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN EUROPE (DIVE IN), come together with the sincere desire to better understand the world we live in and to contribute to an open, democratic, and united European society.

We come from different backgrounds, with diverse experiences and perspectives, yet we share the same belief: only through dialogue, respect, and collaboration can we build a future in which every voice is heard and valued.

This declaration aims to clearly express the principles and commitments we share. It is not merely a formal document, but a promise we make to one another: to create a safe, inclusive, and responsible environment in which each of us feels free to participate, to learn, and to contribute.

We believe in freedom of expression as a cornerstone of democratic life and we want a space where we can speak openly, ask questions, make mistakes, and learn without fear or judgment. At the same time, we recognize that this freedom must be accompanied by respect: respect for people, for their identities, their opinions, their boundaries, and their emotions.

We commit to being a community in which inclusion is real. This means ensuring that no one is left behind, ignored, or excluded; being attentive, open, and willing to listen, especially when someone feels unheard.

We consider critical thinking essential in a time when information circulates rapidly and can sometimes be misleading. We aim to analyze carefully, verify sources, ask questions, and understand before judging or sharing information. In the same spirit, we accept our digital responsibility: what we choose to do online has real consequences, and we want to contribute to a safer, more respectful, and more balanced digital space.

We commit to combating any form of discrimination, hatred, hate speech, exclusion, marginalization, or harassment, whether in physical or digital spaces. We choose to oppose behaviors that harm, humiliate, or reduce a person to an unfair label. At the same time, we promise to promote sincere dialogue, equality among people, active participation, and cooperation.

We support solidarity, openness, and collaboration as essential elements of a healthy society. We want to be a generation that not only talks about change, but builds it "step by step" through authentic, consistent actions. Looking ahead, we envision a democratic, open, inclusive, and participatory Europe in which every person finds their place.

We imagine a Europe where diversity is truly appreciated, where people feel protected and encouraged to contribute, and where young people are supported in turning their ideas into real actions. Technology, education, and intercultural dialogue become tools that bring people together rather than divide them.

Through this declaration, we join our efforts and our voices to build a more empathetic, open, and democratic society. We take responsibility for protecting and nurturing the values that bring us closer and allow us to dream together of a better future for all.

ROMANIAN GROUPE:

1. Trandafir Claudia
2. Balasa Andreea
3. Grigorie Andrei

4. Enescu Danut
5. Dimoiu Fabian
6. Toader Medeea

7. Militaru Alexandra
8. Craciunescu Roxana
9. Munteanu Luiza

JOINT DECLARATION - GREECE

Introduction

Project Context: The "Dive In" project brings together young people from diverse backgrounds to explore democratic participation and active citizenship.

Purpose of the Declaration: This document serves to outline our shared values, goals, and commitments towards a more democratic future.

Common Principles

We, the participants, agree on the following core values that guide our actions:

- **Freedom of Expression:** We uphold the right to share ideas freely, fostering an environment where all voices can be heard.
- **Respect:** We value the dignity of every individual, promoting mutual understanding.
- **Inclusion:** We ensure everyone feels welcome, valued, and safe, regardless of their background.
- **Critical Thinking:** We encourage the analysis and questioning of information to combat misinformation.
- **Digital Responsibility:** We commit to acting ethically and safely in online spaces.

Concrete Commitments

To turn our values into action, we make the following commitments:

- **What we will combat:** We stand firmly against:
 - a. Discrimination and inequality.
 - b. Hate speech and online harassment.
 - c. Exclusion and social isolation.
 - d. Disinformation and polarization.
- **What we will promote:** We actively support and advocate for:
 - a. Constructive dialogue and active listening.
 - b. Equality and human rights.
 - c. Active participation in democratic processes.
 - d. Empathy and solidarity with everyone, regardless of differences.

Shared Vision and Goal for Europe

Our Vision: We imagine and support a more open, inclusive, and participatory Europe.

Our Goal: A future where young people are empowered to shape the decisions that affect their lives.

JOINT DECLARATION - GREECE

What we learned, what we will do

Leonidas: I learned the importance of engaging others in a democracy, so the best decisions will be made. I will engage others and make sure their voices are heard as well in all facets of democracy. This will be done through a presentation for all interested people as well as making engaging social media posts, recounting what I found.

George: I learned how to cooperate with people from different cultural backgrounds, punctuality and teamwork in unfamiliar contexts. Through better conscience I can empathise with others more effectively. This can be passed on not only through discussion with others around me but also through engaging workshops that I can help organise.

Marietta: This program helped me gain an in-depth understanding of one of the most important global issues, as well as communicate with people from different cultures. I want to organise some workshops for young people of my own and teach them what I learned, to prepare them for society.

Fyllia: I gained practical experience in structural project methodologies and why I must proactively seek new opportunities for growth and I embraced challenges that put me outside of my comfort zone. Now with the new insights I will know how to work in a multicultural environment and I feel more emboldened to take actions to make a small change in the world.

Kostas: Erasmus+ was a rejuvenating opportunity for me to learn about democracy and its values and develop my social and creative skills as well as my critical thinking skills. Leaving this project, I am going to be more prepared to advocate democracy and contribute to the maintenance of it in our society, by helping similar organisations to plan out their own projects.

Christos: Through the Erasmus+ program I learned how active participation strengthens democracy, and by building real connections with others I now feel better prepared to contribute to my community by discussing and creating spaces for equal expression. Because meaningful change always starts with engaged people!

Androniki: This Erasmus+ program taught me that democracy is a continuous effort that requires that requires practical skills like designing campaigns and organising non-violent action, not just voting. I will immediately apply mobilisation and intercultural dialogue skills to launch local projects that empower democratic discourse and cooperation.

Panagiotis: This project reinvigorated my commitment to serve my community in many ways in order to upkeep the world that democracy has built around me. I commit to motivating other young people to take action in their own communities. This can be done by various social media posts detailing what I learned.

Rafail: This Erasmus + project gave me a real look at how democracy works beyond just theory. Meeting people from different backgrounds taught me the value of open dialogue, and I plan to bring these ideas back home to improve my community. I can disseminate these ideas through interactive presentations.

JOINT DECLARATION - TURKEY

Our Collective Perspective as Participants from Türkiye

Introduction

Project Context

As participants from Türkiye in the Erasmus+ program held in Horezu, Romania, we experienced a unique opportunity to understand the challenges facing young people in Europe today. Issues such as polarization, the spread of misinformation, discrimination, and declining civic engagement pose significant challenges to the stability and future of democratic societies. This declaration captures our shared vision, values, and commitment to fostering a Europe that is open, inclusive, and participatory — a Europe where every voice can be heard.

Purpose of the Declaration

Through this declaration, we express the principles that guide our actions, the injustices we stand against, and the commitments we embrace to strengthen democratic practices. By endorsing this statement, we affirm our collective responsibility to nurture a society grounded in respect, human dignity, constructive dialogue, and equal opportunities for all.

Our Core Principles

Freedom of Expression

We strongly believe in the power of free expression. During our Erasmus+ activities, we witnessed how sharing ideas openly fosters creativity, transparency, and mutual understanding across different cultures and backgrounds.

Respect

Every individual carries inherent dignity and value. Regardless of religion, gender, ethnicity, or social background, treating others with respect is essential to building trust and meaningful connections within our community.

Inclusion

Inclusion is more than a democratic ideal — it is a necessity for a strong and cohesive society. A community where everyone can participate equally becomes resilient, vibrant, and united.

Critical Thinking & Digital Responsibility

In a world overflowing with digital information, critical thinking and responsible online behavior are indispensable skills. Through this program, we explored the spread of misinformation and learned practical ways to navigate and respond to it thoughtfully.

JOINT DECLARATION - TURKEY

Our Commitments

What We Stand Against

We pledge to oppose:

- all forms of discrimination and intolerance
- hate speech online and offline
- exclusion of vulnerable or marginalized groups
- the dissemination of false or misleading information
- actions that undermine trust in democratic institutions

What We Promote

We actively support:

- open dialogue and intercultural understanding
- equality of opportunity and fairness
- active participation of youth in civic and political life
- social responsibility and solidarity
- cooperation and cultural exchange

Our Vision for a Democratic Europe

We imagine a Europe that:

- is grounded in democracy, justice, and human rights
- values the voices of young people
- embraces diversity as a source of collective strength
- promotes education that cultivates critical thinking
- ensures safe and respectful digital spaces
- empowers youth to participate in decision-making at all level

Our Erasmus+ Experience in Türkiye Delegation

During our time in Horezu, we explored diverse social and digital challenges, focusing particularly on the impact of misinformation. We expressed our ideas, designed an informative poster, and presented our findings to the group. Beyond classroom activities, we visited the city center, met local officials, and learned extensively about Horezu's cultural and historical heritage. To maintain our well-being, we engaged in regular physical activities 2–3 times daily. One of the highlights of our experience was visiting Horezu's traditional pottery center. Creating ceramic pieces with our own hands gave us a tangible connection to local culture and provided a truly memorable and inspiring experience.

SIGNED BY:

Ayşegül Karanfil

Aylin Türkücüoğlu

Hacire Örnek

Pınar Sönmez

Kürşat Elhan

Tunahan Yeşilyurt

Zeynep Gayhan

Doğukan Benzer

Musa Yasin Özdil

JOINT DECLARATION - HUNGARY

Project Context – DIVE IN

“DIVE IN – Discovering Democracy and Civic Engagement in Europe” brings together young people from different European countries.

We, the participants from Hungary: Mohirabonu Allayorova, Maratova Mekhribonu, Khaula Abbasi, Javokhirbek Turaev, Zana Mahmood, Veramilia Contesa worked alongside peers from other nations to explore democracy, digital citizenship, inclusion, and active participation.

Through workshops, debates, study visits, outdoor activities, and intercultural exchanges, we developed a deeper understanding of our roles as European citizens and how we can contribute to positive change in our communities.

Introduction

Project Context

During our participation in the Erasmus+ program held in Horezu, Romania, as participants coming from Hungary, we gained a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by young people in Europe today.

Processes such as polarization, the spread of misinformation, discrimination, and the decline of civic engagement pose serious threats to the stability of our democracies.

During this Erasmus program, we worked on various issues and tried to find solutions to different problems, including the false information spreading on the internet.

We shared our own opinions about these topics, created a poster, and presented it to others. In addition to that, we visited the city center and spoke with the city officials, learning a lot of new information about Horezu.

We were not only busy with classroom activities — every day we also did physical exercises two or three times to keep ourselves healthy and feeling good.

We also visited a pottery center, where we had the chance to make pottery with our own hands. It was a really enjoyable and satisfying experience for all of us.

This Joint Declaration represents the shared position formed by us and the other participants, expressing our commitment to building a more open, inclusive, and participatory future for Europe.

Purpose of the Declaration

Through this declaration, we — the participants — clearly express the values we stand on, what we oppose, and the commitments we take on to support democratic processes. By signing this declaration, we demonstrate our collective responsibility to support a Europe based on respect, human dignity, peaceful dialogue, and equal participation.

JOINT DECLARATION - HUNGARY

Common Principles Freedom of Expression

During the Erasmus+ activities in Horezu, we clearly saw how important it is for young people from different cultures and backgrounds to freely express their opinions. Open expression strengthens creativity, transparency, and mutual understanding.

Respect

We deeply felt that every person has dignity and worth. Regardless of nationality, religion, gender identity, or social background, treating others with respect was one of the strongest foundations of our Erasmus experience.

Inclusion

Throughout the sessions in Horezu, we better understood that an inclusive society is not only a political ideal but also a practical necessity. A society where everyone can participate equally becomes stronger and more united.

Critical Thinking and Digital Responsibility

In an era of intense digital information flow, critical thinking and responsible online behavior are essential skills for young people. During the program, we learned much about how misinformation spreads and how to protect ourselves from it.

Concrete Commitments What We Will Combat

Together with the other participants, we firmly commit to standing against:

- all forms of discrimination
- online and offline hate speech
- the exclusion of vulnerable groups
- misinformation and manipulative digital content
- actions that weaken trust in democracy

What We Will Promote

At the same time, we actively support:

- open dialogue and intercultural understanding
- equal opportunities and fairness
- active participation of young people in political and social life
- civic responsibility and social solidarity
- intercultural cooperation and exchange

Shared Vision for the Future of a Democratic Europe

As participants coming from Hungary, we imagine Europe as a place that:

- is grounded in democracy and human rights,
- values the voices of young people,
- embraces diversity as a strength,
- promotes education that develops critical thinking,
- maintains digital spaces that are safe and respectful,
- enables young people to shape decisions at local, national, and European levels.

Digital Dissemination Campaign

#DiveIn4Democracy

As part of the DIVE IN project, participants actively engaged in a digital dissemination campaign to promote the values of democracy, active citizenship, and civic engagement. They created a variety of creative outputs, including posters, video clips, and slogans, designed to capture attention, raise awareness, and encourage discussion among their peers and the wider community.

These materials were shared across social media platforms under the hashtag #DiveIn4Democracy, amplifying the reach of their message and allowing the project to connect with a broader audience. The campaign not only showcased the participants' creativity and digital skills but also demonstrated their commitment to spreading civic values in innovative and engaging ways.

On this page, you can explore some of the participants' work through screenshots and examples of their posters, videos, and social media posts, illustrating how young people can use digital tools to promote democratic participation and social inclusion.

Hungarian team poster



Brown and Beige Aesthetic Poster

Our poster highlights the importance of democracy as seen through the perspective of the Hungarian team. Using clear visuals and simple messages, it emphasizes key democratic values such as freedom, equality, participation, and respect for diverse voices. The design combines symbolic imagery and concise statements to show how young people can strengthen democratic culture through dialogue, collaboration, and active citizenship. It reflects our belief that democracy grows when we listen, engage, and work together.



Kurdlingo on Instagram: "Erasmus program in Romania 🇷🇴 #سكولہرشيب #كوردستان #scholarship #europe #romania #divein4democracy #kurdlingo"

We participated in an Erasmus program where we had the opportunity to represent Hungary. The project took place in Horezu, Romania, and it was an incredible experience. Throughout the program, we learned a great deal about democracy, civic engagement, and the importance of active participation in our communities.

International Dissemination Campaign - Some ideas of democracy. #DiveIn4Democracy

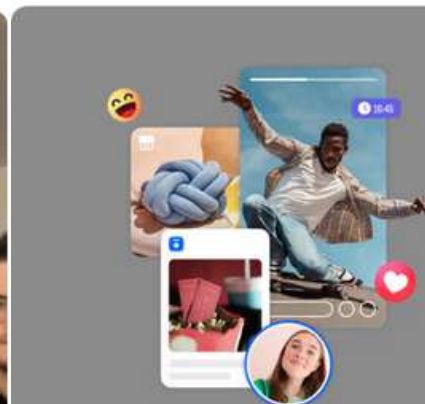


Turkish team answered this question: what's is democracy?The members Doğukan Musa Tunahan Kursat Ayşegül Aylin Zeynep Hacire and Pinar #DiveIn4Democracy | Musa Yasin Özdi

These ideas about democracy of Turkish team.

<https://www.facebook.com/615847>

Dive In International Dissemination #DiveIn4Democracy



facebook.com

Facebook

This week, we came together with young people from across Europe to explore what democracy, active citizenship and youth participation truly mean. We discussed minority rights, decision-making, civic responsibilities and how every voice — not only the majority — matters in a democratic society.

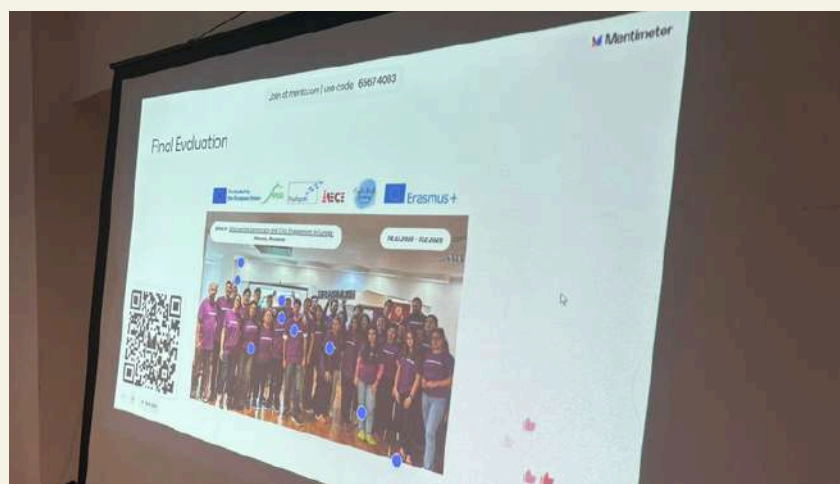
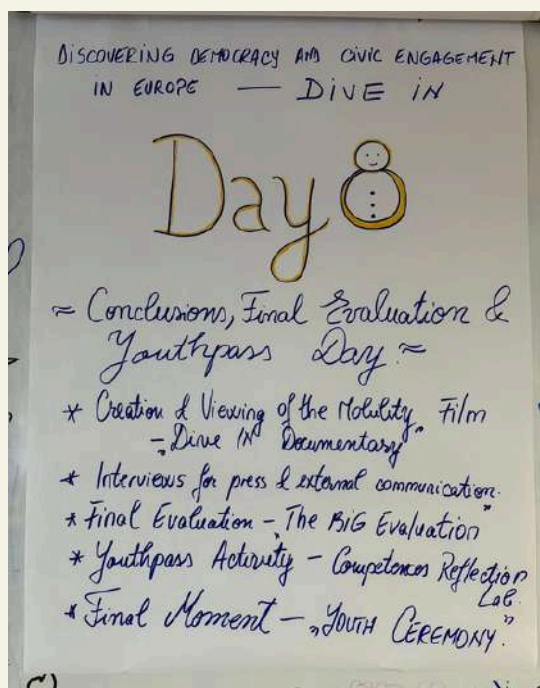
Day 8

Conclusions, Final Evaluation & Youthpass Day

The final day of the mobility focused on reflection, gratitude, and looking toward the future. Participants created the official “DIVE IN Documentary”, took part in dissemination interviews, evaluated the project’s impact, and reflected on the competences gained through the Youthpass process.

The day ended with a Youth Ceremony & Goodbye Circle – certificates, emotions, and commitments to our communities.

♥ Youth Shape Europe –and we carry learning forward!







09

Conclusion & Impact

Conclusions

The DIVE IN Youth Exchange successfully brought together young people from Romania, Hungary, Turkey, and Greece, creating an enriching space for learning, cultural exchange, and civic engagement. Through a variety of non-formal educational activities, participants deepened their understanding of democracy, digital citizenship, and social inclusion.

The project demonstrated the importance of youth involvement in shaping democratic societies. By engaging actively in discussions, teamwork, and community-based activities, participants strengthened not only their own skills and competencies but also the capacity of the partner organizations involved.

DIVE IN proved that when young people are given the tools, motivation, and opportunities to participate, they become active contributors to a more open, tolerant, and informed Europe.

Impact

1. Impact on Participants

- Increased awareness of democratic values, civic participation, and European citizenship.
- Improved social, civic, and digital competences through hands-on learning.
- Greater confidence, teamwork abilities, and intercultural understanding.
- Motivation to take part in future community initiatives, volunteering, and Erasmus+ projects.

2. Impact on Partner Organizations

- Strengthened cooperation between youth organizations across Europe.
- Enhanced capacity to design and implement high-quality youth work activities.
- Development of new educational tools, methods, and partnerships.

3. Impact on Communities

- Follow-up actions such as workshops, awareness campaigns, and creative activities carried out by participants.
- Dissemination of democratic values, inclusion, and responsible digital behaviour among peers and community members.
- Encouraging a more participatory, informed, and engaged local youth environment.

4. Long-Term Impact

- Young people empowered to become proactive citizens in their communities.
- Stronger networks and collaborations between European youth organizations.
- Contribution to building a more democratic, inclusive, and connected Europe.

Impact & Learning Outcomes

Learning Approach and Methodology

Within the implemented mobility, the achievement of the project's aim and objectives was supported through non-formal and informal methods that were intuitive, interactive, and participatory. These methods stimulated creativity, communication, interaction, critical and creative thinking, intuition, and teamwork, with these approaches to be continued throughout the implementation of the project.

Educational Activities and Participant Engagement

During the DIVE In mobility, young participants took part in a wide range of educational activities aimed at promoting democracy, active citizenship, and social inclusion.

The activities were participant-centered and implemented through an interactive approach, including creative workshops, role plays, simulations, meetings with local representatives and experts, outdoor activities and study visits, as well as intercultural activities. These were complemented by energizers, attention-grabbing methods, cooperation activities, socialization and teamwork, and reflection sessions. Modern digital tools and methods were also used, contributing to the improvement of the learning process, facilitating active participation, and enhancing the educational outcomes of the participants. These approaches will continue to be applied throughout the project implementation.

Democracy, Digital Citizenship, and Inclusion

The program included interactive workshops dedicated to democracy and digital citizenship, where participants discussed what democracy means to them and explored the rights, risks, and responsibilities of citizens in the online environment.

A strong emphasis was placed on inclusion and equal participation through exercises aimed at developing empathy and identifying existing barriers within communities, as well as through activities focused on co-creating solutions for more inclusive communities.

Active European Citizenship and Civic Participation

Young people explored the topic of European active citizenship, participated in workshops on fake news and critical thinking, and engaged in practical activities such as the Civic Participation Lab and the development of mini civic projects, supported by personalized guidance from the facilitators.

Study Visits and Local Engagement

The mobility included study visits, among which was a visit to the Horezu City Hall, where participants discussed civic education, democratic participation, and community inclusion.

Cultural Dimension and Visibility

The cultural and visibility dimension of the project was strengthened through outdoor activities, the celebration of Romania's National Day on 1 December, visits to the ceramic workshops in Horezu, and a study visit to Craiova, where young people organized a civic flash mob under the message "We Are Europe."

Project Results and Dissemination

At the end of the mobility, participants developed the DIVE IN Documentary, a joint statement for digital democracy, and an online dissemination campaign under the hashtag #DiveIn4Democracy. The conclusions were presented during the final evaluation day and the Youthpass session.

Recognition and Long-Term Impact

At the end of the mobility, young participants received the Youthpass certificate, recognizing the competences acquired and supporting both their educational pathways and their integration into the labor market.

For these young people, the Erasmus+ mobility represented not only an international experience, but a concrete step towards the future, marked by recognized competences, European perspectives, and a strong motivation to actively engage in society.



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