

YOUTH PARTICIPATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

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Official website
www.upraise-project.eu

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PROJECT IDENTITY

The project is co-funded by the EU Programme Erasmus+

Key Action:
Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices.

Action:
Strategic Partnerships.
Field: Strategic Partnerships for youth.

Main objective:
Development of Innovation.

Following the online launch of the project UPRAISE, our newsletter aims to keep you informed on developments and project news. Project UPRAISE is an Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership for Youth. It will create tools for youth professionals to support youth participation for social change.

TARGET GROUPS

The direct target group of our project is youth professionals such as youth workers, youth trainers, mentors of European Solidarity Corps' volunteers, and others working with youth such as social workers and educators.

The end beneficiaries of our project are young people with a focus on those with fewer opportunities.

TOPICS

- a. Democracy & human rights
- b. Fighting anti-Semitism & anti-Islamism
- c. Gender equality & rights to sexuality
- d. Climate change

All the topics we have identified to be of interest among our target groups are related to the Human Rights.

ACTIVITIES & METHODOLOGY

1. Research Study: "European Training Strategy and the Trainer Competence Model: The political dimension of the work of youth trainers in Germany, Greece, Cyprus, and Romania".
2. Handbook "Managing active citizenship initiatives with young voluntary coordinators and young volunteers".
3. "UPRAISE Training toolkit" to be used by youth professional to enhance youth participation with methods which are attractive to young people with fewer opportunities:
 - a. Lego® Serious Play®
 - b. Photovoice
 - c. Theatre of the Oppressed
 - d. Kahoot! Quizzes
4. "UPRAISE Toolkit for Successful Online Campaigns and Petitions".

PARTNERSHIP

Coordinator: [GEMEINSAM LEBEN & LERNEN IN EUROPA E.V.- GERMANY](http://GEMEINSAMLEBENLERNENIN-EUROPA.EV-GERMANY)
[SOCIAL INNOVATION AND COHESION INSTITUTE \(FIFTY- FIFTY\)- GREECE](http://SOCIALINNOVATIONANDCOHESIONINSTITUTE(FIFTY-FIFTY)-GREECE)
[ARISTA DEKA- CYPRUS](http://ARISTADEKA-CYPRUS)
[CENTRUL DE VOLUNTARIAT CLUJ-NAPOCA- ROMANIA](http://CENTRULDEVOLUNTARIATCLUJ-NAPOCA-ROMANIA)



THE PROJECT UPRAISE IN TODAY'S SOCIAL CONTEXT

One of the major issues contemporary democracies face in Europe is the political disengagement of the young people when it comes to traditional politics or organisational membership. Young people may become more engaged in non-organisational structures, like initiatives. They usually engage more spontaneously, for a certain time-limited course. They usually expect instant gratification and they express a "passive" support via social media (like, dislike, comment or share). For the project partners, youth participation includes voting in national and European elections but also goes beyond traditional politics.

The project partners determine political participation among young people as:

(A) any lawful activities which are undertaken by citizens that will or aim at influencing, changing or affecting the government, public policies, or how institutions are run.

(B) a diverse range of activities such as people being members of different organisations, participating in cultural organisations, or activities, signing petitions, protesting, contacting politicians, social media campaigning, engaging online, etc.

With our project, we wish to address the need of youth professionals for continuous professional development with a focus on competences to support the active participation of the young people. Furthermore, we wish to address the fact that traditional education and youth work methods are not attractive to modern young people; especially those with fewer opportunities who are often feeling uncomfortable in formal settings.

IMPACT

UPRAISE will equip the youth professionals with practical tools to use in their work. The youth workers will support the active participation of the young people with fewer opportunities with the aim to bring about social change. The project will reinforce the international dimension of youth work and the capacities and international scope of the partners. Ultimately, the project will impact the influence and recognition of youth work.