



PROACTIVE YOUTH

Empowering Young People for Democratic Participation

ProActive Youth brings together young people from different European countries to strengthen democratic values, active citizenship, and social inclusion through experiential learning, cooperation, and youth-led initiatives.

This Erasmus+ Youth Project was supported by Jugend Für Europe and the European Union.



1. Project Overview

In a time when democratic participation plays a decisive role in shaping Europe's future, **ProActive Youth** aims to empower young people to become active contributors within their communities.

The project promotes a vision of a democratic, inclusive, and tolerant Europe where young people are not passive observers but active drivers of positive social transformation.

Built on the principles of **co-management** and **experiential learning**, the project places youth at the centre of the process. Participants are encouraged to lead discussions, co-design activities, and develop initiatives addressing real issues in their communities.

ProActive Youth seeks to motivate, educate, and support young people in creating local and international actions that promote:

- Active citizenship
 - Democratic participation
 - Human rights
 - Volunteering and community engagement
-

2. Objectives

The project is structured around clear and practical objectives:

- To increase awareness of democratic values and youth participation in decision-making processes.
- To equip participants with practical tools to design and implement civic initiatives locally.
- To strengthen cooperation among European youth through dialogue and teamwork.
- To promote inclusion by actively engaging young people with fewer opportunities.
- To encourage volunteering and proactive involvement in community development.

These objectives are translated into interactive learning experiences and concrete follow-up actions.

3. Main Activity – Youth Mobility in Skopje MK

The central activity of ProActive Youth is a **7-day youth mobility** taking place in **Skopje, North Macedonia, in October**.

The mobility gathers **40 young participants** from five European countries:

- Germany
- Hungary
- North Macedonia
- Turkey
- France

Participant Profile

- Age group: 20–25 years
- Background: Young people interested in democracy, civic participation, and volunteering
- Inclusion focus: 50% of participants are young people with fewer opportunities
- Each national group: 7 participants + 1 experienced group leader

The diversity of the group creates a dynamic space for intercultural exchange and shared learning.

4. Methodology & Learning Approach

The project follows the **experiential learning cycle**, enabling participants to move from experience to action.

1. Experience

Participants explore real-life examples of civic engagement through simulations, debates, role-plays, and community visits.

2. Reflection

Structured reflection sessions allow participants to examine their values, motivations, and attitudes toward democracy and participation.

3. Conceptualization

Participants analyse democratic structures and develop strategies for local activism.

4. Action

Each participant designs a small-scale initiative that can be implemented after returning home.

Activities are grounded in **co-management**, meaning that young people co-create, co-decide, and co-evaluate the programme together with facilitators. This approach strengthens ownership and meaningful engagement.

5. Activities During the Mobility

Throughout the 7 days, participants engage in:

- Interactive workshops on EU values and democratic systems
- Structured debates on youth participation
- Simulations of decision-making processes
- Role-plays exploring civic responsibility
- Teamwork-based problem-solving activities
- Community visits to observe local engagement practices

Non-formal education methods ensure active participation and practical learning rather than passive listening.

6. Inclusion and Participation

Inclusion is a core dimension of ProActive Youth.

Half of the participants are young people with fewer opportunities. The project creates a safe and supportive learning environment through:

- Financial accessibility measures
- Peer support systems
- Small-group facilitation
- Intercultural dialogue sessions

The aim is to ensure equal participation and active involvement for all.

7. Follow-Up & Dissemination

The impact of ProActive Youth continues beyond the mobility.

After returning to their home countries, participants organize **local follow-up workshops** to share their learning experiences.

They present key project outputs, including:

- A digital booklet (reader) on active citizenship practices
- A project video documenting the mobility experience

These materials are shared in:

- Schools
- NGOs
- Youth councils
- Local youth groups

The objective is to inspire more young people to engage in democratic participation and community action.

8. Expected Impact

On Participants

- Increased knowledge of EU values and democratic structures
- Stronger motivation to participate in local and international decision-making
- Improved teamwork and intercultural communication skills

On Local Communities

- More aware and engaged youth
- Increased dialogue on inclusion and tolerance
- Emergence of youth-led civic initiatives

On Participating Organizations

- Strengthened European cooperation
- Enhanced capacity in youth participation projects
- Development of new partnerships

On Society

Contribution to more democratic, inclusive, and youth-driven communities across Europe.

9. A Step Toward Active Citizenship

ProActive Youth supports young people in moving from discussion to action. By combining experiential learning, co-management, and intercultural dialogue, the project contributes to building a generation that understands democracy not only as a concept but as a daily practice.

