



GENERATION EUROPE

THE ACADEMY





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TOGETHER FOR EUROPE

PARTICIPATION FOR EVERYONE

Generation Europe - The Academy is an international network of youth organisations promoting an active European civil society. It motivates the young people involved to take joint political action and creates the conditions for this through the targeted qualification of youth work specialists. The cooperation is made possible by a funding programme of the same name run by the Internationales Bildungs- und Begegnungswerk (IBB e.V.) in Dortmund.

In our network, young people are active together, regardless of their origin, their parents' income or their previous success in the formal education system. 45 youth organisations from 16 European countries are involved. The concept: young people from three countries each work together continuously over a period of three years to get involved politically. They identify local problems, meet internationally and support each other in local projects to address these problems.

Even young people who describe themselves as „apolitical“ are often very interested in political issues when access barriers are removed, granted there is a connection to their lifeworld and they also experience that their involvement has an impact. At the same time, many young people are still not reached by offers of international youth work. We are actively addressing this imbalance so that young people in particular, who are rarely reached by formats of both political education and international youth work, can also participate.

WHY ARE WE ACTIVE?

The European Union is facing extreme challenges. Two global crises are currently dominating the political and social debate: the Covid 19 pandemic is limiting our lives, and the climate crisis is an existential threat. The economic crisis of 2008/2009 and the rise of right-wing populists in many countries have additionally led to tensions between member states in recent years. The founding ideals of freedom, democracy, solidarity and friendship are threatened by these developments. However, cooperation in Europe is just as important today as it has been in the past 70 years since the EU was founded. Young people are particularly affected by the social crises and social inequality. They have to live with today's decisions the longest. Many have the feeling that little can be changed. Often, the voice of the young generation is not included in public and political discourse. Yet the participation of young people is central to the European democracy of today and tomorrow.





PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVATION

Young people from different milieus are given access to international youth work - they are inspired to get involved in society and an international exchange on European values is created. Young people are thus strengthened in their self-perception as committed Europeans and motivated to take active action in their local environment. The participants have the opportunity to shape all elements of the project. Participation is additionally strengthened through youth-oriented project management.

PEER EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION

Generation Europe - The Academy builds up a Europe-wide network of ambassadors of former participants of international youth encounters. The young people are trained in the project to become young professionals and multipliers for Critical Youth Citizenship (CYC) and democratic participation. They accompany the young people in the local groups of the project and pass on their knowledge to them and young people outside the project. Together with experts, they develop a peer education concept based on their experience as multipliers.

PROFESSIONALISATION AND EUROPEANISATION

Generation Europe - The Academy strengthens local youth work structures in Europe through regional and national partnerships. The cooperation in the international network enables a sustainable transfer of knowledge. The further education and training of experts and organisations additionally professionalises international youth work. Through increased cooperation in European competence groups on the topics of peer education, inclusive and participatory methodology as well as advocacy and lobbying, youth work and political education are not only thought of and developed locally, but also on a European level.

COOPERATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING

Results-oriented dialogue must not only be conducted by professionals and organisations, but must also involve young people. Young people's needs must be heard and have an influence on political decision-making. Politics and administration are sensitised by Generation Europe - The Academy for the importance of European youth work as well as for concrete needs from practice. The dialogue between funding bodies, professionals and young people is actively promoted. The project is scientifically monitored in order to continuously improve the concept.

ACT LOCAL - THINK EUROPEAN!

2022

Kick-off Conference

1st Youth Encounter

Youth Leader Training & Ambassador Training

Ambassador Conference

LOCAL LEVEL

thematic introduction

problem identification

problem identification

develop action plan

2023

Network Conference

2nd Youth Encounter

Ambassador Conference & Youth Leader Training

International Stakeholder Meeting

LOCAL LEVEL

develop action plan

finalize action plan

present action plan

implement action plan

2024

Network Conference & Ambassador Conference

3rd Youth Encounter

Youth Leader Training

European Action Week

International Stakeholder Meeting

LOCAL LEVEL

exchange with local community

implement feedback

present results

evaluation

GENERATION EUROPE - THE ACADEMY

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