



Funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



# The project "**ACE II**" **ACTIVE CITIZEN** in **EUROPE II** Active European citizens building

Project Start Date: 12, September, 2019

APV: 11 - 12, October, 2019

Youth Exchange: 7 - 14 November, 2019

## **PARTNERSHIP**

Youth Team of **Greece**, HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE  
(I.ME.PO., BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATION)

Youth Team of **Estonia**, the NGO MTÜ Lääne-Harju Koostöökogu/ LAG,  
Western-Harju Partnership (LHKK)

Youth Team of **Lithuania**, the NGO Mano Europa

Youth Team of **Romania**, the University UNIVERSITATEA DIN  
PITESTI/ UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI (UPIT)

This Mobility project seeks how current interesting political discussions are presented by the European institutions via their social networking such as the Facebook of European Parliament and Twitter of European Commission.

Thus, the participants from different European countries and organisations active in the youth field, learn about the use of Internet by young persons and citizens to understand a selection of European policy areas that trigger much public attention because of their timeliness and relevance to socially relevant important topics.

In addition to that, the Youth Exchange supports specific objectives and opportunities for young participants to improve their level of key competences and skills and promote their participation in democratic life in Europe and the labour market, active citizenship, intercultural dialogue, social inclusion and solidarity.

Overall, the partial activities and events are totally compatible and relevant to the work of the beneficiary organisation I.ME.PO. and the participating partners as well as to the goal of informal learning and refer to the learning by doing.

They take place through voluntary activities in order to young people can acquire and develop essential competences that contribute to their personal and socio-educational development and foster their active involvement in society.

They put emphasis on reaching out to marginalized young people and the needs of the disadvantaged, on promoting diversity, on becoming aware of thematic such as inequality and discrimination and on the growing up as individuals mainly through peer-learning and peers from vulnerable groups and in need.

Thursday, 7 November, Headquarter IMEPO, Athens  
Introductory learning unit - Starting time: 12.00

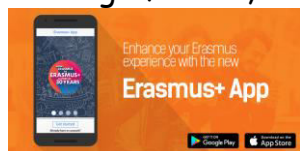


KA1 Mobility Projects

**The topic:** Opportunities of Erasmus + programme and Key Action 1, **max: 15'**

Coordinator: Team of **Estonia**, the NGO MTÜ Lääne-Harju Koostöökogu/ LAG, Western-Harju Partnership (LHKK), **12.00 - 12.15**

**Methods used:** Attractive lectures, presentations and interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange of critical thoughts and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants



**The topic:** The Erasmus+ app, **max: 15'**

Coordinator: Team of **Romania**, the University UNIVERSITATEA DIN PITESTI/ UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI (UPIT), **12.15 - 12.30**

**Methods used:** Attractive lectures, presentations and interaction of participants, exchange and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants. Downloading of the mobile App by all and peer group discussions. Online Gaming Happenings, digital Puzzles and web apps in non-formal education and informal learning



**The topic:** Awareness-Reflection on the Informal Learning, **max: 15'**

Coordinator: Team of **Lithuania**, the NGO Mano Europa, **12.30 - 13.30**

**Methods used:** Presentations and interaction of participants, exchange and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants. Peer group discussions and comments on the strength of non-formal and informal learning to enable young people to acquire essential competences that contribute to their personal and socio-educational development and foster their active participation in society and democracy, thereby improving their employment prospects. Field exercises focused on following questions:



1<sup>st</sup>: "Do the EU youth systems for employment prospects, education, training of the target groups improve the level of key competences and skills of young people, including those with fewer opportunities, as well as to promote participation in democratic life in Europe and the labour market, active citizenship, intercultural dialogue, social inclusion and solidarity?"



2<sup>nd</sup>: "Are youth policies capable to trigger changes in terms of modernisation in youth field? Attractive programmes for students, trainees, apprentices, young people and volunteers in line with their needs and expectations. Improve qualifications of teaching and training staff. Improved processes of recognition and validation of competences gained during learning periods abroad such as Erasmus +/- mobility projects? Effective activities for the benefit of local communities, improved youth work methods and practices to actively involve young people and/or to address disadvantaged groups.



3<sup>rd</sup>: "What about the perspective of youth policy in EU concerning the recognition of informal learning outcomes relevant to the mentioned above questions and the value of youthpass that certifies the skills and competences of young participants informal learning projects?"



### The topic: The project "ACE II"

**ACTIVE CITIZEN** in **EUROPE II** - Active European citizens building  
Coordinator: Team of **Greece**, HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO./BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATION), **13.30- 14.00**

Methods used: Presentations and interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the subtopic: **The project as a peer informal pedagogy and learner-centred non-formal and informal educational approach.**

Its timelines and Gantt charts, as well as its long run impact, in combination with other Erasmus+ projects on systems of education, training and youth, by offering activities and programmes that better respond to the needs of individuals, within and outside Europe.



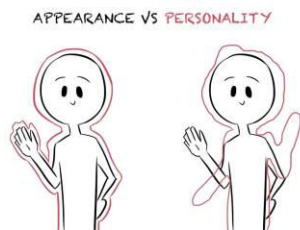
**The topic:** The certificates Europass, Youthpass, **max: 15'**

Coordinator: Team of **Greece**, HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO./BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATION), **14.00-15.00**

**Methods used:** Presentations and interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the **subtopic:** Reflections on competences are going to be acquired during the youth exchange and on the evaluation of the learning outcomes of participants. Audio-visual Screenings, Projections and web interactive tours, Simulations.

**15.00 - 15.30 street food lunch**, Souvlaki gyros and vegan  
**15.30 - 17.00 free time**

**Team building unit 17.00 - 21.00**



**The topic:** Self- portrayals  
**Methods used:** Leaders and young people present the profile and needs of the organisations-partners and participants through Role-plays, Improvisations, online Gaming Happenings, digital Puzzles and web apps.

**21.30: Dinner in a Minor Asian restaurant**

*Nea Smyrni neighbourhood , at the central square*

The municipality of Nea Smyrni has a long history. Residential development and progress begins in the area after the displacement of Greeks from Minor Asia, when Greeks fled the burning town of Smyrna to avoid the Turkish violence and seeked refuge in the fatherland in the beginning of August 1922.

Friday, 8 November, Headquarter IMEPO, Athens

Starting time: 10.00

The topic: Empowering democracy

Methods used:

Audio-visual Screenings, Projections, web interactive learning tours, Attractive lectures with video, photos, images, texts in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, ppt and pptx forms, with subtitles and legends, circulars, flyers, booklets, etc. Simulations, Interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange of critical thoughts and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the topic.

A. Empowering democracy - Make it as "Vouli watch", 10.00 - 12.00



<https://vouliwatch.gr/about/en>

**Vouliwatch** ("Vouli" means Parliament in Greek) is a non for profit parliamentary monitoring organisation that engages Greek citizens with legislative politics and grants them with the opportunity to communicate, evaluate and hold elected representatives in the Greek and the European Parliament (MPs & MEPs) accountable.

It is a non-partisan parliamentary monitoring organisation that was set up and legally registered in Athens in March 2014 in response to the rising disillusionment of a large segment of the Greek population towards parliamentary democracy and the broader Greek political system.

The organisation's main goal is to bridge the gap between citizens and their political representatives whilst promoting a culture of transparency, accountability and active citizenship.

In doing so, **Vouliwatch makes use of innovative digital technology applications** whose purpose is to facilitate the monitoring of parliamentarian's activities (including their financial interests), the transparent communication between MPs/MEPs and their constituents as well as the recording of all parliamentary activity (legislative process).

More specifically the platform offers the following options to users:

**Public questioning ("Ask your MP/MEP"):** In a moderated platform, citizens can publicly ask questions and receive public replies by MP's and MEP's. To prevent misuse of the platform, all citizen questions and

politicians' answers are crosschecked according to a published code of conduct that is aligned with the principles of open government ethics.

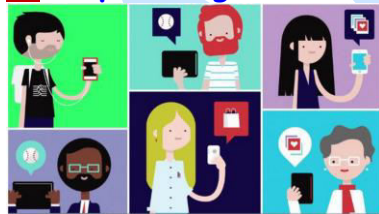
**Votewatch:** This application allows users to keep an eye on the voting behaviour of each MP while informing the public on the details and background information of each legislation put forward for voting.

**"Policy Monitor" ("compare party positions"):** The Policy Monitor is a digital tool which allows our users to learn about and compare what the main political parties positions are on given issues. It also gives them the opportunity to comment on these positions and suggest to political parties different approaches.

Vouliwatch has managed in a very short space of time to establish itself as the leading advocacy and campaign organisation in Greece that focuses on issues relevant to transparency, open government and the freedom of access to information.

In particular, Vouliwatch is a member of the Open Government Partnership (with an active role during the recent consultation process for the drafting of the country's OGP commitments for 2016-2018), the United Nation's Coalition Against Corruption (UNCAC), ALTER-EU and of an informal network of European NGOs campaigning for the right to access to information and transparency in the decision making process.

## **B. Empowering democracy by Watching the Media, 12.00 - 14.00**



<https://mediawatch.io/>

Tending to become endemic to the media ecosystem **MediaWatch**, a part of Civic Information Office, a Non-Profit Company based in Athens, focuses on ever-intensifying phenomena that endanger fundamental democratic values by eroding critical thinking, and compromise the sustainability of the news media industry by undermining reliability, originality and truth in content production.

Thus, MediaWatch highlights the need for reshaping the field of information in the new digital environment as an urgent activity and procedure taking into account that the spreading of distortions, mis/dis-information, plagiarized content and fake news break down the bleak regularity at the field of information.

MediaWatch supports the development of the news industry in the digital era by delivering an analysis platform that enables media outlets respond to new challenges in sustainable ways, supports journalism in promoting originality and truth, and finally, empowers citizens in assessing and evaluating information.

MediaWatch is a network analysis platform which continuously monitors online media outlets and identifies flows of information - potentially detecting bad actors and networks of propaganda.

**14.00 - 15.00**

**Field exercises:** Making and Asking questions for receiving replies by MP's and MEP's inspired by the thematic above.

**15.00 - 15.30 street food lunch, Souvlaki gyros and vegan**

**15.30 - 17.00 free time**



**The topic:** The strategic communication of European institutions and the use of social media tools, **17.00 - 19.00**

Coordinator: Team of **Greece**, HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.M.E.P.O., BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATION)

As the social networks offer upgraded chances for two-way and direct communication, feedback and rapid dissemination and provide opportunities for young people to acquire competences and grow as responsible democratic individuals and involve as considerate and active citizens in society, the leaders of the teams, present emblematic cases study and characteristic examples to promote participation of the youngsters in democratic life in Europe. In particular, the **Facebook of the European Parliament** and **Twitter of the European Commission** (live streaming, live chats, infographics, video, likes, retweets, posts, shares, comments).

**19.00 - 21.00 free time**

**21.30: Dinner in an Asia Minor restaurant, Nea Smyrni neighbourhood**  
The contemporary municipality of Nea Smyrni carries elements of the physiognomy of Asia Minor era and many customs and traditions, manners, habits and culture, as well as street names, buildings and events remind the past. However, the municipality smells also the aromatic and famous cuisine of Smyrna, in Turkey - today known as Izmir.

**Saturday - 9 November, Headquarter IMEPO, Athens**

**Starting time: 10.00**

**The topic: Empowering democracy**

**A. 10.00 - 12.00 Empowering the young citizens - Lessons by Solomon**

**Methods used:**

Audio-visual Screenings, Projections, web interactive learning tours. Attractive lectures with video, photos, images, texts in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, ppt and pptx forms, with subtitles and legends, circulars, flyers, booklets, etc. Simulations, Interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange of critical thoughts and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants.



*We solomon. We are from Athens. We are from Damascus. We are from anywhere around the world. We report. We narrate. We create.*

The young participants learn about the **Solomon**, a non-profit organization based in Greece <https://wesolomon.com/about/>, one of those favoured by Impact Hub Athens <https://athens.impacthub.net/>, part of an International Network of social driven professionals and a variety of high impact creative professionals that are dedicated into prototyping the future of business. From social inclusion and social integration to environment and fair trade, the Impact Hub Athens is engaging expertise from its worldwide presence and creating a net of intercultural, high impact community that acts locally and internationally.

**Solomon** teaches the young people how media could be used as a tool for social inclusion, particularly for the empowerment of vulnerable groups to take part in public dialogue through community training and media content production, while they are familiarised with methods of job opportunities' creation in the creative and media field.

**Starting time: 12.30**

**The topic: The use of Internet in public and youth space**

**B. 12.30 - 14.30 Visit to the Onassis Library**

**Methods used:** Simulations and online Gaming Happenings, digital Puzzles, web apps. Attractive lectures. Interaction of participants, exchange of critical thoughts and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the ways to release society's forces and make culture

and education through culture accessible online. Peer group discussions on the value of digitized works for the education of youth and the possibilities to freely available through internet digital applications for web, tablets, smartphones, etc.



<http://onassislibrary.gr/en/>

The Onassis Library is a cradle of culture and makes the cultural heritage of seven centuries accessible to the public through cultural activities and educational programs for all. It is situated in a neoclassical building in Plaka neighborhood, (Amalias str, 56) adorned with art by the most important Greek artists along with objects from Aristotle Onassis' Monte Carlo office and his yacht "Christina". It brings together rare editions printed between the 15th century and the present, along with the Hellenic Library collections, books in various languages by Western European travellers who visited Greece from the 16th century. Particularly it accumulates the C. P. Cavafy Archive and two large collections of books: the Hellenic Library (K. Staikos' book collection) and the Travel Accounts book collection.

In general speaking, vision and timeless mission of the Onassis Foundation is to release the forces of Greek society. Operating in the same context, the vision of the Onassis Library is to preserve and disseminate the rich cultural heritage of Greece as perpetual property of the Greek Nation.

The goal is to make these books accessible online not only to researchers but also principally to youth. The Onassis Library has already digitized 100,000 records of its material and has developed two digital applications for web / tablet / smartphone which are freely available through this website: <https://www.onassis.org/initiatives/onassis-library>

### **C. 15.00 - 16.00 Light Lunch with "The Other Human"**

*At Syntagma square, Penne with Vegetables and Herbs*



<http://oallosanthropos.blogspot.com/p/social-kitchen-other-human.html>

In times of difficulty, one man's effort to feed the poor has evolved into a dynamic community movement.

The Social Kitchen "The Other Human" is a communal movement with a main goal of providing free food for all in need in several deprived and poor neighbourhoods where migrants, refugees, poor and needy persons without enough to eat concentrate for food.

The "Social Kitchen - The Other Human", is an initiative since December 2011, for collective cooking in the street, in big stew pans in the most emblematic neighbourhoods in the historical centre of Athens and beyond, in the poor neighbourhoods. This group of activists invites people "To Eat and Live All Together", a pleasant and unexpected wake up message in a crisis-ridden city. Homeless, immigrants, and the "new poor" accept with mixed feelings of timidity and gratitude this gesture of solidarity. They talk about how they passed their day, their problems and make plans for the future. It seems like a family supper among all these human wreckages, full of loneliness that used to be citizens with a decent standard of living and lost everything in a sudden twist of fate and became invisible.

Konstantinos Polychronopoulos, a vigorous and energetic man, the soul and inspiration of the "Social Kitchen", was one of them. For 25 years, he worked as a marketing and communications specialist. But in September 2009, he lost his job. Failing to find work for over two years, he was forced to move back into his mother's house. His mother was receiving \$660 pension a month. "I fell into depression and I did not want to see anyone" he remembers. Thus, he has become indeed "another human", following Mahatma Gandhi's saying that "you must become the change you want to see in the world". Faced with social disaster and with his life in ruins, he created out of the ashes a new vision not only for himself and was reborn.

As far the starting of his effort, in December 2011, he was shocked by an incident at the local flea market involving two children fighting over discarded, spoiled food and the apathy of the passers-by. The very next day, he prepared sandwiches and handed them out to poor people scavenging for food in the trash. At first they were hesitant, but when he ate with them they changed their attitude. The idea came to him to cook in the streets for everyone, especially the socially vulnerable and to invite them to eat with him and not just pass food around. "This is the way to overcome fear and the shame that the hungry person feels and come together".

In the beginning, it was not easy, since he lacked resources. He would ask farmers in open-air markets to offer him some of their produce in order

to be able to cook. He would take his small mobile kitchen, stop in the various points in the center of the city, cook and distribute food to those in need, without any discrimination of ethnicity, religion, social class or social orientation. Costas became the unexpected surprise of the city. His example quickly became known. Some decided to follow and help him and so the basic group grew larger and also the number of volunteers.

Thousands of people offered support by giving material for cooking or money to a special bank account created for this purpose. He hadn't intended to start a charity. He simply wanted to provide dignity and offer a meal to the hungry from one human being to another.

Thus, The "Social Kitchen", offers more than 150 meals every day without any thought that the poor are second-order people that you can just throw a piece of bread at. They want you to hear them and respect them. Overall, sticking to the principles they set from the beginning, the activists from The "Social Kitchen", organize a banquet of love, a feast in the streets and they invite their friends. They work in complete transparency. Whatever sum remains they divide it between them, since most of them are unemployed. We talk about 30-40 euros per month. "I am only buying cigarettes. I have no expenses any more. I eat at the Social Kitchen and I stay at my mother's or at my partner's", Kostas explains. They have rented a space, establishing "The Other Person's House", a place where the homeless can take a shower and have breakfast.

When the refugee crisis erupted, he had to be where the heart of humanity was beating: the island of Lesbos, offering refugees the first meal after they set foot on the West after their risky journey. For his exemplary work "The Other Human" was granted as the 2015 "European Citizen Award" but he refused to accept it. Kostas explains that the reason is his denial to accept a Europe where refugees are treated in a humiliating way, a Europe of austerity against the Europe of love, respect, solidarity and culture. "I believe that this Europe exists. I've seen this Europe all these years in the Social Kitchen, with the people that would give half of their load of bread to their fellow-citizens, with the tourists that stopped their vacation and stayed to help the refugees".

**16.00 - 21.00 free time**

**21.30: Dinner in a Greek restaurant, "De Michele",  
Mitropolitou Efthivouli 17, Nea Smyrni neighbourhood**

**Sunday, 10 November**

**The topic: Empowering democracy**



**Participation in Authentic Athens Marathon**

**Meeting point at the entrance of the hotel 09.00, Syntagma 09.30**

**In Authentic Athens Marathon, the participants accompany Special Olympics Hellas athletes in the race of 1200m from Syntagma Square to the Panathenaic Stadium**

### **Shortly about the Marathon**

Among all the Olympic sport events, the Marathon Race stands out as it was born by a true historic and heroic event. It was a true triumph accomplished by a news-bearing foot soldier from ancient Athens, who announced - with his last words - the victory of the Greeks against the Persians during the Marathon Battle in 490 BC. The 42,195m Marathon Race became one of the most competitive events during the revival of the Olympic Games in 1896. A Greek athlete named Spyros Louis, running what has ever since been referred to as the Original Marathon Course from the ancient city of Marathon to the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens, won the gold medal of the first modern Olympic Games and became a legend of Greek and International Athletics.

The Marathon Race has always had a prominent place in the hearts and minds of sports enthusiasts, as it represents the highest effort where the human body, soul and mind are tested to their limits as the runner presses himself/herself to reach the finish line.

SEGAS, the Hellenic Athletics Federation, has the honor and the historic responsibility to organize annually the Athens Classic Marathon on the Original Marathon Course. Since 1982, the Athens Classic Marathon has been dedicated to Gregoris Lambrakis, the athlete, scientist and Member of Parliament, who was murdered in the 60s and, after his death, became a symbol of Human Rights.

Thousands of runners from all over the world participate in every year's race. Apart from the sporting experience, they will have the chance to

enjoy the traditional Greek hospitality, discover the fascinating landscape of the country and explore a city which is constantly improving its standards.

Thus, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of November the ATHENS MARATHON-THE AUTHENTIC is taking place in Athens as one of the largest sport, cultural, and tourism events.

This Marathon is not just a sporting event, a hard race, a tough course of 42,195m. Beyond that, the Athens Marathon, the Authentic Marathon, is a bridge that incorporate legend into history; it showcases the strength of human will; it is a fountain of values, of social liability, environmental sensitivity, friendship and solidarity. In 2019, we are celebrating the 37th anniversary of the Athens Marathon and we are entering an era of major changes that leads the Event into a new phase of further development as to limits and quality.

**It includes:**

- The Marathon Race and Power walking from the town of Marathon
- The 10km Road and the 5km Road Race from the Zappeion Megaro, Syntagma Square
- The kids' for fun race of 1200m for kids of Elementary School
- The Special Olympics Hellas race of 1200m



**To the Panathenaic Stadium 10.30 - 11.30**

The Panathenaic Stadium or Kalimarmaro Olympic Stadium is located on the site of an ancient stadium and for many centuries hosted games in which nude male athletes competed (*gymnikoi agones*) in track events, athletics championships as we would call them today. The games, which since antiquity had been held in an area far from the city, were included in the programme of the Panathenaia festival celebrations in 566/565 BC. When the orator Lykourgos assumed responsibility for the finances of Athens, in 338 BC, he included in the public works carried out in the city the building of a Stadium.

**Walk with cultural interest in ancient Athens**

An archaeological walk - An unforgettable experience - A unique promenade in the Europe's longest pedestrian street

**Our direction:**

**11.30** Panathenaic Stadium, **entrance**

### 11.45 Statue of Georgios Karaiskakis



From the entrance of the Stadium, we cross Vas. Constantinou str where is **the Statue of Georgios Karaiskakis** on a horse, at the garden of Zappeion Mansion. It is a battle scene. Karaiskakis is armed and pulls suddenly the reins of the horse forcing it to stand on his back legs. The bronze sculpture was constructed in 1966 by the sculptor Michael Trombos with money that was gathered by a fund raiser all over Greece.

### 12.00 Zappeion



**The Zappeion**, a building that is generally used for meetings and ceremonies, was used during the 1896 Summer Olympics as the main fencing hall. A decade later, at the 1906 Intercalated Games, it was used as the Olympic Village. It served also as the first host for the organizing committee (ATHOC) for the 2004 Games from 1998 to 1999 and as the press center during the 2004 games. A number of historical events have taken place at the Zappeion, including the signing of the documents formalizing Greece's accession to the European Community in May, 1979, which took place in the building's marble-clad, peristyle main atrium. The head of Evangelos Zappas is buried underneath his statue which is located just outside the Zappeion.

### 12.30 Temple of Olympian Zeus, entrance



**The Temple of Olympian Zeus**, known as the **Olympieion** or **Columns of the Olympian Zeus**, is a former colossal temple dedicated to "Olympian" Zeus, a name originating from his position as head of the Olympian gods. Construction began in the 6th century BC during the rule of the Athenian tyrants, who envisaged building the greatest temple in the ancient world, but it was not completed until the reign of the Roman Emperor Hadrian. During the Roman period the temple

-that included 104 colossal columns- was renowned as the largest temple in Greece and housed one of the largest cult statues in the ancient world. The temple's glory was short-lived and today, a part of the temple remains notably sixteen of the original gigantic columns. However, it continues to be part of a very important archaeological site of Greece.

### 13.00 The Arch of Hadrian



The Arch of Hadrian, commonly known as Hadrian's Gate is a monumental gateway resembling Roman triumphal arch.

### 13.15 Dionysiou Areopagitou Street



Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, to the south slope of the Acropolis, is named after Dionysius the Areopagite, the first Athenian convert to Christianity after Apostle Paul's sermon, according to the Acts of the Apostles and patron saint of the city of Athens. It was first mapped in 1857 but it was redesigned and acquired its shape in 1955 by architect Dimitris Pikionis who also designed the paved paths of the archaeological site. The street was finally pedestrianized in 2003.

### 13.30 Acropolis museum, entrance



Acropolis museum exhibits about 4,000 artifacts. It is impressive not only because of the antiquities but also because of the unique design which incorporated excavations with the antiquities just under the glass floors. The Acropolis masterpieces are marked out and given the prominence they deserve through the ideal interior atmosphere conditions, the natural lighting, the panoramic views and excellent layout of the exhibition areas.

### 13.45 Herodion, entrance



The **Odeon of Herodes Atticus**, also called **Herodeion** or **Herodion**, is a stone theatre structure located on the southwest slope of the Acropolis of Athens. The building was completed in 161 AD by the Athenian magnate Herodes Atticus in memory of his wife, Aspasia Annia Regilla. It was originally a steep-sloped theater with a three-story stone front wall and a wooden roof made of expensive, cedar of Lebanon timber. It was used as a venue for music concerts with a capacity of 5,000. It was renovated in 1950 and since then it has been the main venue of the Athens Festival, featuring a variety of acclaimed Greek as well as International performances with important artists and artistic organizations.

### 14.00 Areios Pagos Hill



The **Areopagus** the Supreme Court, the hill of justice is a prominent rock outcropping located northwest of the Acropolis. Its English name is the Late Latin composite form of the Greek name *Areios Pagos*, translated "Ares Rock". In classical times, it functioned as the court for trying deliberate homicide, wounding and religious matters, as well as cases involving arson or olive trees. Ares was supposed to have been tried here by the gods for the murder of Poseidon's son Halirrhothius (a typical example of an aetiological myth). In the same area there also two more hills of political importance: Pnyx, the hill of the Republic and at the foot of the Lombardy, decorated with *Pikionis*. The Athenians chose the third of the Muses to honor their benefactor, *Philopappos*. The fourth hill is dominated by the Observatory.

14.00 - 14.30 Lunch at **Areios Pagos Hill**, *TIBETAN street food*

14.30 The **Acropolis of Athens**, entrance



### Visit to the Acropolis 14.30 - 16.30

The **Acropolis of Athens** is an ancient citadel located on a rocky outcrop above the city of Athens and contains the remains of several ancient buildings of great architectural and historic significance, the most famous being the Parthenon. During ancient times it was known also more properly as Cecropia, after the legendary serpent-man, Cecrops, the supposed first Athenian king. While there is evidence that the hill was inhabited as far back as the fourth millennium BC, it was Pericles (c. 495-429 BC) in the fifth century BC who coordinated the construction of the site's most important present remains including the Parthenon, the Propylaea, the Erechtheion and the Temple of Athena Nike.

### 16.45 The Theatre of Dionysus



The **Theatre of Dionysus**, a major theatre in Athens, considered being the world's first theatre, **built at the foot of the Athenian Acropolis**. Dedicated to Dionysus, the god of plays and wine, the theatre could seat as many as 17,000 people with excellent acoustics making it an ideal location for ancient Athens' biggest theatrical celebration, the Dionysia. It was the first theatre ever built, cut into the southern cliff face of the Acropolis, and supposedly the birthplace of Greek tragedy.

### 17.00 - 18.00 Plaka neighbourhood



**Plaka**, is the most picturesque and oldest district of Athens, which was continuously inhabited from antiquity to the present day. It is located at the shadow of the Acropolis and it is neighbourhood of gods, as it was called, resembles a journey to old

Athens with antiquities, historical buildings and Byzantine churches. Unique in every respect is in this area the Cycladic neighbourhood of Anafiotika, which was built by craftsmen and workers from the island of Anafi when they arrived in Athens after the liberation. The tiny whitewashed houses among the rocks, the gardens with the flowers, the narrow alleys and the mazy planning is similar only to the one found in Cycladic islands. The entire traditional settlement reminds scenic alleys of these islands and breaths of Greek culture.



The **Monument of Lysicrates** was erected by the *choregos* Lysicrates, a wealthy patron of musical performances in the Theater of Dionysus, to commemorate the award of first prize in 335/334 BCE to one of the performances he had sponsored. The *choregos* was the sponsor who paid for and supervised the training of the dramatic dance-chorus. The circular structure, raised on a high squared podium, is the first Greek monument built in the Corinthian order on its exterior. It was originally crowned with an elaborate floral support for the bronze tripod, the prize awarded to Lysicrates' chorus. Its frieze sculptures depict episodes from the myth of Dionysus, the god whose rites developed into Greek theatre. It stands now in its little garden on the Tripodon Street which follows the line of the ancient street of the name, which led to the Theater of Dionysus and was once lined with choragic monuments, of which foundations were discovered in excavations during the 1980s. It has been reproduced widely in modern monuments and building elements.



The **Tower of the Winds**/the Horologion of Andronikos Kyrrehestes, is an octagonal Pentelic marble clocktower in the Roman Agora that functioned as a *horologion* or "timepiece". It is considered the world's first meteorological station. Unofficially, the

monument is also called *Aerides*, which means *Winds*. It is a 12-metre-tall structure that has a diameter of about 8 metres and was topped in antiquity by a weathervane-like Triton that indicated the wind direction. Below the frieze depicting the eight wind deities—Boreas (N), Kaikias (NE), Apeliotes (E), Eurus (SE), Notus (S), Lips (SW), Zephyrus (W), and Skiron (NW)—there are eight sundials. In its interior, there was a water clock (or clepsydra) and a wind vane, driven by water coming down from the Acropolis. Recent research has shown that the considerable height of the tower was motivated by the intention to place the sundials and the wind-vane at a visible height on the Agora, effectively making it an early example of a clocktower. It was supposedly built by Andronicus of Cyrrhus around 50 BC, but according to other sources, might have been constructed in the 2nd century BC before the rest of the forum.



The **Ancient Agora** of Classical Athens is the best-known example of an ancient Greek agora, located to the northwest of the Acropolis. Its initial use was for a commercial, assembly, or residential gathering place. The **Stoa of Attalos** in the Agora, was built by and named after King Attalos II of Pergamon, who ruled between 159 BC and 138 BC and the museum inside and its exhibits are connected with the Athenian democracy.



**Roman Forum of Athens** is the Agora of Caesar and Augustus, the commercial centre of the city during the roman period. In 51 BCE the Athenians sent their envoy, Herod of Marathon, to Julius Caesar to ask for funds for a new market, since the need for public commercial space was urgent. Julius Caesar accepted to help financially, but due to political turmoil, the construction began and was completed under the emperor Augustus, between the years 19-11 BCE. During the reign of Hadrian the court was paved with slabs. After the invasion of the Herulae in A.D. 267 the city of Athens was restricted to the area within the Late Roman fortification wall, and the administrative and commercial

centre of the city was transferred from the Ancient Agora to the Roman Agora and the Library of Hadrian.



**Hadrian's Library** was created by Roman Emperor Hadrian in AD 132. It follows a typical Roman Forum architectural style, having only one entrance with a propylon of Corinthian order, a high surrounding wall with protruding niches (*oikoi, exedrae*) at its long sides, an inner courtyard surrounded by columns and a decorative oblong pool in the middle. The library was on the eastern side where rolls of papyrus "books" were kept. Adjoining halls were used as reading rooms, and the corners served as lecture halls. The library was seriously damaged by the Herulian invasion of 267 and repaired by the prefect Herculius in AD 407-412. During Byzantine times, three churches were built at the site, the remains of which are preserved.



**Monastiraki** (literally *little monastery*) is a flea market neighbourhood in the old town of Athens. At the time of the Turkish occupation the square was called "The Lower Bazaar" or "Square of the Lower Fountain", because of the fountain that used to be there. It was full of cloth industries, tanneries and smithies. The bazaar, character of the square, is preserved up until today and the area is home to clothing boutiques, souvenir shops, and specialty stores. Tzistarakis Mosque is located also, built in 1759 by the Ottoman governor of Athens (today it functions as museum of collections of ceramics and Greek Folk Art) and the Fethiye Mosque (Mosque of the Conquest), built after the Ottomans taking over Athens in 1456 on the ruins of a Byzantine church.

**18.00 - 21.00 free time**

**Meeting point at the entrance of the hotel 21.00**

**21.30: Dinner in meze and raki restaurant "ARODOU" with live music**

*Miaouli st, 27, Psirri square*

Raki is a sweetened, often anise-flavoured, alcoholic drink and meze includes a selection of small dishes and a vegan menu.

**Monday, 11 November**

**The topic: Empowering democracy**

**A. 10.30 - 12.30 Visit to the Hellenic Parliament**

**Methods used:**

Attractive lectures and a guide tour. Interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange of critical thoughts and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on **the topic**.



<https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/en/>

The Parliament is the supreme democratic institution that represents the citizens through an elected body of Members of Parliament (MPs).

In the current composition, it consists of 300 MPs, elected at the last general elections (07/07/2019).

The institutional role of the Parliament in shaping Greek foreign policy is acknowledged in a series of Constitutional articles and clauses as well as in its Standing Orders.

Hellenic Parliament steadily promotes stronger links with other EU national parliaments and the European Parliament (EP) and is actively involved in meetings between them by exchanging views on significant EU affairs. Parliament capitalizes on parliamentary diplomacy for building 'bridges' in favor of stronger cooperation between people, bringing the people closer together and encouraging an exchange of views and ideas while forging ties of friendship and promoting the image of Greece abroad.

During 1844-1863 and 1927-1935, it was bicameral with an upper house, the Senate, and a lower house, the Chamber of Deputies, which retained the name Vouli.

Several important Greek political leaders have served as Speakers of the Hellenic Parliament.

**14.00 - 15.00 Light Lunch at the café in the Hellenic Parliament**  
**Discussions with Members of Parliament (MPs)**

### B.15.30 – 19.30 Visit to European Commission Representation, Athens



[https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-commission\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-commission_en)

The European Commission (year established: 1958 and location: Brussels/Belgium) is the EU's politically independent executive arm. EC implements the decisions of the European Parliament and the Council of the EU/the government ministers from each EU country, both, the main decision-making bodies of the united Europe. It is also responsible for drawing up proposals for new European legislation. Thus, it is the sole EU institution tabling laws for adoption by the Parliament and the Council that:

- protect the interests of the EU and its citizens on issues that can't be dealt with effectively at national level
- get technical details right by consulting experts and the public.

In general, EC manages EU policies and allocates EU funding, enforces EU law and represents the EU internationally. Its composition includes a team of 28 Commissioners, one from each EU country, led by the Commission President, who decides who is responsible for which portfolio and the six Vice-Presidents, including the First Vice-President, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

The day-to-day running of Commission business is performed by its staff organised into departments known as Directorates-General (DGs), each responsible also for a specific policy area.

As far as the appointing the EC President, the candidate is put forward by national leaders in the European Council, taking account of the results of the European Parliament elections. Each nominee appears before the European Parliament to explain their vision and answer questions. Parliament then votes on whether to accept the nominees, President, Vice-Presidents and Commissioners based on suggestions from the EU countries, as a team. Finally, they are appointed by the European Council, by a qualified majority.

The current Commission's term of office ran until 31 October 2019 and after Jean-Claude Juncker the new EC President is the German Ursula Gertrud von der Leyen. Particularly, on 2 July 2019, von der Leyen was proposed by the European Council as the candidate for the office of President of the European Commission.

She was elected by the European Parliament on 16 July and she is the first woman to become President of the European Commission.

The Commission works under a strategic plan. The President defines the policy direction which enables all the Commissioners together and in an equal, close and flexible manner to decide by consensus based on collective responsibility strategic objectives and produce the annual work programme and priority projects. But votes can also take place.

The relevant Directorate-General (headed by a Director-General, answerable to the relevant Commissioner) then takes up the subjects, forms a draft legislative proposals and submits them to the Commissioners for adoption at their weekly meeting, after which they become official, and are sent to the Council and the Parliament for the next stage in the EU legislative process.

EC accepts citizens' views on EU policies, suggestions for changes or new policies through options such as: public consultation, European Citizens' Initiative, formal complaint and has advice and information services to help them with business, study, legal matters, and moving and working around Europe. Any citizen can contact EC for any questions: staff or local Commission offices in EU countries.

### **Methods used:**

Attractive Lectures with Word texts, Excel, PowerPoint, ppt and pptx forms, subtitles and legends, Audio-visual Screenings, Projections, web interactive learning tours, Peer group Discussions. Presentations and interaction of participants in Debates, Exchange of ideas and critical thoughts, Field exercises and sharing of knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the following topics focused on the **Twitter of European Commission:**

1. Current political agenda - press releases by **Lithuania:** NGO Mano Europa
2. The European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) by **Lithuania:** NGO Mano Europa

3. The action: "Have Your Say" by **Romania**: University UNIVERSITATEA DIN PITESTI/ UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI
4. Data protection: cookies by **Romania**: University UNIVERSITATEA DIN PITESTI/ UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI
5. State of the European Union /SOTEU 2019 by **Lithuania**: NGO Mano Europa

**C. 20.00 Visit to "Sxedia Home", Nikiou str, 2**



<https://www.shedia.gr/>

Presentation of the social activation of **Diogenes NGO**, set up in early 2010 to support, through a wide range of activities, the effort of homeless and socially excluded and marginalized people to integrate or reintegrate into the society.

Its main actions are the release of the only Greek magazine distributed in the streets, called as "Sxedia", the establishment of the national homeless football team with participation in the Homeless World Cup and the "invisible tours".

Recently Diogenes NGO manages an innovative solidarity project called as "Sxedia Home".

Situated in the historical center of Athens, just a stone's throw away from the Acropolis, «Shedia home» is a top-class café-bar-restaurant but just as (or even more) importantly is a solidarity and social innovation hub. Apart from the opportunity to enjoy high-quality coffee blends and (alcoholic or not) beverages, delicious dishes designed by a michelin star chef and great music, guests can browse around our "shediart" upcycling gift shop, actively participate in upcycling workshops as well as in a wide range of cultural, social and other events that are organized on a regular basis. Shedia home is a social project powered by the Greek street paper Shedia.

**21.00 Dinner to "Sxedia Home"**

**Tuesday, 12 November**

**The topic: Empowering democracy**

**A. 10.00 -15.00 Visit to European Commission Representation, Athens**



**Methods used:**

Attractive Lectures with Word texts, Excel, PowerPoint, ppt and pptx forms, subtitles and legends. Audio-visual Screenings, Projections, web interactive learning tours. Peer group Discussions. Presentations and interaction of participants in Debates. Exchange of ideas and critical thoughts. Field exercises and sharing of knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the following topics focused on the **Twitter**

**European Commission:**

1. Funding for youth sector by **Estonia:** the NGO MTÜ Lääne-Harju Koostöökogu/ LAG Western-Harju Partnership (LHKK)
2. Roaming - The EU "roam like at home" rules by **Estonia:** the NGO MTÜ Lääne-Harju Koostöökogu/ LAG Western-Harju Partnership (LHKK)
3. White paper for the future of Europe by **Greece:** HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO.)
4. The Greek referendum in 2015 by **Greece:** HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO.),
5. BREXIT by **Greece:** HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO.)

**15.00 - 16.00 Light Lunch at the National Garden**

*Pergola Rosa Banksiae, Entrance Irodou Attikou Street*



The street is named after the ancient Athenian rhetorician, magnate and major benefactor of the Roman era, Herodes Atticus as its direction is towards Panathenaic Stadium, at the

east hill of which (nowadays Pangrati neighbourhood) his mausoleum was found. It is, by far, the most expensive piece of housing real estate in Greece and one of the most expensive in Europe (also the close neighbourhood Kolonaki).



The **National Garden** is a green area for relaxation, one of the few oases of green in Athens. It is adjacent to the Zappeion and the House of Greek Parliament as a public huge park of 15.5 hectares (38 acres), of lush vegetation (to which one can also add the 13 acres of Zappeion), also encloses some ancient ruins, tambourines and Corinthian capitals of columns, mosaics, and other features. These hectares were used already since ancient times as fields and the area was formed to a huge private (Royal) Garden in 1849 under the instructions of Queen Amalia. About the same year, 15000 plants, from all over the world, including Sounio and Evia in Greece, were planted. On the Southeast side are the busts of Ioannis Kapodistrias, the first governor of Greece, and of the Philhellene Jean-Gabriel Eynard. On the South side are the busts of the celebrated Greek poets Dionysios Solomos, author of the Greek National Hymn, and Aristotelis Valaoritis.

16.00 - 16.30 A near-by walk strolling



In the Irodou Attikou Street there are luxurious apartments, foremost among them the **Presidential Mansion**. It served previously as the Royal Palace (often known as the New Royal Palace), until the abolition of the monarchy by the 1973 referendum.

The decision to construct the building was made in 1868. That year, King George I's son, Constantine, the heir to the throne, was born and the Greek state decided to present him with a private dwelling, when he came of age. Twenty-one years later when Constantine married princess Sophia of Prussia, the state assigned the planning of "The Crown Prince's Palace", as the building became known, to Ernst Ziller, a Saxon architect who later became a Greek national. In the late 19th and early 20th

centuries, he was a major designer of royal and municipal buildings in Athens but also in many other Greek cities. Building began in 1891 and was completed six years later in 1897.

On Christmas Eve, 1909, a fire destroyed a large part of the Royal Palace (now used by Parliament), with the result that the Crown Prince's Palace was used temporarily as the residence of the royal family. After the assassination of George I in 1913 and the accession of Constantine to the throne, the Crown Prince's Palace finally became the main royal residence of the King.

The use of the building as a Palace was interrupted in 1924 when the monarchy was ended and a Republic was declared. It was then used as the Presidential Mansion until 1935 when the monarchy was restored and the King returned. Since 1974, when democracy was restored after a seven-year military dictatorship, the building has been used as the Presidential Mansion and the residence of the President.

Since 2015, **Prokopios Pavlopoulos**, a Greek lawyer, university professor and politician serves as President of the Hellenic Republic.



It is located also the **Maximos Mansion** (Megaro Maximou, **Prime Minister's residence**), the official workplace of the Prime Minister of Greece since 1982 when the Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou decided to move his office into the Mansion (prior to that, the Prime Minister's office was located inside the Parliament building).

Papandreou himself rarely used it however, preferring to conduct his business from his family villa of Kastri (in the affluent northern suburbs of Athens), or from Lagonisi where he spent the summer months.

**B. 17.00 - 18.30 Visit to Stavros Niarchos Foundation** ([www.SNF.org](http://www.SNF.org))



**A Guide tour to The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC)**, a symbol of Greek culture and

resilience. It is one of the world's leading private, international philanthropic organizations, making grants to non-profit organizations in the areas of arts and culture, education, health and sports, and social welfare. Since 1996, it has committed more than \$2.8 billion, through more than 4,400 grants to non-profit organizations in 124 nations around the world for projects that aim to achieve a broad, lasting and positive impact for society at large, and exhibit strong leadership and sound management. The Foundation also supports projects that facilitate the formation of public-private partnerships as an effective means for serving public welfare.

### **18.30 - 20.30 At the Canal of the Foundation**

The Canal is one of the iconic areas of the Foundation. It was designed in a way to redefine the relationship between the area and the waterfront, not only in terms of the view but also physically incorporating the element of water. Measuring 400 meters long, 30 meters wide, and 70 to 150 cm deep, it unfolds between and alongside the building complex and the Esplanade. On its opposite side, the terraced marble seating is perfect for hosting improvised performances, while the area nearby is ideally suited for a stroll with a view to Foundation's glass façade.

#### **Methods used:**

At the terraced marble seatings are performed in mixed groups:

**Role-plays, Improvisations** based on official speech that the President of the United States, Barack Obama delivered in 2016 (16/11), as part of the President's final State visit to Athens and of the administration. Interaction of participants, peer group discussions, exchange of critical thoughts and sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on **the topics** of his remarks: a) he spoke about the importance of democracy, b) the ideals of "philotimo" and citizenship and c) the importance of supporting the youth as a means to development and progress in human societies.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> mixed group of participants**

The President heralded Greece for its stance in the **refugee crisis** noting "nowhere have we seen that compassion more evident than in Greece. The Greek people's generosity towards refugees arriving on your shores has inspired the world" and Speaking about **the ideals of democracy**, President Obama noted "it was here, 25 centuries ago, in the rocky hills of this city, that a new idea emerged. Demokratia. Kratos -- the power, the right to rule -- comes from demos -- the people. The notion that we

are citizens -- not servants, but stewards of our society. The concept of citizenship -- that we have both rights and responsibilities. The belief in equality before the law -- not just for a few, but for the many; not just for the majority, but also the minority. These are all concepts that grew out of this rocky soil."The President went on to explain "Open, democratic societies can deliver more prosperity --because when people are free to think for themselves and share ideas and discover and create -- the young people who are here, what they're able to do through the Internet and technology, that's when innovation is unleashed, when economies truly flourish. That's when new products, and new services, and new ideas wash through an economy."

### 2<sup>nd</sup> mixed group of participants

During his remarks the President Obama spoke also about **the role of citizenship** in upholding what is right, noting the responsibility and rights each of us has in their community, saying: "In all of our communities, in all of our countries, I still believe there's more of what Greeks call "philotimo" -- love and respect and kindness for family and community and country, and a sense that we're all in this together, with obligations to each other. "Philotimo" -- I see it every day -- and that gives me hope. Because in the end, it is up to us. It's not somebody else's job, it's not somebody else's responsibility, but it's the citizens to bend that arc of history towards justice. And that's what democracy allows us to do. That's why the most important office in any country is not president or prime minister. The most important title is 'citizen.'"

### 3<sup>rd</sup> mixed group of participants

Concerning **the world order and the balance that needs to be achieved in societies** President Obama stated: "The same forces of globalization and technology and integration that have delivered so much progress, have created so much wealth, have also revealed deep fault lines...this global integration is increasing the tendencies towards inequality, both between nations and within nations, at an accelerated pace. And when we see people -- global elites, wealthy corporations -- seemingly living by a different set of rules, avoiding taxes, manipulating loopholes -- when the rich and the powerful appear to game the system and accumulate vast wealth while middle and working-class families struggle to make ends meet, this feeds a profound sense of injustice and a feeling that our economies are increasingly unfair. This inequality now constitutes one of the greatest challenges to our economies and to our democracies."

#### 4<sup>th</sup> mixed group of participants

President Obama focused on **the importance of supporting the youth** noting "We know that we have to invest more in our people -- the education of our young people, the skills and training to compete in the global economy. We have to make sure that it is easy for young people who are eager to learn and eager to work to get the education that they need, the training that they need, without taking on huge amounts of debt." Referring specifically to the Greek youth and the challenges they are facing President Obama said: "The young people who are in attendance here today and all across the country need to know there is a future -- there is an education and jobs that are worthy of your incredible potential. You don't have to travel overseas, you can put roots right here in your home, in Greece, and succeed."

#### **20.30 - 21.00 the Water show - Dancing Fountains**

The Dancing Fountains at the SNFCC Canal include 59 vertical water jets in line with the architectural design by the Renzo Piano Building Workshop, together with 10 swiveling fountains, forming a powerful light, sound, and water display that captivate visitors day and night: Special LED lights are installed underwater. The Dancing Fountains have constructed thanks to the initiative and funding of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and daily, are performed in front of thousand spectators.

#### **21.30 Dinner to the "Palmie" Bistro Café - Restaurant**

*Metropoleos Square, Evangelistrias 3, historical centre of Athens*



The Metropolitan Cathedral of the Annunciation (type of three-aisle domed basilica, a combination of the neoclassical and the Greek-Byzantine style) is one of the first monuments of Athens as capital of Greece. Its construction began on Christmas Day, 1842, with the laying of the cornerstone by King Otto and Queen Amalia.

Wednesday, 13 November

The topic: Empowering democracy

10.00 - 16.00 Visit to European Parliament Office in Athens



[https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-parliament\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-parliament_en)

The European Parliament, established in 1952 as Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community, 1962 as European Parliament, first direct elections in 1979 and with its location in Strasbourg (France), Brussels (Belgium) and Luxembourg, is the EU's law-making body with legislative, supervisory and budgetary responsibilities. **Analytically:**

**a) The legislative role:**

- Passing EU laws, together with the Council of the EU, based on European Commission proposals
- Deciding on international agreements
- Deciding on enlargements
- Reviewing the Commission's work programme and asking it to propose legislation

**b) The supervisory role:**

- Democratic scrutiny of all EU institutions
- Electing the Commission President and approving the Commission as a body. Possibility of voting a motion of censure, obliging the Commission to resign
- Granting discharge, i.e. approving the way EU budgets have been spent
- Examining citizens' petitions and setting up inquiries
- Discussing monetary policy with the European Central Bank
- Questioning Commission and Council
- Election observations

**c) The budgetary role:**

- Establishing the EU budget, together with the Council
- Approving the EU's long-term budget, the "Multiannual Financial Framework"

The number of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) for each country is roughly proportionate to its population, but this is by degressive proportionality: no country can have fewer than 6 or more

than 96 MEPs and the total number cannot exceed 751 (750 plus the President). MEPs are grouped by political affiliation, not by nationality.

It is directly elected by EU voters every 5 years and the last elections were in May 2019. The Italian politician and journalist, member of the Democratic Party, David Maria Sassoli was elected as President on 3 July 2019. **The Parliament works at two (2) main stages:**

- Committees for preparation of the legislation.

It numbers 20 committees and 2 subcommittees, each handling a particular policy area. The committees examine proposals for legislation, and MEPs and political groups can put forward amendments or propose to reject a bill. These issues are also debated within the political groups.

- Plenary sessions for passing the legislation in Strasbourg and Brussels.

This is when all the MEPs gather in the chamber to give a final vote on the proposed legislation and the proposed amendments.

The Parliament accepts citizens', residents' or companies' and other organisations' requests for acting on a certain issue and their petitions, either by post or online about any subject which comes under the EU's remit. Other ways of getting in touch with Parliament include contacting the local MEP or the European Parliament Information Office in m-s. .

#### **Methods used:**

Attractive Lectures with Word texts, Excel, PowerPoint, ppt and pptx forms, subtitles and legends. Audio-visual Screenings, Projections, web interactive learning tours. Peer group Discussions. Presentations and interaction of participants in Debates. Exchange of ideas and critical thoughts. Field exercises and sharing of knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the following topics focused on the **Facebook**

#### **European Parliament:**

1. European Youth Event (EYE): Youth ideas for a better future- Youth parliament by **Greece**: HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO.)
2. Migration policy by **Greece**: HELLENIC MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE (I.ME.PO.)
3. Parliament's LGBT intergroup by **Lithuania**: the NGO Mano Europa

**16.00 - 17.30 Lunch at the Greek restaurant "Τιάτο El Greco"**

*Kavalloti str, 8, Acropolis*

**17.30 - 21.00 free time**

**21.00: Cultural nights by Estonian, Romanian and Lithuanian teams**

Thursday, 14 November

The topic: Empowering democracy

10.00 - 16.00 Visit to European Parliament Office in Athens



Methods used:

Attractive Lectures with Word texts, Excel, PowerPoint, ppt and ptx forms, subtitles and legends. Audio-visual Screenings, Projections, web interactive learning tours. Peer group Discussions. Presentations and interaction of participants in Debates. Exchange of ideas and critical thoughts. Field exercises and sharing of knowledge, skills and the analyses of participants on the following topics focused on the **Facebook European Parliament:**

1. Erasmus+: Multimedia centre by **Estonia:** the NGO MTÜ Lääne-Harju Koostöökogu/ LAG Western-Harju Partnership (LHKK)
2. Current political agenda - press releases and LIVE: hearings by **Estonia:** the NGO MTÜ Lääne-Harju Koostöökogu/ LAG Western-Harju Partnership (LHKK)
3. Black Ribbon Day by **Romania:** the University UNIVERSITATEA DIN PITESTI/ UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI (UPIT)
4. International Day of Democracy - Celebrations in Europe by **Romania:** the University UNIVERSITATEA DIN PITESTI/ UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI (UPIT)

16.00 - 17.00 ethnic lunch, Ermou Street

17.00 - 19.00 free time

Closure unit Headquarter IMEPO, Athens

Evaluation process 19.00 - 21.00

Methods used:

Peer group Discussions. Presentations and interaction of participants in Debates. Exchange of ideas, sharing of critical thoughts and reflections on competences acquired during the project. The participants comment their own learning outcomes based on the daily filled Questionnaires.

21.30: Cultural night by Greek team and farewell Dinner

Meze and raki restaurant "ARODOU" with live music