



*A Mobility Erasmus+ project
in the field of youth*

DIRECT EFFECTS

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Erasmus+ project “**Addressing Challenges in Europe**” (“**ACE**”), phase I, 03 – 07/12/2024, is a Youth Exchange co-funded by the European Union and under support of the Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation (I.NE.DI.VI.M, <https://www.inedivim.gr/en>).

It follows the EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027 and, being inspired by the 11 European Youth Goals, it seeks to address issues relevant to young people needs, interests and expectations about the environmental sustainability, the equal opportunities and promotion of inclusion and diversity, the importance of digital skills, the better understanding of common European priorities, values and principles, and the benefit from an active participation in society and democratic life. Overall, it is a Youth Exchange relevant to their demand for a quality life and future with professional perspective. A mix of attractive and interactive workshops with an outstanding team working, discussions, exchange of ideas, artistic happenings and spontaneous improvisations as presentations, the youngsters focused on The European Citizens' Initiative and learned how they can have a stronger voice, presence and involvement in societal and democratic rituals concerning the fight against the climate change, the opposition to discriminations, prejudices and stereotypes, the empowerment of technological literacy. Additionally, they respectively involved in experiential interactive outdoor activities and educational visits

According their final assessment, all the project phases, from the preparation until the dissemination, succeeded the expected learning outcomes thus contributing, with a high quality and excellence to greener, more inclusive and cohesive, digitally fit and participatory European societies.

Analytically

The project promoted equal opportunities and access, inclusion, diversity and fairness across all its actions.

Therefore, the young participants were at the heart of its objectives and they enjoyed the project's inclusive approach and its accessibility beyond the totally diverse range of them. As a result, they empowered their sense of unity in diversity and learned to best address special needs of more vulnerable peers. Additionally, the organizations-partners learned to work and cooperate better with these multifaceted target groups of youth.

The project lighted further the importance of digital and technological transformation that Europe needs.

It emphasized the increased importance of digital skills for all and the young participants had the opportunity to enhance their already digital competences and foster their digital literacy as essential tools, not only for everyday entertainment but also as mechanisms that enable them to navigate a world full of information, to promote further their education and to discover the chances for participating in civil society and democracy.

Overall, the project incorporated the use of digital methods for learning, information and communication making a successful combination of physical mobility and virtual cooperation (during primarily the preparatory stages and during the period after the project's end), thus improving the contacts between the participating organizations and the activities' quality. This mainly because the young people, particularly those with fewer opportunities, face barriers and difficulties in their learning procedures, contacts and communication and internet breaks down these geographical socioeconomic and other barriers, making education accessible to a global audience and providing through online learning platforms, high-quality lessons, resources, and opportunities fostering a better communication and cooperation, cross-cultural understanding, the inclusive dimension in a fair world and the activism and active presence for crucial issues in the planet. Additionally, the organizations-partners learned to work better and cooperate with other international youth entities.

The project focused on the need for environmental sustainability.

It promoted various aspects of environmentally responsible behavior by raising the awareness of young participants on the importance of reducing and compensating for the environmental footprint. Overall, beyond the environmental topics that the project addressed, it was designed and implemented with an environmental consciousness integrating sustainable practices such as opting for reusable or eco-friendly materials, reducing waste and recycling, sustainable means of transportation, environmental outdoor activities and visits, etc. Additionally, the organizations-partners benefited and learned more for the upcoming cooperation with other youth entities on relevant topics.

The project gave emphasis on the civic engagement and participation.

It maximized its quality by integrating a participatory dimension and it offered youngsters multifaceted opportunities to actively engage in decision making procedures and all project's activities as a pathway, step and channel for them to discover the value of an active societal presence and participation in democratic life after the finishing of this learning endeavor, as well as in various European and international internet platforms. Therefore, the project mobilized participants for further promotion of their social, political and democratic involvement at local, national and European level. The same also for the participating organizations by providing them opportunities to increase their development and learning experience from this participation as partners through an active role to all its aspects, stages, and phases.

In conclusion

The project's activities during all its phases (planning period before the application, preparation phase before the main Exchange, period of the interpersonal learning in Greece, monitoring, evaluation and follow-up including the dissemination of the results after the Exchange) produced the following learning outcomes. These are outcomes at an equal basis for all the groups and young people from six (6) different countries and eight (8) different youth organizations who gathered for the period *03 – 07 December 2024* to implement jointly their own programme with a mix of workshops, field exercises, debates, discussions, exchange of ideas and analyses, role-plays, outdoor activities and educational visits on a topic and issue of their interest: "*Addressing Challenges in Europe*", seeking inspiration from the European Youth Goals:

It improved their knowledge, skills, competences and attitudes for a better life and a professional future, including their sustainable competences and digital qualifications by highlighting chances for relevant employability and career, taking of initiatives and entrepreneurship

It fostered the intercultural dialogue and it enhanced their intercultural awareness and their positive interactions with people from different backgrounds

It connected them to the European project, it empowered their awareness on the European values and their earning and feeling of being European far away from discriminations, prejudices and stereotypes

It empowered them to become active citizens in society and fostered their active participation in democracy

It increased their self-empowerment and self-esteem

It improved the linguistic capacity in English and foreign languages (mother tongues of their peers)

It boosted them for future participation in Erasmus+ mobilities

The project also benefited the participating organizations and the key-persons and volunteers that were involved in its diverse phases as teams' leaders and facilitators and the local societies. In the long run, the project is expected to have a positive impact and stimulate youth policy reforms on the youth field itself in Europe and beyond.

See you soon!