

CASE STUDY # 8

EU Youth Test

**HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL**

BASIC INFORMATION

COUNTRY

EU Member states

REGION

N/A

CITY

N/A

SCOPE

International (EU-level)

TIMELINE

The initiative to establish the EU Youth Test started in 2021 and was still ongoing at the end of 2022

NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE

Tens of millions of young people were represented by youth organisations which are members of the European Youth Forum

TARGET GROUP

EU policymakers

ORGANIZER

European Youth Forum, supported by some EU institutions

FUNDER

European Youth Forum

BUDGET

N/A

OVERVIEW

“EU Youth Test” is an initiative of the European Youth Forum (Youth Forum Jeunesse, YFJ) which was created as a result of consultations with its member youth organisations. The EU Youth Test initiative is a process that aims at establishing an impact analysis tool with a participation component which would help EU institutions to assess policy drafts and adjust them in such a way so that the final policies reflect needs of young people. The EU Youth Test should be applicable across policy fields, hence strongly supporting youth mainstreaming in EU policymaking. The EU Youth Test initiative was started by the YFJ, but it has also been supported and actively promoted by some of the EU institutions as well. The interplay between the YFJ initiative and other processes is one of the important aspects of this initiative as it showcases collaboration and co-creation opportunities between the youth sector organisations and policymaking bodies.

TYPES OF AIMS

EMPOWERMENT

- Enable young people to contribute to the EU policymaking via the EU Youth Test tool (namely through its consultation component).

EFFICIENCY

- Ensure the EU policymaking takes needs and interests of current and future young people into consideration in all policy domains
- Support youth mainstreaming in the EU Member States via establishing the EU Youth Test and facilitating deliberation processes on establishing similar tools on national levels.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

COUNTER DEMOCRACY

- Advocacy role of the YFJ enables voices of young people to be heard by EU institutions

DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

- The YFJ runs continuous consultations with its member organisations representing young people across Europe, and through these consultations, the EU Youth Test idea was created
- The YFJ is engaging in dialogues with various EU institutions, creating and supporting deliberation processes in which youth mainstreaming is debated and the EU Youth Test is refined

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

- The YFJ engages in collaboration processes through which it directly influences what the EU Youth Test will look like, together with the EU institutions

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CASE STUDY #9

The Democratic School CoLibri / Základní škola CoLibri

**HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL**



OVERVIEW

“The democratic school CoLibri” (“Základní škola CoLibri” in Czech) is an initiative providing basic schooling to young people in line with the ideals of democracy and personal responsibility of an individual. The school was founded in 2018 and offers space to tens of young people primarily at the age of 6-13 with the aims of providing such learning environment which builds on democratic values and promotes development of trust, respect, freedom, and responsibility in young people. Through the School Council, which is the main democratic mechanism and which allows all children, young people, and adults to meet and make common decisions, the school is taking care of all vital areas: day to day rules, contents of education, and even future directions that the school is taking.

BASIC INFORMATION



COUNTRY
Czech Republic

REGION
Southern Moravian Region

CITY
Předklášteří

SCOPE
Local

TIMELINE
Ongoing since 2018

NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE
In 2022, there were 26 children & young people

TARGET GROUP
Primary target group: 6-13-year-olds
Secondary target group: 14-15-year-olds
Potential future target group: 16-18-year-olds

ORGANIZER
The democratic school CoLibri

FUNDER
State support, tuition fees, donations, project funds such as Erasmus+ or European Solidarity Corps programmes

BUDGET
N/A

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

DIRECT DEMOCRACY

- The main principle of the CoLibri school builds on the School Council in which all members of the school community (i.e., all Colibris, children, young people, and adults alike) come together and take decisions which influence all school processes.

DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

- The main mechanism of the CoLibri school, the School Council, is based on the deliberations as the main method of finding agreements, allowing children and young people to voice their arguments, and to find the most suitable way forward.

TYPES OF AIMS

RIGHTS-BASED

- The CoLibri school gives young people and children the right to take part in decision-making and proposal-making in a vast majority of matters that concern them in the school environment.

EMPOWERMENT

- The CoLibri school enables young people to make decisions on all vital school proceedings.

EFFICIENCY

- The CoLibri school enables young people to come up with proposals to improve and change school proceedings, and subsequently also to deliberate and vote on adopting such proposals.

DEVELOPMENTAL

- The CoLibri school enables young people and children to gain hands-on experience with making democratic proposals, deliberating on such proposals with other members of the community, adopting and observing the newly established rules.

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CASE STUDY #10

Vision for Spořilov / Vize pro Spořilov

**HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL**



BASIC INFORMATION		
COUNTRY Czech Republic	REGION Prague	CITY Prague
SCOPE Local		
TIMELINE Consultations in March and April 2018, and follow-up activities in coming months and years		
NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE Young people and children from 7 classrooms in 4 different schools (2 basic schools and 2 high schools)		
TARGET GROUP Primary, lower-secondary, and higher-secondary students		
ORGANIZER Pražské forum, z.s. dialog architekti s.r.o. Městská část Praha 4 (Local Government of Prague City District No.4)		
FUNDER Different funds, including local funding by the local government		
BUDGET N/A		



OVERVIEW

“Vision for Spořilov” (“Vize pro Spořilov” in Czech) is a bottom-up initiative implemented by a team consisting of architects, sociologists, representatives of a local NGO, and municipal workers. Participatory spatial planning activities for young people and children were designed and implemented in local schools in Spořilov area. The input collected during the activities served as a basis for creation of Vision for Spořilov study (Stará, Veselý 2018), a document presented to the local government and used by the local government as one of background documents to inform local spatial developments. Concrete spatial developments were implemented in the Spořilov area, in line with Action Plan which used the Vision for Spořilov study as one of important sources (Stará, Veselý 2020).

TYPES OF AIMS

EFFICIENCY

- The CoLibri school enables young people to come up with proposals to improve and change school proceedings, and subsequently also to deliberate and vote on adopting such proposals.

DEVELOPMENTAL

- Young people are provided with an opportunity to develop their faculties as active citizens, their knowledge in the domain of spatial planning (and other related fields), and various skills, through their active participation at a spatial planning activity.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

COUNTER DEMOCRACY

- As a bottom-up initiative, young people were provided with a consultancy platform in which they shared their lived experience, with experts (architects, sociologists) summarizing the inputs of young people and presenting them to local government for further use.

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CASE STUDY #1

Take Action! / Akcija za 5!

**HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL**



BASIC INFORMATION



COUNTRY
Croatia

REGION
Primorje -
Gorski Kotar

CITY
Rijeka

SCOPE
Local

TIMELINE
Annually recurring since 2006

**NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE
OVER THE WHOLE PERIOD**
1022 high school students
120 volunteers

TARGET GROUP
Primary: 14–19-year-olds (high-school students)
Secondary: 20–26-year-olds (university students)

ORGANIZER
Association Delta

FUNDER
City of Rijeka

BUDGET
€660 for one winning project per year;
Additional costs for running the initiative are
also funded by City of Rijeka
to support Association Delta

OVERVIEW

“Take Action!” (“Akcija za 5!” in Croatian) is an initiative that takes place every autumn in the city of Rijeka, Croatia, and in some other municipalities as well. It is based on bringing together groups of high school students who identify needs or local topics of interest to youth, prepare project proposals to respond to these needs, decide which one to fund, and subsequently implement the project with financial support of the Municipality, potentially delivering recommendations to the local administration and policymakers on various matters as well as implementing educational activities in these areas. High school students are guided by university students who volunteer to support them and gain youth work experience at the same time.

TYPES OF AIMS

DEVELOPMENTAL

- Train young people to enable them to act in the local community.
- Develop civic and social competence of young people.
- Educate young people on designing and implementing local initiatives.
- Acquaint young people with the work of local self-government.
- Reduce young people's distrust in the political system and institutions authorities (and vice versa).

EMPOWERMENT

- Encourage young people to act in the local community.
- Enable young people to actively participate in decision-making at the local level and in their local community.
- Encourage activism and volunteer work of young people and their involvement in the work of non-governmental organisations and civic initiatives.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

- Participatory budgeting

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CASE STUDY #2

Paint Karlovac / Ofarbaj Karlovac

HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL



BASIC INFORMATION



COUNTRY Croatia	REGION Karlovac county	COUNTRY Croatia
SCOPE Local		
TIMELINE Preparations: about three months including consultations with young people and project proposal preparations Implementation: 1 st August 2021 until 31 st December 2021		
NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE 50 young people		
TARGET GROUP Primary: 14–19-year-olds (high-school students) Secondary: 20–26-year-olds (university students)		
ORGANIZER DrONe Association		
FUNDER Erasmus+		
BUDGET € 11.000		

OVERVIEW

“Paint Karlovac” (“Ofarbaj Karlovac” in Croatian) is an initiative that took place in the second half of 2021 in Karlovac, Croatia, and it focused on combating gender violence in local community by covering hate speech graffiti. It is combining direct activist actions (i.e., covering hate speech graffiti) and advocacy mechanisms (i.e., formulating recommendations together with local municipality representatives on tackling hate speech graffiti in general). Paint Karlovac initiative is also bringing together the Municipality of Karlovac and DrONe Association (a local NGO) as project partners in a joint project with common goals, creating an interesting blueprint in organising political participation initiatives in general.

TYPES OF AIMS

EMPOWERMENT

- Empower young people to implement interventions in community.
- Empower Karlovac community to get involved in initiatives of young people.

EFFICIENCY

- Implement interventions in the community in a dialogue between young people and decision makers.

DEVELOPEMENT

- Raise awareness among young people and the local community about hate speech and the importance of removing hate speech graffiti from the streets of Karlovac.
- Raise awareness of gender-based violence and representation issues through art.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

COUNTER DEMOCRACY

- Direct activism of young citizens

DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

- Advocacy conducted via a structured meeting between young people and representatives of the Karlovac Municipality

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CASE STUDY #3

Healthy Consultations / Zdrave Konzultacije

HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL



BASIC INFORMATION		
COUNTRY Croatia	REGION Zagreb county	CITY Zagreb
SCOPE Local		
TIMELINE October 2019 till August 2021		
NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE 300 young people		
TARGET GROUP High-school students		
ORGANIZER "Croatian Debate Society" ("Hrvatsko debatno društvo" in Croatian, hence the abbreviation HDD)		
FUNDER Erasmus+		
BUDGET € 15.000		

OVERVIEW

"Croatian Debate Society" ("Hrvatsko debatno društvo" in Croatian, hence the abbreviation HDD) is an umbrella organisation for school debate clubs in Croatia that implemented the "Healthy Consultations" ("Zdrave konzultacije" in Croatian) initiative. The "Healthy Consultations" initiative allowed young people to explore existing health-related policies on the municipal level in Zagreb, Croatia. Subsequently, young people identified problematic areas and also potential solutions, and they met with policymakers during a deliberative event, discussing problematic areas and suggested solutions, and presenting recommendations to the policymakers. HDD cooperated directly with the Municipality of Zagreb when implementing the "Healthy Consultations" initiative, and recommendations prepared by young people during the workshops and deliberative processes were taken into account when updating a municipal youth strategy.

TYPES OF AIMS

EMPOWERMENT

- Empower young people in creating health policies for young people.

EFFICIENCY

- Create public policies that are tailored to the needs of the people to whom they are addressed.

DEVELOPEMENT

- Inform young people about the existing health policies of the City of Zagreb.
- Create generations of young citizens who are proactive in the form of health policy and attitudes towards health.
- Discuss taboo topics such as mental and reproductive health of young people and empower them to break taboo topics in society.
- Provide participants with a safe environment in which they will be able to get information about health opportunities for young people in the City of Zagreb.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

- Deliberative events
- Creating recommendations

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CASE STUDY # 4

Multilevel System of Youth Councils / Jugendringe

HOW TO SCORE A YOUTH GOAL



BASIC INFORMATION

COUNTRY	REGION	CITY
Germany	All regions	Most cities

SCOPE

From local through regional to national

TIMELINE

Continuously running since the end of the Second World War (and in former Eastern Germany since 1990)

NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE

The German Federal Youth Council (DBJR) represents 6 million young people, but since there are many more levels at which the youth councils are organised, the total number of involved young people cannot be determined

TARGET GROUP

Youth organisations and their representatives

ORGANIZER

Self-organised and based on national, regional, and local legal regulations

FUNDER

State funded

BUDGET

Differs across geographical locations and across levels (local, regional, state, federal)

OVERVIEW

“Multilevel System of Youth Councils” (“Jugendringe in German”) is a system in which youth organisations come together through youth councils on all levels of government: local, regional, state, and federal. Each of the levels is also clearly linked to different public bodies in which representatives of a given youth council are expected to actively engage. The system is based on electing representatives: from youth organisations to youth councils, and from youth councils to the public bodies. In that way, connections between young people on different levels and policies on these levels are created.

TYPES OF AIMS

RIGHTS-BASED AIMS

- Provide young people and youth organisations with a structure through which they can influence policymaking that concerns them.

EMPOWERMENT AIMS

- Enable young people to influence world around them by participating in youth council elections and decision-making.
- Enable young people to influence world around them by engaging in public institutions on behalf of a youth council.

EFFICIENCY AIMS

- Provide young people with opportunities to deliberate on designing and participate on creating policies that influence them, such as local youth action plans, or overall state or federal youth policies.

DEVELOPMENTAL AIMS

- Provide young people with learning environments in which they can practice various skills, and develop their democratic and citizenship attitudes and values through hands-on activities of the youth councils and public bodies.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

- Young people can vote in elections to **(a)** select representatives of a given youth organisation to a youth council, and to **(b)** select representatives of the youth council to a public body.
- Young people can stand for elections to **(a)** select representatives of a given youth organisation to a youth council, and to **(b)** select representatives of the youth council to a public body.
- If elected, young people can participate in decision-making of the youth council and of the public body.

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

- Young people can design agendas of the youth council.
- Young people can contribute to designing policies within the public bodies.

DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

- Young people can contribute to debates which shape direction of the youth council.
- Young people can contribute to debates which shape policies set by the public bodies.

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CASE STUDY #5

The Lithuanian Youth Capital / Lietuvos Jaunimo Sostinė

HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL



BASIC INFORMATION

	COUNTRY Lithuania	REGION All regions	CITY All municipalities
SCOPE National scheme supporting municipal initiatives			
TIMELINE Open call, submitting applications, assessing applications, and selecting the winning municipality: 1 year Preparatory activities: 1 year Implementation of the Lithuanian Youth Capital programme: 1 year			
NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE At least 350			
TARGET GROUP Primary: Youth organisations and municipalities Secondary: Young people			
ORGANIZER Youth Affairs Agency of Lithuania and Klaipėda City Municipality			
FUNDER State budget			
BUDGET Direct state financial support between € 20.000 and € 30.000, and a minimum of 30% in municipal co-funding			

OVERVIEW

“The Lithuanian Youth Capital” (*“Lietuvos jaunimo sostinė” in Lithuanian*) is an initiative that, through its pilot phase in 2021–2023, aims to establish national youth capital scheme in Lithuania. Taking inspiration from the European Youth Capital initiative of the European Youth Forum and other similar national schemes across Europe, the Lithuanian Youth Capital encourages municipalities to boost their cooperation with youth organisations and young people in the domain of public policy implementation. By preparing an implementation plan for the Lithuanian Youth Capital, the municipalities create important partnerships with local youth organisations, get experience with co-management structures in the youth field and beyond, and even create opportunities for improving policy design and delivery of services to young people.

TYPES OF AIMS

EMPOWERMENT

- Create favourable conditions and equal opportunities for young people to get involved in politics, social, economic, cultural life of the city, its formation and evaluation.
- Support and promote volunteering, quality work with volunteers, creating conditions for volunteers to use their knowledge and experience, their self-fulfilment, get involved in work and participate in society, and develop the awareness of institutions working with volunteers, including the perception that voluntary work is not a substitute for paid work.

EFFICIENCY

- Identify relevant challenges for the municipality in the field of youth and anticipate them accordingly and develop new, high-quality concepts, tools and programs to address them, ensuring inclusion of various youth groups and persons working with youth.
- Invest in the development of the youth sector and quality youth work in municipalities, prioritizing inclusion and giving appropriate attention to what matters to young people.
- Promote interdepartmental cooperation in areas relevant to young people in order to achieve effective coordination of activities and activity priorities of different institutions.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

- Creating concrete original or updated policies, services, or activities for young people on the municipal level

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CASE STUDY # 6

Austrian National Youth Council and Policymaking / Bundes Jugend Vertretung (BJV)

HOW TO SCORE A YOUTH GOAL



OVERVIEW

“Austrian National Youth Council” (“*Bundes Jugend Vertretung / BJV*” in German) is a “legally anchored interest group for all children and young people in Austria” (BJV Webpage not dated) representing young people in Austrian national policymaking through its role of a social partner in law-making. BJV aims to explore needs and concerns of children and young people under 31 years of age, and advocate for potential solutions via commenting on legal norms under discussion on the national and regional level, via participating in governmental working groups on various topics, and via media communication targeting specific issues of interest to children and youth. BJV is also an organisation which brings together various local and regional bodies with different foci and expertise in the youth field. BJV itself is a member of the European Youth Forum, a pan-European platform advocating for youth interests, most notably at the EU level.

BASIC INFORMATION



COUNTRY
Austria

REGION
All regions

CITY
All cities

SCOPE
National level

TIMELINE
Continuously running since 1940s, and in its current form since 2001

NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE
Direct involvement of individual young people through engagement in BJV internal bodies; Indirect involvement of vast numbers of young people via public consultations, research, and activities of member organisations

TARGET GROUP
Primary: Policymakers on the national and regional levels, and also on the international scale
Secondary: Young people under the age of 31

ORGANIZER
Self-organised and based on national legal regulation

FUNDER
State funded and utilizing project funding

BUDGET
Differs from one year to the next

TYPES OF AIMS

EMPOWERMENT

- Enable young people to be elected to various internal BJV bodies and participate on BJV activities, including governmental working groups.
- Enable young people to participate in consultancy events and processes, and to share their opinions, needs, and concerns.
- Run regular campaigns to raise awareness for children and youth related topics.

EFFICIENCY

- Advise on legal acts debated on the national or regional levels.
- Provide expertise on various matters via membership in governmental working groups.
- Advocate for youth needs via dialogue with policymakers, including public debates utilizing media coverage.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

- Representing voice of young people in national and regional level policymaking by commenting on legal acts which are under development
- Enabling dialogue between young people and decision-makers

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CASE STUDY #7

Youth Parliament at KVP District of Košice City / Mládežnícky parlament Mestskej časti Košice – Sídliisko KVP

HOW TO
SCORE A
YOUTH GOAL



BASIC INFORMATION

COUNTRY	REGION	CITY
Slovakia	Košice	Košice

SCOPE

Local (on the level of a city district)

TIMELINE

Ongoing since 2021

NUMBER OF INVOLVED YOUNG PEOPLE

Directly involved 12 young people
Indirectly involved tens of young people during various activities and potentially thousands through advising on policymaking

TARGET GROUP

12-30-year-olds

ORGANIZER

Self-initiated, but currently anchored in Municipal legal norms

FUNDER

Municipality

BUDGET

€1 000 per year

OVERVIEW

“Youth Parliament at KVP District of Košice City” (“Mládežnícky parlament Mestskej časti Košice–Sídliisko KVP” in Slovak) is an initiative taking place at a concrete district of the city of Košice, Slovakia: city quarter called “KVP”. The Youth Parliament at KVP Quarter of Košice City initiative (hereinafter YP KVP) is an official advisory body of the Municipal Council, and as such represents interests of young people in municipal policymaking. The YP KVP also implements original activities and events for young people and local residents in general, supports municipality in implementing selected processes, and engages in local participatory budgeting scheme.

TYPES OF AIMS

EMPOWERMENT

- Enable young people to voice their needs directly to the Municipal Council of the Košice city.
- Enable young people to initiate, create, and implement their own original activities, events, and projects.

EFFICIENCY

- Advise local policymakers in youth-related matters.
- Assist local Municipal Council in implementing selected local events and processes.

DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENTS

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

- A local youth parliament as an official advisory body of the local municipality, representing young people by young people

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