



**The Youth Inclusion Workshops
National Report
by
KAINOTOMIA**





PROMOTING OPEN RESILIENT INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR YOUTH

Project Reference: 604571-EPP-1-2018-1-DE-EPPKA3-IPI-SOC-IN



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Contents

1. The Youth Inclusion Workshops in the framework of PRIORITY project 3

2. Structure and Duration of the PRIORITY Youth Inclusion Workshops in Greece 5

3. An overview of target audience from the Youth Inclusion Workshops in Greece 8

4. Methodology and Learning Activities of the Youth Inclusion Workshops in Greece 9

5. Evaluation Results and Recommendations..... 10

6. Conclusions..... 12

7. Annex: Images from the Youth Inclusion Workshops 13

1. The Youth Inclusion Workshops in the framework of PRIORITY project

PRIORITY: PRomotIng Open Resilient Inclusive socieTies for Youth is an innovative 36-month project that involves four countries and five organisations - such as youth organisations and networks, cultural and sports organisations, training centres, as well as private and public entities. Among its main aims, PRIORITY strives to: 1) increase the capacities of the organisations that work with youth; 2) to invest in prevention by removing breeding grounds for radicalisation and act as forces of inclusion; 3) to empower young people from disadvantaged groups to engage; 4) to enhance youth participation and drive positive change in communities, through the use of innovative methods and practices coming from the combination of youth work, training, cultural mediation and sports fields.

The Work Package 5 (WP5) named "**PRIORITY Hubs Testing, Young Mediators Activities (inclusion and capacity building), Community Cultural Heritage Activities**" consists of the testing phase of PRIORITY Hubs where the organisations held three different types of activities in order to maximise the impact of the prototypes of youth inclusion local environments.

WP5 is divided into three actions linked between them:

- 5.1 - Youth Inclusion Workshops;
- 5.2 - Youth Initiatives: Social & Cultural Activities connected with the European Year of Cultural Heritage;
- 5.3 - Young Mediator Capacity Building on-site training

Specifically:

5.1 Youth Inclusion Workshops: during this phase of the project, partners selected young migrants and/or refugees who wanted to participate in the activities of PRIORITY Hubs. Some of these activities were in collaboration with other local stakeholders already involved in the social integration of migrants and refugees (such as local authorities or other CSOs). The main purpose was to build a trustful relationship with the young people at risk of marginalisation, including them through the Youth Inclusion Workshops and encouraging them to be active citizens at a local level. These workshops and related activities were based on the [PRIORITY methodology](#) and [toolkit](#), but also based on participants' and local context needs. Thus, partners implemented these workshops including different kind of activities, such as:

- Intercultural dinners
- Sports activities

The Youth Inclusion Workshop National Report-Greece

- Digital skills workshops
- Visits
- Art sessions
- Social support activities

In total, nine workshops were held in each country, giving the opportunity to young participants to come together, learn and exchange their experiences on enhancing their inclusion in the society. Thanks to these workshops, young people felt welcomed and included, and confident enough to express themselves in a youth environment.

5.2 Youth Initiatives: Social & Cultural Activities connected with the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The PRIORITY consortium established strong connections and guaranteed its participation on cultural and social events during the summer 2021. Moreover, a set of activities was co-designed with the youth already engaged in the project. The partners organised different activities depending on the location, type of event and size of audience, and implemented them in a different way according to each partner's organisation and local stakeholders involved as well as local community's needs. Nevertheless, all the activities were implemented following the quality criteria and objectives:

- 1.** They were connected with the Europe's cultural heritage through education and lifelong learning by focusing on children, young and elderly people, local communities and hard-to-reach groups and using approaches that are people-centred, inclusive, forward-looking, more integrated, sustainable and cross-sectoral. (Objectives of European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018). Due to the fact that the Youth Initiatives were implemented in 2021, they were not all of them directly linked with the European Year of Cultural Heritage – 2018.
- 2.** They were based on participatory methods and had active involvement of both local and migrant youth both in the designing phase and the actual implementation.
- 3.** They were implemented in cooperation with local stakeholders from each partner's city that belong to different sectors (public authorities, youth, sports and cultural NGOs, private education/training institutions, refugee centres etc.,).

5.3 Young Mediator Capacity Building on-site training. During this activity partners developed a training course of six working days, based on the non-formal education, peer-education methodology as well as in the [PRIORITY methodology](#) previously developed within the project, reaching at least 20 people per country. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project consortium decided to implement the Capacity Building in two rounds of trainings of three-working days each. The online training was implemented in two rounds by four partners from three countries (Italy, Greece and Germany). The participants that were selected were either native citizens or young people with migrant background. Particular focus was given on the participation of young unemployed people with or without migrant

background. Activities were drawn from the [PRIORITY Toolkit](#) and [How to PRIORITISE E-book](#), aimed at empowering young people and equipping them with necessary skills and knowledge so as to be active citizens. This way, the participants became young mediators in order to reach out to their peers at risk of marginalisation and acted as multipliers of inclusion. Based on the programme outcomes of this training as well as the satisfaction questionnaires filled out by the participants, partners developed the E-course "How to become PRIORITY Young Mediator" of WP6, that will be ready in the coming months.

2. Structure and Duration of the PRIORITY Youth Inclusion Workshops in Greece

Youth Inclusion workshops were designed based on the cross-sectoral innovation practices developed in the PRIORITY methodology and toolkit. The activities were co-designed by each partner based on their participants' profile and interests in order to make them more attractive and to maximise their participation.

Initially, the workshops were planned to be implemented face-to-face and partners were prepared to organise different local visits, sports activities, intercultural dinners and many other social activities. Due to the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to implement those activities as it was planned. However, partners managed to fulfil the objectives of the project by implementing these workshops online. Activities were carried out by using non-formal learning methods as well as inclusive and interactive learning methods, such as role playing, brainstorming, group discussions, case studies, debates followed by debriefing and reflection sessions. The nine Youth Inclusion Workshops brought together young participants to interact with each other, learn and exchange their experiences on enhancing inclusion in their local communities.

KAINOTOMIA in Greece has implemented all nine workshops face-to-face. Throughout the 9 youth inclusion workshops KAINOTOMIA used a two-folded approach based both on the provision of theoretical sessions and the combination of different non-formal education tools like peer learning, group work, discussion, role play, team-building and group reflection. Every single day of the training sessions included energizers and team building activities in order participants can learn more for each other and feel comfortable to share and exchange personal experiences and stories.

A general overview of the nine workshops in Greece and main thematic that were discussed in each day is presented in the following table:

<i>Workshop implementation date</i>	<i>Workshop topics</i>	<i>Method (online or presence)</i>	<i>Platform used (if online)</i>	<i>Number of participants per workshop</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
29/01/2021	Introduction to Civic Education and Active Citizenship	Online	Zoom platform	5	The thematic of the first workshop engaged many young people interested in the topic. During the first day participants learned about Civic Education, Active Citizenship etc.
02/02/2021	Introduction to Human Rights Education	Online	Zoom platform	5	During this day participants learned about Human Rights Education
04/02/2021	Teaching a Culture of Peace	Online	Zoom platform	5	During this day, we discussed about the topic on Culture of Peace. Participants learned about respecting other's culture. How culture can play a vital role in social inclusion etc. Since there were participants from deculture, they had opportunity share their cultural experiences.
01/03/2021	Introduction to Civic Education and Active Citizenship	Online	Zoom platform	5	The thematic of the first workshop engaged many young people interested in the topic. During the first day participants learned about Civic Education, Active Citizenship etc.

The Youth Inclusion Workshop National Report-Greece

02/03/2021	Introduction to Human Rights Education	Online	Zoom platform	5	During this day participants learned about Human Rights Education
03/03/2021	Teaching a Culture of Peace	Online	Zoom platform	5	During this day, we discussed about the topic on Culture of Peace. Participants learned about respecting other's culture. How culture can play a vital role in social inclusion etc. Since there were participants from deculture, they had opportunity share their cultural experiences.
08/03/2021	Introduction to Civic Education and Active Citizenship	Online	Zoom platform	5	The thematic of the first workshop engaged many young people interested in the topic. During the first day participants learned about Civic Education, Active Citizenship etc.
09/03/2021	Introduction to Human Rights Education	Online	Zoom platform	5	During this day participants learned about Human Rights Education
10/03/2021	Teaching a Culture of Peace	Online	Zoom platform	5	During this day, we discussed about the topic on Culture of Peace. Participants learned about respecting other's culture. How culture can play a vital role in social inclusion etc. Since there were participants from deculture, they had opportunity share their cultural experiences.

3. An overview of target audience from the Youth Inclusion Workshops in Greece

The main target of the trilogy workshops was to provide an introduction regarding the civic education and its components, active citizenship, human rights' education and peace education. After the completion of this workshop, participants will be equipped with certain soft and hard skills in order to develop mutual understanding and accepting differences for positive societal change.

The implementation of the workshops was based on the initial idea of implementing nine workshops divided into three trilogies. The trilogies were based on the same thematic, but the three workshops of each trilogy were differentiated regarding their topic. The first workshop was entitled "Introduction to Civic Education and Active Citizenship", the second "Introduction to Human Rights Education" and the third "Teaching a Culture of Peace". Each trilogy consisted of 5 participants, who expressed their interest and wanted to increase their knowledge and awareness on different topics. In more detail:

15 female and male young people with different socioeconomic backgrounds participated in total in the workshops. As quarantine and the whole COVID-19 situation accrued, participants were motivated to learn online, actively participate in the trilogies and get informed about the three main topics of the workshops. There was almost a gender balance among participants, as there were six female participants and nine male participants. The average age of the participants was approximately 28 years old, and they were all coming from Greece. Some of the participants that were born in Greece, had migrant background. Their migrant background was an additional motive for them to participate in the workshops and raise their awareness on the related thematic. Apart from the participants with migrant background, other participants were young unemployed people from the nearby villages of Larissa, who belong to young people with fewer opportunities, due to regional barriers that lead to lack of professional opportunities. Moreover, another significant number of participants were university students, whose study field are related directly or indirectly to the thematic of the workshops and they considered this trilogy as a great opportunity to raise their awareness on the topics and thus, expand their knowledge.

KAINOTOMIA managed to reach these participants via an open call that we have published on our official social media and webpage. Moreover, as the facilitators in the end of each workshop encouraged participants to spread the aim of the workshops to their friends or acquaintances, some of the participants of the third trilogy were introduced by participants of the first and second trilogy of Workshops. Two of the participants expressed their willingness to participate in the WP5: Cultural Mediator Capacity Building Training planned for the third week of March. Concluding, KAINOTOMIA used online activities in order to

The Youth Inclusion Workshop National Report-Greece

promote the workshops, as well as dissemination through the word of mouth for the promotion of the objectives of our workshops.

An overview of target audience in Greece base on their gender and age group:

Total number of participants included in 9 workshops	Gender (please provide the number of male and female participants)		Age (please provide the number of participants based on their age between 18-24 and 25-30)		Young disadvantaged people
	Male	Female	18-24	25-30	
15	9	6	2	13	6

4. Methodology and Learning Activities of the Youth Inclusion Workshops in Greece

Due to the situation accrued from the pandemic and the national restrictions in Greece regarding face-to-face meetings, we were not able to implement our trilogies with face-to-face interaction between the participants. We managed to implement the Youth Inclusion Workshops in an online environment with the assistance of the Zoom platform. All the trilogies of KAINOTOMIA's youth inclusion workshops took place online.

As some of the participants were not completely familiar with the platform chosen for the implementation of the workshops, the facilitators decided that at the beginning of every trilogy there should be added an introductory part with the presentation and explanation of the basic functions and abilities of the Zoom platform. This step was crucial, as the material used for the implementation of the workshops, was based in the interaction among participants and the facilitators asked frequently from participants to use several functions, such as the annotate function, the stamps, or reactions during the workshops. Thus, each participant was familiarized with the basic functions during the workshops and everyone felt comfortable to participate and have an active character in the workshop.

The main target of the trilogy workshops was to provide an introduction regarding the civic education and its components, active citizenship, human rights' education and peace education. These objectives were achieved through theoretical presentations as well as group activities that could help young people to make more active and responsible for their community. For example, we have implemented the "Community Mapping" activity in the framework of the workshop "Let's learn more about Civic Education!". By combining non-formal learning methods, such as peer learning, group discussion and self-reflection, participants were encouraged to increase confidence to express oneself including ideas and

opinions, become more confident in their ability to get involved with other people towards a common goal and identify social development issues to address in a community. Initially, participants were asked to create a shared visual map of their local community, including positives and areas of concern, with broader community engagement. The implementation included papers and colored pens, sets of printed images and two examples of community maps. After the completion of the activity, the facilitator started the brainstorming session, where all participants were exchanging their viewpoints.

After the completion of this workshop, participants will be equipped with certain soft and hard skills in order to develop mutual understanding and accepting differences for positive societal change.

The material used for the implementation of the workshop was taken from the Civic Education Module of the PRIORITY Toolkit. The facilitators gave special attention to the ice-breaking activities in order to help participants feel relaxed and get to know each other better, as well as focused on the interactive parts of the presentations. The facilitators focused specially on the promotion of every possible interactive activity that would trigger the interest of the participants, like discussion and co-working groups and interactive presentations.

Regarding the profiles of the facilitators who guided the trilogies:

- 1st Trilogy: Anastasia Oikonomoula and Athina Daldogiannou
- 2nd Trilogy: Athina Daldogiannou and Katerina Michale
- 3rd Trilogy: Athina Dladogiannou and Katerina Michale

The selection of these three persons as the responsible ones for the workshops, was not accidental. The three trainers in charge of implementing the workshops on behalf of KAINOTOMIA, were all experienced project managers with previous experience on implementing interactive training activities.

5. Evaluation Results and Recommendations

From the responses given from the participants in Greece, the main factor for participation in the workshops was the willingness of the participants to expand their knowledge on the three topics, along with their personal development. This has allowed us to conclude that young people that participate in such learning activities, are interested in improving their knowledge about what active citizenship is and consists of and how they can contribute to making their local community a better place to live.

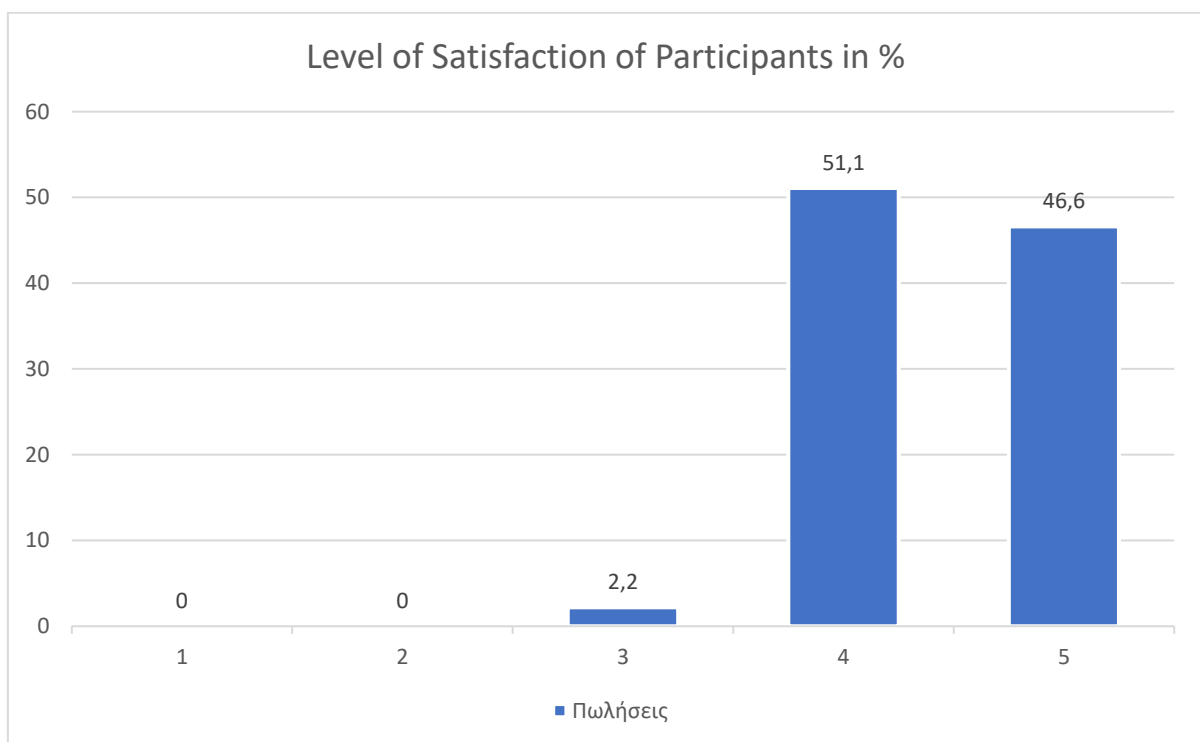
- Did the workshop meet your expectations?

Much less than expected	Less than expected	Matched expectations	Exceeded expectations	Greatly exceeded expectations
1	2	3	4	5

The Youth Inclusion Workshop National Report-Greece

The answers of the participants in the evaluation forms regarding the fulfillment of the expectations and the level of satisfaction show that the majority of the participants felt that the workshop met their expectations at a great level and felt totally satisfied with the program and the way the material was presented. The workshop fulfilled the expectations they initially had, as the majority of participants responded that the workshop totally or significantly met their expectations. Moreover, most of the participants expressed their personal satisfaction regarding the thematic, organization and presentation of the workshop.

In next graph the responses of participants are presented regarding the level of satisfaction and the grade that the workshop met their initial expectations. The results were really encouraging, as most participants were fully satisfied, and their expectations totally achieved.

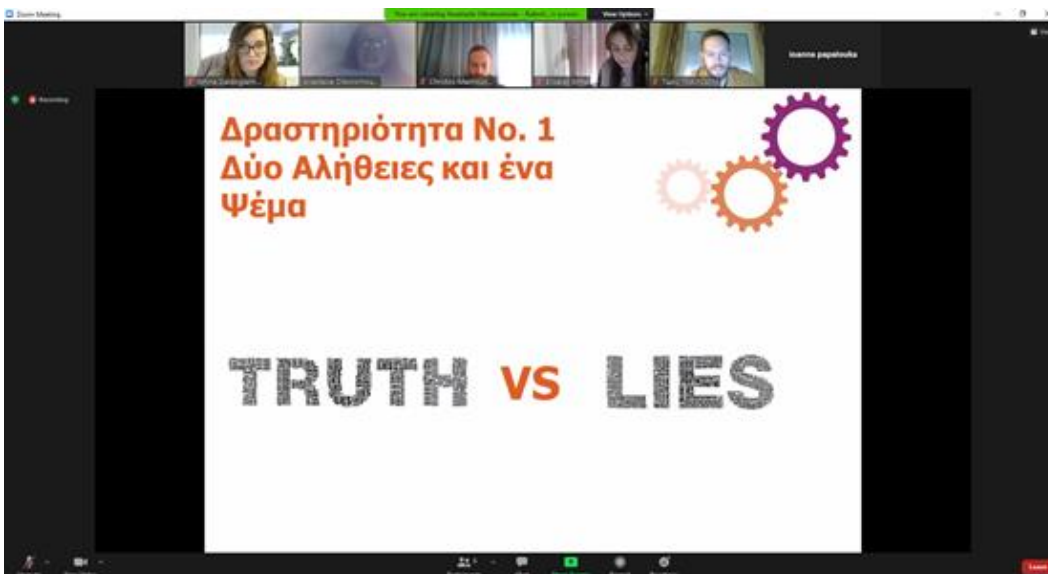
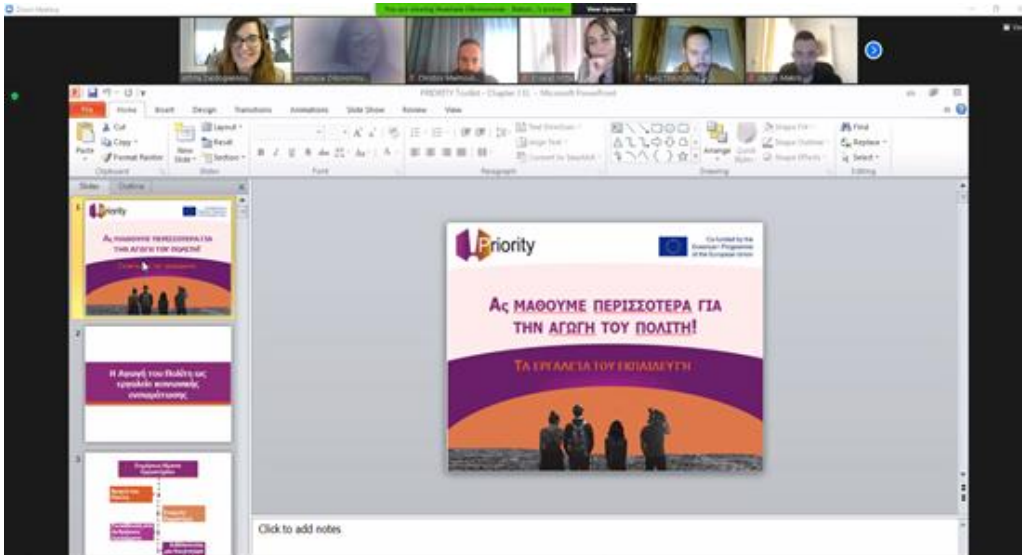


6. Conclusions

The lesson we learned during the implementation of the workshops was that we had to adapt the developed material, because in some parts it contained terminology that was difficult for some of the participants to follow. The Youth Inclusion Workshops were completed successfully according to the plan. We received positive feedback about the workshops, as they encouraged active participation and were interactive. In addition, the materials were well developed and provided useful information. Participants expressed their opinion that they felt they gained new knowledge on civic education and skills on analyzing better their local community and the power relations. Furthermore, participants felt that the workshop would have been even better if it was implemented face-to-face, but due to the pandemic it was the only way to implement it. They also added that this kind of activities gave them the opportunity to feel part of the team, connect with other people and overcome their fear of exposure. Another point that gained participants' impression was the interactive context, in which trainers applied the addressed knowledge, approaching a non-formal method to engage participants in the process and give them a holistic perspective about what active citizenship actually means. However, based on some feedback we received, we realized that sometimes theory may be a little tiring in addition to a great amount of new information received. After the completion of the workshop, most of the participants agreed that they felt motivated and curious about the next workshops.

7. **Annex:** Images from the Youth Inclusion Workshops

Some images from the Youth Inclusion Workshops from Greece on different topics, such as; Introduction to Civic Education and Active Citizenship, Introduction to Human Rights Education and Teaching a Culture of Peace.



The Youth Inclusion Workshop National Report-Greece



The Youth Inclusion Workshop National Report-Greece

