EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	3 - YOUTH FOR EQUALITY
PIC number:	922551287
Project name and acronym:	YouthDemocrAID: Education, Debate, Action — YouthDemocrAID

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	WP4		
Event name:	Implementation in Slovakia		
Type:	Workshop, training		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Slovakia, Trnava		
Date(s):	08.04.2025 - 09.04.2025 - 16.04.2025 - 26.05.2025 - 28.05.2025		
Website(s) (if any):	https://youthdemocraid.weebly.com/		
Participants			
Female:	36		
Male:	30		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Slovakia]:	37		
From country 2 [Ukraine]:	10		
From country 3 [Poland]:	7		
From country 4 [Czech Republic]:	6		
From country 5 [Hungary]:	6		
Total number of participants:	66	From total number of countries:	5
Description *Provide a short description of the event and its activities.*			
The local implementation of the Youth DemocrAID project activities in Slovakia aimed to promote active citizenship, democratic participation, and youth empowerment across Europe. The activities were implemented under Work Package 4 (WP4) - Implementation in Slovakia, focusing on providing young			

people with knowledge, skills, and practical tools to strengthen their engagement in civic and democratic life.

The implementation of the workshops took place in the city of Trnava and was coordinated by Youth for Equality. A total of 66 participants from five different countries took part in the workshops, including 36 women and 30 men. Additionally, two participants from non-eligible countries (Türkiye and Russia) joined one of the sessions focused on *Political Participation and Advocacy*.

The Slovak implementation consisted of five workshops organized between April and May 2025, covering the following topics:

- Introduction to Democracy and Citizenship (8 April 2025)
- Youth Leadership and Empowerment (9 April 2025)
- Community Action and Grassroots Initiatives (16 April 2025)
- Youth and Civic Engagement (26 May 2025)
- Political Participation and Advocacy (28 May 2025)

Each workshop was based on the educational materials and methodologies prepared collaboratively by the project partners. The sessions were facilitated by experienced trainers from Youth for Equality, who guided participants through interactive discussions, group work, and experiential learning activities.

At the beginning of each workshop, participants were introduced to the CERV Programme and the Youth DemocrAID project, with a clear emphasis on the importance of European Union support and funding for strengthening youth participation, democracy, and civic engagement.

Introduction to Democracy and Citizenship (8 April 2025)

On 8 April 2025, Youth for Equality organized the first local workshop in Trnava under the international project Youth DemocrAID. The event, titled *Introduction to Democracy and Citizenship*, brought together 16 young participants from Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, and the Czech Republic. It was primarily designed for high school students and aimed to enhance their understanding of democratic principles, civic responsibility, and active engagement in society.

Throughout the day, participants took part in a variety of interactive, non-formal learning activities. They explored how democratic systems function, examined the challenges of disinformation and media manipulation, and reflected on the fundamental values that sustain open and pluralistic societies. One of the highlights of the session was a creative exercise simulating the spread of fake news, which vividly demonstrated the impact of online content and the importance of critical thinking and media literacy.

Another dynamic part of the workshop involved a public budgeting simulation, during which small groups had to decide how to distribute a limited amount of resources across different public sectors. The exercise encouraged negotiation, teamwork, and awareness of social priorities and fairness in decision-making.

The workshop concluded with a debate on freedom of speech, where students exchanged a range of opinions on whether and when limitations on free expression can be justified. This activity stimulated thoughtful reflection and respectful dialogue, allowing participants to articulate their viewpoints and appreciate differing perspectives.

Throughout the session, participants showed enthusiasm, curiosity, and a genuine interest in the topics discussed. The atmosphere was lively and inclusive, encouraging everyone to take an active role.

Youth Leadership and Empowerment (9 April 2025)

On 9 April 2025, Youth for Equality organized the second local workshop in Trnava, titled *Youth Leadership and Empowerment*. The session gathered 10 young participants from Poland and the Czech Republic, providing them with an opportunity to strengthen their leadership skills and reflect on their roles as active members of their communities.

The workshop was designed to inspire and equip young people with knowledge and practical tools to better understand their potential as leaders within democratic societies. Through a combination of

interactive activities and guided discussions, participants explored the qualities and values of effective leadership, learned about different leadership styles, and reflected on their personal strengths, motivations, and areas for growth.

A key component of the day was a teamwork exercise, in which small groups collaborated to design their own youth-led community initiatives. The activity encouraged participants to practice communication, problem-solving, and shared responsibility, while also demonstrating the importance of cooperation and inclusion in achieving common goals.

The session also emphasized the relevance of civic engagement and youth voice in shaping fair and democratic societies. Participants discussed how leadership is not only about individual ambition, but also about empathy, active listening, and the ability to empower others.

Throughout the day, the atmosphere remained dynamic and supportive. Participants showed strong motivation, creativity, and mutual encouragement, contributing to a safe and empowering learning environment. The workshop served as a valuable space for self-discovery, connection, and inspiration, reinforcing the project's broader mission of promoting youth participation and democratic values.

Community Action and Grassroots Initiatives (16 April 2025)

The third local workshop in Trnava, titled *Community Action and Grassroots Initiatives*, was organized on 16 April 2025. The event gathered 17 young participants from Slovakia and focused on empowering them to explore the concept of grassroots activism and to reflect on their potential to shape positive change within their communities.

The workshop aimed to strengthen young people's understanding of how local engagement and collective action can contribute to democratic participation and social improvement. Through interactive group work and open discussions, participants shared their ideas and personal experiences, identified common challenges in their local contexts, and brainstormed creative, community-based solutions.

To make the learning process more dynamic, a short quiz was integrated into the session. The activity helped participants review and consolidate key concepts engagingly and playfully, reinforcing their understanding of civic participation and active citizenship.

The atmosphere throughout the workshop was open, inclusive, and full of energy. Participants demonstrated strong interest, creativity, and collaboration, actively supporting one another's ideas and perspectives. The event provided an inspiring space for dialogue and exchange, highlighting the importance of local initiatives and youth involvement in building more democratic and resilient communities.

Youth and Civic Engagement (26 May 2025)

On 26 May 2025, Youth for Equality organized the fourth local workshop in Trnava, titled *Youth and Civic Engagement*. The session gathered 14 young participants from Slovakia and focused on promoting civic awareness and encouraging active participation in democratic life and social change.

The workshop introduced participants to key concepts related to civic engagement, political ideologies, and democratic values. Using non-formal education methods, facilitators guided participants through interactive and creative activities designed to deepen their understanding of these topics and foster self-reflection.

One of the main exercises invited participants to create their own political parties, define their values and priorities, and position themselves on a political compass to visualize different ideological perspectives. This was followed by group discussions in which they compared viewpoints, debated priorities, and reflected on the diversity of political opinions in a democratic society.

The workshop also included a light icebreaker to strengthen group dynamics and build trust among participants. The day concluded with a debate on youth participation in politics, where students expressed their thoughts on the importance of young people's voices in shaping public decisions.

The atmosphere throughout the session was inclusive, dynamic, and inspiring. Participants demonstrated strong engagement, creativity, and enthusiasm, contributing to meaningful dialogue and mutual learning. The event provided a valuable space for open exchange and empowerment, reinforcing the importance of civic participation among young people in Slovakia and beyond.

Political Participation and Advocacy (28 May 2025)

The series of workshops in Slovakia concluded on **28 May 2025** with the event *Political Participation and Advocacy*, organized by **Youth for Equality** in Trnava. The session brought together **9 young participants**, most of whom came from **Slovakia and Ukraine**, with two additional participants joining from **Türkiye and Russia**. The workshop aimed to raise awareness about the importance of political engagement and civic advocacy as essential tools for democratic participation and social responsibility.

Throughout the day, participants explored different forms of **political participation**, both conventional and unconventional, and reflected on how youth involvement can drive meaningful social and political change. Through a combination of **interactive and non-formal learning methods**, including a knowledge quiz, small group discussions, and dynamic speed-debating sessions, they enhanced their critical thinking, communication, and teamwork skills.

The atmosphere was **inclusive and engaging**, providing a safe space for young people to express their opinions and engage in open dialogue on diverse topics such as **freedom of speech, political correctness**, and **the influence of digital platforms** on civic participation. The variety of perspectives enriched the discussions and encouraged participants to approach complex issues with empathy and respect.

To conclude the workshop, a **creative reflection activity** invited participants to design proposals for **advocacy campaigns** focused on key social issues, including mental health, education, and climate change. The exercise inspired them to think about practical ways to translate ideas into action through youth-led initiatives.

Overall, the workshop successfully motivated participants to see themselves as **active and responsible citizens** capable of shaping the future through democratic engagement. It represented a meaningful closing event of the Slovak implementation, reinforcing the project's mission to promote civic education and youth empowerment.

Following each event/workshop, all participants were promptly provided with essential project data and a link to access the EUSurvey platform.

Social media posts about the workshops implemented in Slovakia:

Introduction to Democracy and Citizenship (08.04.2025)
Facebook Youth DemocrAID
Facebook Youth for Equality
Instagram Youth for Equality

Youth Leadership and Empowerment (09.04.2025)
Facebook Youth DemocrAID
Facebook Youth for Equality
Instagram Youth for Equality

Community Action and Grassroots Initiatives (16.04.2025)
Facebook Youth DemocrAID
Facebook Youth for Equality
Instagram Youth for Equality

Youth and Civic Engagement (26.05.2025)
Facebook Youth DemocrAID
Facebook Youth for Equality
Instagram Youth for Equality

Political Participation and Advocacy (28.05.2025)
Facebook Youth DemocrAID

Facebook Youth for Equality
Instagram Youth for Equality

Website articles:
Introduction to Democracy and Citizenship
Youth Leadership and Empowerment
Community Action and Grassroots Initiatives
Youth and Civic Engagement
Political Participation and Advocacy

EDS publication links:
https://www.you-net.eu/youth-democraid.htm l
https://youthdemocraid.weebly.com/news

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).