Call for Participants

DEMOCRACY AND GAMES

Blended Mobility Event for Young People

7th ‑ 12th June 2021, Mühlhausen, Germany

The association *Demokrative – Initiative für politische Bildung* is happy to invite 5 young people (between the ages of 18 and 24) from Switzerland (residency in Switzerland) to take part in a Youth Exchange activity on learning about, for, and through democracy with analog games. The activity which is funded through the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Youth in Action program, and will take place from June 7th to 12th, 2021, in Mühlhausen, Germany.

The Project DEMOGAMES

The project "Democracy and Games: Analog and Digital Game-Based-Learning Tools for Youth Work" (DEMOGAMES) is generating educational tools, methods and materials for democracy education in non-formal youth work. It aims to make a substantive contribution to several of the areas of action of the renewed EU Youth Strategy proposed by the European Commission for 2019-2027. The project is based on the didactic, educational approach of game-based learning and applies it to teaching young citizens about democracy. The Swiss association *Demokrative – Initiative für politische Bildung* is one of six partner organizations of DEMOGAMES.

Democracy places high demands on citizens. Political decisions have an impact on many different areas of life, they often affect future generations or neighboring countries, and they are influenced by international and global developments. The importance of youth participation for the future of economic, societal and political development is widely acknowledged. Democracy education enables young people to recognize and represent their interests, to participate in political processes and, in doing so, to meet their fellow human beings and their concerns with respect.

Game-based learning

In this activity, participants will approach the topic of democracy in a participative and engaging manner through analog and digital game-based learning techniques. Several game-based learning tools will be presented with the main purpose to engage, connect and empower young people. The main purpose of the event is that participants will be able to play test custom-built game prototypes on different topics of democracy. In addition, participants will be able to take part in the further development of several democratically-themed board game prototypes themselves.
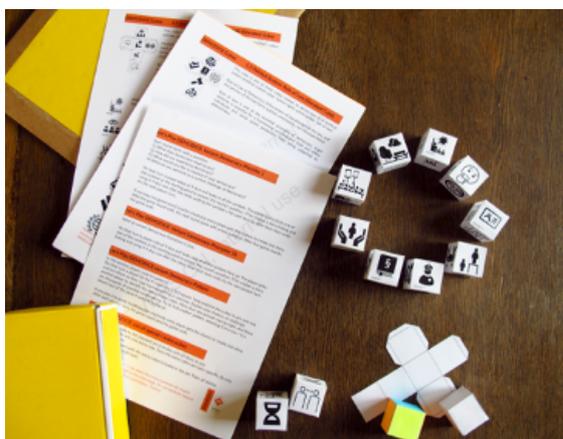
Objectives of the Activity

- To increase the factual knowledge as well as the comprehension and critical understanding of democratic norms, values and institutions
- To train young people's skills within democratic processes (e.g., analytical thinking, co-operation and communication skills)
- To discuss the importance of core democratic values of freedom, fairness, equality, and justice
- To enable young people to reflect on their attitude towards democracy and the importance of tolerance, responsibility and respect for social inclusion and solidarity among different cultures
- To develop a working understanding of game mechanics of boardgames and their ability to connect social/societal topics with leisure activities

Participants Profile

The activity will involve participants from different countries. *Demokrative – Initiative für politische Bildung* is recruiting 5 participants currently living in Switzerland.

To apply to participate in this activity, you should have the following profile:

- Aged between 18 and 24
- Residing in Switzerland
- Be interested in youth initiatives
- Be interested in non-formal learning about, for, and through democracy in an intercultural setting
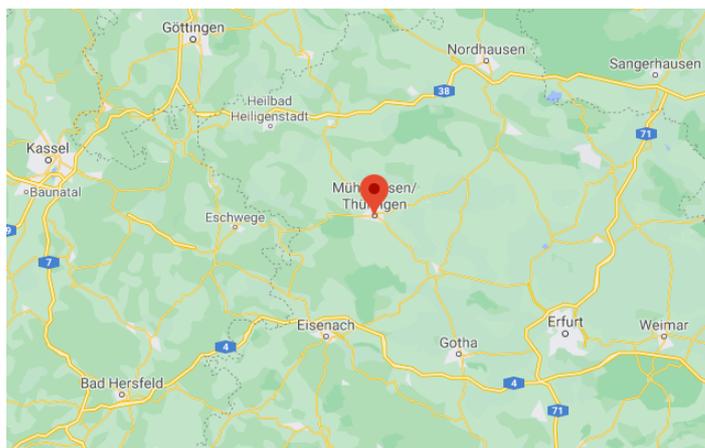- Basic knowledge of English (at least level B1)

Game material, prototype 'Demodice'

Travel and Accommodation

As the project is partially financed by the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Youth in Action program, meals and accommodation will be fully covered by the organizers. Traveling expenses will be reimbursed by the organizers – up to a maximum amount of 275 Euro – upon presentation of the travel documents and boarding pass (physical copies where possible) after the event.

Please note our Covid-19 Disclaimer and do not arrange any travelling without consulting Demokrative.

Mühlhausen (Thüringen), Germany

Application Procedure

Please send a short CV in English (1-3 pages) and a motivation letter (max. 300 words) to office@demokrative.ch, with the subject line "DEMOGAMES C1 Participant Application"

*The application deadline is **May 3rd, 2021.***

Successful applicants will be informed by May 7th.

COVID 19 Disclaimer

The organizers are aware of and monitoring the developments around the COVID 19 pandemic closely. The local organizers will provide for the necessary safety measures (e.g., individual protection and physical distancing). Selected participants will get advice on how and when to arrange their travel, will be informed about relevant rules, and receive detailed instructions on safety measures.

In case official rules for personal meetings and/ or organized events and/or international travel (including quarantine rules) impede realization of the event, and/ or the physical presence of individual participants, Demokrative will seek tailor-made solutions for selected participants for a partial online participation or alternative offline events in Switzerland.

Please do not apply if, given the current challenging circumstances, you do not wish to travel at all (regardless of official rules allowing it, in the sending and hosting country). Please be aware that the changing situation might require a hybrid or online format, in which case local or online participation is expected. A detailed program follows in due time.

More information

For more information on the inviting organization and the project, please consult www.demokrative.ch

In case of questions, please contact *Demokrative – Initiative für politische Bildung* at office@demokrative.ch