



Handout for the preparation for the dialogue with policy makers

Conclusions from RAY-PART research findings

The following outlines characteristics of projects, which should be met in order to make them effective in developing participation and citizenship competences and practices of participants and, in particular, fostering the engagement of young people in civil society and democratic life and empowering them to do so

The project as participation and citizenship practice – “walk the talk”

→ *Projects which provide for actively working on topics related to participation and citizenship – e.g., through actually practicing participation in civil society and/or democratic life, either in a real-life setting, in a simulation or by developing and implementing a project/activity related to participation and citizenship etc.*

→ *Projects which are linking current social and political events at local, regional, national, European and global levels to the project theme and to project activities.*

The project as a means for understanding participation and citizenship

→ *Projects which are using the project experiences for developing an understanding of participation and citizenship – at least implicitly, but possibly also conceptually.*

The project as non-formal and informal learning space

→ *Projects using a combination of a variety of suitable (non-formal learning) methods which facilitate learning for participation and citizenship (presentations, discussions, role plays, field exercises/excursions, artistic methods etc.)*

→ *Projects providing for reflection of what was experienced and learned through the project.*

→ *Projects applying the principles of non-formal education and learning.*

Projects combining face-to-face with online settings

→ *Face-to-face project activities should be complemented by online project activities in case they can contribute to an increased development of participation and citizenship competence and practice.*

Sustainability of projects

→ *More emphasis needs to be given to follow-up activities/projects resulting from participation and citizenship projects in order to achieve sustainability and multiplication of project outcomes, including the provision of the necessary funding for such activities.*

Effectiveness and quality of projects

→ *Ensuring the necessary training for youth workers and youth leaders on developing and implementing participation and citizenship projects for young people.*