

# Joint EU/CoE Project 'Human Rights Education and Democratic Citizenship in Eastern Partnership Countries'

## Some conclusions

### General

There is a good case for further development in EDC/HRE in the six countries of the partnership

This case is based on what EDC/HRE has the potential to deliver (a) in societal terms, (b) in wider benefits.

The case studies of pilot projects show that further development is not only a theoretical but also a practical possibility.

There already exists a pool of good practice in each country on which to build.

Lessons learned from 6 years of school-based local projects stimulated by the Summer Academies

### Lessons from the pilot projects

Partnership working – youth organisations (Georgia); university (Belarus); parents (Az)

Role of non-formal youth education (Georgia)

Role of young people's participation in the education process (Moldova)

Role of school leaders (Armenia)

Starting where people are – (questionnaire- Ukraine)

Bottom-up, grass roots approach – like-minded volunteers (All)

### Reminders

School is real life – not a game

Democracy is a mindset

Power of the 'hidden curriculum' (Jackson, 1968)

EDC/HRE is just as important as rest of the curriculum – professional competencies/  
training opportunities/ assessment

### Challenges

Lack of resources in local languages

Resistance to the concept

Going beyond the group of like-minded volunteers

Embedding in school practice so it feels normal

Introducing real and difficult issues – not just the easy ones

An effective form of democratic school governance

Getting others on board – parents, funders, authorities

Building a coherent curriculum – key concepts re-visited in ever-more complex ways in  
different phases of education (continuity and progression)

Going beyond 'numbers' / ticking boxes - building in quality

Strategic planning – school level – school development

Co-ordination, monitoring, evaluation – school level

### New opportunities

Council of Europe tools – piloting programme

National curriculum or strategy reviews/ revisions

Relevance of active citizenship skills and outlook to employability and national prosperity

Introduction of global competencies into national PISA assessments

Share & Connect platform/ European Wergeland Centre – alumni networks -linking