

Teaching CDC in VET schools and student participation

Armenia

DESCRIPTION

Curriculum

In Armenia, the subjects **“Basics of Political and Social Sciences”** (54 hours) and **“Basics of Law”** (36 hours) are incorporated into educational standards and curricula **as compulsory subjects for all VET-programmes**.

The purpose of the subjects is to contribute to:

- the **formation of students' systematic knowledge about the political life of society**, helping them to understand political phenomena in their essence, meaning and significance, to make conscious political choices and actively participate in the political developments within society;
- **knowledge and understanding of the dynamics and complexities of modern society** by linking current societal developments to sociological, economic and political contexts;
- the **legal education of students**, the development of their awareness of legal concepts and value system necessary for being responsible citizens;
- **understanding of the Constitution, human and citizen rights, freedoms, and responsibilities**.

Personal development, critical thinking and intercultural understanding are also **integrated into other compulsory subjects** such as Armenian and foreign languages.

Assessment and quality assurance

External quality assurance in Armenia is carried out by the state-accredited National Centre for Professional Education Quality Assurance Foundation (ANQA). ANQA emphasises the **involvement of students in quality assurance processes** and fosters various forms of cooperation with them.

Students can **participate in seminars, forums and workshops** organised by ANQA; engage in **research initiated by the “Students' Voice” project**; participate in **Tertiary Level Institutions (TLIs) accreditation processes as experts**; or volunteer in ANQA activities.

The participation of students in the **TLI accreditation processes** is highly valued and **at least one student must be included in the relevant expert groups**. To attract student-experts, ANQA collaborates with the “Students' Voice” project, TLI student organisations, as well as the Armenian National Students' Association. The students who have actively participated in the “Students' Voice” project trainings are included in the student-expert database.

Leaners' voice and participation

1. Mandatory student Councils in VET institutions

The establishment of student councils is mandatory, as stipulated in the statutes of VET institutions. The student council functions as the **self-governing body of the college students and safeguards their interests**. A student council is considered established and granted the rights outlined in the charter of the VET institution from the moment its nominal composition and operational procedures are formally submitted to the council's president.

A representative from the student council is a member of the college's management board, holding 25% of seats and has **voting rights on all matters** concerning the institution, including issues related to administration, budget and teaching.

2. Civil society organisations' involvement in teaching CDC in VET

In Armenia, there are over **5500 civil society organisations** implementing various **youth activities to support the development of CDC**. Students from VET schools are among the target groups of these activities.

Among these organisations, the **Civil Youth Centre NGO** recently organised the "**For Participatory Governance**" initiative. As part of the project, over **80 young people - including 20% of participants from VET schools** - from the enlarged communities of the administrative region of Tavush marz had the opportunity to enhance **their understanding of local self-government, community policies, and the mechanisms to influence decision-making processes** through training courses held in their communities. After completing the **courses on "Local Democracy"**, students actively took part in council meetings and public discussions, and they raised various community issues before the council and received responses. This experience helped students apply their theoretical knowledge and fostered greater civic engagement.

USEFUL LINKS

<https://www.anga.am/en/students/#Partnerships>

<https://www.arlis.am/documentview.aspx?docid=72656>

cyc.org.am

[Civil Youth Center/Զաղաքացիական Երիտասարդական Կենտրոն | Ijevan | Facebook](#)

<https://www.cyc.org.am/current-programs/18>

<https://www.facebook.com/civilyouthcenter/posts/pfbid02zQKdyxpexXYQ1nyoPrpnKZjD7zrRvPJxCNc3ofZvrJpNgQhTrUFMiZNuQiU2ZB5HI>

<https://www.facebook.com/civilyouthcenter/posts/pfbid02XtKHwntajLmgHx6pWqdJBLuJUEpESLzjDZtMjidZqxfJQJLTQKT9JF2v7cgFQEW2I>

<https://www.facebook.com/civilyouthcenter/posts/pfbid02EAeaKTCEw4mDZQhCTEiuUtvWBwWvC6F96PQpgKysLuxMCs7GkMAxto1Ydkt4G2M2I>

<https://www.facebook.com/civilyouthcenter/posts/pfbid0wjMVfbkd2xdpgmTsZ561AMh5itS9sWnAckSqXxPtQsd4aHcuyDRRwJErL6bxoEGHI>

<https://www.facebook.com/TavushTV/videos/7685114884904654>

<https://www.facebook.com/civilyouthcenter/videos/444915131378694>