

Youth projects in human rights education

1 Quality criteria for projects in human rights education

- A. Learning about human rights
 - a. Reference to human rights standards: the project provides and imparts HRE, contributing to the understanding of international standards for human rights (Council of Europe, UN) in participants' local or national context (for example, specific instruments on gender equality, children's rights, minority rights, social rights, political rights, anti-discrimination, and so on)
 - b. Learning how to claim human rights: the project familiarises participants to the mechanisms and institutions relevant for claiming human rights existing in the local, national and international context
- B. Learning through human rights
 - a. Value-based learning: activities in the project are organised securing equality and inclusion in the learning process, and in a way that values diversity within the group of young people
 - b. Inclusive evaluation: participants are associated with the educational evaluation of the activity
 - c. Methodology and learning principles: the project involved methods of non-formal education and creates opportunities for experiential and cooperative learning, non-violent communication and development of critical thinking
- C. Learning for human rights
 - a. Taking action: the project enables young people to take action for human rights and hold duty bearers accountable at local or national levels (for example, addressing institutions, carrying out research, proposing peer education, engaging with different communities etc.)
 - b. Follow-up: the projects connects young people to relevant local and national actors in the context of human rights.

2 Relevant standards:

- International human rights standards (UDHR, UN CRC, ECHR, Istanbul Convention etc.)
- Council of Europe Charter on education for democratic citizenship and human rights education

3 Tools for working with young people

- Compass – A manual on human rights education with young people
- Compasito – a manual on human rights education for children
- Gender Matters – a manual on gender-based violence affecting young people
- All different – all equal: *Ideas, resources, methods and activities for informal intercultural education with young people and adults*
- Mirrors – a manual on combating antigypsyism through human rights education
- Bookmarks – a manual on combating hate speech through human rights education
- And many more ... check www.coe.int/youth

Youth projects in peacebuilding, conflict transformation and intercultural dialogue

1 Quality criteria for youth projects in peacebuilding, conflict transformation and intercultural dialogue

- a. Involvement of young people affected by conflict, either ongoing, unresolved (e.g. frozen conflicts) or recent enough to still impact on current generations of young people. Violent conflict needs not to be armed inter-national, inter-ethnic or inter-communal conflicts: localised conflicts that involve some form of violence with impact on young people are also relevant in this context.
- b. Alleviating the effects of conflict, improving relations, initiating dialogue or proposing confidence-building measures between communities and groups of young people.
- c. Addressing existing prejudice about other parties in conflict.
- d. Advocating for and adopting non-violence as a basis for communication and dialogue, combined with the principles of human rights education (or human rights based approaches) and peace education
- e. Promoting dialogue and empathy among groups and communities.
- f. Adopting multi-perspectivity in the analysis of conflicts and their history.
- g. Improving the competences of young people to constructively deal with conflicts and their consequences, including competences of non-violent communication and conflict analysis.

Peace education is understood as a wide range of activities aimed at educating about, for, and towards a culture of peace and nonviolence, based on human rights, and away from a culture of war and violence.

2 Relevant standards

UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on young people, peace and security

Council of Europe's White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue "Living Together as Equals in Dignity"

Resolution 2378 (2021) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on "Strengthening the role of young people in the prevention and resolution of conflicts"

3 Tools for working with young people

EU – Council of Europe youth partnership's Toolkit 12 Youth transforming conflict

Compass – a manual on human rights education with young people

EU – Council of Europe youth partnership's 11 Mosaic: The training kit for Euro-Mediterranean youth work