

# SIMULATION GAME

## «RED LINES»

HOW TO CREATE A  
YOUTH CENTRE  
IN YOUR COMMUNITY





**Simulation game “Red Lines”:  
How to create a youth center in your community  
(2021)**

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The game is developed and prepared by Lviv regional youth center in within the scope of activities of the Council of Europe Project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine”, which is implemented within the Action Plan of the Council of Europe for Ukraine for 2018-2022.

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## INTRODUCTION

This simulation has been developed by the Lviv Regional Youth Centre with the mentoring support of the Council of Europe in the framework of co-operation during the implementation of «Youth for Democracy in Ukraine» project. During almost three months the simulation was being developed, edited, modified and improved. Managers of the youth centre, as well as our ambassadors, civil servants from the Youth Policy Department of the Lviv Oblast State Administration and mentors of the Council of Europe Project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine” gave a helping hand in the creation of the simulation.

Authors has been meeting multiple times to discuss and transform the game, generate ideas how to improve it even more. Finally, we have created an insightful simulation, which will be a good tool to engage with young people both in Ukraine and in Europe. Specific feature of the simulation is that it goes deep into problematic issues of Ukrainian youth, their identity and needs. It is to immerse its participants into a weird world of stereotypes, biases, and beliefs that should be discussed and further transformed. We are sure that you will be laughing while running this simulation, as it is full of funny situations.

This manual is designed for facilitators. It consists of instructions, step-by-step explanations of each stage, scenario and community description, role cards handouts, and questions to discuss after the simulation. Moreover, in the annexes you could find useful information that will help you prepare for the simulation, based on our experience of implementing the “Red Lines” simulation in Drohobych city on 15 November 2021.

Authors express their deep gratitude to those people and organisations, which have greatly helped to create this game. These are the Council of Europe Office in Kyiv, the Council of Europe Project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine”, the Youth Policy Department of the Lviv Oblast State Administration, Drohobych City Council, Truskavets City Council, Boryslav City Council.

We invite you to plunge into the world of simulated reality and hope you will enjoy the process!

## ABOUT THE SIMULATION

The very name of the simulation (“Red Lines” (How to Create a Youth Centre in Your Community)) is highly meaningful. After all, it creates a simulated reality, in which participants, while solving complex issues, cross the “red lines” of their opponents, change their own “red lines” and discuss the importance and relevance of such limits in real life.

According to the scenario, all events take place in the Kvitkova (Flower) community, which is located in Zhovtyi (Yellow) region. You could find more information about it in the community description section. The community members face many challenges. One of the pressing issues is creating a youth centre in the community, which is actively advocated by young people. The simulation consists of six logically interconnected steps which follow one another, with actual simulation of decision-making process in community and extremely important debriefing. During the simulation, we will form teams, hold discussions, debate, defend our ideas, look for arguments in our favour, negotiate, search for solutions and find common ground or won't be able to reach agreement at all. The goal of the exercise is not just to fulfil a task, for example, to establish a youth centre in the community, but to simulate real-life situations as closely as possible, discover our own stereotypes and biases, open up sensitive issues for discussion and try to find solutions.

During the simulation, participants receive certain roles. As activity is designed for a group of about 24 participants, they can form four teams (representing young people, government, business and community). Each character has his/her own needs, goals, concerns, expectations, beliefs, and values. Based on the assigned role participant will develop ability to understand different people, their values and realise why the searching for a common ground is so important. The whole simulation is centred on the issue, raised by young people, about creating a youth centre in the community and allocating community budget funds or other sources funds for the youth centre's functioning.

### — Time

The time required for the exercise may vary a lot. As we have learned from our experience, the most preferable duration of the game is 4 hours, with 15 minutes break in the middle of the simulation.

### — Group size

The number of participants may also vary. The most preferable number is 24 participants. But you can add or take out some roles, depending on what kind of atmosphere you intend to create and what sensitive issues to raise; also, you can introduce a few provocative characters to add an intensity to the conflict. It is advisable to proceed from the realities that exist in your community based on the key message and aim of the simulation.

In our version, it is advisable to engage 24 participants plus one facilitator who will be running the whole simulation, and his/her assistant. You can invite observers if you want them to see the development of the plot and gain insights into the challenges that characters face.

### — Age

The optimal age of participants is 14–25. You can run the simulation with older people as well, while for children under 14 it may turn out to be difficult.

### — Target group

The target group of our exercise is preferably young people. These can be young people from secondary schools or higher educational institutions, civil society activists, young parents, or young people who interested in their community's life and strive to make a difference. You can run the simulation in a 50/50 format, where 50% are young people, and 50% are youth workers, or people who engage with young people. Also, you can run the simulation in different venues. We believe that it will be favourable for the simulation and enhance your experience in youth work.

### — Learning outcomes

#### **Participants will:**

- 1) understand how to negotiate with the authorities and other stakeholders on the establishment of a youth centre;
- 2) learn to convey and defend their point of view;
- 3) realise the potential problems and risks that may arise when creating a youth centre;
- 4) find out what is the purpose of a youth centre in the community, its functions, influence, and role;
- 5) discover and learn to understand the opinions of other people living in their community, including vulnerable groups;
- 6) learn how to make decisions and take responsibility;
- 7) get to know the ropes of the community functions and see its explicit and hidden resources.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FACILITATOR

There should be a person who will facilitate the entire process of the simulation, coordinate it, and set frames. It may be a youth worker, a person who has experience in running such activities, or anyone who wants to try their hand in this role.

**We provide you with a step-by-step instructions that is to be implemented during the game:**

- 1) Introduce yourself, say hello, and give an overview of the simulation;
- 2) Outline the meaning and purpose of the game, and the sequence of its steps;
- 3) Set common rules for the day (*you can suggest your own rules*);
- 4) Before starting, do not forget to tell some promotion words about your social media accounts, for later they will help you keep in touch with the participants and your target audience.;
- 5) **First step:** distribute roles among participants and offer them to choose who would take the Head of the community role independently; give them time to clarify the roles (*up to 5 minutes*);
- 6) Growing into the role. Read out the community description while playing some meditative music, tell people to close their eyes, imagine themselves as characters they are to play in the game. Tell them that you will be asking various questions to help them grow into the role:
  - *how do you look?*
  - *what does your home look like?*
  - *do you have your own room? What does it look like?*
  - *Do you have parents? Who are they?*
  - *How do you get to school / work?*
  - *How do you spend your free time?*
  - *What is your daily routine?*
  - *Who are your friends?*
  - *How do you see yourself in the future?*
- 7) Turn on some music to wrap up the first step (*that is end signal*);
- 8) Launch the **second step**, invite participants to form groups and get acquainted with each other (*participants will be already playing roles*);
- 9) Launch the **third step**, continue to work in groups (*please see Steps*);
- 10) Announce a 15 minutes break for participants to have a rest. It would be perfect to offer them a cup of coffee or tea;
- 11) After the break, tell them about the **fourth step** and launch it. Before announcing the third step, it is important to approach the Head of the community and tell about his/her responsibilities at this new stage. Most of the responsibilities are described in the role card of the Head of the community, but you should stress on the organisational role to engage the entire community joining the discussion. (*please see Steps*);
- 12) Put some music to signalise the end of the discussion and decision-making;
- 13) Then continue with the **fifth step** – the joint signing of the memorandum (*invite participants to decide how this process will be carried out*);
- 14) Turn on driving music to celebrate the end of the simulation;
- 15) Bring all participants together in a circle and start discussing the simulation; that makes up **the sixth step** (*following the debriefing plan*);
- 16) Hand out participants some souvenirs and take a group picture for further promotion of the event.



STEPS 

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### — Overview of steps and the timing

There are six steps of the exercise in total.

**The first step** is “Roles distribution”. We invite participants to choose independently the roles they like. If several people choose the same role, ask them to convince you to give the role to him or her, please select the one who provided the most convincing arguments. This step will take about 15 minutes.

In **the second step**, participants get acquainted with each other as characters. Explain them their task – they should form the groups, introduce themselves, tell other characters about themselves, and present their beliefs, values, thoughts, and views. Participants form the groups according to different categories (government, business, youth, and community). It also takes 15 minutes. Remind them that they are already playing their roles. There are bigger and smaller groups, though everyone in the group should have enough time to present themselves within 15 minutes. You should highlight that.

**The third step** is similar to the second one. Participants continue working in the groups, but they have another task now. They should formulate their position on the importance of the community youth centre and convey their point of view to the others within 15 minutes.

**The fourth step** is the main one. The climax of the simulation takes place here. It starts with a group discussion on the establishing of a community youth centre. The main task of each character is to convince others that their point of view is right, to convey it in clear-cut and understandable way and to find supporters around. The “Head of the community” has an additional task that is to moderate this process. This step takes 1.5 hours. This is time to debate and practice public speaking skills, arguments and counterarguments.

**The fifth step** is summarising one. Adopting a general memorandum on a would-be youth centre, officially approved and signed. Participants choose the method of its adoption and signing independently. You can reflect on their choice at the end. It takes 15 minutes.

**The sixth step** is time for debriefing. Prepare questions for debriefing and discuss them. The total time foreseen for debriefing is 90-120 minutes. (*please see Debriefing*)

## — Roles

The simulation offers 24 ready-made roles for its participants. These characters could be modified to meet the needs of the simulation and local context of your community.

### Roles are grouped into 4 categories:

- *representatives of the authorities;*
- *young people;*
- *representatives of business;*
- *community members.*

## — Role groups table

| <b>Authorities</b>                                     | <b>Youth</b>                | <b>Business</b>                          | <b>Community</b>            |
|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Head of the territorial community                      | Internally displaced person | Owner of a construction supplies company | Activist                    |
| Chairman of the Budget Commission of the local council | Youth leader                | Owner of a local bakery                  | Elderly woman               |
| Chairman of the Youth Commission of the local council  | Member of "Plast" NGO       | Owner of a supermarket chain             | Unemployed person           |
| Youth worker   | LGBTIQ+ representative      |  | Blogger                     |
|  | Student from Lviv City      |  | Teacher                     |
|  | High school student         |  | Head's best friend          |
|  |                             |  | Director of Cultural Centre |
|  |                             |  | Person with disability      |
|  |                             |  | Young parent                |
|  |                             |  | Salesperson                 |
|  |                             |  | Priests                     |

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## Preparation

**Before starting the simulation, you need to take care of the following:**

**Room:** it should be large enough to accommodate 24 people. Such premises as a local Community centre, Youth Space, school, hub or other public spaces would suit you well.

**Technical support:** it is advisable that the room has speakers, a projector, Internet access and a laptop. If such technical conditions are unavailable, please prepare flipcharts with steps description and the simulation instructions in advance.

**Materials:** printed handouts (roles, community description, questions for debriefing), a presentation with a list of all steps, flipchart paper, markers, pens, and paper for making notes.

### Inviting participants:

In advance create some visuals to post in social media, write a text, make a registration form and start inviting participants to the simulation. Bringing together young people from different communities of your region will create a space for lively dialogue and best practices exchange. A few days before the event, select 24 participants, making personal phone calls to confirm participation and provide details of where and when the simulation will take place to make sure that people have been properly informed.

## TIPS AND HINTS FROM AUTHORS

While developing this simulation, we did not intend introducing any strict rules and boundaries, but rather we were aiming the opposite - to break them. As a facilitator, you should provide its running in a free and relaxed manner, create a safe space, and give everyone the right to choose what, where, and how to do it. Then the simulation proceeds in its own natural pace. It is impossible to predict how the game will end up or which options participants will choose, the pace they will set and the questions they will raise. Get ready to this uncertainty. It may result in something really great. Your primary aim is to keep facilitating the process to make it efficient and fruitful. Each time the simulation may run its own way, so your next experience may totally differ from the previous one. To make the composition of participants more diverse and the game more thrilling, you may invite real-life characters to see how the things will turn out.

### Here are few practical tips:

1. During debriefing session, please listen more than speak. Give the participants an opportunity to speak out. Nevertheless, it is important to follow their replies once in a while and engage in the discussions, otherwise participants may get the impression that you don't care about their opinions. The key point is to know when to stop talking.
2. During the group discussion, it is better to keep silent and allow characters to manage things on their own.
3. After the simulation, it is important to get feedback from the participants by asking them to fill in a form. You can draw it up as you wish, as long as it is anonymous. Communicate it to the participants.
4. Bring together different young people, from different communities, with different background, of different ages to make the simulation more absorbing, insightful and enriched with experiences of different people.

### — About a youth centre

#### What is a youth centre?<sup>1</sup>

**Youth centre** is an institution, enterprise, or organisation that carries out youth work.

#### Network of Ukrainian youth centres consists of:

- 1) national-level youth centre (All-Ukrainian Youth Centre);
- 2) the Republican Youth Centre of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast youth centres, Kyiv and Sevastopol City youth centres (regional youth centres);
- 3) city, rayon, city district, town and village youth centres (local youth centres).

<sup>1</sup> [1]The Law of Ukraine "On Fundamentals of Youth Policy" URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1414-20#Text>

Issues of youth centres' functioning shall be regulated by **Standard Regulation on Youth Centres approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine**.

State authorities and local self-government bodies shall guarantee the right of young people to participate in the forming and implementation of youth policy in accordance with the procedure established by law.

**Local youth centres** are institutions, organisations, and enterprises established by local self-government bodies, which belong to the scope of their management.

Local youth centres can also be established as legal entities regardless of their legal form, ownership, or subordination.

Local youth centres of communal ownership may be established and operate on the basis of educational, cultural, healthcare, and social protection institutions by reorganising them if an appropriate decision is made by the local self-government body that is the founder of the specified institution, in accordance with the procedure established by law.

**Local youth centres shall:**

- promote social and individual development of children and young people due to their involvement in decision making and integration into community life;
- ensure the development of civic and non-formal education;
- introduce other forms of insightful leisure activities for children and young people;
- provide methodological and informational support for the operation of youth and children's non-governmental organisations and other youth work entities.

## ABOUT LVIV REGIONAL YOUTH CENTRE

Lviv Regional Youth Centre (hereinafter referred to as LRYC) is a platform for empowerment of young people. The key priority of the LRYC is to support youth initiatives and develop youth spaces in the Lviv Oblast.

The history of the Lviv Regional Youth Centre dates back to 2001. For 15 years, it has been a methodical and consulting centre. 2016 was a turning point for LRYC, as it had acquired a project-oriented concept. Young activists from Lviv and Lviv Oblast launched a large-scale enterprise engaged in project management and began developing and implementing successful ideas. In particular, they created new youth spaces and centres in Lviv Oblast. Today, there are more than 20 of them.

Among the institutions that play an important part in the development of youth policy in Lviv Oblast is the Lviv Regional Youth Centre, which serves as a platform for implementing initiatives for young people living in the region. Recently, its operation has been restructured into project based format with tendency to increase the number and scale of projects focusing on the development of the youth sphere of Lviv Oblast. Also, over the past 4 years, the Youth Centre has been closely co-operating with various non-governmental organisations and initiatives in order to implement favourable social changes.

**Centre's level (all Ukrainian/ regional/local):** regional.

**The centre's form of ownership (communal/private):** communal.

**Priority areas of the centre's activities:**

- Promotion of non-formal education;
- Strengthening volunteer movement;
- Arranging insightful leisure activities for young people;
- Monitoring the youth needs in the region and supporting their fulfilment;
- Proper access to information among young people;
- Supporting youth spaces and initiatives implemented in Oblast;
- Co-operating with youth non-governmental organisations;
- Developing youth programmes and materials;
- Developing international co-operation;
- Fostering national and patriotic values among the young people of Lviv Oblast.

**Centre's structure (number and name of divisions):** 1 division – institutional sector.

**Information about the centre's employees:**

- number of employees (total): 5;
- number of employees who directly engage with young people: 5;
- number of employees who have obtained a "Youth Worker" certificate: 2.

**Total number of centre's visitors (per month):** 760.

**Average age of centre's visitors:** 21

**Information about the centre's electronic services:**

- possibility of booking premises;
- availability of an event calendar;
- possibility to access the centre's public reports;

## ANNEXES

### —— Community description

Our community is called Kvitkova (Flower), it is located in Zhovtyi (Yellow) region. As a new territorial administration it was established about a year ago and immediately run elections of the Head of the community and local deputies, that started a new page in the territorial community life.

About 100,000 people live in the community, with about 25% of young people among them. Citizens mostly speak Ukrainian (the only state language), but there are a lot of representatives of national minorities and internally displaced persons from Eastern Ukraine (that might speak other languages, including Russian). The community boasts several large enterprises. The largest of them are oil refining, construction and financial facilities. There is a chain of bakeries and supermarkets owned by the local well-to-do citizens.

Community citizens are quite religious; they attend the local church and respect their priests. There is also a Community Centre hosting the events organised by the community citizens. These events are mostly cultural and entertaining in nature, with many celebrations dedicated to outstanding history dates. The community does not offer venues or activities, which would be of interest for young people, there are no public spaces or arranged spots for leisure activities.

Local authorities and citizens of the community face many challenging issues such as road and new infrastructure facilities construction, maintenance of schools and hospitals, creation of public spaces and venues to arrange leisure activities for young people. Today, the community is going to adopt the budget for the next year, actively discussing channelling of funds. Local young people make efforts to defend their interests. They actively exchange their suggestions and try to convey them to local authorities, businesses and the community residents.

Our community is not very well off, with most of the budget funds channelled to support priority needs, like in most neighbouring communities. There are different groups of citizens who have their own needs, problems and goals – these are business, government, young people and other groups of citizens.

Community citizens are now actively discussing the next year budget and all of them do their best to defend their viewpoints. Young people are in the most difficult position, as their opinions are commonly considered unimportant. Each community citizen has their own vision of the situation in line with the role assigned.

The stage of budget adoption in the community is gaining momentum, and today representatives of the entire community are going to meet for its discussion. The pressing issue of creating a youth centre will be raised by local youth. Hold on to your hats! We are into a big fight over the needs to be covered by the budget. It depends on you whether a youth centre will be created in the community, as well as whether you will be able to defend your own interests.

We invite you to plunge into the simulation and defend your rights!

## Roles

### BUSINESS

- **Owner of the Plunder and Flee Inc supermarket chain**

*You are the owner of the Plunder and Flee Inc supermarket chain.*

You've been doing business since you were a teenager selling mobile phones. After that, you started a shawarma business. Then you opened a supermarket chain. You love hunting and dogs. You are friends with the Head of the community and the salesperson in the local store. You don't care about a youth centre, but still ready to support young people if they help you to promote your supermarkets.

**You make every effort to** promote your business in all the ways possible. You like people who are willing to go into business starting from scratch.

**Things important to you** are your own well-being, business growth, infrastructure development and improvements in the community. You believe that since you're paying taxes you need to know where they are channelled. You value comfortable life and reasonable use of budget funds.

**You are against** young people leaving the community. You are against the competitors in the community.

**You don't care** about the cultural development and any training courses in the community, as long as you enjoy your comfortable life.



## BUSINESS

- **Owner of a local bakery**

*You own a local bakery.*

You supply the whole community with bread and bakery products. You work 24/7 as a committed businessman. You need to control everything. Appointments with you are to be made in advance and preferably via people you know very well. You are fond of having fun and spend vacations abroad. You value European standards of living. You have a big family. You support the local school youth, engage in charity work. You don't seek publicity, but you are ready to support worthy endeavours. Your motto is "time is money." You care for people you can rely on and would like to find those in the community.

**It is important for you** to keep your business running, to have people working at your company such as bakers, salespersons, and drivers. You have good negotiation skills and a lot of contacts in business sector. You care about your reputation and your business. Your principles lie in trust, quality, and attractiveness. It is important for you to keep friendly relationship with the Head of territorial community. Also, you care about good roads to deliver your bread.

**You are against** raising taxes on business activities by using resources of the community, local authorities and power; since you believe, they are just laundering money.

**You support** organising events by young people. as you understand that they have future in their hands, you want to develop youth infrastructure, and generally speaking, you support the creation of a youth centre.

**You don't care** who will be in power and about power as it is as well, as long as it doesn't get in your way.

## BUSINESS

- **Owner of a construction supplies company**

*You own a construction supplies company.*

You are well-to-do because you have been successful in various areas of your life. You have a family – a wife/husband, a son (aged 16) and a daughter (aged 12). Your children take part in the school self-government, and it was from them that you have learned that the community is to open a youth centre. Also, you pursue active lifestyle – you go in for sports, travel a lot, concern yourself with politics of your country, and spend weekends with your family.

**It is very important for you** that your children get knowledge and skills to help build their career in the future or open their own business as soon as possible. You also care about the community's well-being, because it is the environment where your children are growing up.

**You support** your children in their active involvement in school self-government, because in the future it can help them in their studies and work. However, you sometimes worry that it takes up a lot of free time which they could spend preparing for lessons.

**You are absolutely against** the premises intended for youth centre to house another store or other business. You seek justice without nepotism.

**You don't care** about relationships with other citizens of your community, since you care about your own opinion only and do not hesitate to disagree with someone and defend your point of view.

## AUTHORITIES

- **Chairperson of the Budget Commission**

*You are the Chairperson of the Budget Commission in the local council.*

You manage community funds and channel them to cover the most pressing needs. This year you were frustrated about the budget to be so low. The Head of the community supported your appointment to this position. You take a balanced position and analyse each decision that concerns the allocation of funds in great detail. Today, you have heard for the first time about the creation of a youth centre. For you, young people are the Plast Non-governmental Organisation for which you allocate annual funding. You are not on a payroll as a local council deputy, but you run your own business in the energy sector. You can't make decisions concerning the allocation of money on your own.

**You approve** reasonable allocation of funds and their rational use. In all matters, you support the Head of the community and consult with him/her; however, you believe that you would become a better Head if you ever had a chance.

**It is important for you** to meet the priority needs of the community in terms of energy supply, education and healthcare; uphold your reputation and add to image building; get the current the Head of the community dismissed in the future and become a next one.

**You are against** unreasonable spending of funds; you don't want to flush budget money down the drain. You are unaware of the young people needs; you don't understand the purpose of a youth centre. You are unwilling to invest money in culture and spirituality, since you believe that money should be invested in something that will bring profit.

**You don't care**, since the main thing for you is to gain income, no matter how it is generated. If young people come up with the ideas how to attract money to the community, you will support them. The most important thing for you is a great business plan.

## AUTHORITIES

- **Chairperson of the Youth Commission**

*You are a Chairperson of the local community youth commission.*

You seek for publicity; you have good relations with the Head and with all parties. You strive to build up your career. You also run business in a neighbouring community. You don't know much about youth policy, because this is a new sphere for you. You want to use young people for your own purposes; they are a resource for you and a good opportunity to promote yourself. Take advantage of it. Find allies in this simulation and make it the most favourable for yourself.

**Things important for you** are publicity, public praise, recognition, image building, making use of people, eliminating competitors, keeping your rating, "any publicity is good publicity", to be involved in decision-making.

**You support** those initiatives that bring you profit, you care for your close ones. You support the creation of a youth centre, but you want it to bring benefit, with your team introduced and your projects implemented there.

**You don't care** how the Head is going to raise money for the project, whether the community supports its creation, no matter what the young people want. Your worldview is "I know better what young people need, because I am the Chairperson of the Youth Commission and can influence them."

**You are against** other points of view but yours, against participating in non-public activities, against young people doing something on their own without your consent.

## AUTHORITIES

- **Head of the territorial community**

*You're the Head of the community.*

You are concerned with all the issues and challenges of your community related to health-care, roads, education, social benefits, and infrastructure. When young people had contacted you on the issue, you asked them to reason you into the need to create a youth centre. You have formed your own team in the local council. You care about your reputation, so you do a lot for people "in public", being a bit of a populist. You want to maintain good relations with all community members.

During the third stage of our game, you should arrange a discussion "Is it feasible creating a youth centre in the community?" with all community members taking part. Think how you can do it. Invite people to discuss how you will be making this decision. After discussion, it is advisable to issue a document to be approved on the creation or failure to create a youth centre in the community. Given the centre is created, then upon the official adoption of the document our simulation is to end. If no agreement is reached, contact our facilitators and they will help you.

**It is important for you** to stay in office as long as possible; you believe that your position is your vocation. You don't see the economic feasibility in opening a youth centre. You need to hear all the opinions. Investments are very important to you, so you want to open as many shops, shopping centres, gas stations, and businesses as possible in the community.

**You are against** economic decline of the community, against the youth and older people leaving the community. You are against using up money and spending extra funds from the budget on some projects. You think the budget is not so big to unreasonably spend it.

**You don't care** about the problems of young people, as you think that hobby clubs, sports competitions, culture centre are enough for their joint activities, end of discussion.

**You support** investment, community development, fund raising, church and spiritual evolution, because a lot of people attend it. You only see yourself as a community leader for the rest of your life.

## AUTHORITIES

- **Youth worker**

*You work in the local executive body and deal with youth-related issues.*

You engage with young people, you are aware of their problems, you understand their needs. You are an intermediate link between the authorities and young people, you connect them. Your aim is to convey to the authorities the importance of creating a youth centre, a space where young people can gather together. You want to give a helping hand to young people, but since you work for local authorities, you have to do a lot of things you are actually unwilling to do. You must do everything according to the law, and with the approval of the local authorities. You must find a balance to represent the interests of young people on the one hand, and on the other hand, do everything right so that you are not fired.

Young people trust you, so, make efforts to create this space for them.

**It is important for you** to defend the interests of young people, be careful with your statements to avoid grave consequences on the part of management, advise and support young people, discuss their involvement and open up new opportunities.

**You support** creating a youth centre that meets the needs of all categories of young people.

**You are absolutely against** making use of young people and their immature nature, publicity and negative attitude towards young people, as well as against devaluing their ideas.

**You don't care** about the community's reaction, you are doing your job and the location of a youth centre is no matter for you, as long as it is opened.

## COMMUNITY

- **Activist**

*You are an activist of the local community.*

You are engaged in civil activism, often attend school, city council, culture centre, church. You are aware of all issues and concerns of the community. You fight to implement every big idea that will improve life in the community. You have experience interacting with people; you know how to deal with difficult issues. Over time, you are going to become a politician.

**It is important for you** that your peers have a place to spend some quality time and that the authorities understand and meet their needs.

**You support** the idea and is ready to help create a youth centre in your community.

**You are absolutely against** co-operation with political parties in the context of the youth centre's creation.

**You don't care** what people think about you, because you know that you are doing a right thing.

## COMMUNITY

- **Elderly woman**

*You're an elderly woman.*

You've been retired and unemployed for a long time. You spend a lot of time at home and sitting on the bench near your house. You meet with your friends now and again and discuss their concerns. You are keen on watching news and political talk shows. You care about community life, you want to participate in all activities; have your own opinion on every issue. You observe that young people are increasingly deviating from traditional values, becoming more light-hearted and self-sufficient. You are concerned about this, as it ruins the usual way of life in the community.

**It is important for you** that your city is peaceful and quiet, and young people do not drink too much alcohol and misbehave.

**You support** the idea that it is important for young people to go to church and attend catechism classes. They can learn everything they need at church and at school.

**You are absolutely against** young people gathering at night and disturbing public peace and quiet.

**You don't care** about the young people needs, you think that they have not yet lived their lives and understand nothing so far.



## COMMUNITY

- **Unemployed person**

*You are an unemployed person in the community.*

You've been looking for a job for quite some time but cannot find it since there are just a few enterprises in the community. You are an ecologist by profession, but it is difficult to find an appropriate job. You are ready to work anywhere, all you need is a decent salary. You are primarily concerned with employment and career issues.

**It is important for you** to have jobs created in the community.

**You support** the development of entrepreneurship and business in your city.

**You are absolutely against** the authorities allocating funds to finance various cultural and educational events, since the most urgent issue to be solved is the employment issue.

**You don't care** where, how and with whom young people spend their time, since you don't have any children of your own for now.

## COMMUNITY

- **Blogger**

*You're a local YouTube blogger.*

You are engaged in blogging on Youtube. Your blog highlights the life in the community – “TRUE STORY BRO\_TV – Rumour Mill”. You tell about life in the community, collect exclusive content, and discuss it. You criticise all the parties, since you have seen all of them screwing up. You are the fourth estate, because no one wants to be presented in an unfavourable light, and you can arrange it.

**You support** community development, but you think that no one knows how to do it right. So, in your opinion, a lot of things fail to be done. You can use it and create hard-hitting content and a story for your blog.

**You are against** money laundering and squandering, nepotism, and showing off, search for agreements with the authorities that young people seek. You think that the authorities will use it to their benefit anyway.

**You don't care** about the government and business, since you consider them corrupt; and also about the church, as you think that they manipulate people.

**The thing important for you** is the number of subscribers and views. The more conflicts, the better. You know about the roles assigned in the community and happy to arrange conflicts and hype.

## COMMUNITY

- **Teacher**

*You teach Ukrainian language at a local school.*

You spend most of the day at school. After school, you also do tutoring and prepare pupils for passing their graduation exams. You do your best to make your pupils love their native language and culture, now and again discussing their out-of-school activities and dreams about the future. You have good relationships with many community members. People care about your opinion and respect you. You are an authoritative person in the community. Stake out your position on the need for a youth centre in your community and actively participate in the discussion, taking advantage of your authority.

**It is important for you** that children dedicate as much of their time as possible to studying to demonstrate good learning results.

**You support** young people in their intention to arrange high-quality leisure activities in their city.

**You are absolutely against** them organising parties and other entertainment events.

**You don't care** how young people are going to implement their intention to create a youth centre. The only thing that matters is that nothing affects the educational process.

## COMMUNITY

- **Director of Cultural Centre**

*You are Director of the local Cultural Centre.*

You manage the central cultural institution in the community, organise various events, come up with culture-related contests, quests and games. There are several permanently functioning children's hobby clubs in the Cultural Centre. You care about cultural development in your community, and citizens being more active during cultural events, not only when dancing at the disco.

**It is important for you** that the Cultural Centre remains the only centre with events and activities held for residents of the city.

**You support** the launching of a youth centre as an association of people who can assist in organising events.

**You are absolutely against** a youth centre obtaining separate funding, as well as premises, because you believe that this will cut the budget allocated to hold cultural events.

**You don't care** who attends cultural events, as long the money is allocated to hold them, and you can make a respective entry in your report.

## COMMUNITY

- **Head's best friend**

*You are a best friend of the Head of the community*

You are appalled that the premises, which you had found attractive and was going to use to open your own business there, are to house some youth centre. You don't see any point in that decision; you want to use this space for your own purposes, as you have almost got it transferred to private ownership. You will not give away the premises and will fight to the end.

**It's important for you** to stand for the premises to make them yours, negotiate with the Head and the community on the issue of opening your own business there.

**You are against** creating a youth centre and young people's initiatives, because they destroy your plans to build your own business empire.

**You don't care** about the fact that young people demand the creation of a centre, you don't understand them, and their arguments are not convincing.

**You support** the allocation of funds for construction, repairs, setting up new facilities, since you are engaged in this business and it provides you additional income.

## COMMUNITY

- **Person with disability**

*You are a person with a disability (you have visual impairments)*

You are 28 years old, you are completely blind, you feel lonely, annoyed that everyone feels sorry for you. You take an active part in community life, you want to express yourself despite the existing *visual impairments*. You engage in manufacturing wooden products at home.

Not many people understand how difficult it is for you to move around the city on your own. Unmarked curbs and stairs are a challenge for you. One acoustic traffic signal for blind pedestrians makes moving around the city a little easier, but it's not enough. You read a little Braille, but there are few Braille-marked objects in the city. You can only dream of tactile paving that would guide you when moving. You rarely manage to attend youth events, because there are no audio description commentaries at the film screenings (these are special commentaries that help people with visual impairments imagine what is happening on the screen). You cannot attend other events, too, because they are announced as pictures that your special voice application cannot read, because it voices texts only.

**It is important for you** that a youth centre is accessible and inclusive, that it takes into account the needs of people with disability. You fully support its creation, because you want to express yourself, you want to communicate and arrange music performances for young people, as you play the flute well.

**You are against** people thinking that you are not the same as other people. You hate the fact that powerful people profit from vulnerability of certain groups of population.

**It doesn't matter for you** what the centre and its equipment will be like, what form of ownership it is to have, as long as it is inclusive.

**You fully support** creating such a space, provided it is inclusive.

## COMMUNITY

- **Young parent**

*You are a young parent with two children.*

You want your community to develop. Children have brought a lot of worries and problems into your life. You have to properly meet their needs and take care of a better future for them. You care about cool things to be implemented in the community to make life better, follow the latest news on the Internet in this regard, communicate with different audiences online and run your own Instagram blog.

**It is important for you** that there is progress and development in the community, so your children have spaces to play, have fun, recreate and engage in something insightful.

**You are against** money squandering, because you do not see the point in it, against a centre established at the parish and channelling funds there.

**You support** public events, establishing new organisations and structures, as you don't understand how your children can develop under the current circumstances, and you want the money to be channelled to meet their needs.

**You don't care** about the opinions of government officials and the influencers.

## COMMUNITY

- **Salesperson**

*You're a salesperson working at a local store.*

You work at the store from 09:00 am till 10:00 pm, you know all about affairs of community citizens, so you gossip a lot and discuss them with customers. You know what is going on in your own community and even in the neighbouring ones. You have big mouth and sharp tongue; you pull no punches. You are quite aware of the fact that the authorities will do something only provided their officials are engaged in the endeavour. Young people meet in your shop, they spend money there and bring you income, since they do not have other places to socialise. You are happy about it, as it brings profit.

**It is important for you** to have permanent income and that your shop has lots of clients.

**You are against** creating a youth centre, for all the young people will be gathering there and leave you without profit.

**You support** youth development at school, in church, and that's all. You think that's enough for them. But first of all, you want to gain your own profit.

**You don't care** about the young people development, as long as they spend time in your shop.



## COMMUNITY

- **Priests**

*You are a priests of the local church.*

You organise Christian camps, actively engage in community life, and run Sunday school lessons. Spiritual component is important for you. You see young people as a resource, and you want them to help the church. You want young people to foster traditional values. You love publicity and recognition of your authority among people.

**It is important for you** that people seek your advice, respect your authority, and care for to your opinion, to keep control over the community and various challenges. It is important for you to attend meetings of young people and community. You feel discontented as they never invite you.

**You are against** LGBTIQ+ people, against creating a youth centre as the young people see it, because you have a centre for young people at your parish that can be reconstructed, and you want to hold meetings with them and convey Christian values.

**You support** the idea that the money to be allocated to create a youth centre is better channelled to the church and its premises. You support the traditional Christian way of life.

**You don't care** about the conditions for creating a youth centre, who gives money and permits; you will consent with anyone and bless people doing good deeds.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

- **Internally displaced person**

*You are an internally displaced person from Eastern Ukraine.*

You are Donetsk native. You had to move out because of the military actions in your city. Your parents moved out with you, too. You often speak Russian, listen to Russian music, and don't consider it inappropriate. Older people disapprove it, but young people understand and support you. You have great potential, and you strive to become the Head of this community, you have management skills, and a plan for developing infrastructure and the environment for residents, you want to develop public spaces.

You strongly criticise the authorities, but you have little support from the citizens, because they consider you a "stranger". It is difficult for you to fulfil yourself and evolve because you have to spend a lot of time explaining and proving to other people that you also love Ukraine and want it to prosper and that you are not a stranger here. Your power is insistence, the ability to defend your opinion. You are familiar with different groups of young people and adults. Life has taught you to be courageous and move on even if other people fail to support you.

**It is important for you** to facilitate the involvement of young people in the community and convey your viewpoint on behalf of all internally displaced people.

**You support** youth activities, the creation of a youth centre in the community, the viewpoint that we all have to support the interests of Ukrainian citizens and take into account their needs.

**You are absolutely against** any kind of discrimination, prejudice, negative coverage and condemnation of the citizens of our country.

**You don't care** about opinions of authorities and business representatives, and what community members think about you.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

- **Youth leader**

*You are a youth leader*

You understand your responsibility towards the community, towards yourself and other people, you are able to support and inspire. Your primary task is to involve people in creating a new youth centre in the city. You understand that to do this, you need to convince young people to support you so that you all join your forces.

Only upon this condition, you will be able to contact the authorities and community and convey this idea to them. You feel your power and crave support, because it is not enough. You have to develop the concept of a youth centre to inspire young people, think about its design, and who will work there.

You are a representative of young people of your community. You are responsible for bringing the idea of creating a youth centre to implementation. Move on! Today, your task is to bring together young people and involve them in the process. You should also convey the local community, the authorities and most of the characters into the need to create a centre.

**It is important for you** to achieve opening of a youth centre.

**You support** local young people and those people who stand for the creation of a youth institution. You support youth initiatives and self-development.

**You are absolutely against** making use of young people for any purposes, you are against the exploitation of young people due to their rather vulnerable position in the community. You are against young people just loitering about shops, hanging out in cafes and surfing the social media on the Internet instead of developing their skills.

**You don't care** who will be in power, what positions will be held by local officials, whether the business will have profits. You are focused on the youth needs only.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

- **Member of “Plast” NGO**

*You are an active member of the “Plast” NGO in your community.*

You are proud to belong to one of the first national scouts non-governmental organisations in Ukraine. You take pride in your homeland, its history, natural resources, nature, people, and successes in the international arena.

You graduated from University a year ago. You want your community to improve, so you gather signatures for various petitions, defend “right” ideological views, and meet a lot with young people. You are a frequent visitor to the city council; its officials have conversations with you over a cup of coffee or tea. You attend all the public events. As for issues related to the development of the community, you have your own opinion. You always stand up for your point of view.

You have friendly relationships with the community members. You demand a lot from the authorities and you constantly need money for the development of “Plast”.

**You care about** the development of the youth sphere in the community and promotion of national and patriotic education and appropriate values among young people.

**You support** proactive position of youth in the community, youth movements and initiatives; you are always up to date and well aware of the youth needs.

**You are absolutely** against unhealthy competition, bribery, and behind-the-scenes negotiations. In this simulation, you aim to prevent the deception and making use of young people.

**You don't care** about the power, business, property and social status of the people you communicate with. You fight for truth and justice.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

- **LGBTIQ+ representative**

*You represent one of the most vulnerable groups in your community.*

You are 25 years old, you work and study extramurally at the university. You are a bisexual, and you don't hide it from your community. You feel safe among young people of the community who accept you. You know that having such a sexual orientation is absolutely normal. You are young, active and ambitious person who strives to fulfil yourself. However, you are hindered by the biased attitude of most of the community members, especially the elderly ones. You understand that not every representative of LGBTIQ+ group is able to come out. They can fire you, evict from your rented home, or beat you up just for being a gay, lesbian, transgender, or queer person.

**It is important to you** to feel safe in your community and in your country, to communicate your needs to the community members and demand their full satisfaction, it is important to achieve the creation of a youth centre where you would first of all feel safe.

**You support** the development of the youth sphere, organizing international exchanges and life in harmony, support and mutual assistance in your community.

**You are absolutely against** harassment, discrimination, stereotypes, various kinds of imposing that relate to personal life of people. You are against manipulating young people and using them as a resource due to their immaturity and impetuosity.

**You don't care** about financial, property and social status of those people from whom you will demand the creation of a youth centre.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

- **Student from Lviv City**

*You are a student from Lviv.*

You come home once a week or once every two weeks from Lviv (big city with reach historic and cultural sites). Your parents, grandparents, and two younger brothers live in this community. You're already finishing your fourth year of studying at Philosophy Department. You don't care about "mundane" things. You adore walking around Lviv at night, dancing deep into the morning, socialising with your friends and dwelling on philosophical issues. You boast rich inner world, and you rarely understand other people. You think it's better to wait until all the quarrels are over and then you can set your own rules.

**It is important for you** to create a space in which you can evolve safely, something that would motivate you to return from Lviv to the community, because as long as this centre is not open, you do not intend to stay here.

**You support** creating a youth centre in the community. You see it as at least some chance for the local youth. In your opinion, there is nothing in the community for now that would motivate young people to stay.

**You are absolutely** against the local authorities, the priests and those people who just promise and do nothing for the community development.

**You don't care** how a youth centre will be created, you only want it to function.

## YOUNG PEOPLE

- **High school student** You are a *High school student studying at the local school.*

You're about 15 years old. You like to do nothing and have fun with your friends. You disobey the adults, for you they are retrogressive. You often skip lessons. You adore discos, hanging out with your friends, and engaging in pleasant things only.

You don't have any money of your own, so you are completely dependent on your parents. Living in your city, you want more activities and excitement, meeting new and colourful people.

**It is important for you** to have space and time for entertainment, having fun, and socialising with your friends.

**You support** creating a youth centre provided it meets your needs, but does not oblige you to do anything

**You are absolutely against** creation of another tokenism or facility for adults. You are also against elderly people working at the centre.

**You don't care** by whom, when, and where this center will be created.

## — Questions for debriefing

*How did you like today's simulation? What role did you play? How did you feel playing this role?*

### 1) Emotions

- 1. How did you feel during our event today?*
- 2. What did you feel about "playing the role"? Why?*
- 3. What were your ideas about your role and actions based on?*
- 4. What made you sad, anxious, or frustrated today?*

### 2) Process

- 1. How do you assess your own involvement in the game?*
- 2. How did you feel working in small groups and then joining the teams?*
- 3. What did you feel during the group discussion? What can you tell about the game results? Did you feel that you were taking part in the decision-making?*
- 4. Were your point of view heard? Why is that? Why not? Why was it important for you to be understood?*
- 5. What are other ways to achieve common ground and understanding in the community?*

### 3) Result

- 1. Are you happy with the results of our simulation? Why?*
- 2. After the simulation, tell us which parties young people need to communicate with if they want their community to develop?*
- 3. What challenges can you face while creating a youth centre in your community?*
- 4. What role did you play and what role these characters play in real life?*
- 5. Who had fewer opportunities to influence decisions in this simulation? Why?*
- 6. How can these people influence decisions making in the community real life?*

### 4) Bringing to reality

- 1. How are LGBTIQ+ people, people with disability, and internally displaced persons actually treated in the community? What about the stereotypes?*
- 2. What did you learn about the functioning of the community?*
- 3. How are decisions actually made in the community?*
- 4. In your opinion, what is the use of a youth centre in the community, what is its purpose?*
- 5. How to open a youth centre in real life? What is the first thing you are to do if you undertake it?*
- 6. Tell us about your two key findings of today's simulation.*



### Simulation overview

| Name of the step   | Step description  | Time required |
|--|---|---------------|
| The first step is role distribution  | We invite participants to choose the roles they like. . If several people choose the same role, ask them to convince you to give the role to him or her, please select the one who provided the most convincing arguments.  | 15 min.       |
| In the second step the participants introduce themselves in their groups                             | Participants should be grouped according to their belonging to a certain category – authorities, business, youth, and the community. When groups are formed, characters are to get acquainted, tell other people about themselves, and communicate their beliefs, values, thoughts, and views. At this point, you should tell them that they are already playing roles in their groups. | 15 min.       |
| The third step is the development of a position on the importance of a youth centre in the community | Participants continue to interact in the same groups. They need to develop their position on the importance of a youth centre in the community and convey their point of view to the others.  | 15 min.       |
| The fourth step implies a group discussion on the creation of a youth centre in the community        | The participants are to convince other people that their point of view is right, to convey it in clear-cut and presentable way to find like-minded people around. The Head of the community should moderate the discussion process.   | 90 min.       |
| The fifth step is making a decision and signing a memorandum   | Participants are to choose the method of decision making, decide according to the chosen method, and adopt a general memorandum on a would-be youth centre, which should be officially approved and signed  | 10 min.       |
| The sixth step is debriefing   | Prepare questions for debriefing and discuss them   | 1.5-2 hours   |





This simulation "Red Lines" has been developed by the Lviv Regional Youth Centre with the mentoring support of the Council of Europe in the framework of co-operation during the implementation of «Youth for Democracy in Ukraine» project. During almost three months the simulation was being developed, edited, modified and improved. Managers of the youth centre, as well as our ambassadors, civil servants from the Youth Policy Department of the Lviv Oblast State Administration and mentors of the Council of Europe Project "Youth for Democracy in Ukraine" gave a helping hand in the creation of the simulation. Authors has been meeting multiple times to discuss and transform the game, generate ideas how to improve it even more. Finally, we have created an insightful simulation, which will be a good tool to engage with young people both in Ukraine and in Europe. Specific feature of the simulation is that it goes deep into problematic issues of youth in Ukraine, their identity and needs. It is to immerse its participants into a weird world of stereotypes, biases, and beliefs that should be discussed and further transformed.

This manual is designed for facilitators. It consists of instructions, step-by-step explanations of each stage, scenario and community description, role cards handouts, and questions to discuss after the simulation. Moreover, in the annexes you could find useful information that will help you prepare for the simulation, based on our experience.

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