

## Active Citizenship curriculum for general and vocational schools

### Slovenia

#### DESCRIPTION

According to the results of the IEA International Civics and Citizenship (ICCS) Survey 2016, Slovenia ranks above the international average among the 24 participating education systems in civic knowledge of 8<sup>th</sup> grade pupils. A comparison of civic knowledge trends shows that Slovenian students have made progress. There has been a slight decrease in the proportion of pupils who do not reach the basic level of civic knowledge, as well as a slight increase in the proportion of pupils who reach the highest level of civic knowledge.

Slovenia is also participating in the 2022 edition of ICCS. This provides updated and additional information on students' knowledge, conceptual understanding, and competencies in the field of civic education as well as their views on citizenship and participation in social and civic activities. The results of the ICCS 2022 contribute to inform the current process of the revision of curricula in pre-primary, primary and upper-secondary education. This process is based on professional starting points aiming at revising curricula and further implementing a **cross-curricular approach in the areas of digital and green transition as well as citizenship culture**. It also includes compulsory teacher training/professional development activities for all education professionals.

Slovenia is taking part in the ICCS survey for the fourth time, so it is also possible to show trends between the survey cycles.

**To support the implementation of policy goals to empower students and education practitioners to adopt democratic attitudes, ethical beliefs and active participation skills, the following activities have been developed:**

- A **targeted research project "Challenges of a religiously plural society for public schools"**, which produced "Recommendations for the successful adaptation of the public school system to religiously pluralistic social and cultural conditions";
- The **translation of the Council of Europe's Reference Framework of Competences for a Democratic Culture (RFCDC)** ;
- The **Compendium "Perspectives on Social and Civic Competences in Education"**, covering topics such as civic education in primary school, acquisition of civic competences in secondary school, education policies at national level and globally;
- The **adoption of an "Active citizenship" curriculum for general and vocational secondary schools**.

The Active Citizenship curriculum for general and professional upper-secondary schools was adopted by the Council of Experts of the Republic of Slovenia for general education, while the Active Citizenship Knowledge Catalogue for Vocational and Vocational Secondary Education was adopted by the Expert Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Vocational and Vocational Education. **In the 2022/2023 school year, this compulsory content was introduced in upper secondary vocational and professional education programmes.**

Rather than being a stand-alone subject, **Active Citizenship is a new curricular component integrated across various forms of educational work** and the **basis for the implementation of the Knowledge Catalogue** with provides definition, general and operational objectives, knowledge standards, didactic recommendations, testing and assessment. **Authentic learning situations and the active role of students in planning, implementing, and reflecting on the activities, monitoring is essential.**

The Ministry intends to closely follow the implementation of the curriculum to have a deeper insight into the state of civic knowledge, and to better focus on the content, including considering **new concepts and elements relating to Education for Sustainable Development and global education and learning**.

The overarching goal is to **promote active citizenship by ensuring that all students have equal opportunities to develop into informed, critically thinking, and active citizens who will contribute to the well-being of a democratic society and of all people**.

#### USEFUL LINKS

[Aktivno EU državljanstvo, priročnik za učitelje - Zavod RS za šolstvo \(zrss.si\)](https://zrss.si/)

[Usposabljanje učiteljev za načrtovanje in izvajanje aktivnega državljanstva v srednješolskih programih - Zavod RS za šolstvo \(zrss.si\)](https://zrss.si/)

[Aktivno državljanstvo v srednji soli priročnik.pdf \(zrss.si\)](https://zrss.si/)

[Aktivno državljanstvo v SŠ – monografija - Zavod RS za šolstvo \(zrss.si\)](https://zrss.si/)