

The activities of the Centre for VET and NGOs for developing democratic competencies of teachers and students

North Macedonia

[MCGO | Macedonian Civic Education Centre \(MCEC\)](#)

DESCRIPTION

The Centre for Vocational Education and Training (CVET) carries out several initiatives focusing on **developing democratic competencies among teachers and students**, including secondary vocational schools. In alignment with recent reforms to VET school curricula, these activities, such as trainings, seminars, and the creation and dissemination of publications and manuals, **aims to raise awareness of democratic competences**, essential in a multi-ethnic country like North Macedonia.

The CVET has also published a **national standard of competences for counsellors evaluating the teaching process in VET centres**, which includes democratic competences.

To implement these activities, the **CVET collaborates with non-governmental organisations** such as **MCGO**, which has played a significant role in promoting democratic competences, for example by developing civic education manuals.

MCGO also implemented the [USAID Youth Ethnic Integration Project](#) (2017-2022), which covered all schools, including VET schools. The project had 3 components:

- **Strengthening interethnic cohesion in the education system:** fostering interaction among schools from different communities and improve ethnic cohesion among youth.
- **Strengthen democratic culture and civic behaviours among youth:** supporting changes to civic education contents and promoting active involvement of students in decision-making processes in both school and community.
- **Schools incentives and renovations:** renovating school buildings and improving learning conditions as an incentive for participation.

REFLECTIONS

The entire system in the country benefits from the raise of awareness about competences for democratic culture among teachers, and consequently among students. This improves the ethos in school, foster mutual trust among all stakeholders and ensures a better democratic climate across all society.

IMPACT

The evaluation process in VET schools is done continuously in several ways: self-evaluation by the school centre itself; evaluation by the State Education Inspectorate; evaluation by counsellors from the CVET and the Education Development Bureau.

OTHER USEFUL LINKS

<https://www.mcgo.org.mk/publications/>

<https://www.mcgo.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/student-voice-as-the-token-of-quality-school-1.pdf>

<https://www.mcgo.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/students-participation-policy-and-practice-to-start-the-change.pdf>

https://www.mcgo.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/start_the_change_workshop_collection_2021.pdf

<https://www.mcgo.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Vodic-niz-kvalifikaciite-niz-strucnoto-obrazovanie-MK.pdf>

https://www.mcgo.org.mk/pub/Praktikum_za_multikulturno_ucenje_MK.pdf

https://www.mcgo.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Istrazuvanje-za-gragjansko-obrazovanie-vo-sredno_MK.pdf

<https://www.mcgo.org.mk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Broshura-Gragansko-obrazovanie-za-sredno-MK.pdf>