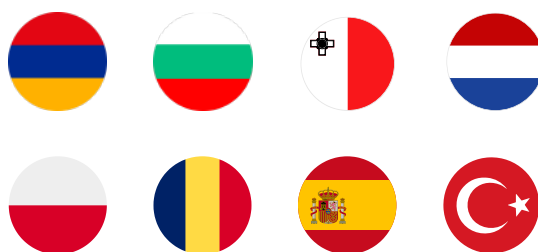




ACTION DEMOCRACY: DIVING INTO SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

9 - 17 NOVEMBER 2026
ARZNI, ARMENIA



With the support of the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

KA153 - TRAINING COURSE



BACKGROUND

In today's rapidly changing world, democracy, the rule of law, and human rights face several increasing challenges, both globally and within Europe. Societies are confronted with political instability, democratic backsliding, disinformation, and a general lack of youth engagement in decision-making processes. As democracy thrives on shared responsibility and active citizen participation, it is essential to empower youth workers who directly work on a daily basis with young people to take a leading role in democratic life.

The participation of youth in promoting and safeguarding democratic values, human rights, and the rule of law is more important than ever before: it's time for now and here. This is true within the European Union, where internal divergences test the bloc's foundational principles.

Taking into account the above-mentioned and witnessing continuous regression in the democracy index in some European countries, this project proposal seeks to address pressing issues by bringing together 32 youth workers and young leaders from across Europe to Armenia: a small landlocked country in the South Caucasus that has been on a path of promoting democracy and rule of law since, serving as a compelling case study of democratic resilience in the EU's Eastern Partnership region.

This project offers participants the opportunity to deepen their understanding of democratic systems, human rights, and the rule of law, while also recognizing the importance of youth engagement in defending and promoting these values locally, regionally and more globally.

This project is supported by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.



PROJECT'S

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OBJECTIVES & EXPECTED RESULTS

AIM & OBJECTIVES

The training course aims to create lasting change by enabling young people to become active participants in shaping the future of democratic societies across Europe with the support of well-trained youth workers.

The project has several key objectives aligned with the overarching goal of promoting democracy, the rule of law, and human rights across Europe:

- Promote understanding of democratic principles and the rule of law from both EU internal and partnership perspectives.
- Strengthen youth participation in democratic life.
- Foster cross-border cooperation and knowledge exchange within the wider European community.
- Empower the youth workers in a way that they will act as agents of change in society.
- Create a sustainable resources pack of youth workers' competencies committed to democracy.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Equipped with practical tools and strategies, training course participants will be able to lead initiatives that promote civic education, youth engagement, and human rights advocacy.

Also, “Mission DEMOCRACY” project will also establish a long-term online network of youth workers and organisations dedicated to promoting democracy and human rights. Our online network (a pool of dedicated youth workers to be involved in) will enable cooperation and joint action to support democratic participation and civic responsibility across Europe. The project is fully designed in a way that it will empower youth workers to promote democratic values, human rights, and the rule of law.

- A co-created digital handbook on democratic challenges and participatory mechanisms, published in multiple languages and available on SALTO Toolbox, serving as a free, accessible resource for youth workers across Europe.
- A sustainable online network connecting 32 youth workers and 8 organisations, enabling continued peer exchange, collaboration, and joint initiatives beyond the project timeline.
- Stackable digital badges developed with INEDNET's BadgeCraft platform, providing verifiable recognition of acquired competencies in democratic youth work.
- At least one local follow-up initiative per partner country (workshops, advocacy campaigns, participatory projects) designed and delivered by returning participants.



DATES AND LOCATION

The training activity of the “Mission Democracy” project is 7-day capacity-building course will equip youth workers and young leaders with the knowledge, skills, and tools to engage in participatory democratic processes and lead local initiatives in their communities. Through a mix of interactive workshops, expert-led sessions, and practical simulations, participants will learn how to assess community needs, emerge with enhanced critical thinking, facilitation, and communication skills; they will have a deep understanding of participatory mechanisms; and the confidence to design and lead democratic engagement initiatives.

The training will also include networking sessions. This will build the capacity of youth workers and young leaders to effectively participate in participatory democratic processes. Participants will gain the skills needed to train other young people, conduct community consultations and advocate for youth-led initiatives. The digital handbook developed during this training will lay the foundation for the local participatory democratic initiatives, ensuring that young people can actively engage in democratic decision-making and drive meaningful change in their communities.

Information and Education Development Network - INEDNET (www.inednet.com), the Armenian partner organisation will host this project, which will take place in **GETAP Resort Hotel, Arzni, Armenia** (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/5EvmqFpy3io18t1T6>).

- Arrival day - 9 November, 2026
- Working days - 10-16 November
- Departure day - 17 November, 2026



We expect 4 participants per country:

- Aged 18-30
- Youth workers and young leaders with strong interest in civic participation, democracy, and local decision-making who are motivated to learn about participatory democratic processes.
- Youth workers eager and ready to turn their gained knowledge and skills into action, develop a digital handbook, and be a part of an international network of connected youth workers and peers.
- Youth with fewer opportunities (e.g., facing socio-economic, geographical, or cultural barriers) who are often excluded from decision-making processes, such as youth with disabilities, special needs, NEETs, etc.
- Emerging youth leaders and activists who want to mobilize their peers and work with local municipalities to make youth voices heard.
- Members of youth councils, NGOs, and informal youth groups who already have some experience in advocacy but seek to enhance their skills through participatory democracy.
- Ideally be actively engaged in youth work through non-formal education, sports activities, media literacy projects, and community-based initiatives.

Gender perspective in Participant Profile & selection

Balanced participation: We aim for an equal representation of young women and men in the group, while also welcoming non-binary and gender-diverse youth. Each partner will be encouraged to nominate participants in a way that reflects gender balance.

Targeting underrepresented voices: Since young women and girls are often less represented in local decision-making and participatory democratic processes, we will give special encouragement to their applications, ensuring that their perspectives are included.

Diverse representation in Local teams: Each local youth team will include a mix of genders, ensuring that actions, advocacy strategies, and a digital handbook developed in the project reflect diverse needs and perspectives.



VENUE & HOTEL

The participants will be accommodated in double or triple rooms. The Hotel location will be confirmed soon, and the 2nd info package will be sent soon to selected participants.

Check-in is expected on 9th, check out on 17 November, 2026.



Facilities & Services

Every comfort, every detail — designed so you can arrive and simply be present.



Free Wi-Fi

High-speed wireless internet available throughout the entire property.



Free Parking

Secure and spacious on-site parking available for all guests at no charge.



Breakfast Included

A fresh breakfast selection served daily and included with every room reservation.



Restaurant

On-site dining with Armenian and European cuisine. Open for lunch and dinner.



Outdoor Pools

Seasonal open-air pools with natural stone waterfall and garden scenery.



Spa & Sauna

Traditional Russian sauna and spa facilities for complete relaxation and renewal.



Conference Room

Modern conference hall for business meetings, training sessions, and corporate events.



Green Relaxation Zones

Landscaped outdoor gazebos for groups of 7 to 60 guests, set in nature.

GETTING TO YEREVAN, ARMENIA

The Zvartnots International Airport (EVN) serves international flights to Yerevan, Armenia. There are cheap flights with Wizz Air to Yerevan directly from Eindhoven, Dortmund, Valencia, Bucharest, Budapest, Bratislava, Milan, Venice, Rome, Naples, Prague, Larnaca, and London. Please check WizzAir or FlyOne low-cost airline companies first.

We allow travel to Yerevan 2 days before and depart 2 days after the project, depending on when the prices are lower. Extra nights are NOT covered.

From Zvartnots Airport to Yerevan City Center, you can get by:

- **Airport Express #201 Minibus** - One of the best options, and certainly the most affordable one, is taking the Airport Express bus that goes to and from Yerevan city centre to the Zvartnots Airport several times daily. The Yerevan Airport Express buses depart every half hour from 7 am until 10 pm daily. After arriving at Zvartnots International Airport, you will need to exit the arrivals area on the ground floor. You will immediately see a sign that says 'Shuttle Bus' and it will guide you in between where the taxi stand is and the regular parking lot. This is where you'll find the Yerevan Airport Express bus. A ticket costs 500 AMD (under 1.25 EUR). Cash and card payments are accepted. Inform the way of payment to the driver before you get in.
- **Bus from Yerevan City to the Airport** - From the city centre to the airport, you can take the same bus going the opposite way. The Airport Express starts at Yeritasardakan metro station in the city centre, by the Metronome underground shopping centre.

We will arrange a group bus shuttle from Yerevan to the training location. More information on this will be given closer to the date in the group chat.

- There is a locker in Yerevan  in case some of you might need:
<https://janarmenia.com/car/luggage-storage-lockers-yerevan>

How to navigate in Armenia

Google Maps, Yandex Maps or Maps.me are the fastest way to know how you get from one place to another. We also suggest activating the eSim through application to have internet all the time in Armenia, even though the internet is quite good in all places via free Wi-Fi spots, we will be in the mountains, and there might be sometimes lack of internet.

PRACTICALITIES

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Currency

Currency in Armenia is AMD - Armenian Dram 1 EUR ~ 400 AMD

Things to know and bring with you

- Warm clothes, as we will be situated at a famous ski resort
- Hiking/walking comfortable shoes
- Laptops and tablets, if you have them, are needed for some activities
- Media coverage equipment, if you have (recorder, tripod, camera, lights)
- Traditional food and beverages of your country for the intercultural night
- Personal hygiene products (shampoo, toothpaste, medicine, etc), if you have specific ones. However, the basic ones are provided
- Towels will be provided
- NOTE: If you colour your hair, bring separate towels for your hair. Otherwise, the hotel will charge you if you leave colour stains on the towels.
- NOTE: If you leave the cups in your room somewhere and the hotel does not find them in the end, they will charge you.
- There is a laundry/ironing at the hotel, which is a paid service with ONLY CASH
- High Energy and Enthusiasm, eagerness to work after project too

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

-  Armenia
-  Bulgaria
-  Malta
-  Netherlands
-  Poland
-  Romania
-  Spain
-  Türkiye

WHERE TO REGISTER?

Interested individuals can fill in this form, selected ones will be contacted:

<https://forms.gle/jduPbgdNXb21yw5r5>

The deadline for submitting the form is 31 October the latest.

ONLY selected participants are invited to join the **WhatsApp** group:
LINK to be shared soon.

REIMBURSEMENT

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TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS

We expect:

- Arrival in Armenia: 9 November
- Departure from Armenia: 17 November

You can arrive 2 days before and depart 2 days after, if the flight tickets are cheaper or more convenient for you; however, NOTE that the organizers need to CONFIRM this. The 7 days are fully working days. We plan to organise a trip and a free afternoon on one of the days. If you want to make a tourist trip in Armenia, we allow you to come early and leave late; however, again, NOTE that extra days' accommodation and food will NOT be covered and you need to cover this on your own.

Travel costs will be reimbursed via bank transfer once all participants have provided all travel documents and proof of dissemination, which we will assign to the project. In our ongoing efforts to be fast with the reimbursements, we would like to inform all participants of our policy. To facilitate this, we encourage you to follow these steps:

- Save as PDF: When you receive your boarding pass, save it as a PDF file on your device, as later they disappear. Or at least make a screenshot.
- Upload to Your Drives: Store the PDF boarding pass securely in your allocated Google Drive folder. This will be provided directly to each participant.

Submission of Originals: If you do not have any online check-in and PDF, you will be required to provide the original boarding cards to me for verification and reimbursement purposes. **Reimbursement rules:**

- We require **ALL invoices, tickets, and boarding passes** to reimburse your travel costs.
- These documents are necessary for the reimbursement to occur.
- Be careful because boarding passes expire from your phone app after the flight especially for WizzAir and Ryanair and other lowcosters.
- Make screenshots or keep them in PDF or physical formats to present them for reimbursement.
- **Please don't buy any tickets without our prior approval from INEDNET.** 2nd class is mandatory. NO reimbursement for 1st class tickets will be provided.
- Transfer by Taxi is not reimbursable. Use public transportation when possible.

To get the reimbursement the travel has to be done during travel days.

- Bulgaria & Turkiye - **309 EUR** (max. amount to be reimbursed)
- Poland, Romania & Malta - **395 EUR**
- Netherlands & Spain - **580 EUR**

DAILY PROGRAMME



WEATHER AND HOW TO PREPARE

The second week of November is usually still pleasant in Armenia 🌸. However, we will be in Arzni, a beautiful resort in the Kotayk region 🏞️.

There is a long and scenic ropeway 🚡 not far in Tsaghkadzor, and many of you may want to explore the mountains and enjoy the views.

Even if the days are sunny ☀️, evenings can still be quite cold ❄️.

We strongly encourage you to bring:

🧥 A warm winter jacket

👕 T-shirts, hoodies, and sweaters so you can dress in layers

👟 Comfortable indoor and outdoor shoes

🧣 Optional but useful: scarf or hat for the evenings

Staying warm means staying healthy, and we want everyone to enjoy the full experience together ❤️.

We also plan some daily outdoor sessions 🌿, so please bring:

🧴 Sunscreen (we are in a mountainous country)

🕶️ Sunglasses

Even in early winter, the mountain sun can be strong and burning ☀️✨.

Main Contact Person

For any questions, you can contact:

- Harry Tsatryan - via +374 93 93 47 48 (WhatsApp) and email: h.tsatryan@inednet.com



CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU SOON IN ARMENIA



INEDNET Information and Education Development Network

Website: <https://www.inednet.com>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/inednetngo>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/InEDNet>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/89609074>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@INEDNET>

www.inednet.com/budgetify