

EuroRubik

METHODOLOGICAL

of must haves for

GOOD PRACTICES *on*

GLOBAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

and **METHODOLOGIES**

Based on the conversations and notes taken during the EuroRubik Exchange of tools and best practices in youth participation meeting, held in Tallinn in April 2025.



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WAYS OF ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

1

Ensure that the activities are fun and **interactive because activities** infused with enjoyment foster a welcoming environment where young people feel valued therefore the commitment is stronger:

- a. This can be done through **gamification** for example, which encourages natural and meaningful conversations, promotes teamwork and communication skills. But most importantly, they create a safe and relaxed space where young people can explore their strengths and connect with others. "Games are key to building trust and motivation".
- b. In addition other methods can be used like **storytelling, challenges, podcast creation or creative workshops** for example short film creation.
- c. Also try to **foster creativity** and enable the youth to experiment with different ways of engagement. For example - the **Human Library** is an innovative method that works like a traditional library, but instead of books, people are "on loan."

Participants can "borrow" a person for a conversation, listening to their personal story and asking questions in a safe and respectful space. The goal is to challenge stereotypes, build empathy, and create dialogue between people with different backgrounds and life experiences. When using the Human Library method, it is essential to act with great sensitivity, as the people sharing their stories may be in a vulnerable position and this must be carefully respected.

2

Enable meaningful youth involvement. This means that you need to also understand what is the motivation behind the activity for example: What do they get out of this? What meaningful impact does it have? It is also important to empower young people to co-create and lead various activities, since this encourages ownership (such as the "Soy tú eres yo" activity with UNHCR).



SAFE AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

3

Construct a **safe space** for young people to engage and express themselves!

a. **Build a bit of emotional education** before you get into the topics for emotional safety. A good idea is to also clearly define emotional and physical boundaries with participants especially before tackling heavy or sensitive topics.

b. It is also essential to **apply strict ethical standards** especially with vulnerable groups such as immigrant children. This can be done for example by using methods like Human Library (obtain consent, protect privacy, and allow exit).

c. **Support self-expression and agency** by letting the youth share personal experiences and reflections. This will also help **build trust** and relationships between youth and the youth workers through shared experiences and teamwork.





ADAPTABILITY

4

You should be able to be flexible and adapt the activities based on the group energy, context, and learning pace because various groups have various backgrounds. This includes avoiding jargon and using inclusive and accessible language that is appropriate for the group's age and background.

5

Being "trend-aware" helps! You don't have to know all the latest tik-tok trends but knowing the general youth culture, their digital habits and social debates will help you to remain relevant in youths' eyes and engage them more.





PEDAGOGICAL VALUE OF ACTIVITIES AND CRITICAL THINKING

6

Ensure a rights based approach

throughout the activities → include anticolonialist approaches, feminist approaches, environmental approaches etc. Through this you can support youth in understanding global human issues, including other scopes wider than the European one:

- a. **Link** for example **global topics to local or personal experiences** to enhance relevance.
- b. Design content that **directly already challenges** prejudice, hate speech, racism and misogyny.
- c. And remember to **trust in small steps!** Understand that change is in small steps and is gradual!

7

Openly promote peer-to-peer learning: it is easier for youth to relate to their peers and often amplifies the learning process for them.

8

Be aware of the background of the youth like gender, race, class, and colonial legacies in your framing!

9

Always include space for de-briefing and open discussion as well as for feedback. This will help to create an atmosphere that promotes “layered thinking” where young people can pose questions that go beyond surface-level understanding.



TOOLS AND CHANNELS

10

Try to leverage various multimedia and tech tools such as apps, digital games, videos and most importantly social media to enhance access, engagement and later on dissemination:

- a. **Combine offline and online formats/tools** for more dynamic learning!
- b. Also try to **ensure accessibility**, if needed translate or localise materials to overcome language and cultural barriers. Also, try to adapt materials, activities and accessibility bearing in mind the groups with limited mobility & disabilities to be inclusive -when resources make it possible-.

11

Create tools and activities that are shareable, resources that are "reusable" and adaptable, this will also ensure the sustainability of the activity, since it will be long-term use.

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Include evaluation tools to check the methods and resources effectiveness & real impact.

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