

ERF: CITIZENSHIP COMPETENCE

Project Partner Name
DIMITRA Education & Consulting

Duration: 8 hours



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

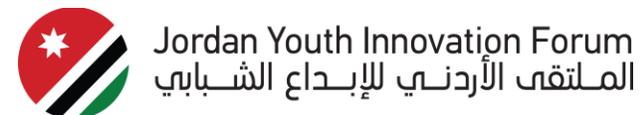
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Project Consortium

Coordinator:



Partners:



Project Details

Title: “Joint Development, Piloting, and Validation of Entrepreneurial Mindset and Key Skills Curricula and Training Materials for Third Countries”

Acronym: EMSA (Entrepreneurial Mindset and Skills for All)

Agreement Number: 101092477 – EMSA – ERASMUS-EDU-2022-CB-VET

Programme: Erasmus+ Capacity Building in the Field of Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Call for Proposals: ERASMUS-EDU-2022-CB-VET

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CITIZENSHIP

Training Aim

The training aims to equip participants with a comprehensive understanding of citizenship, emphasizing its core values of inclusivity, civic responsibility, and active participation. Through exploring the legal, social, and political dimensions of citizenship, participants will learn how these aspects contribute to a cohesive society and individual identity.



CITIZESHIP

Learning Outcomes

In terms of **knowledge**:

- ✓ *Recognize the core aspects of citizenship: legal status, civic rights, responsibilities, and their role in fostering social cohesion and individual identity.*

In terms of **skills**:

- ✓ *Apply critical thinking to evaluate political and civic participation, such as voting, community service, and advocacy, to promote an inclusive society.*

In terms of **competences**:

- ✓ *Demonstrate responsibility in fostering inclusivity by respecting diverse perspectives and promoting civic engagement in the community*

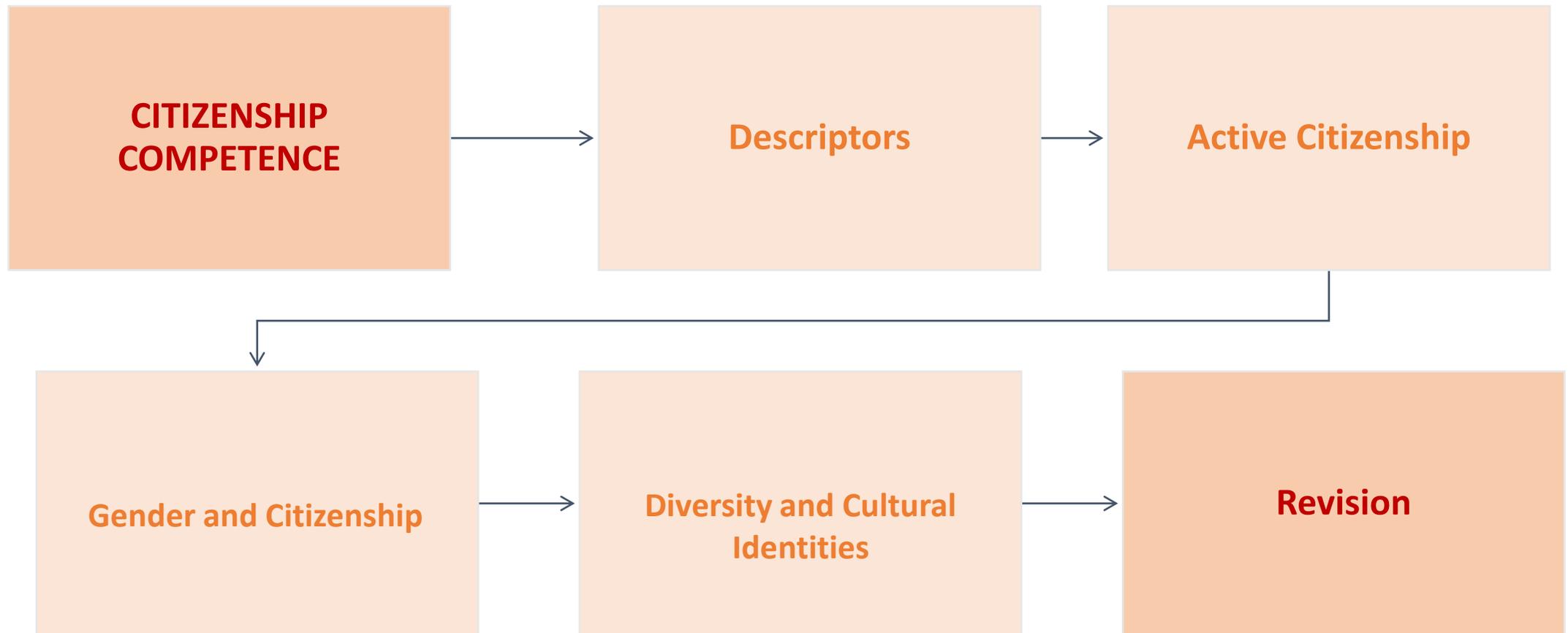
ERF: European Reference Framework (Key Competences for Lifelong Learning)



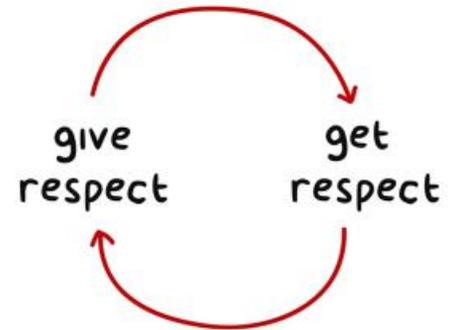
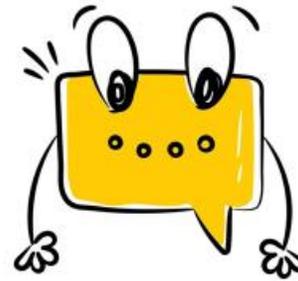
“Citizenship competence is the ability to act as responsible citizens and to fully participate in civic and social life, based on understanding of social, economic, legal and political concepts and structures, as well as global developments and sustainability.”

What ERF
competence
is our training about?

Training Route Map

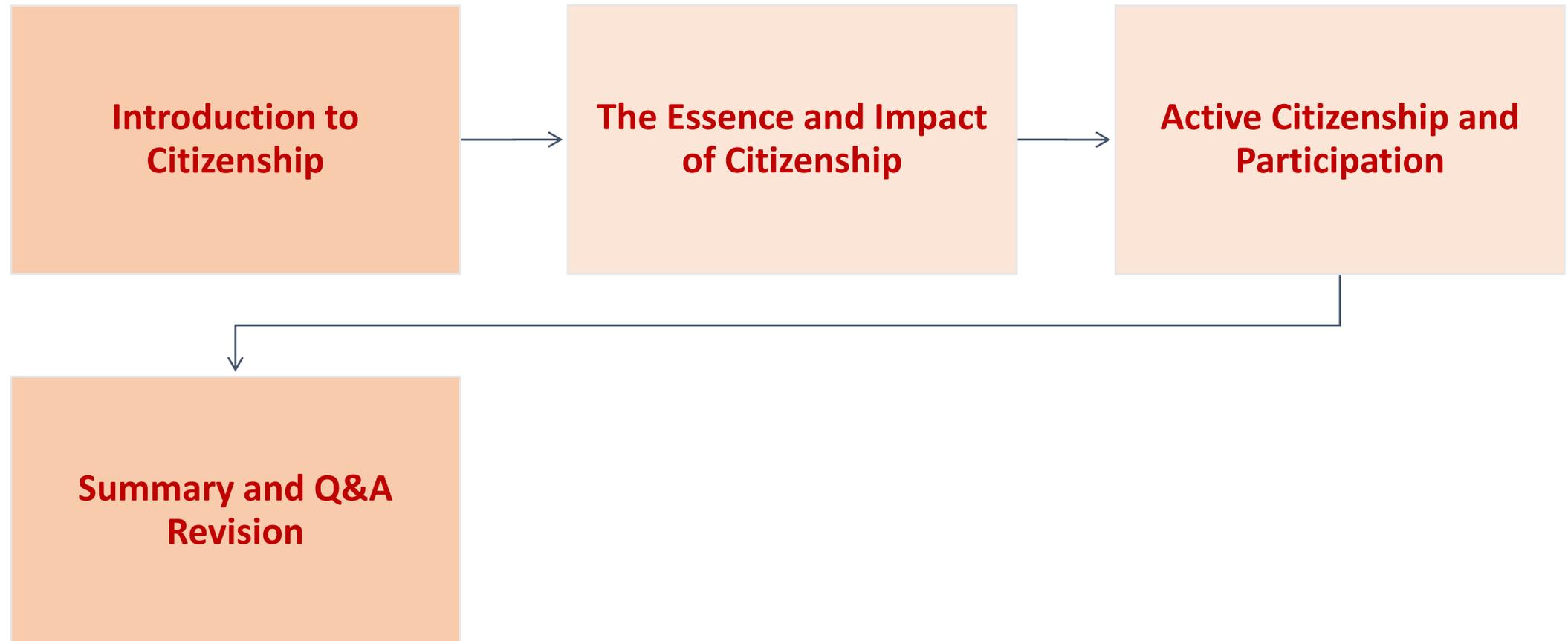


Training Rules



BREAK TIME

Training Route Map





“In one word, how would do define CITIZENSHIP?”

Ice-breaking Activity – Snapshots

*"No one is born a good citizen; no nation is born a democracy.
Rather, both are processes that continue to evolve over a lifetime."*

Kofi Annan - Nobel Prize for Peace in 2001

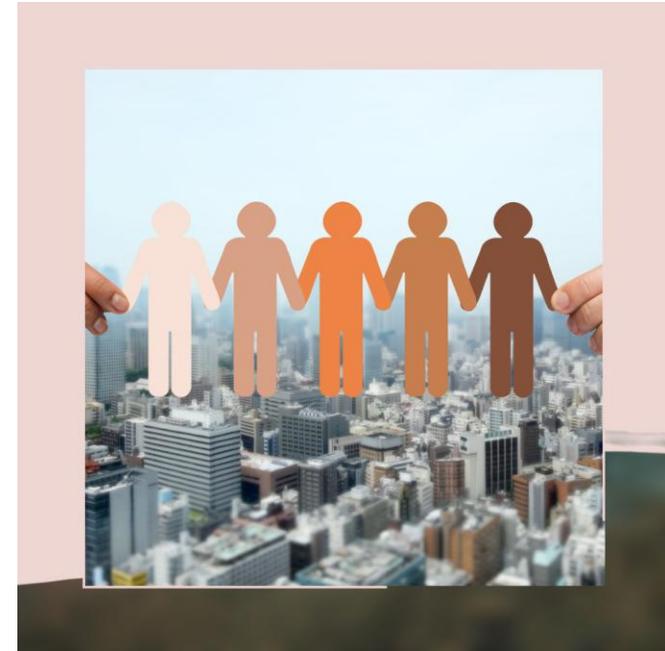
Topic 1: The Essence and Impact of Citizenship

What is Citizenship?

Citizenship defines membership in a political and geographic community, encompassing both legal status and a shared identity.

It is a relationship between the **individual** and the **state**, establishing certain **rights** and **duties** that tie a person to a country.

Citizenship can also signify a sense of belonging and inclusion.



Key Characteristics of Citizenship

Citizenship is multifaceted, characterized by:

- 1. Legal status**
- 2. Rights**
- 3. Active participation**
- 4. Identity**

In general, it involves legal membership, access to resources and protections, participation in the political community, and an identification with the nation or society.

Key Characteristics of Citizenship

1. Legal status

Citizenship as status grants individuals legal membership in a country. As citizens, individuals are protected by the nation's laws, which ensure their right to reside in the country without threat of deportation and access essential legal protections, including the right to due process.

Key Characteristics of Citizenship

1. Point of View of each Country: Legal status

Citizenship laws differ globally, shaped by each country's history, culture, and politics. Despite shared principles there is diversity in how states define and manage citizenship.

Key Characteristics of Citizenship

2. Rights

As a citizen, one gains access to a wide range of *rights*—civil, political, and social.

- Civil rights ensure freedom of speech, religion, and expression, allowing individuals to live with autonomy and dignity.
- Political rights include the right to vote, run for office, and participate in shaping governmental policies.
- Social rights, like access to healthcare, education, and social services, ensure a baseline of well-being, contributing to citizens' quality of life.

Key Characteristics of Citizenship

2. Point of View of each country: Rights

Citizenship, as a legal status, varies widely across countries, influenced by historical, cultural, and political factors. While the fundamental rights and duties are similar, the approaches to acquisition, retention, and dual citizenship highlight the diversity of global perspectives.

Key Characteristics of Citizenship

3. Participation

Citizenship also entails *participation*, encouraging individuals to actively engage in the life of their community and nation.

This dimension emphasizes a citizen's role in voting, joining associations, volunteering, and advocating for issues that matter to them.

Participation strengthens democracy and community bonds, creating a shared sense of responsibility for the welfare of the nation.



Key Characteristics of Citizenship

3. Point of View of each Country: Participation

In the EU, citizenship participation emphasizes voting, public consultations, and cross-border initiatives. In sub-Saharan countries, participation often blends modern governance with traditional community decision-making, though challenges like resource limitations persist.



Key Characteristics of Citizenship

4. Identity

Citizenship contributes to a shared *identity*, fostering a collective sense of belonging within the national community. It builds emotional ties that unite citizens across diverse backgrounds through shared values, history, and purpose. This identity dimension promotes social cohesion, creating a collective “we” that strengthens unity and inclusiveness in society.



Key Characteristics of Citizenship

4. Point of View of each Country: Identity

In the EU, citizenship emphasizes legal rights, democratic values, and a shared European identity alongside national heritage. In sub-Saharan countries, it is shaped by communities, ethnic affiliations, and traditional practices, often balancing national unity with local diversity.



Principles Underpinning Citizenship

Citizenship upholds principles of **inclusion**, **participation**, and **belonging**.

It delineates **who** can access resources and participate in decision-making, drawing boundaries that both **unite** and **exclude**.

These boundaries shape democratic practices, influence social equality, and impact the rights of residents within a state.

Citizenship's Role in Political Engagement

Political engagement often requires citizenship, which provides access to voting and other democratic liberties.

It influences one's likelihood to participate in civic life, enhancing voice, and democratic legitimacy within the community.

Citizenship's Role in Political Engagement

Each Country's Point of View

In the EU, citizenship encourages participation through voting and EU-wide initiatives.

In the sub-Saharan countries, it supports community-driven engagement and grassroots participation, addressing challenges like access to formal political structures.

Access to Civic Engagement

Citizenship facilitates access to various forms of political and civic involvement, from voting to organizing associations.

While some countries allow resident noncitizens to vote locally, national and regional elections remain largely restricted to citizens, linking full participation to the acquisition of citizenship.



Citizenship Policies and Political Impact

Moreover, **Inclusive citizenship** policies can shape political dynamics.

For instance, countries with open citizenship policies often see shifts toward inclusive political representation, while restrictive policies may limit noncitizen influence on local decision-making, affecting the diversity of the political landscape.



Open vs. Restrictive Citizenship Policies

More inclusive policies can enhance civic integration and solidarity, enabling broader political and social inclusion.

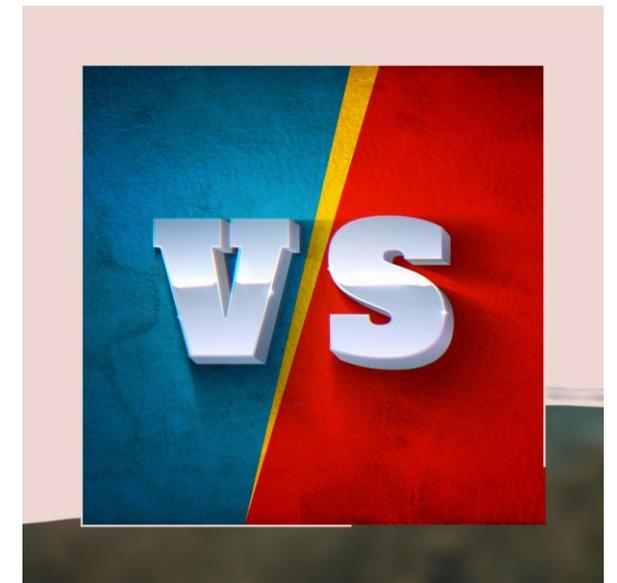
In contrast, restrictive policies risk creating marginalized populations, potentially limiting social cohesion and affecting democratic legitimacy.

Case Study: Open vs. Restrictive Citizenship Policies

Case Study: MT5.1_2

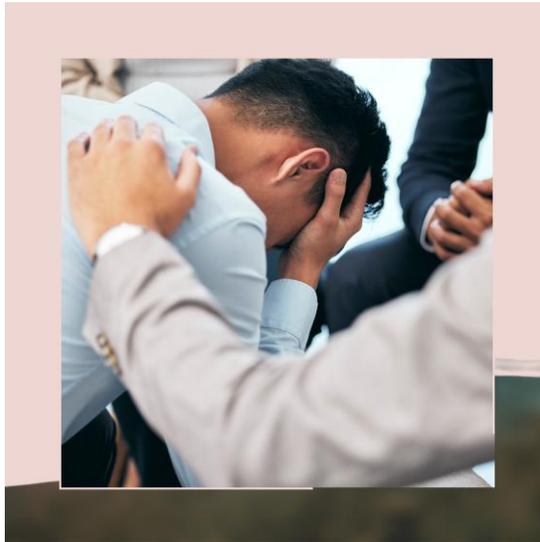
In this activity, participants will explore the contrasting approaches to citizenship policies through a case study of two fictional countries, **Liberalica** and **Tradistan**.

Through this exercise, participants will read about the policies of each country and consider the impact these policies have on society, economy, and cultural diversity.



Topic 2: Active Citizenship and Participation

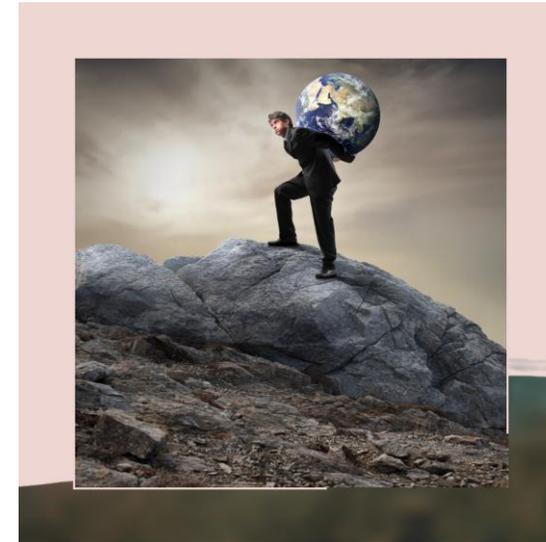
Empathy



Respect



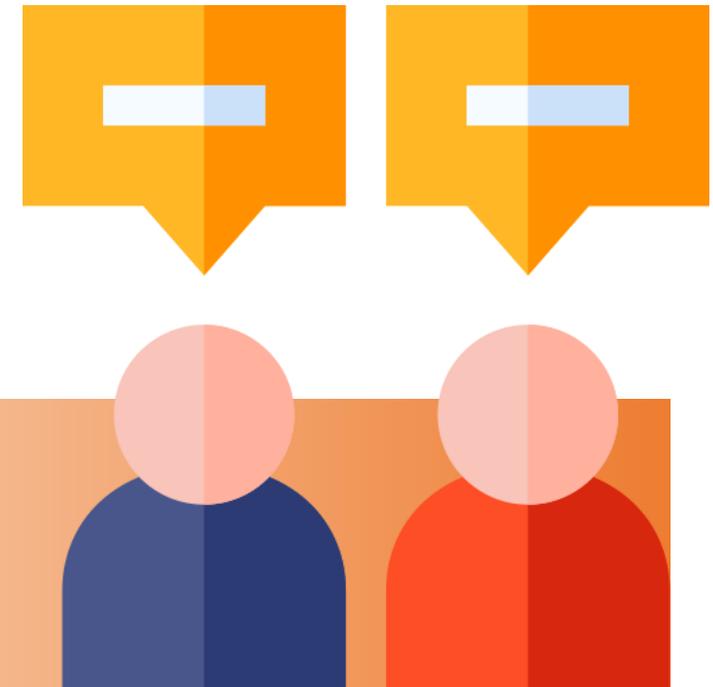
Responsibility



MT5.1_1 Reflect on core values of citizenship—**Respect, Empathy, and Responsibility.**

Choose one of the following core values and share your perspectives on why do you consider this value important for each society.

Ice-breaking Activity - Citizenship Snapshots



Introductions

Let's get to know each other!

Defining Active Citizenship

Active citizenship is about taking initiative in civic life, being aware of societal issues, and striving to make a difference. It emphasizes public participation, contributing to social, political, and environmental welfare, and advocating for human rights and democracy.

Active citizenship goes beyond holding legal citizenship. It involves active engagement in the political, social, and economic contexts within one's community, promoting social good, and participating in decision-making and policy processes. It reflects a commitment to contributing positively to society.

Defining Active Citizenship

Active citizenship strengthens democracy, fosters social cohesion, and ensures that diverse voices contribute to societal progress. It enhances individuals' sense of purpose, while also holding governments accountable and supporting community resilience.

Active citizenship, depending on each country's point of view, could emphasize participation, civic duties, and community engagement **or** focus on grassroots involvement, community leadership, and collective action to address local and national challenges.

Core Principles of Active Citizenship

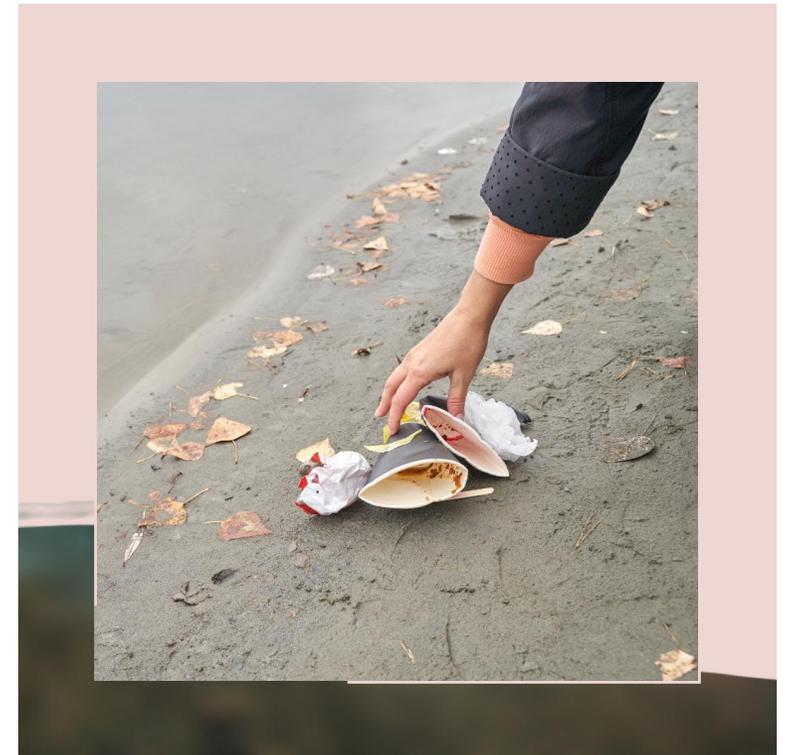
Active citizenship revolves around:

1. **Civic responsibility** – Understanding one's duties to society.
2. **Social justice** – Advocating for fairness and equity.
3. **Political participation** – Engaging in democratic processes.
4. **Inclusivity** – Ensuring equal rights and opportunities for all.

Core Principles of Active Citizenship

1. Civic responsibility

Civic responsibility is the understanding of one's role and obligations toward the well-being and development of their society. It emphasizes active involvement, accountability, and service to the community.



Core Principles of Active Citizenship

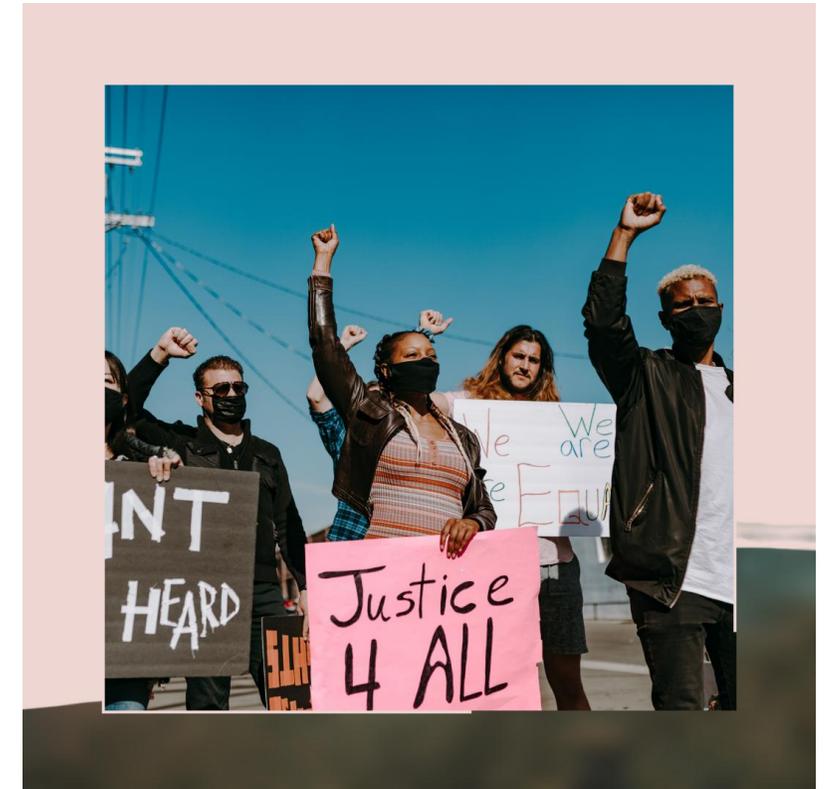
1. Civic responsibility

- **Example:** Participating in community clean-up drives demonstrates civic responsibility by contributing to a healthier and more pleasant environment for everyone. Additionally, joining local neighborhood committees to address issues such as safety or neighborhood maintenance is an example of taking ownership of local civic matters.

Core Principles of Active Citizenship

2. Social justice

Social justice is the commitment to fairness, equality, and the promotion of human rights within society. Active citizens seek to address inequalities and advocate for marginalized groups to ensure a more just society.



Core Principles of Active Citizenship

2. Social justice

Example: Volunteering with organizations that provide legal assistance to immigrants or advocating for affordable housing policies are ways to contribute to social justice. Campaigns that fight for gender equality or racial justice are also key examples, as they focus on ensuring that all individuals have equal rights and opportunities.

Core Principles of Active Citizenship

3. Political participation

Political participation involves engaging in democratic processes to shape policies and make voices heard. It can include voting, joining public forums, attending local government meetings, and participating in protests or advocacy groups.



Core Principles of Active Citizenship

3. Political participation

Example: Voting in elections is one of the most straightforward forms of political participation, allowing citizens to choose representatives who align with their values. Another example is joining or supporting grassroots advocacy campaigns to lobby for legislative changes, such as environmental protections or increased educational funding.

Core Principles of Active Citizenship

4. Inclusivity

Inclusivity focuses on promoting equal access and opportunities for all members of society, regardless of background. It recognizes diversity and seeks to remove barriers that exclude certain groups from full participation in society.



Core Principles of Active Citizenship

4. Inclusivity

- **Example:** Working with community organizations that provide accessible resources to individuals with disabilities exemplifies inclusivity. Additionally, organizing cultural exchange programs to integrate new immigrants into the community fosters an inclusive environment where diverse backgrounds are valued and celebrated.

Volunteering and Active Participation

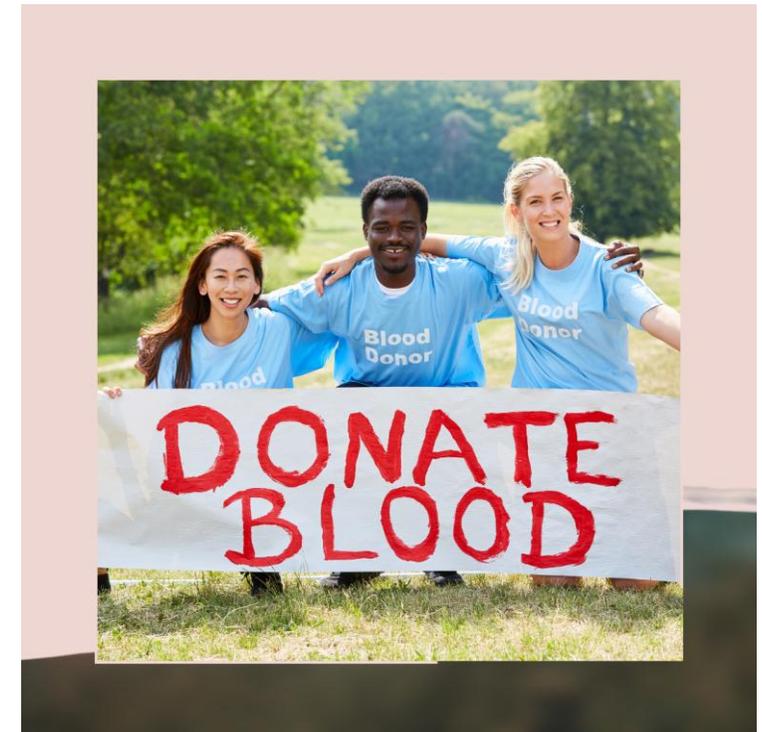
Volunteering is a vital component of active citizenship, as it promotes social welfare without financial gain. It empowers individuals to contribute to the public good, develop new skills, and foster a culture of compassion and collective responsibility.



Volunteering and Active Participation

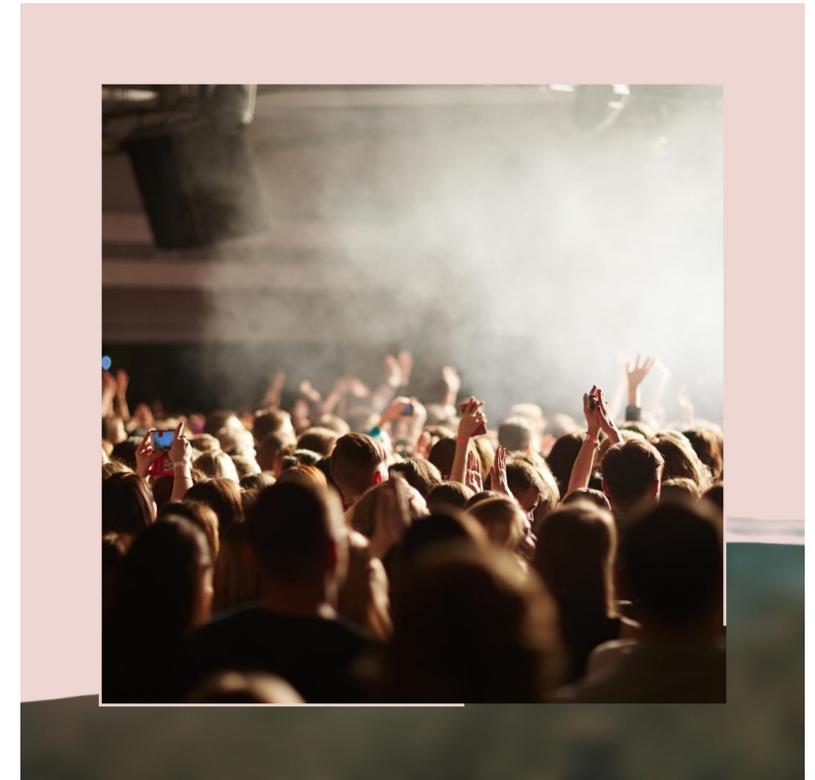
Examples in Volunteering: Civic Campaigns and Awareness Drives

Volunteers might organize or join campaigns on issues such as voting rights, anti-bullying, or human rights awareness. For instance, a group of volunteers could organize a blood donation activity, ensuring that more people in their community are informed about the current situation of the state.



Youth and Political Participation

Youth engagement in political processes is crucial for sustainable democracy. Young people bring fresh perspectives, energy, and innovation to social and political causes, helping to shape policies that impact future generations.



Building a Culture of Active Citizenship

Building a culture of active citizenship involves creating an environment where individuals are encouraged, supported, and empowered to participate in civic life.

By fostering civic-mindedness and community engagement, we build resilient societies committed to justice, equality, and positive change.



Building a Culture of Active Citizenship

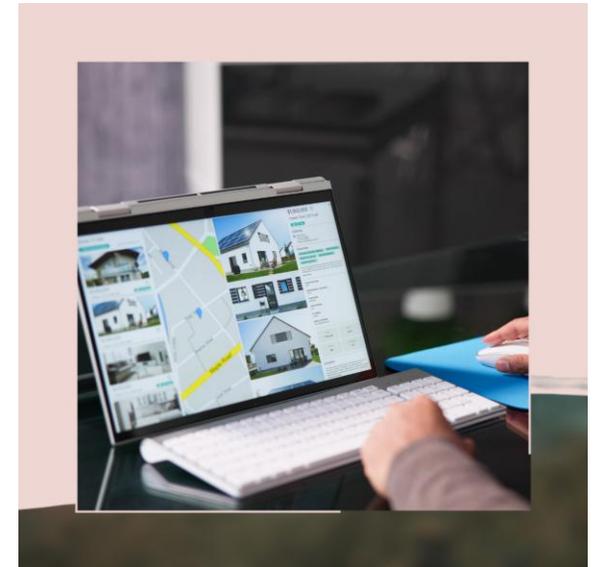
Trust in institutions is essential for motivating citizens to participate actively and to build a culture of Active Citizenship in a community.

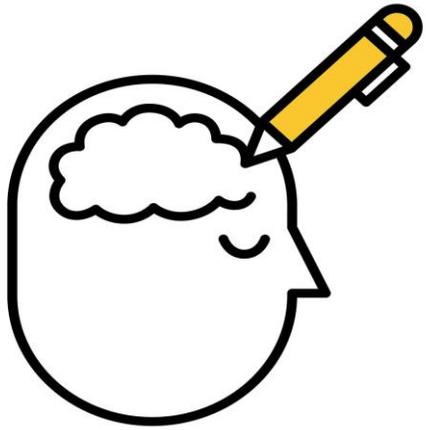
Many countries across the globe have created online portals where citizens can track progress on public projects, submit feedback, and see government responses.

Case Study

Case Study: MT5.1_4. This activity explores the impact of digital engagement tools on fostering active citizenship and trust in public institutions.

The case study and follow-up questions encourage participants to reflect on the benefits of citizen engagement platforms, understand the relationship between trust and participation, and consider how similar initiatives could strengthen democratic practices and community cohesion in their own contexts.





What will you keep from
today's training?



Revision-Summary and Q&A

Understanding Citizenship: Citizenship is both a legal status and a sense of belonging that includes rights, duties, and identity within a community.

Key Characteristics of Citizenship: Citizenship involves legal status, access to rights (civil, political, and social), active participation in society, and a shared national identity that promotes social cohesion.

Active Citizenship: Active citizenship means engaging beyond legal obligations, contributing to social, political, and environmental well-being, advocating for human rights, and participating in civic processes to support democracy.

Core Principles of Active Citizenship: These include civic responsibility (duty to society), social justice (advocating for fairness), political participation (engaging in democracy), and inclusivity (ensuring equal opportunities).

Building Trust for Active Citizenship: Trust in institutions is essential to motivate active participation.

What is a Citizen? From Ancient Athens to the US

Explanatory short video:

[What is a Citizen? From Ancient Athens to the US](#)

Q & A

Instructions for the learners

- Share your thoughts openly and respectfully.
- Stay on topic and listen actively.
- Ask questions if something is unclear.
- Keep comments brief to give everyone a chance to speak

Q & A

- 1. Q: What is the definition of active citizenship in the EU?**

Q & A

2. Q: How does active citizenship manifest in sub-Saharan Countries?

Q & A

3. Q: What are the challenges to active citizenship in the EU?

Q & A

4. Q: What challenges hinder active citizenship in the other countries?

Q & A

5. Q: How does education support active citizenship in both regions?



Do you have any questions?

Training Evaluation



True or False

Instructions for the learners

- Read carefully to each question and think about whether it is true or false

True or False

- 1. Citizenship grants individuals legal recognition by a state.**

True or False

2. Active citizenship only involves voting in elections.

True or False

3. In the EU, citizenship includes rights like free movement and access to EU institutions.

True or False

4. Sub-Saharan citizenship primarily focuses on grassroots and community involvement.

True or False

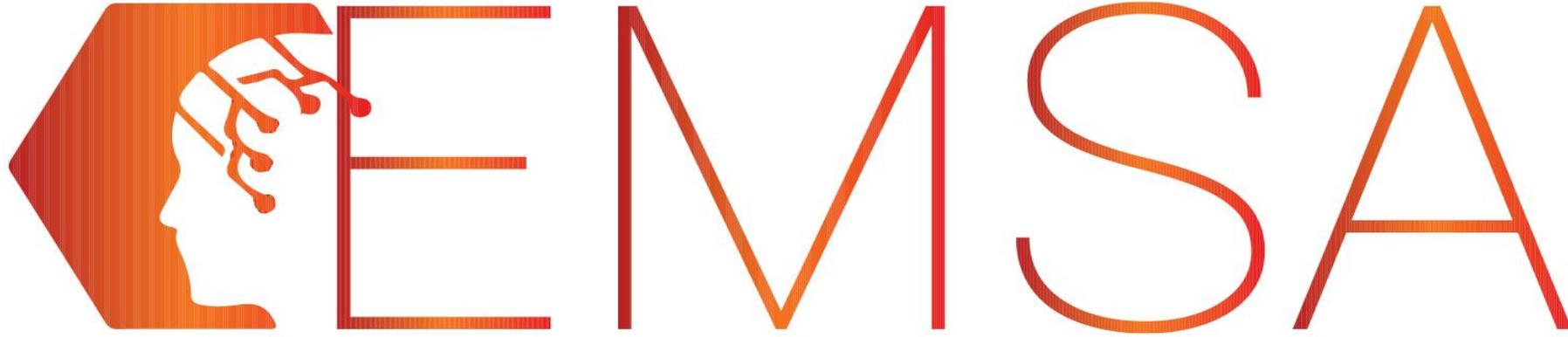
5. Education plays no role in promoting active citizenship.

List of References

- Active citizenship. (t.y.). Received: 10 November 2022, available at https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/pages/glossary/active-citizenship_en
- Presidency of the European Union. (2021, October 21). History of the European Union. <https://www.ab.gov.tr/p.php?e=105>
- European Convention on Human Rights, (1952). https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/convention_eng.pdf EC Migration and Home Affairs. (t.y.). Integration. Received: 10 November 2022, available at https://homeaffairs.ec.europa.eu/pages/glossary/integration_en
- EUROSTAT. (2022). Migrantintegration statistics—Active citizenship. EUROSTAT. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Migrant_integration_statistics_-_active_citizenship

List of Suggested Resources for Self-Directed Learning

- Thomas H. Marshall, *Citizenship and Social Class*, volume 11 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1950); Christian Joppke, 'Immigration and the Identity of Citizenship: The Paradox of Universalism', *Citizenship Studies* 12, no. 6 (2008): pp. 533-546
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (1948). <https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-humanrights/>



Entrepreneurial Mindset and Key Skills for All

Thank you!



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