

ADAPT DIGITAL STEPS FOR THE SOCIETAL AND POLITICAL INTEGRATION OF MOBILE EU YOUTH

Project Number: 101090099 www.adapt-youth.eu

REPORT

1st Youth Festival in Romania 21-22 NOVEMBER 2024



European Center for Research and Regional Development









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Executive Summary

The 1st Youth Festival of the ADAPT project took place in Bucharest, Romania, on 21st-22nd November 2024, bringing together 15 young participants from five EU countries. The event focused on fostering youth engagement in democratic life and civic activism through interactive workshops, discussions, and collaborative activities. Over the two days, participants explored key themes such as societal challenges, youth priorities, and communication strategies while actively developing skills in leadership, creativity, and civic participation. This festival marked a significant step in empowering vouth to take active roles in shaping their communities and fostering a cohesive European identity.







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CAPITAL YOUTH ASSOCIATION (CYA) LIECHTENSTEIN



EUROPEAN CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ECRRED) LATVIA

> ASOCIATIA ASEL RO ROMANIA



EVROPAIKO KENTRO KOINONIKON EPISTIMON POLITISMOU KAI ATHLITISMOU GREECE



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Objectives



Promoting Youth Engagement: Encourage active participation in social and democratic processes.



Enhancing Civic Literacy: Equip participants with tools for effective communication and activism.



Fostering Collaboration: Build networks among youth from different EU countries.



Raising Awareness: Highlight key societal challenges and youth priorities in Europe.

AGENDA OVERVIEW

Prior to the youth festival, the host organization designed a comprehensive agenda outlining the program's structure, thematic focus, and key objectives for each session. This agenda served as a crucial framework, ensuring that all activities were strategically aligned with the festival's goals. Acting as a guiding tool for both organizers and participants, it facilitated a well-coordinated sequence of events, allowing for seamless transitions and effective time management. By providing this clear structure, the host organization ensured an engaging and impactful experience for everyone involved in the event.

ADAPT

DAY 1 21/11/2024

- 09:30-10:00: Registration and Welcome Coffee
- 10:00-10:30: Opening Session Introduction to the ADAPT project and icebreaking activities.
- **10:30-11:30**: Workshop Youth Engagement in Social and Democratic Life.
- 11:30-12:00: Coffee Break
- 12:00-13:30: Communication Activities Workshop – Strategies for civic participation.
- 13:30-14:30: Lunch Break
- 14:30-15:30: Presentation on Civic Activism and Societal Issues.
- 15:30-16:30: Group Discussion Youth priorities in society.
- 16:30-17:00: Day 1 Evaluation and Feedback.



DAY 2 22/11/2024

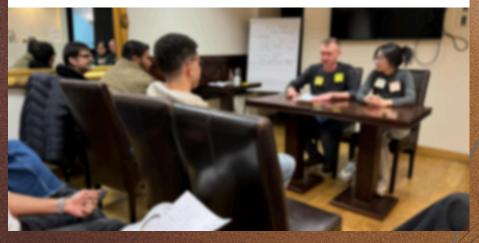
- 10:00-10:30: Icebreaking Games.
- 10:30-11:30: Mock Elections Activity Youth Mayor campaign.
- 11:30-12:00: Coffee Break
- 12:00-13:00: Candidate Presentations and Q&A.
- 13:30-14:30: Lunch Break
- 14:30-15:30: Poetry and Poster-Making
 Workshop.
- **15:30-16:30**: Closing Circle Reflections and community application.



Key Activities and Outcomes 21/11

<u>Day 1 Highlights</u>

The opening session set the stage for collaboration and mutual learning. Participants were introduced to the goals of the ADAPT project through engaging icebreakers, which fostered a sense of camaraderie and inclusion. The workshops on civic engagement delved into strategies for enhancing youth participation in democratic life, emphasizing the transformative power of activism. During the interactive discussions, participants shared diverse insights on societal challenges, focusing on critical issues such as climate change, employment opportunities, and digital rights. These sessions sparked meaningful dialogues and established a shared understanding of the role of youth in addressing pressing societal issues.



Key Activities and Outcomes 22/11

<u>Day 2 Highlights</u>

Day two was a blend of practical and creative activities. The mock elections offered participants a hands-on experience with democratic processes, allowing them to practice leadership and public speaking in a simulated Youth Mayor campaign. This activity underscored the importance of informed decision-making and civic participation. Later, the creative workshop encouraged artistic expression as participants designed posters and crafted poetry that captured the essence of activism and societal themes discussed throughout the festival.



The event culminated with a reflective closing circle, where participants shared personal takeaways strategies for and applying their newfound knowledge and skills in their local communities. This session reinforced a collective commitment to fostering positive change and active citizenship.

EVALUATION

Participants lauded the festival for its dynamic combination of theoretical knowledge and practical activities. The hands-on workshops offered an opportunity to translate abstract ideas into actionable plans, while the interactive discussions fostered a deeper understanding of societal challenges. Creative exercises, such as poster-making and poetry sessions, allowed participants to connect activism with artistic expression, enhancing their engagement with the themes. Feedback highlighted the event's success in promoting inclusivity, as youth from diverse backgrounds collaborated to share perspectives and build a cohesive network. The festival's structured blend of learning and creativity was particularly praised, with participants noting its effectiveness in equipping them with practical skills and fostering long-lasting connections. By the end of the event, participants expressed a renewed of sense empowerment and a clear vision for contributing to their communities and beyond.



CONCLUSION

The 1st Youth Festival of the ADAPT project was a resounding success, achieving its objectives of enhancing youth engagement and fostering a collaborative European network. Through a thoughtfully designed combination of theoretical and practical application, the event exploration empowered participants to envision and enact change within their communities. By fostering inclusivity and dialogue, the festival served as a catalyst for inspiring innovative civic initiatives and cultivating leadership among young Europeans. The enthusiasm and insights during the festival underscored shared the transformative potential of youth as active citizens and changemakers. As the project moves forward, future festivals will build on these achievements, broadening their impact and continuing to strengthen the ADAPT project's mission of empowering youth across Europe.





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