


ENGAGE Project Database of Best practices collected at EU level

Purpose: To offer a gallery of best practices examples to be used as examples and motivations for the youth leaders in their activities when raising young people’s awareness of UE values and motivating them to get engaged in democratic life.

Title of the initiative	emPOWER YOUth – Youth-Led Municipality										
Representative image of the initiative											
Website/Social Media account of the initiative	https://europegoeslocal.eu/egl-action/empower-youth-youth-led-municipality-associatia-geyc-bucharest-romania/										
Country of implementation	Romania										
Representative organisation/ individuals	Asociația GEYC										
Field of action	<table border="1" data-bbox="505 1770 1377 1881"> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1770 846 1822">EU values & human rights</td> <td data-bbox="846 1770 922 1822">✓</td> <td data-bbox="922 1770 1300 1822">Citizenship</td> <td data-bbox="1300 1770 1377 1822">✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1822 846 1881">Cultural identity</td> <td data-bbox="846 1822 922 1881">☐</td> <td data-bbox="922 1822 1300 1881">Digital citizenship</td> <td data-bbox="1300 1822 1377 1881">☐</td> </tr> </table>			EU values & human rights	✓	Citizenship	✓	Cultural identity	☐	Digital citizenship	☐
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Cultural identity	☐	Digital citizenship	☐								

	Diversity and inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender, social, economic and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Social justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leadership & mentorship	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Democratic life	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change, sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	If other, please specify			
Type of action	Participatory youth policy development			
Target group	Young people in Câmpina			
Main partners or stakeholders	Local municipality of Câmpina			
Short description of the initiatives	<p>Skill development and capacity building: The project provided comprehensive training in areas like democracy, research, activism, and social media, directly enhancing the participants' competencies. This foundational knowledge not only empowered them for this project but also prepared them for meaningful engagement in future community initiatives, instilling skills valuable for lifelong civic involvement. Participatory approach to youth work: By centering young people in research, strategy development, and community discussions, emPOWER YOUth advanced a participatory model that went beyond traditional, top-down youth work. This approach respected young people as equal stakeholders and partners in creating solutions, making the youth work more relevant, responsive, and closely aligned with actual needs. Building trust and transparency with local authorities: A significant barrier to youth involvement was the lack of trust in local government. This project helped bridge that gap by establishing direct, open lines of communication between young people and the municipality. The project's transparent, collaborative format enhanced the credibility of youth work, making it more likely that young voices would be considered in future policy discussions. Replicable model for other communities: emPOWER YOUth served as</p>			

	<p>a pilot initiative to model youth engagement and participatory governance in other communities. By creating a structured, documented Youth Strategy that municipalities could adopt, the project offered a blueprint for engaging youth in local governance processes, fostering higher quality and more inclusive youth work.</p>
Activities and methods implemented	<p>Workshops, strategy development sessions, community discussions</p>
Key Success Factors	<p>Youth-led approach, local authority collaboration, capacity building</p>