


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	Internationale Jugendbegegnungen (english: International youth exchanges)																				
Representative image of the initiative	 <p>Copyright: Jugendbegegnungen in Europa und darüber hinaus</p>																				
Website/Social Media account of the initiative	Jugendbegegnungen in Europa und darüber hinaus																				
Country of implementation	Based in Germany, but the program organises travels and exchanges to different countries																				
Representative organisation/ individuals	Jugendwerk der AWO (Workers' Welfare Youth Organization)																				
Field of action	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>EU values & human rights</td> <td>X</td> <td>Citizenship</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cultural identity</td> <td>X</td> <td>Digital citizenship</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diversity and inclusion</td> <td>X</td> <td>Gender, social, economic and health</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social justice</td> <td>X</td> <td>Leadership & mentorship</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Democratic life</td> <td>X</td> <td>Other</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	EU values & human rights	X	Citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural identity	X	Digital citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diversity and inclusion	X	Gender, social, economic and health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social justice	X	Leadership & mentorship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Democratic life	X	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Climate change, sustainability X
Type of action	International youth exchanges, “Workcamps” and training programs held in various countries
Target group	Young people, particularly those who face social disadvantages or poverty. The focus is also on supporting youth who do not have access to “traditional” abroad programs.
Main partners or stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Work of AWO: Responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing the programs. • Volunteers and Educational Professionals: Contribute to the conception and guidance of the exchanges. • Funding Institutions: Programs such as Erasmus+, the Franco-German Youth Work (DFJW), and the German Federal Children and Youth Plan (KJP) financially support the initiatives.
Short description of the initiatives	The Youth Work of AWO organizes international youth exchanges every year, bringing young people from different countries together to experience cultural diversity, broaden their perspectives, and engage with social issues. The programs promote intercultural exchange and strengthen the understanding of global challenges.
Activities and methods implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: On topics such as sustainability, climate protection, diversity, and intercultural learning. • Creative Projects: Such as theatre performances or other forms of artistic expression. • Excursions: Exploration of the surrounding area to promote intercultural understanding. • Language Support: The use of translation to overcome language barriers
Key Success Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intercultural Encounter: Promotes understanding and breaks down prejudices through direct exchange. • Diverse Topics: Offering relevant and current topics that appeal to young people. • Supportive Guidance: Professional and volunteer support that creates a sense of safety and trust. • Sustainability and Social Engagement: Many projects include a strong thematic focus on sustainability, human rights, or social justice, which increases relevance and encourages civic engagement.