



Interreg
South Baltic



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D-EFFECT - CIVIC SOCIETY DEMOCRACY LESSONS, bringing a youth perspective in the EU policymaking at all levels in line with Youth Strategy 2022-2027



6.

Participation in Youth Democratic Festivals in Europe



PILL OF KNOWLEDGE





Democracy Can Be Experienced

Political and democracy festivals in Europe create open spaces for meetings, dialogue and the exchange of views. They bring together citizens, decision-makers, civil society organisations, experts and young people, enabling discussion on issues that matter to society.

This is democracy beyond the walls of institutions – based on dialogue, direct interaction and active participation.

European Democracy Festival Models



Almedalsveckan – Sweden



Arendalsuka – Norway



LAMPA – Latvia



Folkemødet – Denmark



SuomiAreena – Finland



Arvamusfestival – Estonia

Although these events differ in scale, programme, and format, they share a common idea: creating a space where diverse voices can be heard and citizens can directly participate in public debate.

Youth – More Than Just an Audience

Participation in festivals allows young people to see how democracy works in practice. They can take part in debates, ask questions, meet decision-makers and present their own ideas.

The Transition Process Is Key:

FROM AUDIENCE | TO PARTICIPANT | TO CO-CREATOR

Young people can not only take part in events, but also propose topics, co-create the programme and initiate their own activities.

Inspiration for the D-Effect Project

Participation in European political and democracy festivals provides opportunities to explore good practices, engaging formats and different methods of fostering dialogue with young people.

The D-Effect project draws on European experience as inspiration for developing Youth Democratic Festivals (YDF) in the South Baltic Region.

The aim is not to copy a single existing model, but to learn from proven solutions and adapt them to local needs.

OBSERVE | LEARN | ADAPT | CO-CREATE

European democracy festivals serve as a point of reference for creating events that give young people genuine space for dialogue, participation and action.



DEMOCRACY IS CONVERSATION, DIALOGUE, PARTICIPATION.
FESTIVALS CREATE A SPACE FOR MEETINGS
AND THE EXCHANGE OF PERSPECTIVES.



EUROPEAN MODELS OF DEMOCRACY FESTIVALS



DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, DIFFERENT TRADITIONS – ONE GOAL:
DIFFERENT VOICES CAN BE HEARD.

YOUTH – NOT ONLY THE PUBLIC



FROM THE AUDIENCE → TO PARTICIPANT → TO CO-CREATOR

INSPIRATION FOR THE D-EFFECT PROJECT



EUROPEAN EXPERIENCES

→ LOCAL ACTION → BETTER DEMOCRACY

WE CREATE A SPACE FOR DIALOGUE, PARTICIPATION AND ACTION
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS EUROPE.





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DEffect



 **CENTRUM SPOTKAŃ
EUROPEJSKICH
ŚWIĄTOWID W ELBLĄGU**

 **mediadizajn**



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