

Building Inclusive and Democratic School Cultures

Training course and study visit for Romanian Teacher Trainers, Oslo, May 2021

EWC will organize a training of trainers course including a study visit element in Oslo, Norway, for selected educational experts from Romanian Teacher Training Houses, County Centres for Resources and Educational Assistance or County School Inspectorates.

In order to register and participate at the training and study visit, the applicant must have been granted support from the Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship Programme financed by the EEA Grants 2014-2021 via the Romanian Programme Operator, Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale.

Further information can be found at: <http://www.eea4edu.ro/cine-poate-candida/invatamant-preuniversitar/>.

The five-day course will introduce hands on and interactive methods for building democratic school cultures and promoting inclusion. A focus will be on how to develop democratic competences such as critical thinking and cooperation skills in young learners.

The 1-day study visit will provide opportunities to visit a school and reflect on an inclusive school culture in practice. Also, a visit to a teacher training institution will be offered

Key aims:

The full package of the training course aims to support the quality of teacher training in Romania through strengthening competences of teacher trainers, school inspectors and school counselors.

The institutional objectives of this course and study visit are:

- To strengthen capacity of county school inspectorates, teacher training institutions and education centres in Romania in citizenship and human rights education.
- To contribute to the development of a professional pool of trainers in teacher training in Romania, with a focus on citizenship and human rights education.
- To introduce and promote the latest Council of Europe approaches and tools in citizenship and human rights education, and to support their use in educational practice;

The educational objectives are:

- To develop participants capacities to design, carry out and evaluate trainings for teachers and other education professionals in citizenship and human rights education, according to national priorities;
- To support participants to learn how to apply a whole school approach that involves all stakeholders in school to develop a democratic and inclusive school environment;
- To raise awareness and further develop skills on teaching controversial issues and dealing with diversity;
- To raise confidence in applying interactive and learner-centered methods.
- To reflect upon the Council of Europe Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture and to raise awareness on how to integrate it in teaching and learning process at school

Profile of participants and requirements

The training will bring together practitioners from the specified target groups. The participants must:

- come from and be supported by a Teacher Training House, County Centre for Resources and Educational Assistance or County School Inspectorate;
- have been granted financial support covering the participation at the course from the Romanian Programme Operator, Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale;
- demonstrate strong motivation and possibility to act as multipliers e.g. to run a training event on citizenship and human rights education in cooperation with their sending institution;
- be in a position to apply what they have learned in the course in their work practice;
- be motivated to improve their work or identify the need to improve trainings for teachers;
- have already some relevant experiences linked to citizenship and human rights education;
- subscribe to the values and approaches of the Council of Europe;
- be able to work in English;
- be available for the full duration of the course and study visit;

Course structure

The full training course package covers a duration of 8 months, including several phases and a combination of residential and practice-based:

1. Preparation for the residential seminar

- Assessment – educational priorities and needs in your local context and elaboration of project application to the <http://www.eea4edu.ro>
- Pre- training survey for multipliers

2. Training in Oslo & study visit, Oslo (May 2021)

- Training sessions on learner-centered and interactive methods and approaches.
- Introduction to competence development for a democratic culture.
- Strategies for inclusive and democratic school development.
- Design of the participants' national trainings.
- Study visit to selected institutions in the Oslo area.

3. Practice phase: Follow-up & implementation in Romania (June 2021-November 2021 TBC)

- National trainings for teachers and other educators conducted by participants, in cooperation with their institutions

4. Follow-up meeting in Romania (December 2021 TBC)

- Presentation of results and challenges experienced.
- Evaluation of the training activity (including post-training survey)
- Future plans a& network building

The national trainings:

During their project phase, all participants are expected to plan, run and evaluate minimum one training event in Romania. The training should be:

- a training activity of minimum 2 days addressing local / national needs in education
- a training addressing teachers and / or school leaders
- based on Council of Europe tools and approaches relevant to citizenship and human rights education
- documented and evaluated (using EWC reporting template)
- organized in cooperation with the sending institutions

Council of Europe approaches & tools that may be included in the training:

- Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture
- Teaching Controversial Issues & Managing Controversy
- Democratic School Governance
- Living in Democracy Pack
- Compass

Application procedures

- Participation in the training and study visit is conditional on project approval and financing by the Romanian Programme Operator, Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale (see details on <http://www.eea4edu.ro/cine-poate-candida/invatamant-preuniversitar/>)
- Selected project promoters will receive a registration form from EWC following their grant approval.
- Fees of 875 euro per participant shall be paid by the sending institution to EWC upon registration. The fees are fully covered through the grant from the Romanian Programme Operator, Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale (see <http://www.eea4edu.ro>)
- Each institution can send 2-3 participants
- The Training and Study Visit will only be carried out with a minimum of 16 participants.

Accommodation, meals and travel:

Will be covered by the Romanian Programme Operator, Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale, through the project approved, on a lump sum basis but has to be organized, booked and paid by the participants. The training will take place centrally in Oslo.

Draft programme (6 days)

Training element

Day 1:

- Self-reflection of own competences and attitudes, joint needs assessment.
- General principles of citizenship and human rights education including Council of Europe policies and materials.
- Whole School Approach
- The role of In-service trainer system in the whole school approach to citizenship and human rights education.

Day 2:

- Competences for a democratic culture in the class room and beyond.
- Active teaching methods promoting dialogue and an inclusive classroom culture.

Day 3:

- Diversity management at school
- Strategies for democratic school governance

Day 4:

- Building partnership with parents and the community
- Introduction: How to develop a training course?
- Methods for school self-assessment

Day 5:

- Developing participants' own training and peer feedback.
- Self-reflection of own competences and attitudes
- Evaluation of the course.

Study visit element

Day 6:

- School visit
- Visit to a teacher training institution