





# What is Generation Europe?

**Generation Europe is a programme by the International Association for Education and Exchange (IBB e.V.) for furthering an active European Citizenship. It initiates an international youth network and motivates to common political action.**

30 youth work institutions from 15 European countries are taking part. In each case, youths from three countries continually collaborate over the course of three years in order to get politically involved. They identify problems at the locations, meet in international encounters, and support each other in local projects. They network on a digital liquid-democracy platform and discuss which problems appear not just on the national level, but can be considered on the European level as well. In this, they are seeking a dialogue with representatives of political institutions on all levels. By combining their actions at the location with activities on the European level, they develop and test new approaches of a shared European democracy education.

Generation Europe is geared towards young people from all target groups: They are active together, irrespective of origin, parental income, and their previous success in formal educational systems. They contribute towards European understanding and towards creating a confident and inclusive European citizenship.

## **Why are we active?**

In many countries, undemocratic and right-wing populist movements are increasingly met with approval. In the perception of the public, values like freedom, democracy, and respect for human rights often play a lesser role to the conflicts and crises in Europe. Solidary conceptions of society are questioned again and again. Young people are hit especially hard by economic crises and social inequality. Many feel there is little that can be changed. However, the participation of young people is of central importance for European democracy. It is them who have to live with the decisions taken today for the longest.

## **Political participation for everyone!**

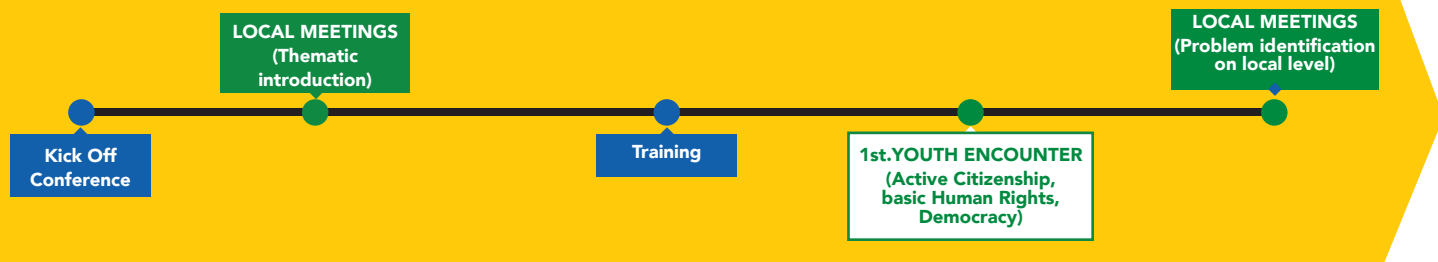
Generation Europe is an innovative support programme for international youth collaboration. It specifically aims at also reaching youths, who have been excluded from political participation processes until now. Even youths describing themselves as „unpolitical“ often show great interest in political questions once entrance barriers have been removed, once a relationship to their lived experiences exists, and they furthermore experience their committed actions having an impact. At the same time, youths with migration backgrounds, flight experiences, with broken educational biographies, as well as those from rural areas are severely underrepresented in international projects. Generation Europe actively addresses this imbalance. Common to all participating youth work institutions is their already working with youths from diverse target groups at the location. By not funding individual projects, but three-year project partnerships, the programme creates the foundation for sustainable collaboration.





# GENERATION EUROPE: Act locally, network internationally

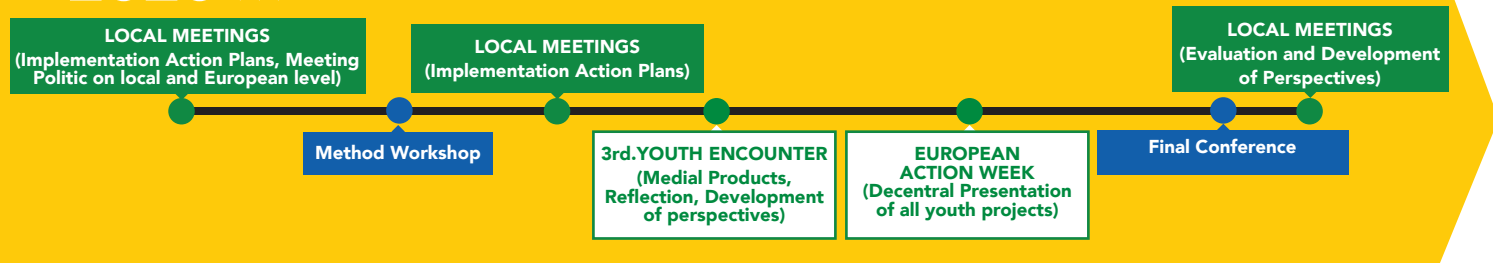
## 2018 >>>



## 2019 >>>



## 2020 >>>



## LEVEL 1: PROFESSIONALS

### **Agreement on Trilateral Partnerships**

Ten youth work institutions from Germany forged project partnerships with two youth work institutions from other European countries each.

### **Kick-Off Networking**

Professional from the 15 participating countries meet. Topics: Finance/organisation, creating the network, goals, concepts of European civil society.

### **Training for Professionals**

The training conveys methods of political education for heterogeneous target groups. The project partners begin detailed planning for the first youth encounter.

### **Workshops on Method**

Here, the experts develop a handbook with newly developed methods on Active European Citizenship for heterogeneous target groups.

### **Concluding Conference**

The professionals meet once more, in order to reflect on their experiences and results. This is all about developing a nuanced perspective on the past three years and safeguarding their results. Materials, which have been developed together, are presented, finalised, and then published digitally.

## LEVEL 2: YOUTHS

### **Local Activities**

Prior to and following international encounters, the youths are active locally. They identify problems at the location, which they want to work on with the support of their partners from the other countries. They develop local action plans and implement these.

### **International Youth Encounters**

The youths meet in their project partnership, with each project partner taking on the role of host once. They support one another and discuss the European level of the problems they are working on at the location.

### **European Youth Congress**

All those active meet in Strasbourg. They deal with the question of how to engage with local problems as part of a democratic process. Topics: Methods of campaigning, crowdfunding, argumentative techniques, and media relations. In discussions with decision-makers, they apply the skills they have learned.

### **Decentralised European Week of Action**

In the autumn of 2020, all participants will address the public in a simultaneous and coordinated manner. They present the results of their three years of work, implement previously planned decentralised actions, confront local decision-makers with their demands, and make visible the international character of Generation Europe.

## SHAPING YOUTH POLITICS!

Generation Europe creates not only an international network of youth work institutions and youths. We also want to further develop strategies of youth politics in Europe. Those active in the projects meet with representatives of the sponsors and other experts in a steering committee. As part of our conferences and networking meetings, we also host international stakeholder meetings. Here, we connect representatives from different political levels with other actors in youth politics. The goal: An encounter and exchange between those active in youth projects at the grassroots level, and those defining the institutional framework. The project partners develop guidance and framework papers in regional groups. We want to anchor European youth politics at the location, and, at the same time, make sure the results from practical work are taken into account on all levels. In this, the youths and the participating professionals become actors in youth politics themselves.



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