



★ NETWORKING EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Participation Now! Citizenship Education and Democracy in Times of Change

21 - 24 November 2012
Córdoba, Spain

www.nece.eu

Conference Location: Palacio de Congresos de Córdoba,
C/Torrijos 10, CP14003 Córdoba (Spain)

The Cordoba Conference Centre is located in an environment to match the only Andalusian City to be included in the list of World Heritage. An environment that still preserves the symbols of a two hundred-year-old city: the Roman Bridge, the main mosque in the West and the remains of the Omeya fortress. Cordoba can claim to be the witness of several events that changed the course of history. a former dwelling of the Omeyas, a housing complex and a hospital, the Cordoba Conference Centre is a landmark in Cordoban Gothic-Humanist architecture.

A European conference organised by



ProDeMos
Huis voor democratie en rechtsstaat

bm:uk Bundesministerium für
Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur

In co-operation with

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CENTER FOR CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION



DARE
Democracy and Human Rights Education in Europe

and the fellowship programme "Shaping Europe – Civic Education in Action" for young Europeans – a co-operation between the bpb and the Robert Bosch Stiftung

supported by **Robert Bosch Stiftung**

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Background and aims

The focus of the NECE Conference 2012 will be on current concepts of democracy and participation in the face of worldwide processes of change as well as crises in politics, society and economy.

In Europe, but also in other Western countries, a massive loss of trust in the legitimacy and creative power of democratic institutions can be noted as a result of the financial crisis. Currently, the European project is experiencing the worst crisis of confidence in its history. Old resentments and prejudices are back, potentially resulting in new splits in Europe and endangering the European integration. At the same time, in the past few years radical changes in the societies of authoritarian states – e.g. in North Africa – have resulted in attempts at transition to democracy, thereby initiating transformation processes with uncertain consequences.

As a consequence of these worldwide developments, new movements of social and political protest have emerged, indicating new ways of organising civil society. These movements are increasingly starting to appear in the public space, they act primarily situationally, temporarily and processually. Despite a high degree of diversity, their common feature is a demand for more participation and transparency of political decision-making.

The objective of the NECE Conference is to pursue the question of what might be an appropriate reaction to these obvious and new questions and developments of crisis – not only in the West. Which initiatives and conclusions will be relevant for citizenship education in the transnational space? Does Europe need a new 'Social Contract' between the state, the EU, the political structures of civil society, the market, social security and environmental sustainability? And how could the various initiatives for newly inventing 'democracy' in Europe and for an extension of political participation be connected with the radical changes and transformation processes on the far shore of the Mediterranean? Where and how could bridges be built between civil society initiatives on both shores of the Mediterranean; where do they already exist? Concerning our own reflections on citizenship education in Europe, what could we learn from the changes in other countries, and vice versa?

The NECE Conference provides an interdisciplinary platform for a dialogue among multipliers of citizenship education and civil society in Europe on the one hand and "non-European" countries undergoing transition on the other. Players particularly from North Africa are invited to share their experiences but also problems and to initiate a process of learning and exchange.

Programme

Wednesday, 21 November 2012

5 pm Registration at the Palacio de Congresos de Córdoba

6 pm **Welcome and opening**

Thomas Krüger, Federal Agency for Civic Education (Germany)
Kars Veling, ProDemos (the Netherlands)

Keynote speeches

A world in transformation: How has the notion of democracy changed in times of fundamental transformational processes in politics and society?

Claus Leggewie, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (Germany)

Society awakening to a new era: What are the consequences of new forms of political participation and democratic protest culture for the creation of a global civil society?

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Discussion

8:30 pm Dinner reception

Thursday, 22 November 2012

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| 9 am | Welcome coffee
Market place of models and projects in citizenship and human rights education |
| 9:30 am | <p>Discussion round
Citizenship education and democracy in times of change</p> <p>International statements from different working fields and professions with a current relevance to perceptions and images between Europeans and non-Europeans, common concerns and differences regarding citizenship education as well as issues of a global citizenship</p> <p><i>Discussion with the audience</i></p> |
| 1 pm | Lunch snack |
| 2:45 pm | Introduction of the speed labs |
| 3 pm | <p>Speed labs on current issues and formats of citizenship education</p> <p>A speed lab is a participative meeting and exchange format. Workshops are combined with a speed-dating component in order to allow a wide audience to actively join in at several workshops, and meet each other and discuss in direct communication.</p> |
| 6 pm | End of speed labs |
| Evening at your free disposal | |

Friday, 23 November 2012

9:00 am Welcome coffee
Market place of models and projects in citizenship and human rights education

9:30 am Introduction of the day

Presentation of “NECE – Networking European Citizenship Education”

Introduced by
Petra Grüne, Federal Agency for Civic Education (Germany)
Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk, ProDemos (the Netherlands)

Presentation of the Fellowship Programme "Shaping Europe – Civic Education in Action"

Introduced by
Markus Lux, Robert Bosch Stiftung (Germany)*
Christiane Toyka-Seid, Programme Manager (Germany)

10:15 am **Parallel forum session**

The forums will pursue questions of common concerns and approaches in citizenship education in times when the notion of democracy and participation is undergoing transformation.

How can the constantly renewed challenges of democratic political systems be tackled by means of appropriate citizenship education delivered to citizens? What processes and topical areas can be expanded and improved during the present phase of crisis in democratic institutions?

The parallel forum session will on the one hand provide expertise on current issues that are relevant to developments in citizenship education and invite to an interdisciplinary dialogue; on the other hand projects that already tackle these changing processes and encounter them with transnational and cooperative methods will be presented.



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Forums on relevant issues

*What significance do these topics have in times of transformation?
How are these topics taken up and processed by citizenship and
human rights education? How must these topics be advanced and new
methodical approaches developed?*

Topics that will be considered here are amongst others:
mutual new perceptions between Europe and the Islamic World,
changes forms of representative democracy and participation
processes, sustainable development and ecology, diversity and
migration, internet and social media, human rights education

Forums on innovative projects

*What participative processes are currently of relevance? How can
citizenship education accompany these processes? What new forms of
voter mobilisation and participation are conceivable?*

Topics and projects that will be considered here are amongst others:
role of social media and social networks for political participation,
voters' mobilisation (Voting Advice Application), participatory budgeting
as new form of citizens' participation, competences and methods
forum, culture/ art and its influence on participatory processes

12:15 pm	Lunch at your free disposal
2 pm	Rerun of the parallel forums
4 pm	Coffee break
4:30 – 5:30 pm	World café Participants engage in an open participative dialogue on the findings from the parallel forum session
7 pm	Dinner and culture

Saturday, 24 November 2012

9:30 am Welcome coffee
Market place of models and projects in citizenship and human rights education

Open Forum

1) NECE – Focus Groups

2) NECE Partners

3) Consultation Panels

- Fundraising and resource acquisition in citizenship education with regard to the EU programmes
- Crowdfunding as a topic of citizenship education
- Funding of exchange projects with North Africa

12 am **Key lecture**

1:15 pm Farewell and invitation to NECE Den Hague 2013
Petra Grüne, Federal Agency for Civic Education (Germany)
Manfred Wirtitsch, Federal Ministry for Education, Art and Education (Austria)
Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk, ProDemos (the Netherlands)

1:30 pm Lunch snack

approx. 3 pm **Cultural programme** (optional)
Sight Seeing Tours through Córdoba