DEMOS
DIALOGUE CARDS

DEMOS Dialogue Cards are a part of the DEMOS Dialogue method and serve as a tool for facilitating dialogue sessions on various democracy-related topics.

For more information on how to use the DEMOS Dialogue Cards, please refer to the DEMOS Guide which provides practical advice for facilitators. It can be found on the DEMOS website:

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ACCOUNTABILITY

ACCOUNTABILITY:

the principle that elected officials and public servants are responsible to citizens for their actions, decisions, and policies. It involves mechanisms such as elections, checks and balances, transparency, and oversight to ensure that the government acts in the public's best interest and is obliged to answer for its conduct.

May connect with

- checks and balances
- transparency
- elections
- trust
- leadership

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does accountability mean to you in the context of a democratic government?

How accountable are our elected officials?

Going Deeper

How do mechanisms such as free elections, a free press, and judicial oversight contribute to accountability in a democratic system?

Do you have concerns regarding the accountability of our elected officials?

Closing Reflections

How can citizens hold their government accountable for its decisions and actions?

What kinds of action steps can we take as citizens to promote accountability in our country's government?

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP:

active citizenship refers to a wide range of participation in democratic life. In short, it means that people belong to a community and work for its benefit.

May connect with
- civic duty
- volunteering
- lack of participation
- education

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What examples come to your mind when you think about 'active citizenship'?

How would you describe an active citizen?

What do you think one needs to be an active citizen?

Going Deeper

Could you share one example from your life when you were an active citizen? If it's difficult to choose, think of an example that is the most meaningful to you.

What makes it easy or difficult to be an active citizen in your everyday life, community, area or country?

Closing Reflections (=call to action)

How can we support active citizenship in our community or country?

What topics, or social issues, inspire you to get involved as an active citizen?

AGEING EUROPE

AGEING EUROPE:

the demographic trend of an increasingly older population in many European countries, where declining birth rates and longer life expectancies lead to a growing proportion of elderly citizens. This shift has wide-ranging implications for society, including challenges to healthcare systems, pension funds, labor markets, and social services.

May connect with

- demographic changes
- migration
- policy
- human dignity
- economic inequality

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you think of an ageing population?

Why do you think Europe is experiencing this trend, and how does it compare to other regions?

How can we reframe the narrative around ageing to highlight the opportunities and benefits it brings to society, rather than focusing solely on the challenges?

Going Deeper

What are some of the social, economic, and political implications of an ageing society?

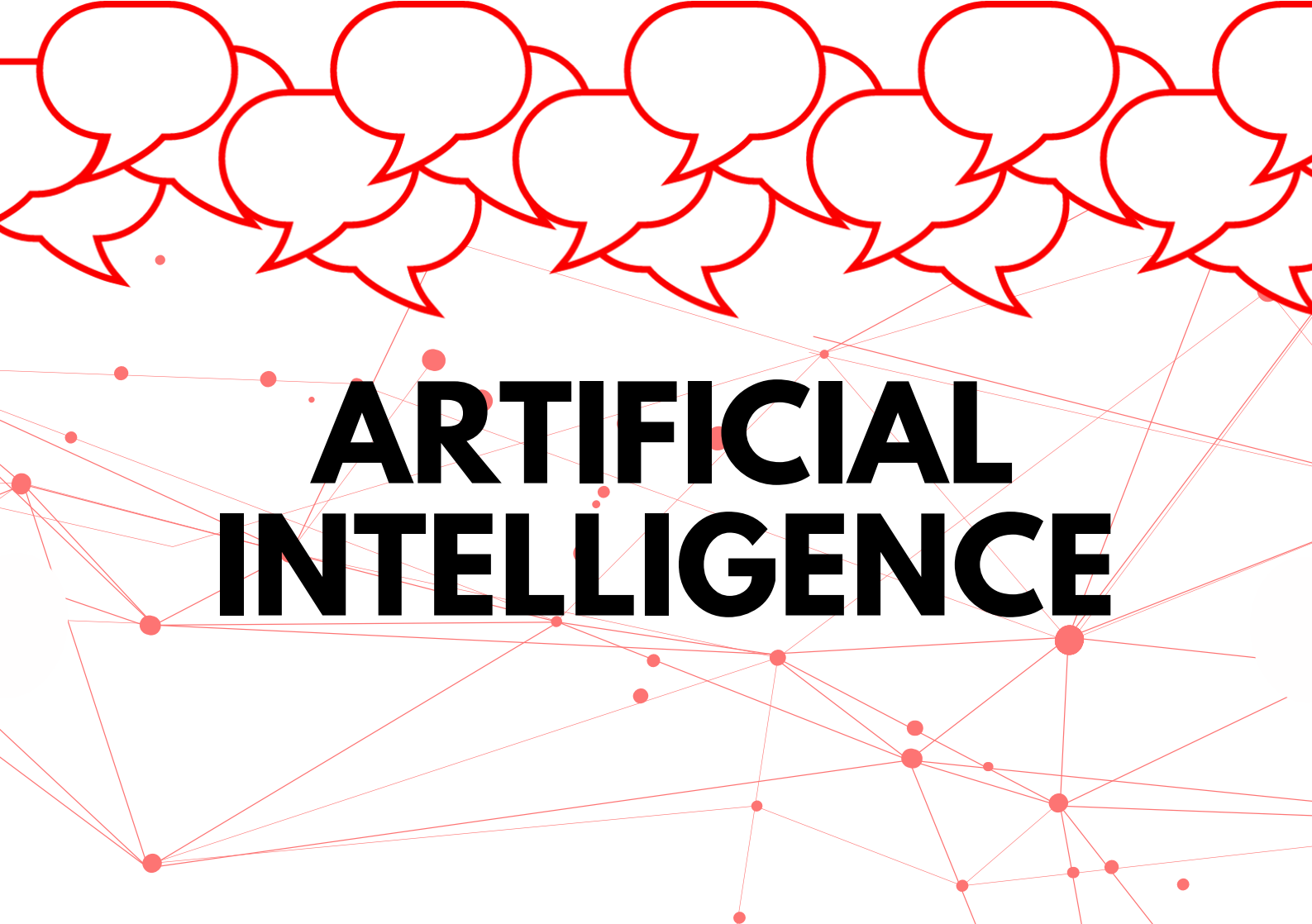
How can governments and communities address the needs of an ageing population while balancing resources for younger generations?

In what ways are older individuals contributing to society, and how can societies better support them in doing so?

Closing Reflections

What changes do you think are necessary to ensure the well-being of ageing populations in Europe?

How can we foster intergenerational solidarity and understanding in ageing societies?


ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:

a branch of computer science focused on creating systems capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence.

May connect with
- disinformation
- polarisation
- privacy
- security
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What is AI?

How can AI influence public opinion and political discourse?

Going Deeper

What are some concerns or hopes you have relating to AI and its potential benefits or harms for society?

What about AI in your personal life?

Closing Reflections

How can we prepare for future challenges that AI might pose to democratic systems?

What is your vision for the future integration of AI and democracy, and how can we work towards achieving it?

AUTHORITARIANISM

AUTHORITARIANISM:

a political system in which a single authority or a small group of individuals hold significant power, with little or no accountability to the public. In such systems, political pluralism is limited, civil liberties and rights are restricted, and political opposition is often suppressed.

May connect with

- populism
- nationalism
- checks and balances
- human rights
- freedom of speech

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the term "authoritarianism"?

How does authoritarianism differ from democracy?

Going Deeper

How do authoritarian governments maintain control over their populations, and what methods do they use to suppress dissent?

What are some key differences in living under an authoritarian regime compared to a democratic one?

Should we be concerned about authoritarianism in our country, or Europe?

Closing Reflections

What specific action steps can you take to raise awareness about the dangers of authoritarianism and protect democratic values?

CHECKS AND
BALANCES

CHECKS AND BALANCES:

a system in democratic governance where different branches of government have the authority to limit each other's powers, designed to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful.

May connect with
- authoritarianism
- democracy
- accountability
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the term, "checks and balances"?

What different branches of government are involved in checks and balances?

Why is a system of checks and balances important in a democracy?

Going Deeper

How do checks and balances operate in our country?

What kinds of challenges does the system of checks and balances face in our country?

Closing Reflections

How can citizens and civil society play a role in maintaining and strengthening checks and balances in government?

What kind of support or encouragement would you need in this effort?

CIVIC DIS/ENGAGEMENT

CIVIC DIS/ENGAGEMENT:

the active participation of individuals in the community and society through activities such as voting, volunteering and community organising or a lack of involvement or withdrawal from civic activities and responsibilities.

May connect with
- active citizenship
- civic duty
- civil society

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "civic engagement" mean to you? What about “disengagement”?

Why do you think some people choose to disengage from civic activities?

Going Deeper

How would you qualify yourself - as civically engaged, or disengaged? What is the reasoning or motivation behind your choice? Has it changed during the last couple of years and if so, in what way?

In what ways can technology and social media either facilitate or hinder civic engagement?

Closing Reflections

How can individuals be encouraged to become civically engaged?

Alternatively, how can we address civic disengagement and apathy?

CIVIC
DUTY

CIVIC DUTY:

a feeling and/or actions of responsibility and obligation toward the society or place in which you live (e.g. voting, paying taxes, volunteering, etc.)

May connect with
- voting
- elections
- peace
- volunteering
- solidarity

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does the term 'civic duty' mean to you?

What examples of civic duty, from the last couple of years, do you personally have?

Going Deeper

What kind of life experiences have affected your sense of civic duty?

What kinds of values, emotions or situations have impacted your sense of duty as a citizen?

Closing Reflections

What makes it difficult to fulfil your/one's civic duty in your community or country? What kinds of actions would you take to overcome these difficulties?

What action can be taken to inspire others to fulfil their civic duty?

CIVIL SOCIETY

CIVIL SOCIETY:

the collective of nonprofits, non-governmental organisations (NGO's), community groups, faith-based organisations, labour unions, and advocacy groups that organise around people's interests and needs.

May connect with
- active citizenship
- civic engagement
- volunteering

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the term "civil society"?

Can you name some organisations or groups that are part of civil society in our town or country?

In what way is civil society important for a functioning democracy?

Going Deeper

Are you involved in any civil society organisations or activities? Describe your experience.

What challenges do civil society organisations face in our community or country?

Are there any tensions between pro-democratic and not-necessarily-pro-democratic civil society organisations in our country?

Closing Reflections

How can individuals support and strengthen civil society?

How can we inspire people who are not civically engaged, to get involved with civil society organisations that suit their interests and needs?

CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE:

long-term change in the average weather patterns affecting local and global climates. The consequences of climate change now include, among others, intense droughts, water scarcity, severe fires, rising sea levels, flooding, melting polar ice, catastrophic storms and declining biodiversity.

May connect with

- economic inequality
- environmental protection
- migration
- security
- active citizenship
- radicalism and extremism

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What is "climate change" for you? How does it differ from the weather?

What are the primary causes of climate change?

What kinds of effects of climate change have you noticed in the news, media or social media lately?

Going Deeper

Do you observe any changes in climate in our environment?

How does (awareness of) climate change make you feel?

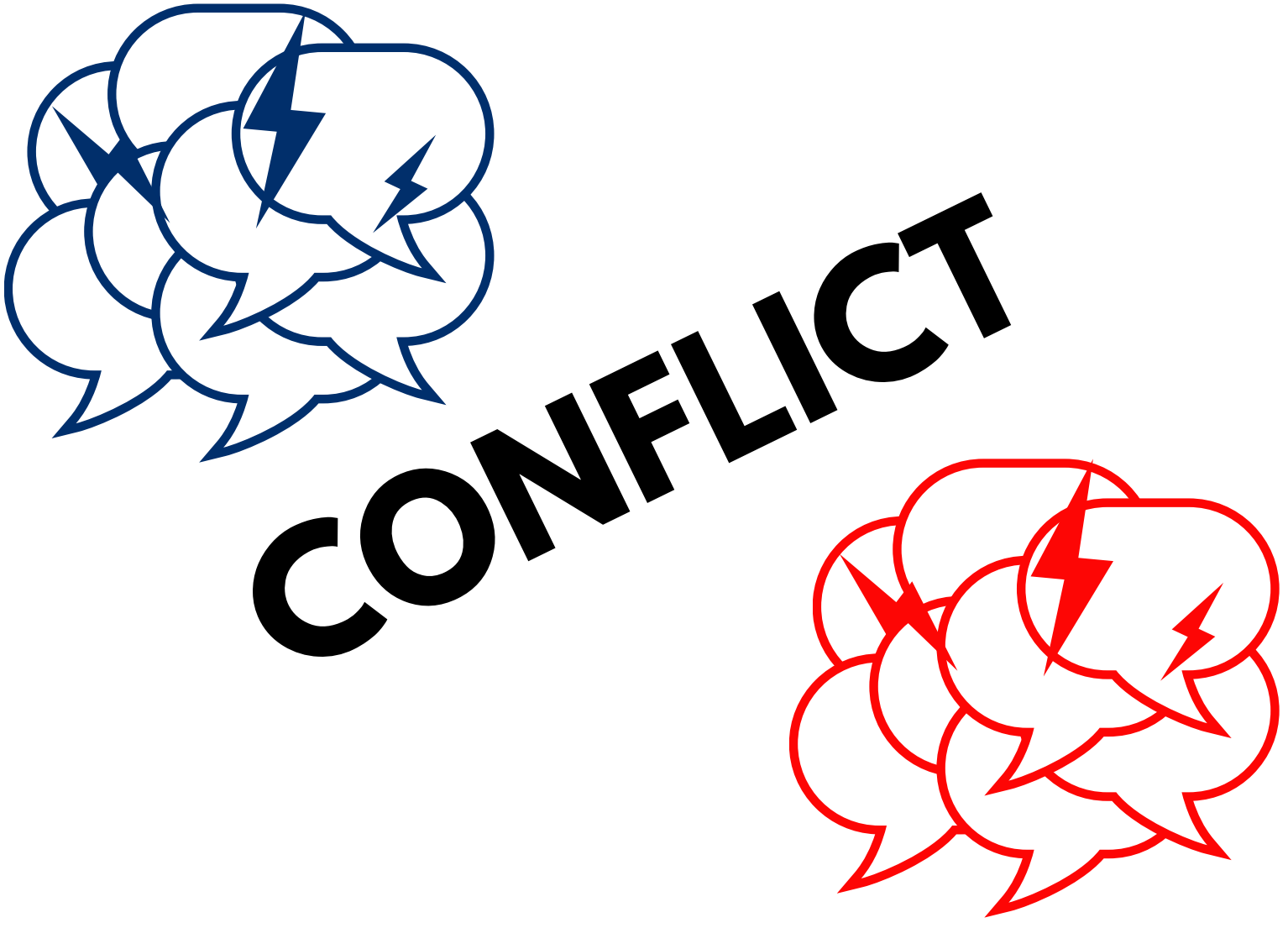
What do your family or friends think about climate change?

Closing Reflections

What motivates you to take action on climate change?

How can governments and businesses combat climate change?

What kinds of action steps can individuals take to reduce their negative impact on the environment?


CONFLICT

CONFLICT:

a disagreement or clash between individuals, groups, or ideas. It can occur in personal, social or political contexts and is a natural part of human interaction. Conflict is distinct from violence: while conflict is a difference of opinion or interest, violence is an extreme response that seeks to harm or dominate. Conflict can be positive and healthy when it is managed constructively, fostering growth, understanding, and solutions, whereas violence is inherently destructive.

May connect with

- war
- peace
- mediation
- dialogue

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does the term "conflict" mean to you?

Do you think conflict is a natural part of human relationships?

Can you think of an example where conflict led to positive change?

Going Deeper

What is the difference between conflict and violence? How can conflict escalate into violence?

How do you manage conflict in your own life, whether at work, home, or in your community?

Can you share a time when conflict led to a deeper understanding or a stronger relationship?

Closing Reflections

What strategies can we use to turn conflict into a constructive process instead of a destructive one?

What role do you think conflict plays in democratic societies? How can it strengthen democracy?

CORRUPTION

CORRUPTION:

the abuse of power or position for personal gain or to benefit others improperly, occurring in different forms such as bribery, embezzlement, nepotism, and fraud.

May connect with

- accountability
- rule of law
- in/justice
- checks and balances
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What do you understand by the term "corruption"?

Can you provide examples of corruption that you have heard about in the news?

Why do you think corruption is harmful to society and/or democracy?

Going Deeper

Have you or someone you know ever encountered corruption? How did it affect you?

How does corruption impact one's opportunities, economic development, public trust, and the rule of law in our country?

Closing Reflections

What measures can be effective in preventing and combating corruption at various levels of government and society?

What specific action steps can you take to promote transparency and integrity in your community or workplace?

DEMOCRACY

DEMOCRACY:

a system of government in which power is vested in the people, who rule either directly or through freely elected representatives. It emphasises the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms.

May connect with
- civil society
- authoritarianism
- polarisation
- geopolitics
- dialogue

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does democracy mean to you?

How would you qualify the state of democracy in our country?

Going Deeper

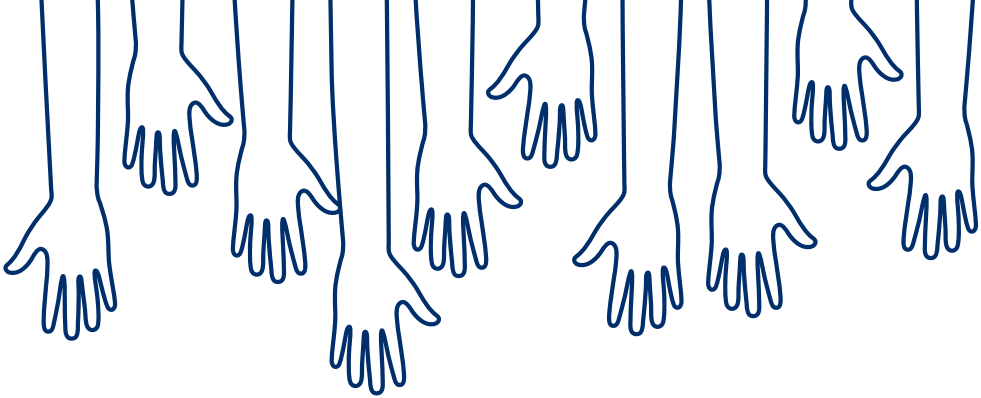
What are the biggest challenges that democracies face today, and how can they be addressed?

What are the sources of your (dis)trust in democracy?

Closing Reflections

What actions can we take to be more actively involved in promoting democratic values and in safeguarding democracy?

In what way should democracy as a system evolve to meet the challenges of the 21st century?



DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES:

shifts in the composition of a population over time, including changes in age structure, birth and death rates, migration patterns, geography, and cultural diversity.

May connect with
- human dignity
- equity
- resilience
- segregation

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What do you understand by the term "demographic changes"?

Can you think of any examples of demographic changes that have occurred in our community or country in recent times?

Going Deeper

Why is it important to study and understand demographic changes? What implications or potential effects can they have on our society?

What impact are we experiencing now, or can we expect in the future from demographic changes, such as the ageing population, in our country or in Europe?

Closing Reflections

How can governments and communities adapt to demographic changes to ensure inclusive and sustainable development?

How can individuals and institutions prepare for or respond to demographic changes in their planning and decision-making?

DIALOGUE

DIALOGUE:

a dialogue is a constructive conversation where everyone's voice carries the same weight. A successful dialogue will help all participants reach a deeper understanding of the topic that is being addressed, generating reflections on the self, others, and society overall.

May connect with

- active citizenship
- inclusion
- loneliness
- peace
- polarisation
- equity
- democracy

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What makes a good dialogue?

What kind of skills are needed to participate in a dialogue?

Going Deeper

What do you think about the culture of dialogue in our country?

What kind of dialogues do you like participating in? What kind of dialogues do you find difficult?

Closing Reflections

Which topic should we talk about in our country, and why?

How can each of us contribute to having more constructive conversations in our community?

DISINFORMATION

DISINFORMATION:

disinformation is false information deliberately spread to deceive people and to affect their actions and opinions.

May connect with

- freedom of speech
- peace
- transparency
- polarisation
- populism
- media

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kind of disinformation do you know about or have witnessed?

In your opinion, what kinds of effects can disinformation have in a community, in your country or in the world?

Going Deeper

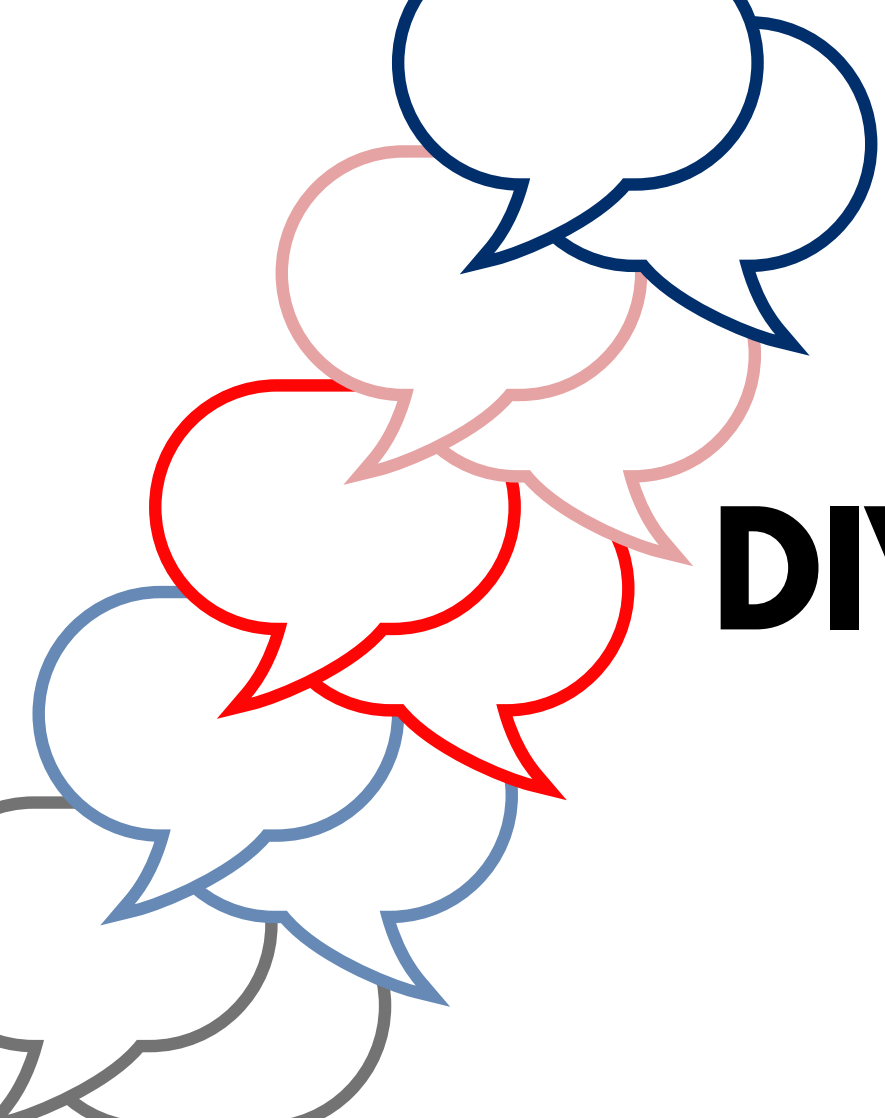
In your personal experience, is it always easy to distinguish disinformation from accurate information?

Are you personally worried about the spread of disinformation? Why does this topic worry you?

Closing Reflections

What kinds of steps would you like to see taken in order to counter disinformation in your community, country or in the world?

What can we do as citizens to fight disinformation?



DIVERSITY

DIVERSITY:

diversity is the range of human differences such as identity, social background, gender, age and more. In practice diversity usually means including or involving people from different backgrounds.

May connect with

- equity
- inclusion
- peace
- demographic changes
- human and minority rights

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

Is there a diverse group of people represented in your local or national decision making bodies or in civil society?

What kinds of benefits or difficulties might a diverse group of people encounter when, for example, making decisions about something?

Going Deeper

Can you recall visiting or being part of a place, community or process where there was a diverse group of people present?

What kinds of things did you learn from that experience?

Closing Reflections

In what ways could your community or country support diversity in decision making processes?

How can each of us personally support diversity and trust among different people?

ECONOMIC
INEQUALITY

ECONOMIC INEQUALITY:

unequal distribution of financial resources and the varying opportunities available to different individuals or groups.

May connect with

- education
- human rights
- migration
- populism
- radicalisation and extremism

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kinds of examples of economic inequality can you provide?

What are the social consequences of high levels of economic inequality in our country or in Europe?

Going Deeper

How does economic inequality manifest in our community?

How have your personal experiences shaped your views on economic inequality?

Closing Reflections

What can individuals do to help address economic inequality?

What kinds of action steps should our society and decision makers take to reduce economic inequality?

EDUCATION

EDUCATION:

the process of (facilitating) learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits. Education can be formal, non-formal or informal.

May connect with

- human dignity
- gender equality
- human rights
- climate change
- disinformation
- youth
- dialogue

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What is the first thought that comes to you when you hear the word “education”?

What is the primary purpose of education?

Going Deeper

How has your education shaped who you are today?

What changes would you like to see in the education system in our country?

Closing Reflections

How can the education system prepare students to be active and responsible citizens?

ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS:

a fundamental mechanism in democratic systems, allowing citizens to choose their representatives at the local, regional and national level as well as voice their preferences on various issues.

May connect with

- voting
- civic duty
- freedom of choice
- authoritarianism
- political parties
- media
- populism
- polarisation

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kinds of elections have taken place in our country during the last four years?

Were these elections different when compared to elections that took place in the past? If yes, how? If not, why not?

Going Deeper

What has been your experience of elections in our country during the last couple of years? What about the upcoming elections?

How have the election results affected you, your family or your community?

Closing Reflections

In what way should the election system in our country change or develop in the near future?

What could we do to increase voter turnout in future elections?

EMIGRATION

EMIGRATION:

leaving one's own country with the intention of settling permanently in another country.

May connect with
- climate change
- economic Inequality
- geopolitics
- minority rights
- security
- polarisation

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

When you hear the word "emigration", what is the first association that comes to your mind?

What are some of the main reasons people emigrate from their home country?

What role do political and social factors play in emigration?

Going Deeper

Can you share a personal experience or story of emigration that you experienced or encountered?

How has your perception of emigration changed over time?

Closing Reflections

What actions can individuals and communities take to support emigrants?

What actions or policies can the government implement to decrease emigration flows, or to reverse them - to inspire people to return?

ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:

the practice of safeguarding the natural environment from harmful human activities.

May connect with
- climate change
- human rights
- in/justice
- migration
- safety

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does “environmental protection” mean to you?

What are some of the key components of a healthy and sustainable environment?

Going Deeper

How do human activities contribute to environmental degradation?

What experience do you have in relation to environmental protection in your everyday life or in your community?

Why are climate change and environmental protection activism, polarising or divisive issues?

Closing Reflections

What changes can you make daily to contribute to environmental protection?

How can you influence others to become more environmentally conscious?

EQUITY

EQUITY:

recognising that we do not all have equal opportunities or backgrounds, equity means taking into account people's different needs in order to achieve the state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.

May connect with

- education
- freedom of choice
- human dignity
- inclusion
- women's rights

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does equity mean to you in various contexts (e.g. social, economic, political)?

Why is equity important in a society?

Going Deeper

What does an equitable society look like to you, and how can we work towards it?

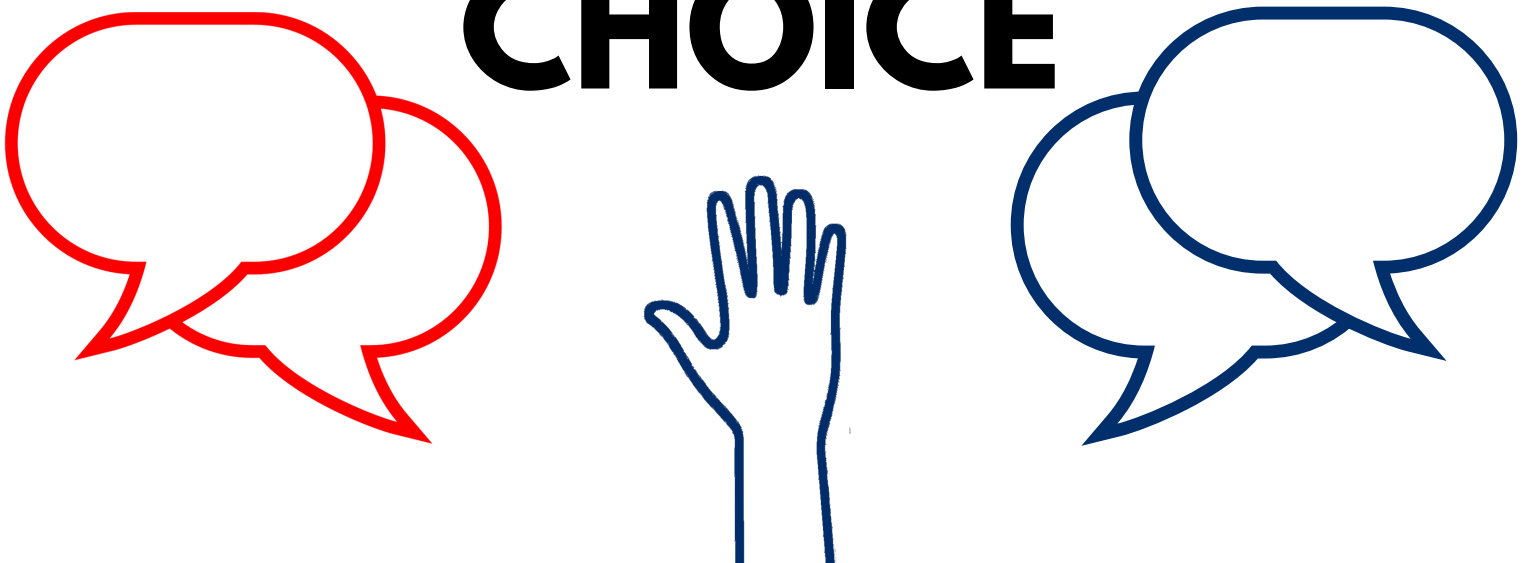
How has your personal experience shaped your views on equity?

Closing Reflections

What actions can individuals take to promote equity?

What emerging trends, in your opinion, could impact efforts to promote equity in the future?

FREEDOM OF CHOICE



FREEDOM OF CHOICE:

an individual's right, opportunity and autonomy to perform an action chosen from at least two available options unconstrained by external parties.

May connect with
- diversity
- freedom of speech
- gender equality
- authoritarianism
- climate change
- elections

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does 'freedom of choice' mean to you?

Why is freedom of choice important or challenging in society or in a democracy?

Going Deeper

Why is the freedom to choose important or challenging for you? Would you like to share some of your own experiences regarding this?

Why is it sometimes hard to act in line with your own values and/or needs? What can be done to make it easier?

Closing Reflections

How can freedom of choice be supported and advanced in our country?

What kinds of action steps would you like to see from decision makers, media and active citizens regarding this topic?

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

FREEDOM OF SPEECH:

the right of an individual or a group of people to articulate their opinions and ideas without legal sanction or censorship.

May connect with
- disinformation
- dialogue
- women's rights
- polarisation
- human rights
- media

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does 'freedom of speech' mean to you?

Why is freedom of speech important or challenging in society?

What would a society look like without the possibility to speak out freely?

Going Deeper

What might prevent you from being able to speak out freely?

How can we at the same time support freedom of speech and tackle things like hate speech and disinformation in our societies?

Closing Reflections

What kinds of action steps do you think we need to take in our society in order to support freedom of speech?

What can you do to encourage yourself and others to speak openly?

GENDER EQUALITY

GENDER EQUALITY:

a state in which all genders enjoy equal rights, resources and opportunities.

May connect with

- diversity
- freedom of choice
- freedom of speech
- women's rights
- leadership
- human rights
- equity

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to your mind when you think about gender equality?

What are the sources of support for gender equality in your country or area?

Going Deeper

Are there any challenges regarding gender equality in your community, in your line of work or in our country?

Can you share a personal experience about gender equality from your everyday life?

Closing Reflections

What kinds of action steps would you like to see in your community or society to support gender equality?

What can each of us do to support gender equality?

GEOPOLITICS

GEOPOLITICS:

the effects of geography, such as location, resources, and physical terrain, on politics and international relations between countries.

May connect with
- polarisation
- migration
- peace
- disinformation
- climate change

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What is your first association when you hear the term "geopolitics"?

Can you identify any current geopolitical issues or conflicts that are affecting global politics?

Going Deeper

In what way are geopolitical events or factors currently affecting our country and the world?

What are some worries or concerns that you have about geopolitical events in the (near) future?

Closing Reflections

What is one key takeaway or food for thought you gained from our discussion about geopolitics?

Keeping in mind different geopolitical challenges and developments, what is something that we can do and improve, on the local level?

HUMAN
DIGNITY

HUMAN DIGNITY:

refers to the inherent worth and value that every person possesses simply by being human.

May connect with
- equity
- minority rights
- human rights
- immigration
- economic inequality

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the term 'human dignity'?

How is this value supported in our society?

Going Deeper

Is this value important to you and why?

What kinds of experiences, such as memories, events or encounters have affected your views and opinions about human dignity?

Closing Reflections

Do you have concerns about human dignity in the future of your community or society? If yes, what kinds of action steps would you like to see taken?

What can we personally do to support human dignity in our community?

HUMAN RIGHTS

HUMAN RIGHTS:

the fundamental rights and freedoms that every person is entitled to simply because they are human. These rights include civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, such as the right to life, freedom of speech, education, and equality before the law.

May connect with

- gender equality
- human dignity
- freedom of choice
- freedom of speech
- authoritarianism
- tolerance

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kinds of human rights come to your mind, and why are they important?

What are some common forms of human rights violations?

Going Deeper

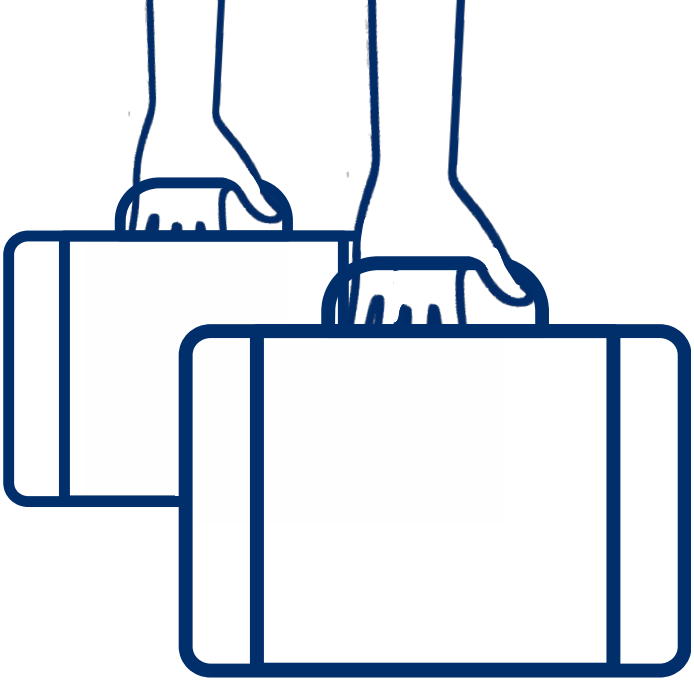
What human rights issues are most important to you, and why?

How would you qualify the state of human rights in our country today?

Closing Reflections

How can you contribute to promoting and protecting human rights in our community?

What emerging trends or issues, in your opinion, could impact human rights in the future?



IMMIGRATION

IMMIGRATION:

the process of people moving from one country to another to live there for a longer period of time or permanently.

May connect with
- migration
- geopolitics
- demographic changes
- inclusion

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

When you hear the word 'immigration', what's the first thought that comes to mind?

What are some common reasons people might choose to immigrate to a new country?

Going Deeper

Can you share a personal experience or story related to immigration, either from your own life or from someone you know?

How has immigration affected your town or country?

In what ways do you think immigrants contribute to their new communities, and what are some of the barriers they might face in doing so?

Closing Reflections

What is one new perspective or insight you gained from our discussion about immigration?

How can individuals and communities be more supportive and welcoming to immigrants?

IN/JUSTICE

IN/JUSTICE:

refers to a situation or action that is un/fair, morally wrong/right, or violates/upholds principles of justice, human rights and equity.

May connect with
- corruption
- minority rights
- human rights
- gender equality
- facing history

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What associations come to your mind when you hear the terms "injustice" or “justice”?

Can you think of examples of injustice in your community, country, or globally?

Going Deeper

Have you or someone you know ever experienced or witnessed injustice in our country or community? How did it impact you or them?

How does systemic injustice differ from isolated incidents of unfair treatment?

What are some underlying causes of injustice, and how can they be addressed in order to arrive at just outcomes?

Closing Reflections

What can we do to promote justice and fight injustice in our society?

What is one new perspective or insight you gained from our discussion about in/justice?

INCLUSION

INCLUSION:

the principle and practice of ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their diverse backgrounds and abilities, feel welcomed, respected, and valued as part of a community or organisation.

May connect with

- diversity
- equity
- minority rights
- women's rights
- youth participation
- dialogue

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How do you understand the term 'inclusion'?

What supports or challenges the inclusion of people from different backgrounds? For example, in the decision making processes in your community or society?

Going Deeper

Would you like to share personal experiences about inclusion in your everyday life or your community? For example at school, university, the workplace or a volunteering organisation?

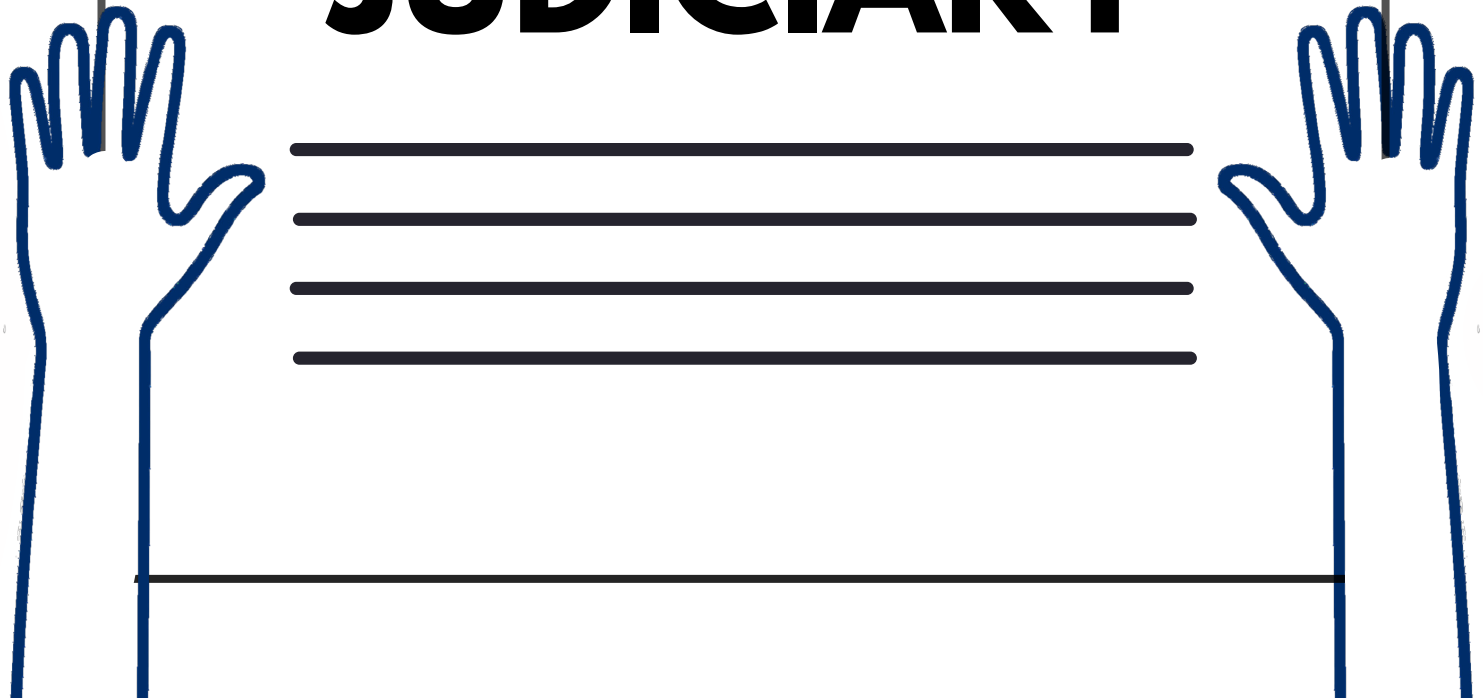
In your experience, what makes it easy to support inclusion and what makes it challenging?

Closing Reflections

Why and how should you support inclusion in your community?

What kinds of action steps would you like to see from decision makers to support inclusion in our society?

JUDICIARY



JUDICIARY:

the system of courts interpreting and applying the law, resolving disputes, and administering justice in the name of the state.

May connect with
- in/justice
- minority rights
- security
- transparency
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

When you hear the word “judiciary”, what is the first association that comes to your mind?

What is the role of the judiciary in a democratic society?

Going Deeper

What does judicial independence mean, and why is it important?

What is the state of the judiciary in our country?

How has your perception of the judiciary been shaped by your personal experiences or media portrayals?

Closing Reflections

What are potential threats to judicial independence in our country? What can be done about it?

Should we as citizens get more knowledge about our judicial system and about its role in democracy? What kind of knowledge would you yourself need ?

LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP:

the ability to guide, inspire, and influence individuals or groups.

May connect with
- active citizenship
- accountability
- civic dis/engagement
- political parties
- trust
- media

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How do you differentiate between leadership and management?

What inspirational societal or political leaders from history come to your mind ?

What kind of impact can an inspirational leader have in society?

Going Deeper

Who are some of the current leaders that you admire, and why?

Have you yourself been a leader in different situations or organisations? What made it easy? What made it difficult?

How would you describe the state of political and societal leaders in our country today?

Closing Reflections

What is your vision for the future of leadership in our society, and how can we work towards achieving it?

How can education contribute to preparing good leaders?

LEARNING
FROM
HISTORY

LEARNING FROM HISTORY:

involves critically examining both the positive and painful aspects of the past to understand their lasting impact on today's society. It encourages individuals and communities to reflect on historical events and their lessons, to avoid repeating mistakes and build a better future.

May connect with
- in/justice
- education
- nationalism
- minority rights

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "learning from history" mean to you?

Can you think of a historical event or period that you believe our society should learn from and better understand?

Going Deeper

Why do you think it's important for individuals and communitiesto reflect on and learn from both the positive and difficult aspects of history?

What are some challenges or barriers that individuals or societies may face when confronting difficult aspects of history?

How can we overcome these challenges to ensure we are learning effectively from the past?

Closing Reflections

How can politicians, media representatives, educators and community leaders constructively incorporate learning from history into public discourse?

What actions can you take to help ensure that we, as a society, learn from history in a way that promotes growth and positive change?

LIFE LONG
LEARNING

LIFE LONG LEARNING:

the continuous pursuit of knowledge and skills throughout an individual's life, beyond formal education. It encompasses an attitude of curiosity and growth, a practice of ongoing education in both personal and professional realms.

May connect with

- demographic changes
- education
- civic dis/engagement
- education
- human dignity

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "life long learning" mean to you?

Can you think of an example where learning something new as an adult benefited you?

Are there places or organisations you know where people can take advantage of LLL opportunities?

Going Deeper

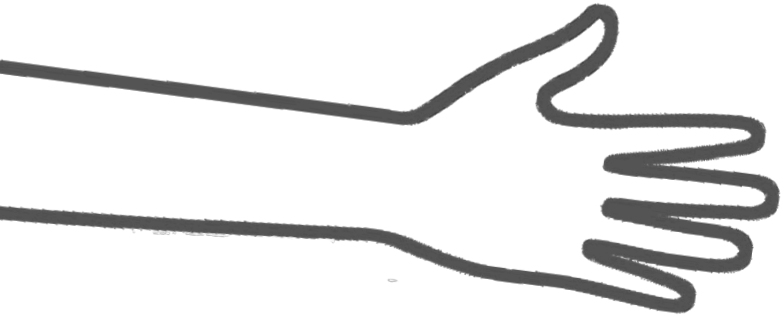
How does an attitude of continuous learning impact a person's ability to adapt to changes in their personal or professional life?

What role should governments and institutions play in promoting life long learning through policies and accessible programs?

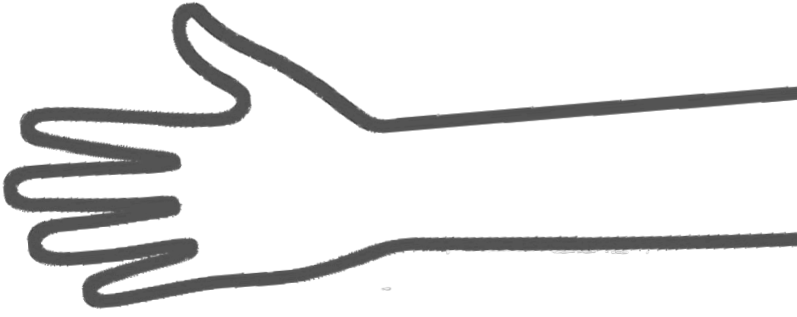
Closing Reflections

What challenges do you think society faces in ensuring everyone has access to life long learning opportunities, and how can we overcome them?

What steps can individuals take to foster a habit of life long learning in their own lives?



LONELINESS



LONELINESS:

a subjective emotional state characterised by a profound sense of emptiness, isolation, and lack of meaningful connection with others. One can feel lonely despite being part of a group and feel content while being alone.

May connect with
- civic duty
- human dignity
- volunteering
- economic inequality
- education

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How would you describe loneliness?

Do you think loneliness is adequately discussed in our society? What other phenomena, such as social isolation, are related to it?

Going Deeper

How does the structure of modern society—such as fewer social gatherings or less community involvement—contribute to loneliness?

In your experience, what kind of actions and social encounters prevent loneliness?

Closing Reflections

Which groups of people are at risk of feeling alone and feeling socially isolated or as though they don't belong in our society?

What kinds of policies, community programs, or initiatives could help rebuild social bonds and foster meaningful connections?

What actions can we personally take in our daily lives to reduce loneliness and strengthen social ties in our communities?

MEDIA

MEDIA:

various communication channels disseminating information, entertainment, and other content.

May connect with
- disinformation
- education
- polarisation
- populism
- privacy

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What is the role of the media in (our) society?

What are the different types of media, and how do they serve different functions?

Going Deeper

How does the media influence public opinion and behaviour in our country?

Nowadays what are some challenges or issues that we experience with (different forms of) media?

Closing Reflections

How can individuals develop healthy media consumption habits and what kind of support is needed?

What kind of action would you like to see regarding previously identified challenges from decision makers, NGO's or individual citizens?

MEDIATION

MEDIATION:

a process where a neutral third party helps conflicting sides reach a mutually acceptable agreement. It involves exploring different perspectives, and finding common ground, all while fostering open dialogue.

May connect with
- polarisation
- peace
- conflict
- civic dis/engagement

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does the term "mediation" mean to you?

Can you think of a situation where mediation helped resolve a disagreement?

Going Deeper

How can mediation help explore different perspectives on an issue? Can you give an example?

In your view, what qualities make a mediator effective, especially when dealing with complex political or social issues?

How can we encourage the use of mediation in democratic systems to address disputes peacefully?

Closing Reflections

What role can individuals and communities play in supporting mediation efforts in their local or national context?

How can mediation strengthen democratic values like participation, fairness, and inclusivity?

MENTAL HEALTH

MENTAL HEALTH:

an individual's emotional, psychological, and social well-being, influencing how they think, feel, and act. It also affects how people handle stress, relate to others, and make decisions.

May connect with

- loneliness
- social media
- polarisation
- extremism or radicalisation
- solidarity

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does mental health mean to you, and why do you think it's important?

Why is there a rise in reports on mental health issues nowadays?

What supports individuals' mental health in general?

Going Deeper

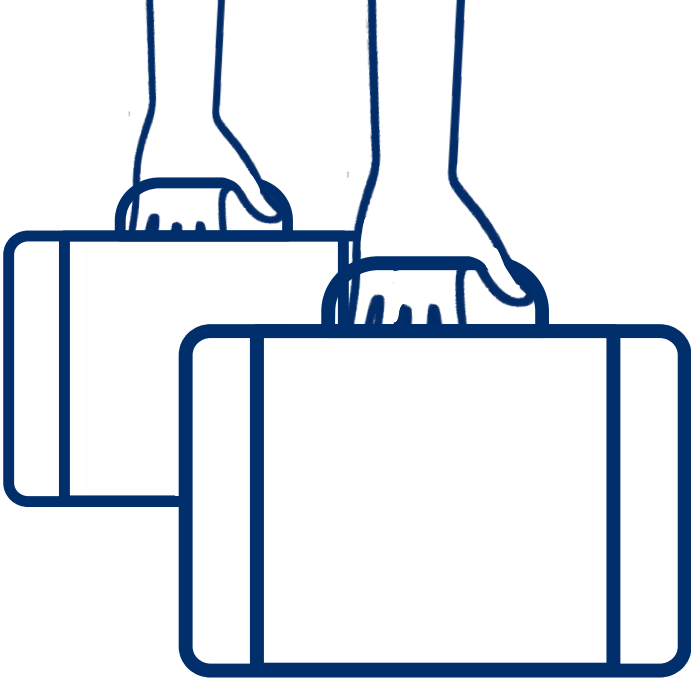
How do you think mental health affects a person's ability to participate in society, including in democratic processes?

What kind of things and/or actions would support people's mental health in your community or area?

Closing Reflections

How can communities and governments work together to create environments that support mental well-being?

How can individuals contribute to a more inclusive and supportive society for those struggling with mental health issues?



MIGRATION

MIGRATION:

the movement of people from one place to another, within a country or between countries, to settle temporarily or permanently in a new location.

May connect with
- immigration
- geopolitics
- diversity
- economic inequality

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What are some common reasons why people migrate from one place to another?

Why is migration such an important and / or charged issue in Europe nowadays?

Going Deeper

Have you or someone you know well ever moved from one city or country to another? What were the reasons, and how did the experience affect you?

What are some economic, social, or environmental factors that nowadays influence migration patterns in our country (or Europe)?

What are some concerns you might have about migration?

Closing Reflections

What action can you take to better understand the experiences of migrants in your community?

How can we better understand and empathise with the experiences of our friends and family members, who moved and now live abroad?

MINORITY RIGHTS

MINORITY RIGHTS:

human rights as applied to members of racial, ethnic, class, religious, linguistic, gender and sexual minorities, and also the collective rights accorded to any minority group. Minority rights are based on four pillars: protection of existence, protection and promotion of identity, equality and non-discrimination, and the right to effective participation.

May connect with

- equity
- gender equality
- human dignity
- human rights
- tolerance

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How do minority rights differ from general human rights?

What are some examples of minority groups, and what unique challenges do they face?

What achievements have we gained regarding minority rights in our society?

Going Deeper

What is the state of minority rights in our country?

How have your personal experiences shaped your views on minority rights?

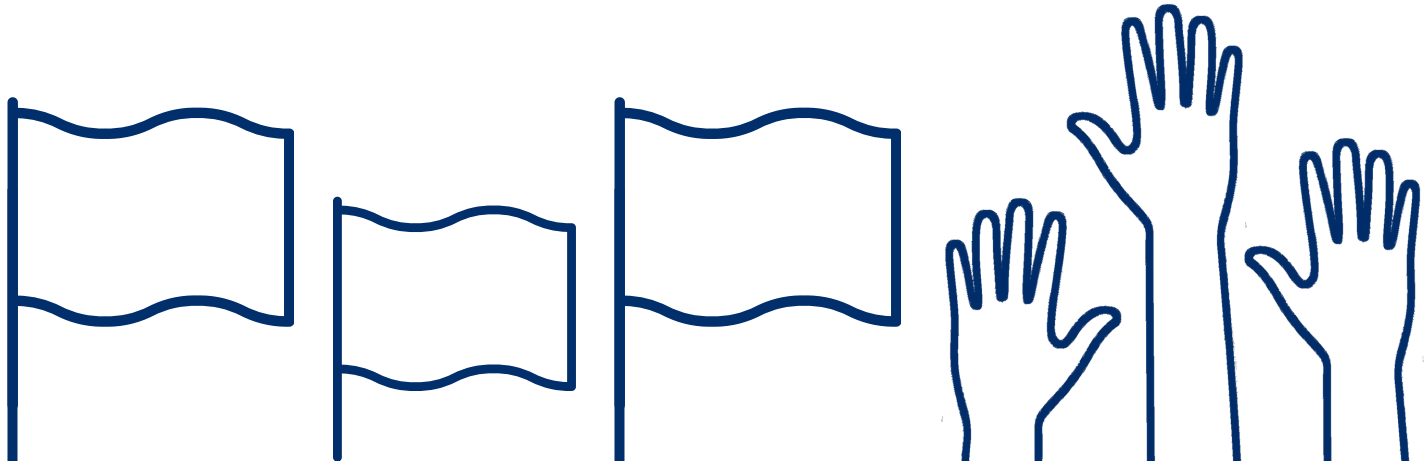
Closing Reflections

What action can individuals take to promote and protect minority rights in their communities?

How can you contribute to raising awareness about minority rights issues?

What kind of action would you wish to see from decision-makers?

NATIONALISM



NATIONALISM:

an ideology that emphasises the interests, culture, and values of a particular nation or group of people, evoking a strong sense of pride and loyalty towards one's nation.

May connect with
- polarisation
- immigration
- radicalisation and extremism
- populism

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the word "nationalism"?

Can you give examples of symbols or traditions associated with nationalism in our country?

In what way is nationalism different from patriotism?

Going Deeper

What is the reason nationalism is present in our country - what inspires or increases it?

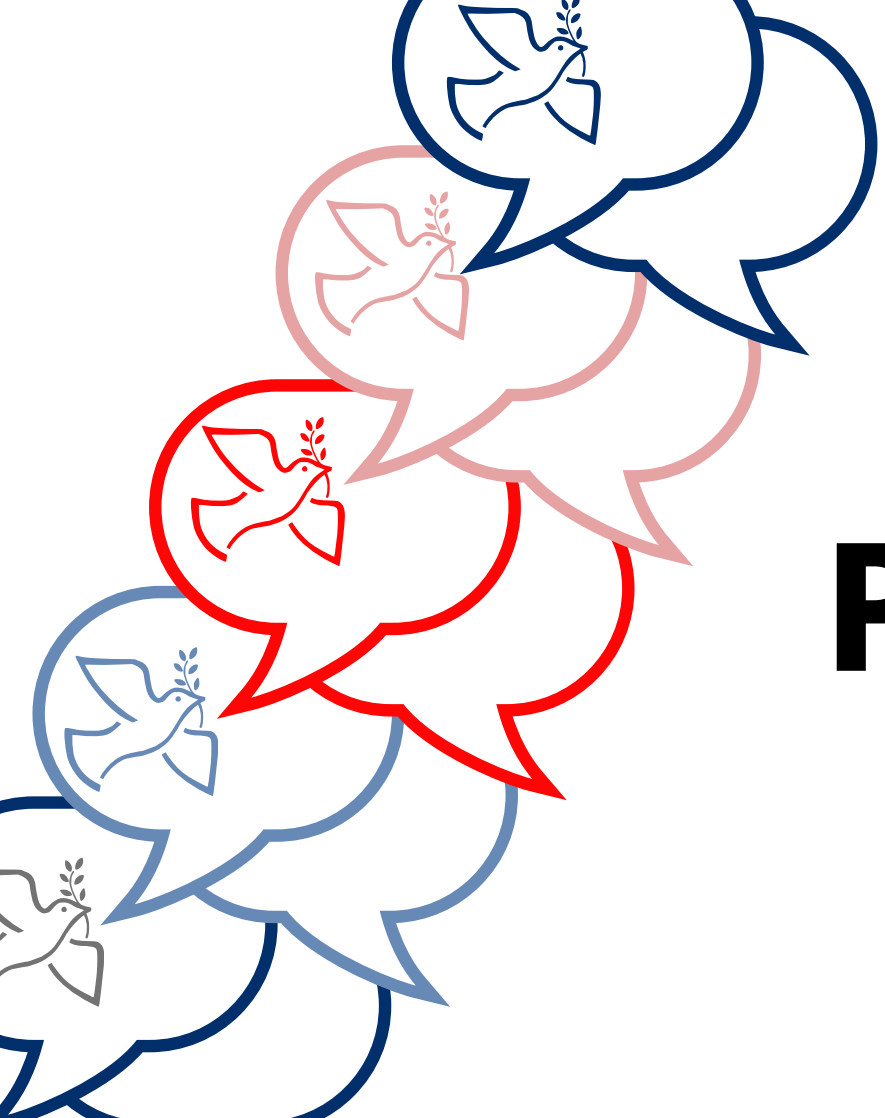
Can you describe the impact of nationalism on our country?

Would you describe yourself as 'nationalist'?

Closing Reflections

How can we balance national pride with a respectful attitude towards other nations and cultures?

What action can individuals and communities take to promote a healthy sense of patriotism that fosters unity rather than division?



PEACE

PEACE:

absence of war. Societies where people can live without fear of violence or conflict and feel safe regardless of their background or identity.

May connect with

- security
- geopolitics
- rule of law
- trust
- human rights
- dialogue

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does peace mean to you in a societal context?

What supports peace in society and in the world? What challenges it?

Going Deeper

What kinds of inspirational and/or important peace processes from the past or present come to your mind? Why have they been meaningful to you?

Are you concerned about war?

Closing Reflections

In your daily life how do you contribute to creating a peaceful environment?

If you could change one thing in the world to promote peace, what would it be?

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY:

an individual's duty to take ownership of their actions and decisions, both in terms of self-care and their impact on others. It differs from civic duty, which relates to obligations within a political system, and from accountability, which involves being answerable to others. In a democracy, personal responsibility is rooted in the idea that individuals contribute to the well-being of the community.

May connect with

- civic duty
- active citizenship
- volunteering
- trust
- human dignity

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "personal responsibility" mean to you?

Can you give some examples of personal responsibility?

Why do you think personal responsibility is important in a democratic society?

Going Deeper

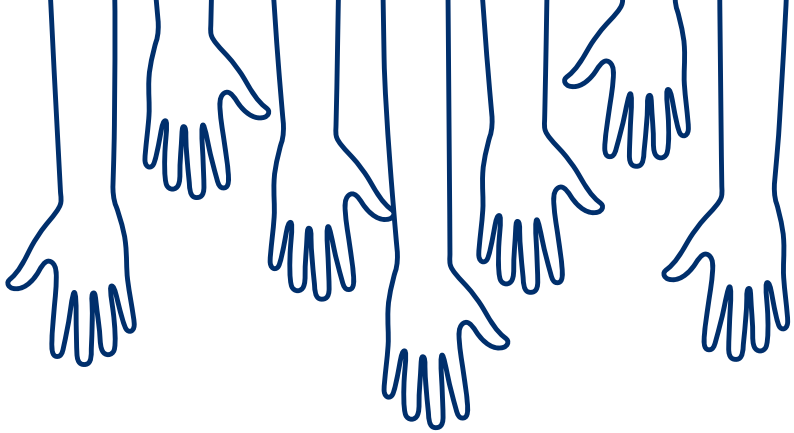
In what ways do a sense of personal responsibility and the social contract shape a healthy democracy?

Can you think of an example where taking personal responsibility contributed to the well-being of others or the community?

Closing Reflections

How can we foster a stronger sense of personal responsibility in individuals?

How does the idea of personal responsibility strengthen democracy and social cohesion?



POLARISATION

POLARISATION:

the process by which public opinion, political views, or societal attitudes become more extreme and divided, leading to increased ideological or social conflict between opposing camps with limited or no common ground.

May connect with

- radicalisation and extremism
- nationalism
- disinformation
- freedom of speech
- dialogue

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

Can you think of examples of polarisation in politics, society, or media?

Why is polarisation such a significant issue nowadays?

Going Deeper

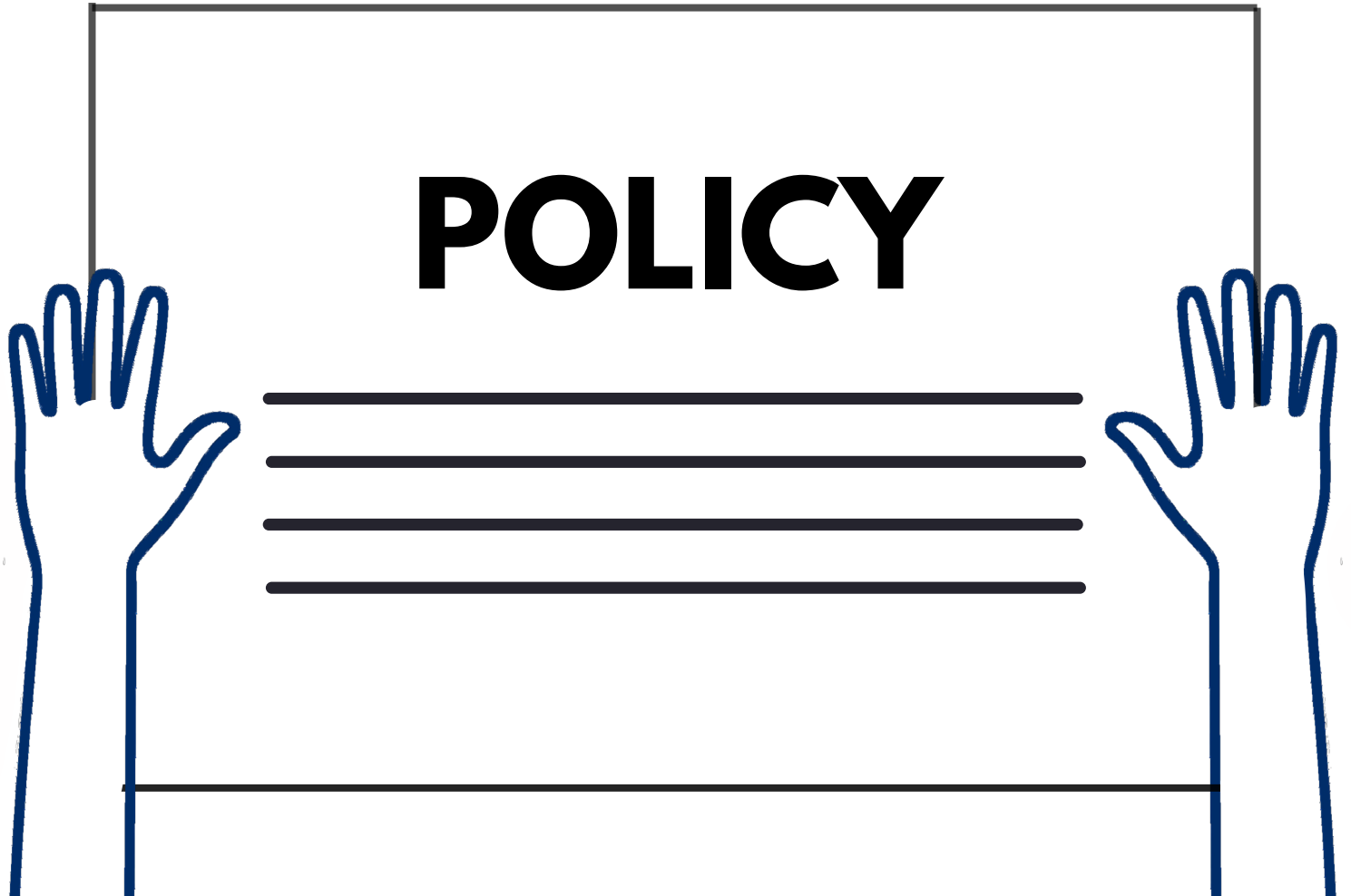
What are some factors or events that contribute to increased polarisation among different groups or communities in our country?

What individuals or groups do you find difficult to talk with, because your views greatly differ from theirs?

Closing Reflections

How can individuals and communities bridge divides and engage in dialogue across differences?

What action can you personally take to foster constructive dialogue and reduce polarisation in our country?


POLICY

POLICY:

a set of decisions and actions taken by governments or organizations to address specific issues or achieve particular goals within a sector. It is the result of political efforts, negotiations, and input from various stakeholders, including politicians, experts, and the public.

May connect with
- political parties
- politics
- transparency
- accountability
- democracy

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "policy" mean to you, and how do you see it affecting your everyday life?

Can you think of an example where a policy in a specific sector (e.g., healthcare, education) made a difference in your community?

Going Deeper

How do political decisions influence policy outcomes?

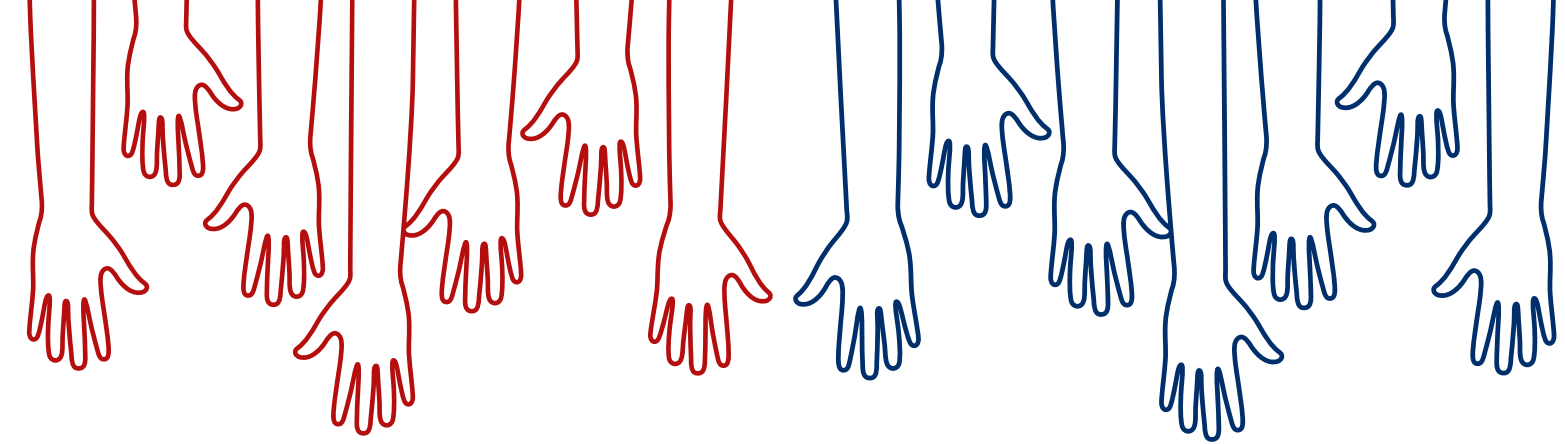
How can stakeholders, such as citizens, advocacy groups, and businesses, influence the creation or change of policies?

What makes a good or effective policy, especially in sectors like health, education, or the environment?

Closing Reflections

How can individuals or communities advocate for policies that align with their values and interests?

How can democratic systems ensure that policies address both the short-term needs and long-term well-being of society?



POLITICAL PARTIES

POLITICAL PARTIES:

organised groups of individuals that play a central role in representative democracies by presenting candidates for office, mobilising voters, and advocating for specific policies and ideologies.

May connect with
- elections
- leadership
- trust
- voting

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What do you think of when you hear the term "political parties"?

What is the role that political parties play in a democratic system?

Going Deeper

Are political parties in our country trusted and/or trustworthy? If yes - why, if not - why not?

Are you a part of a political party? If yes - what inspired you to join? If not - why not?

Closing Reflections

How can citizens hold political parties accountable for their promises and actions?

In what way can we improve political parties and politicians in our country?

How could we encourage ourselves or other people to join politics?

POLITICS

POLITICS:

the activities, processes, and systems through which decisions are made and power is distributed in society. In a democracy, politics is meant to reflect the will of the people, but it can also be a space of conflict, compromise, and power struggles.

May connect with

- civic dis/engagement
- policy
- political parties
- active citizenship

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "politics" mean to you, and how do you see its role in everyday life?

What do you think is the role of politicians in a democratic society?

How do you think politics affects the way decisions are made in your community or country?

Going Deeper

What qualities do you believe are essential for a politician to effectively lead and govern?

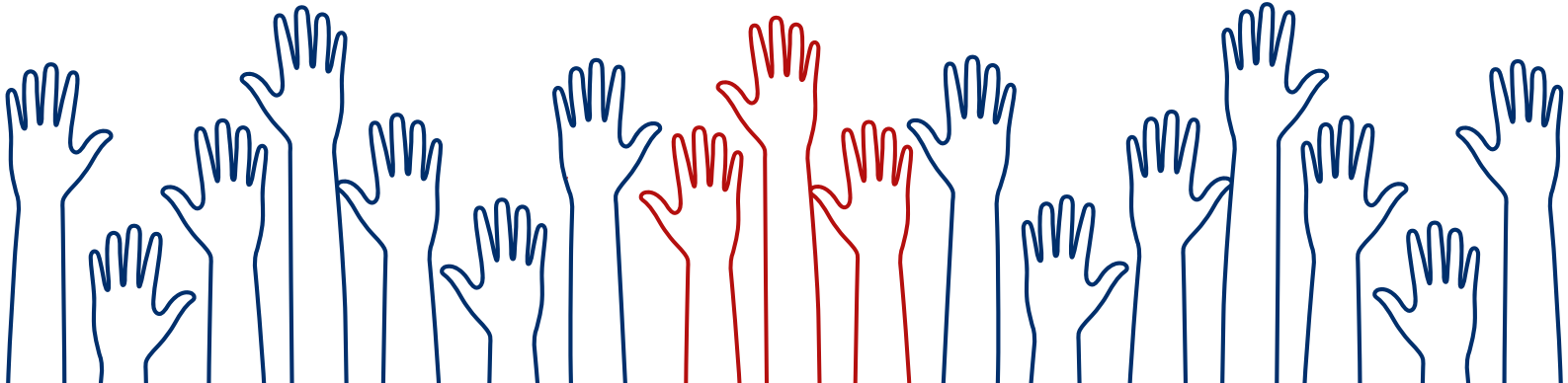
Can you think of a time when political decisions significantly impacted your life or community? How did politicians play a role in that?

Closing Reflections

What can individuals and communities do to engage more actively in politics beyond voting?

How can we foster a more positive and inclusive political environment that encourages participation and trust?

POPULISM



POPULISM:

a political approach that seeks to represent the interests and voices of ordinary people against the perceived elite or establishment.

May connect with

- disinformation
- economic inequality
- education
- facing History
- nationalism

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What are the key characteristics of populist movements or populist politicians?

How has populism influenced politics in our country, or in Europe?

Going Deeper

What are some personal experiences that have shaped your views on populism?

What is it about populist narratives that make them attractive to voters?

Closing Reflections

In what way could education address the root causes of populism?

What strategies might be effective in countering populist narratives?

PRIVACY

PRIVACY:

the state of being free from public attention or unsanctioned intrusion. The right to keep your personal matters secret, to associate freely with whom you want and to be able to control who can see or use information about you.

May connect with

- freedom of speech
- human dignity
- media
- security
- tolerance

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

In the digital age what does privacy mean to you?

Why is privacy considered a fundamental human right?

Going Deeper

What are the biggest threats to privacy online?

How do you personally manage your privacy online and in real life?

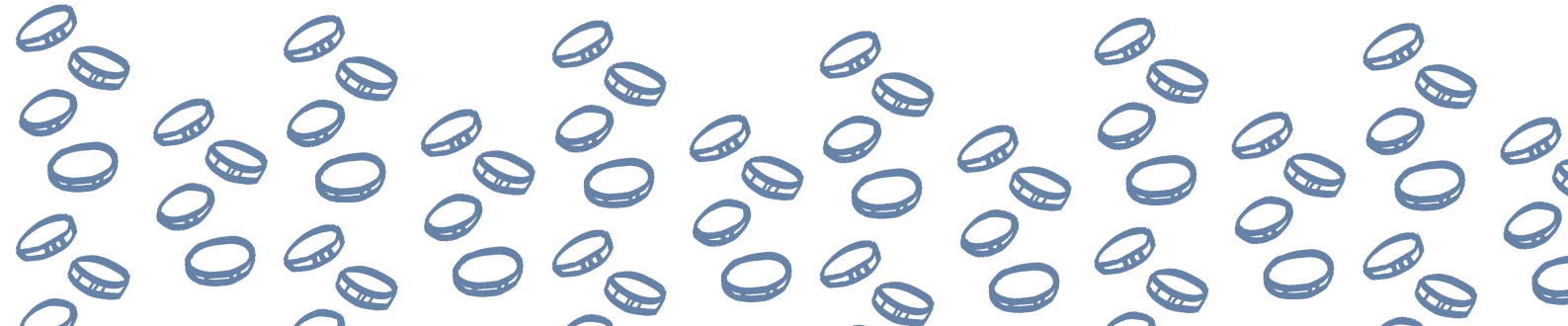
In what way has social media affected our understanding and exercise of privacy?

Closing Reflections

How can you educate yourself and others about privacy issues?

What can we do to increase and protect our privacy?

PROSPERITY



PROSPERITY:

the state of economic well-being and quality of life achieved through democratic governance, which ensures fair distribution of resources, opportunities for personal and communal growth, and the protection of individual rights and freedoms. It encompasses not only material wealth but also social, political, and environmental dimensions that contribute to a society's overall health and sustainability.

May connect with

- inequality
- in/justice
- migration
- public sphere
- resilience

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does “prosperity” mean to you?

Do you see any correlation between prosperity and democracy? Can you explain why?

Going Deeper

What challenges do you think democracies face in achieving true prosperity for all citizens?

What is the relationship between environmental sustainability and prosperity?

Closing Reflections

If you could implement one policy change to enhance prosperity in our democratic society, what would it be?

How can communities work together to promote collective prosperity?

PUBLIC SPHERE

PUBLIC SPHERE:

the space or arena in which citizens come together to discuss and debate issues of common concern (public debates, media discourse, social media platforms, and public gatherings).

May connect with
- civil society
- media
- civic engagement
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "public sphere" mean to you?

What role does the media play in shaping the public sphere and influencing public opinion?

Going Deeper

What is the quality of public sphere discourse and activities in our town? (If it is good, what makes it good; if it is poor - why?)

Would you say you are currently active and participating in the public sphere? (If yes - in what way? If not - why not?)

Closing Reflections

What action can individuals take to actively participate in and strengthen the public sphere in their community or society?

What kind of activities, events or practices would improve the public sphere in our town?

RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM

RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM:

radicalisation is the process through which individuals or groups adopt extreme ideologies or beliefs, often leading to behaviour that may manifest in political, religious, or social extremism, which involves advocating or using violence to achieve ideological goals.

May connect with
- polarisation
- nationalism
- in/justice
- populism

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What do you understand by the terms "radicalisation" and "extremism"?

Can you think of any examples of either radicalisation or extremism, from our country's present, or recent history?

Going Deeper

What factors or influences contribute to the radicalisation of individuals or groups?

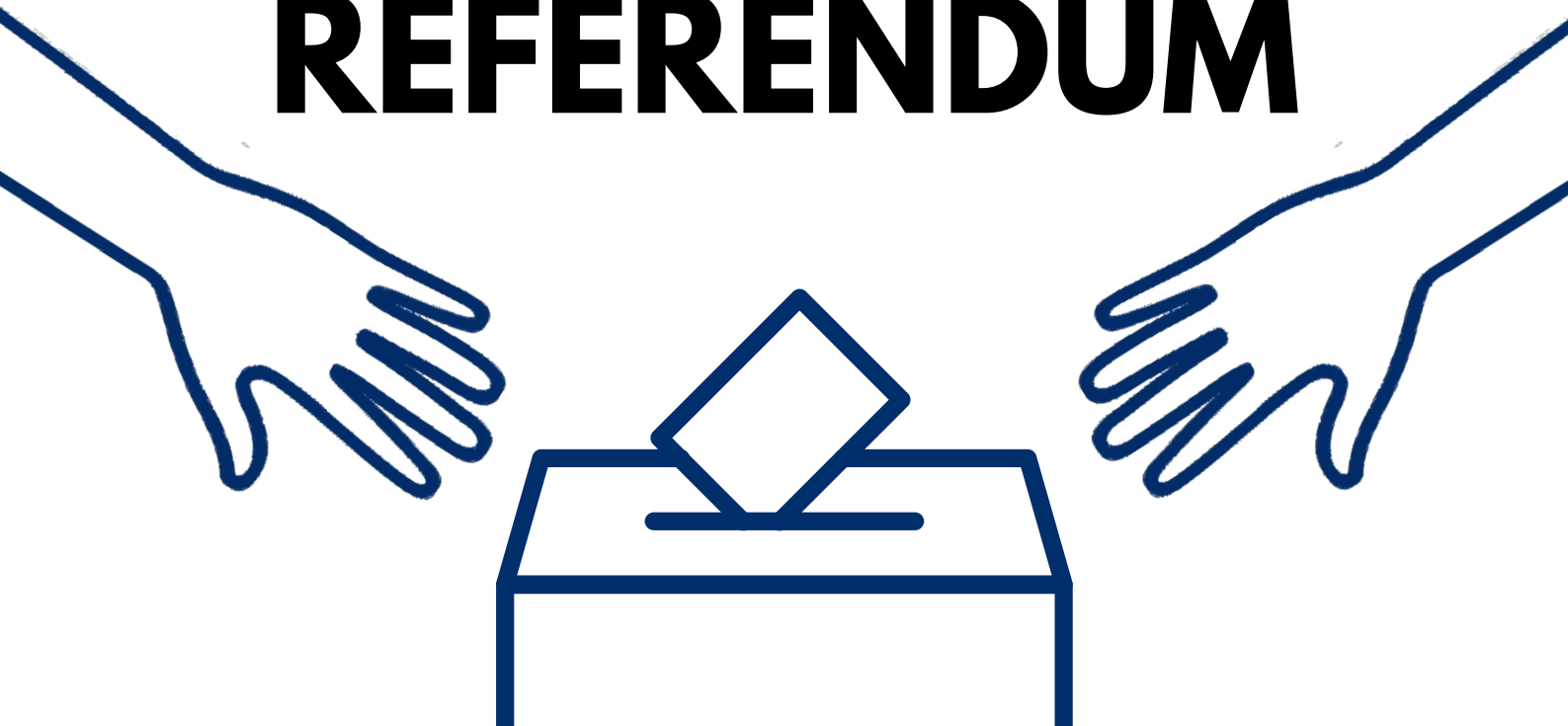
How does extremism impact individuals, communities, and societal cohesion?

Closing Reflections

What action can individuals take to promote tolerance, understanding, and resilience against extremist ideologies in their communities?

What are some strategies or approaches that can be effective in preventing or countering radicalisation and extremism?

REFERENDUM



REFERENDUM:

a direct vote of the electorate on a proposal, law or political issue, which usually happens on the national decision making process level. It is an example of direct democracy; anyone with the right to vote can take part.

May connect with

- active citizenship
- transparency
- democracy
- voting
- freedom of choice

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kind of referendum system do we have in our country?

What recent referendums in our country can you recall?

Going Deeper

What kind of topics would you like to see decided in a referendum and why?

Have you been active in a referendum process and what inspired you to do that?

Closing Reflections

Have the referendums in our country had an impact? Why do you think that was the case?

What kind of action would you like to see from decision makers and public administration officials regarding referendums?

RESILIENCE

RESILIENCE:

the ability of individuals, communities, or systems to withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity, stress, or trauma. In the context of democracy, it refers to the capacity of democratic institutions, processes, and societies to endure, adapt, and recover from challenges and crises, while maintaining democratic principles, such as the rule of law, free and fair elections, and the protection of rights and freedoms.

May connect with

- leadership
- civic engagement
- prosperity

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the term "resilience"? What about “democratic resilience”?

Why is resilience important in both personal and societal contexts?

Going Deeper

Can you give an example of some past or current events in our country that illustrate the importance of resilience?

What are some factors that deplete or negatively affect individual or societal resilience?

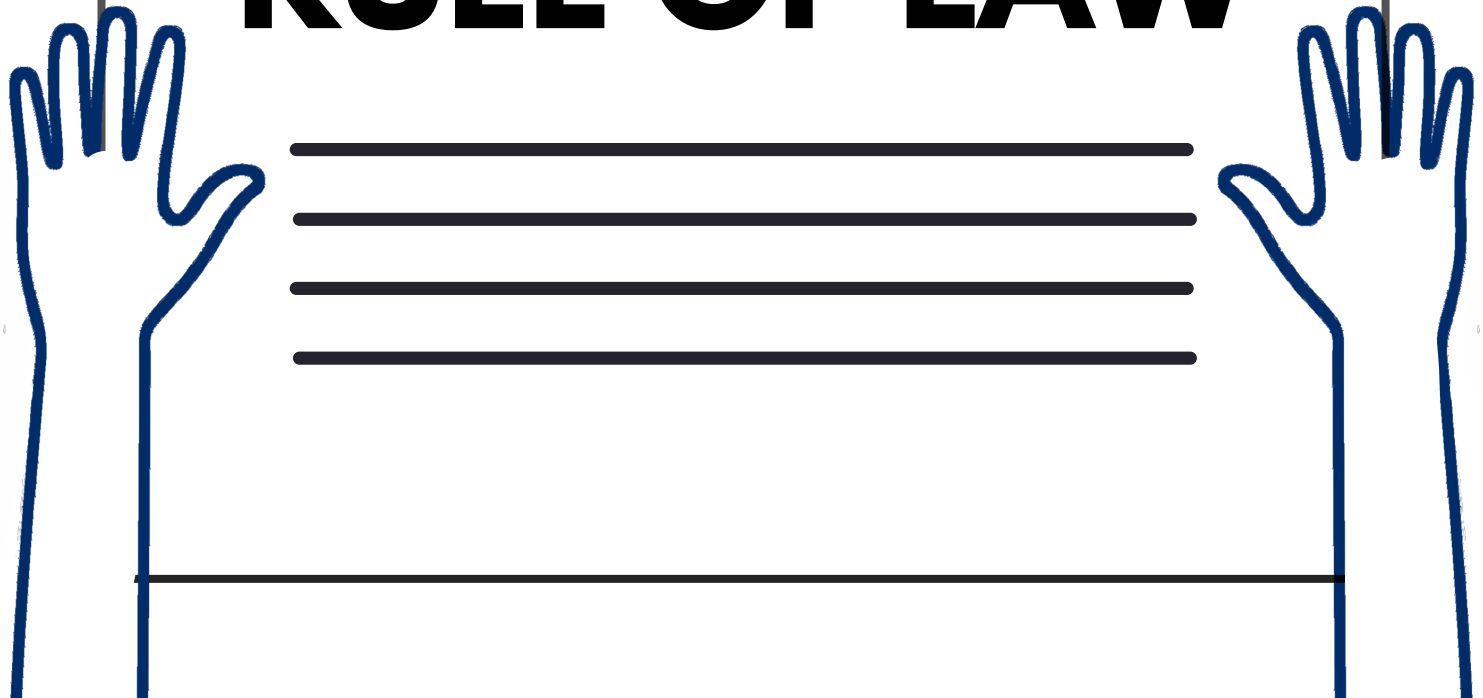
What are some key factors contributing to building resilience in individuals and communities?

Closing Reflections

What actions can we take to build our own resilience or to support others in becoming more resilient?

What actions can we take to support and promote the resilience of democracy in our community or country?

RULE OF LAW



RULE OF LAW:

the principle that all individuals, institutions, and entities, public or private, including the government, are accountable under laws that are applied fairly, transparently, and consistently to protect the rights of all citizens.

May connect with
- democracy
- in/justice
- public sphere
- security
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kinds of examples can you share about the implementation of rule of law in our society in the past couple of years?

Why is rule of law important in a democratic society?

What might happen and what would our country look like if rule of law would not be implemented?

Going Deeper

What are some common challenges to rule of law?

Do you feel like you understand and know enough about this democratic principle? What kind of information would you like to have about it, where and why?

How would you qualify the state of rule of law in our country? (If 'good' - what makes it so? If 'poor' - why?)

Closing Reflections

What measures can be taken to strengthen rule of law in our country?

Did you learn something new during our discussion?

What role can education play in promoting rule of law?

SECURITY

SECURITY:

the condition or state of being free from danger, threat, or harm in your society, your area and your community. Also, the security and defence of a sovereign state, including its citizens, economy and institutions, which is regarded as a duty of government.

May connect with

- democracy
- civil society
- resilience
- geopolitics
- radicalisation and extremism
- climate change
- environmental protection

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How do you understand the word 'security' in the context of a democracy?

Why is security important for individuals and societies?

Going Deeper

What kinds of things make you worried or safe regarding the security of our country or community in the near future?

Have you ever been affected by a security breach or threat (e.g., burglary, cyber-attack)?

In what way have you or your family members supported the security of your everyday life, country or community?

Closing Reflections

What kinds of action steps would you like to see from the government, civil society and public administration to support security in our country or community?

If you could change one thing to improve security in our community, what would it be?

SEGREGATION

SEGREGATION:

segregation is the societal and/or demographic separation of different groups within an area or country, where distinct divisions arise e.g. between rural and urban areas, educational backgrounds, or cultural and socio-economic groups, ultimately leading to various forms of inequality.

May connect with

- security
- demographic changes
- civic dis/engagement
- trust
- migration
- education
- youth

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

Do equal opportunities and possibilities exist in society for different groups of people?

Why is segregation problematic in society?

Going Deeper

Have you noticed this phenomenon in your everyday life or in society? What kind of examples can you give?

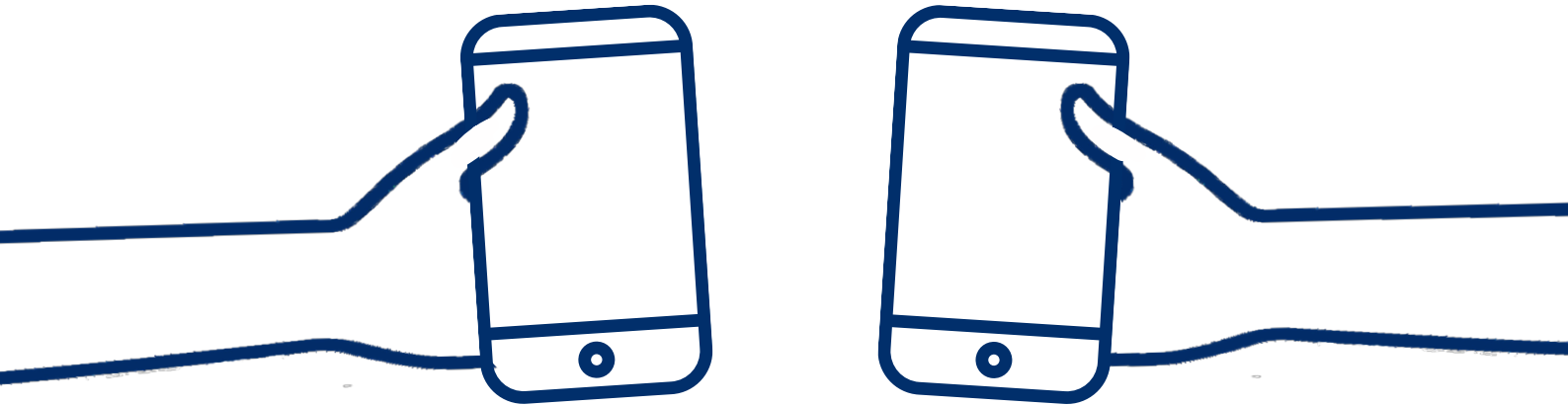
What kinds of emotions or thoughts do you have about these examples? What kind of life experiences may have contributed to you having this perspective?

Closing Reflections

How can we prevent segregation in our town, area or society?

In your opinion, what kind of action could decision makers and/or public administration officials take to prevent social and regional segregation?

SOCIAL MEDIA



SOCIAL MEDIA:

digital platforms that allow individuals to create, share, and interact with content and each other. It plays a significant role in shaping public discourse and individual opinions.

May connect with
- media
- disinformation
- mental health
- polarisation

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How do you use social media in your daily life, and what impact do you think it has on you?

In what ways do you think social media influences democracy?

Going Deeper

Why do you think people, on social media, tend to gravitate toward content that confirms their existing beliefs?

How can social media platforms contribute to the spread of fake news, and what impact does this have on democracy?

What are some ways people can take control of their "media diet" to ensure they're exposed to a range of perspectives?

Closing Reflections

What role do governments, tech companies, and individuals play in addressing the challenges posed by social media to democracy?

How can we ensure that social media platforms foster open dialogue rather than deepen divisions in society?

SOLIDARITY

SOLIDARITY:

the unity and mutual support among people as a response to shared goals, values, and challenges involving standing together and acting collectively to support one another, often in the pursuit of social justice, equality, and common goals.

May connect with

- democracy
- dialogue
- active citizenship
- inclusion
- trust

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does solidarity mean to you?

How do you define solidarity in the context of a community of your choice?

Going Deeper

Can you provide recent examples of solidarity in our community or country?

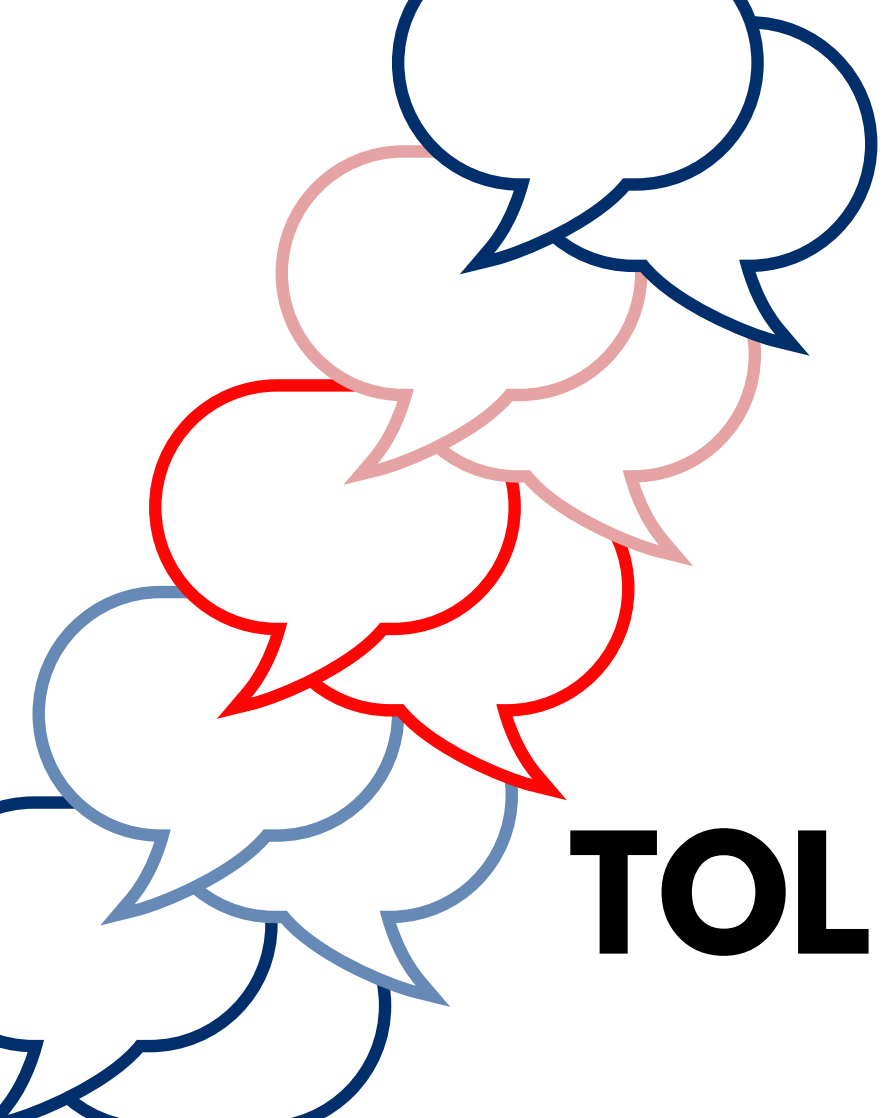
What about personally - would anyone care to share a story where you experienced the solidarity of others?

What are some common barriers to solidarity in society?

Closing Reflections

What can we do to foster a sense of solidarity in our everyday lives?

Where or in which community could you yourself support others and take action in the near future?



TOLERANCE

TOLERANCE:

the willingness to accept and respect differences in opinions, beliefs and behaviours especially if they are different from your own.

May connect with

- democracy
- dialogue
- diversity
- human rights
- inclusion

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does “tolerance” mean to you?

Why is tolerance important in a diverse society?

Going Deeper

What lessons can be learned from past instances of intolerance in our country?

What causes intolerance towards people who are different?

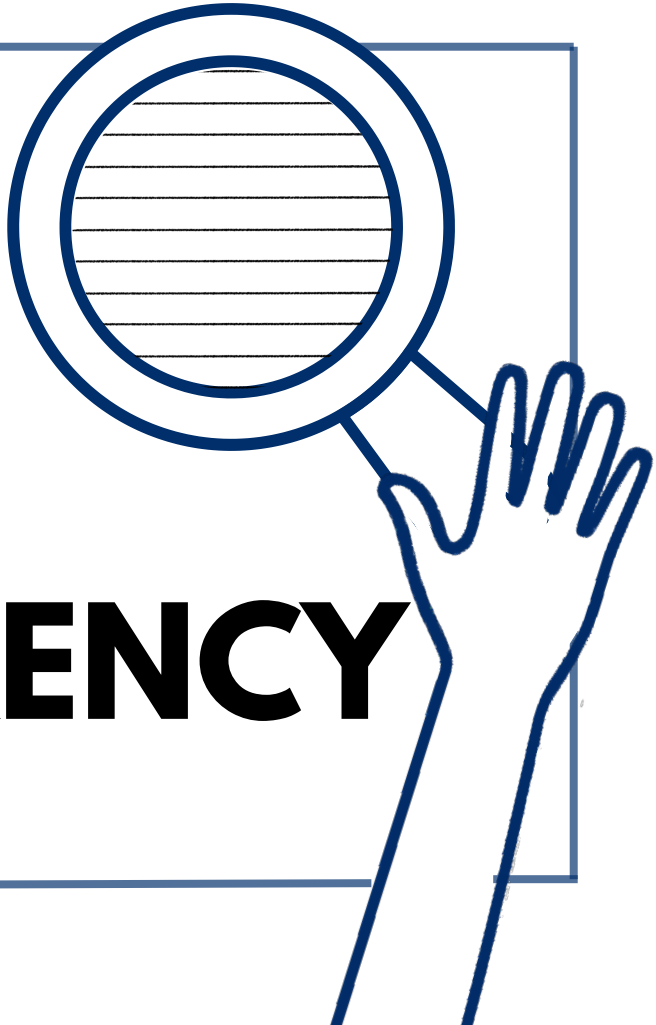
What are some challenges you face when trying to be tolerant?

Closing Reflections

What steps can you take to become more tolerant in your daily life?

How can you support others in practising tolerance?

TRANSPERENCY



TRANSPARENCY:

the quality or state of being open, honest, and straightforward about various aspects of governance, operations, and decision-making processes. Receptiveness of government and the public sector for new ideas, requirements and needs.

May connect with

- democracy
- security
- disinformation
- trust
- accountability
- corruption

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does transparency mean to you? What does support or hinder transparency in your experience?

Why is transparency important in different sectors (e.g., government, business, non-profit organisations)?

Going Deeper

Have you ever experienced a lack of transparency in an organisation or system?

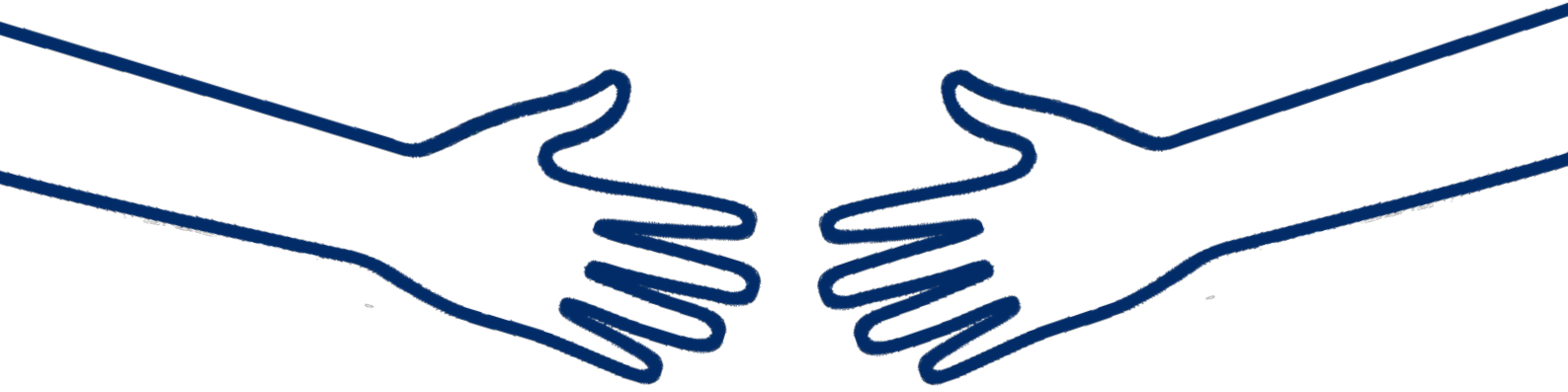
What kind of changes have you witnessed regarding transparency in our society compared to how things used to be in the past?

Closing Reflections

What would happen if our society was more transparent?

If you could implement one change to improve transparency in your organisation or our community, what would it be?

TRUST



TRUST:

the confidence that citizens have in their democratic institutions, processes, and leaders to act in the public's best interest, uphold the rule of law, and protect individual rights and freedoms.

May connect with
- resilience
- corruption
- accountability
- democracy

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "trust in democracy" mean to you?

How would you qualify the level of trust in democracy, democratic institutions and leaders in our country, today? (If high - what contributes to this positive qualification; if low - why?)

Going Deeper

Can you share a story of a time, event or situation that had a strong negative effect on your trust in democracy?

What about the opposite - can you share a story of a time, event or situation that positively impacted your trust in democracy?

Closing Reflections

How can individuals and communities work to rebuild or strengthen trust in democratic institutions and processes?

UN/EMPLOYMENT

UN/EMPLOYMENT:

employment refers to the state of having paid work, which often provides not only income but also a sense of purpose, identity, and contribution to society. Unemployment is the absence of such work, and can lead to economic hardship, social exclusion, and feelings of disempowerment.

May connect with
- prosperity
- human dignity
- economic inequality

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What does "employment" mean to you? How about "unemployment"?

What role does work play in shaping a person's identity or sense of purpose?

How does the availability of work impact a society's stability and well-being?

Going Deeper

In what ways can unemployment affect individuals and communities beyond just financial hardship?

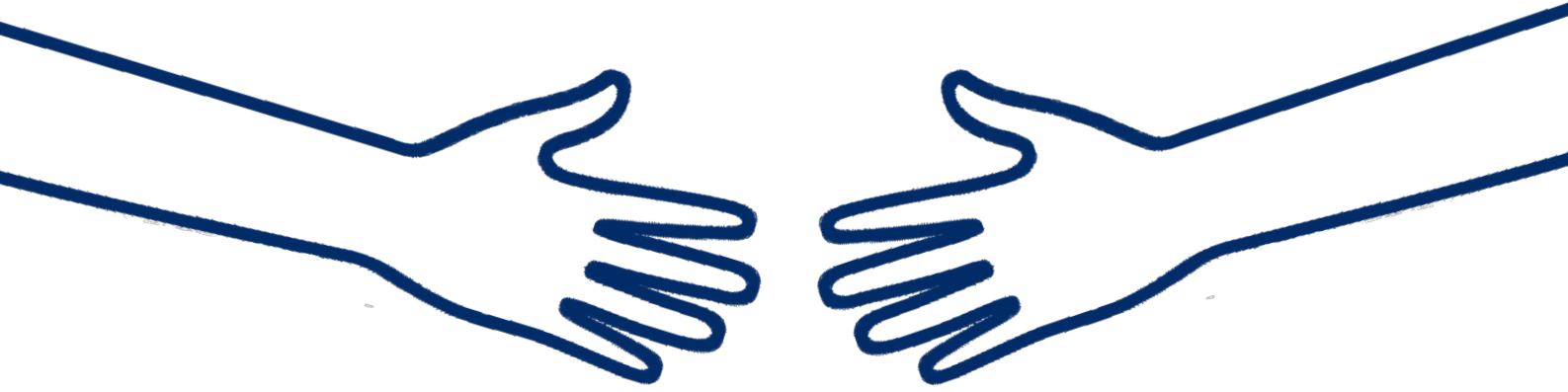
How do you think the nature of work has changed in recent years? What might this mean for employment and unemployment in the future?

Closing Reflections

What changes could be made to better support those facing unemployment, both economically and emotionally?

How can we redefine the purpose of work to adapt to new societal challenges, such as automation and the gig economy?

VOLUNTEERING



VOLUNTEERING:

to work willingly for an organisation, a community or a movement without being paid.

May connect with

- active citizenship
- civil society
- civic dis/engagement
- education
- leadership
- solidarity
- youth

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What are currently the biggest or most influential volunteer organisations in our society?

What would a democratic society be like without volunteering?

Going Deeper

What kind of volunteer work have you been involved in? If you have many examples, share those that have been most meaningful to you.

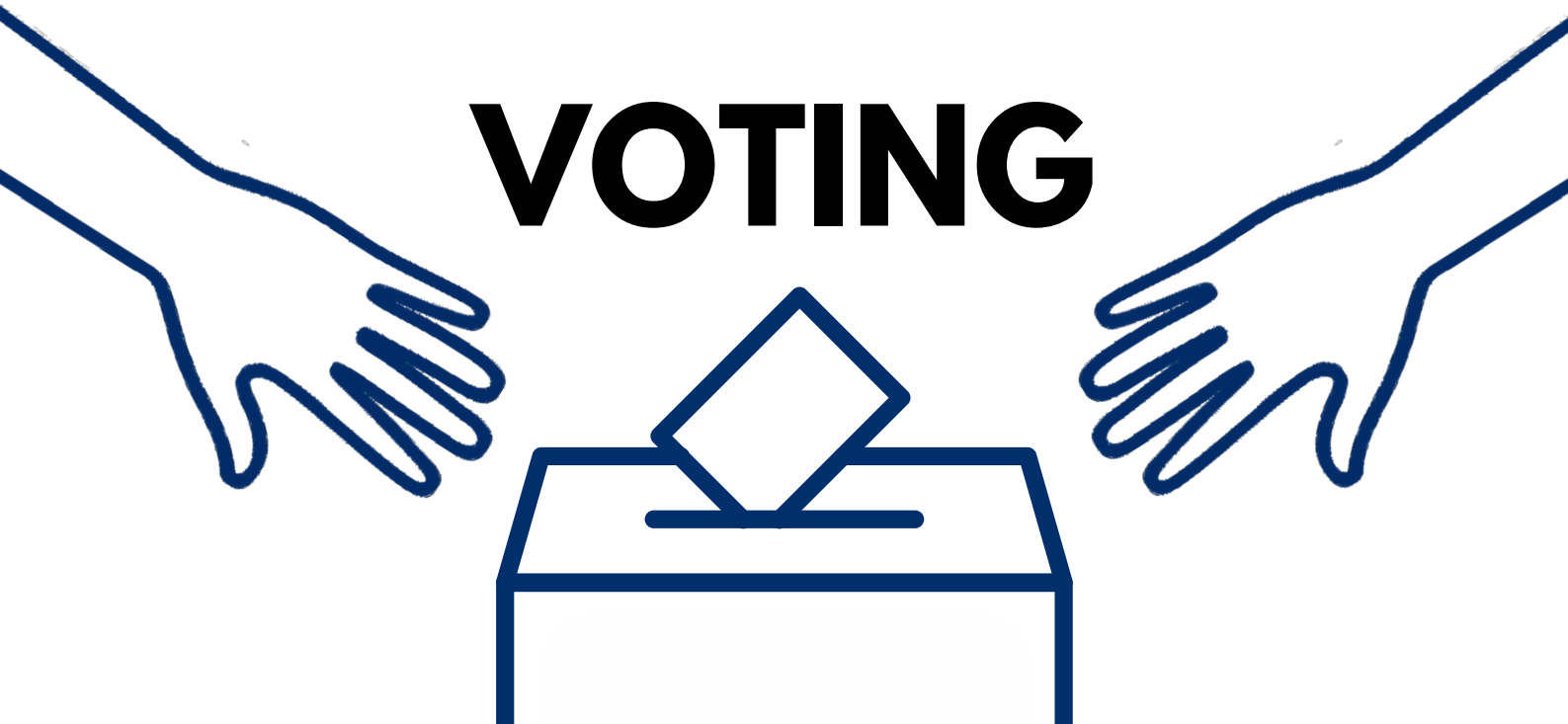
What kind of an impact has your volunteering experience had in your life?

Closing Reflections

What kinds of challenges regarding volunteering or civil society do we have in our community and/or country?

How could citizens, organizations and communities support volunteerism?

VOTING



VOTING:

a fundamental process in democratic systems that allows citizens to choose their representatives, influence government policies, and participate in the governance of their country.

May connect with

- corruption
- disinformation
- elections
- freedom of choice
- political parties

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

How would you explain “voting” to a curious alien visiting our planet?

Why do you think voting is considered a fundamental right in a democracy?

Going Deeper

How would you describe voter participation in your country and/or community? What in your experience makes people active or passive regarding voting?

Did you vote in the last national elections in our country? What about in the European Parliament elections? (If not - why not?)

What are the potential consequences of low voter turnout in elections?

Closing Reflections

How can schools and communities promote voter education?

What action can you take to help increase voter turnout in our community?

WAR

WAR:

a state of armed conflict between nations, groups, or states, often driven by deep-seated differences such as political, economic, territorial, ideological disputes or unequal power relationships. The narratives surrounding war are shaped by historical grievances, national interests, and power dynamics, often leaving lasting scars on societies.

May connect with

- peace
- conflict
- mediation
- nationalism
- geopolitics

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What comes to mind when you hear the word "war"?

Why do you think wars continue to occur despite the damage they cause?

How do you think power and the disbalance of power contribute to the outbreak of war?

Going Deeper

What are some of the root causes of war throughout history?

How do different narratives about the same war shape public opinion and the legacy of the conflict?

Can you think of an example where war was the result of an imbalance of power? How might that imbalance have been addressed without violence?

Closing Reflections

What can we learn from the roots and narratives of past wars to prevent future conflicts?

What actions can individuals, governments, or international organizations take to promote peace and resolve conflicts before they escalate to war?

WOMEN'S
RIGHTS

WOMEN'S RIGHTS:

the human rights and entitlements claimed for women and girls worldwide. Supporting these rights means eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and girls.

May connect with
- gender equality
- minority rights
- diversity
- freedom of choice
- security
- education

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kind of historic actions regarding promoting women's rights do you remember? How did they change the world or our society?

What kind of challenges or discrimination do girls and women encounter in our society today?

Going Deeper

What kind of changes happened in our society and/or community regarding women's rights in the 21st century?

How has the fulfilment or prevention of women's rights affected your life? Could you share some examples?

Closing Reflections

How should we protect women's rights in the near future?

Are there any developments in the field of women's rights that you consider worrisome?

YOUTH

YOUTH:

most often: the period of life between childhood and early adulthood, typically characterised by growth, exploration, and development i.e. people aged 13-30 (Erasmus) or 15-29 (Eurostat)

May connect with

- active citizenship
- civic duty
- education
- inclusion
- resilience

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

When you hear the word "youth", what is the first association that comes to your mind?

What are the strengths of young people?

Going Deeper

What can motivate youth to become interested in democracy and political participation?

What are some potential causes of the lack of youth participation in democratic processes?

Closing Reflections

What are some ways that we can support and encourage youth to become civically engaged and active?

Why do you think this would be beneficial to our society?

YOUTH
PARTICIPATION

YOUTH PARTICIPATION:

the active engagement of young people in responsible and challenging action that address genuine needs, providing them with opportunities to be involved in the planning and decision-making process

May connect with

- voting
- dialogue
- civic dis/engagement
- education
- youth
- active citizenship

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

Warming up

What kind of youth participation methods are you familiar with?

What kind of topics or social causes do usually attract youth participation?

What factors make youth participation feel meaningful rather than superficial or tokenistic?

Going Deeper

What is your experience of being a part of a participatory process as a young person?

What was it like and what did you learn during the process?

How do you think young people can push for more genuine involvement in decisions that impact them?

Closing Reflections

How can we improve youth participation in our communities, towns, and society to ensure it is meaningful and not just symbolic?