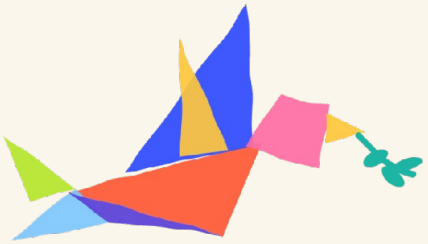
ERASMUS+ YOUTH EXCHANGE



DEMOS

Art of Democracy & Co-creating Visions of Peace

27 March – 4 April 2027 · Vienna, Austria

Travel days: 27 March (arrival) and 4 April (departure) · 7 programme days · 8 nights

INFO PACK

Practical guide for partner organisations, group leaders and participants

8 countries · 32 young people · 8 group leaders

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01 — HOST ORGANISATION

About IEC

Innovative Education Center (IEC), Zentrum für Innovative Bildung, was founded in Vienna in 2018 by experienced youth workers and international consultants.

We work mainly with young people from migrant communities, young women, NEETs and rural youth, using non-formal education, experiential learning, sport and art. IEC has run more than 30 EU-funded projects.

In DEMOS, IEC coordinates the exchange and supports every group through preparation, the week in Vienna and the follow-up.

Human rights · Art & storytelling · Inclusion · Green youth work · Sport

PÖ

Pelin Öztürk

PROJECT COORDINATOR

15+ years in EU grant management and a Master's in International Affairs. Pelin leads the project and is your main contact.

SW

Suchart Wannaset

LEAD FACILITATOR · DESIGN LAB

Vienna-based transmedia artist working on visual activism (Secession, Belvedere 21). He leads the Design Labs and the exhibition.

AG

Aylin Güçlü

CO-FACILITATOR · INTERCULTURAL MEDIATOR

Turkish sociologist studying Anthropology in Vienna, focused on social movements. Team leader in past IEC youth exchanges.

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02 — THE PROJECT

What is DEMOS?

Demos is Greek for “the people”. Many young people feel their voice doesn’t count, and they see images of war and crisis at scroll speed with no way to respond.

DEMOS brings together 40 young people and youth workers from 8 countries to turn peace, solidarity and freedom of expression into visual messages that need no translation.

Mixed-nationality teams co-create Hybrid Posters from collage, upcycled materials and ethically used AI tools, then install them in real community spaces in Vienna.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

01

Peace education without language barriers

Express emotions about conflict and hope through images and symbols. Perfect English isn’t needed.

02

Critical digital & AI literacy

Use Canva and generative AI to amplify human expression, and question bias in AI images of war.

03

Civic action in public space

Install posters in schools and youth centres and talk with the people who see them.

04

Solidarity, not pity

Young people affected by conflict work as equal co-authors with peers from across Europe.

WHAT WE WILL CREATE TOGETHER

- 40 Hybrid Posters
- Pop-up exhibition
- Artist Statement videos
- Visual Democracy Catalogue
- “Local Echo” at home

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The DEMOS journey

Seven days of non-formal learning, from understanding to action. Every session about conflict offers a quiet alternative: you can step out at any time, no explanation needed.

STEP 1

Get to know each other

Welcome evening, silent introductions, a safe group

STEP 2

Deconstruct

Simulation games and a human map on borders and stereotypes

STEP 3

Empathy

Role-play, short documentaries, debate on images of war

STEP 4

Inspiration

Study visits, e.g. the Parliament's Demokratikum

STEP 5

Create

Design Labs: hand-made collage + digital layer

STEP 6

Act & reflect

Pop-up exhibition, Youthpass, your "Local Echo" plan

Good to know: the detailed daily agenda will be sent by the end of January 2027, two months before the exchange. Partners can start selecting participants now.

METHODS

Simulation games · visual facilitation · World Café · storytelling · film debate · study visits · collage & upcycling · Canva & AI tools · peer learning · reflection groups · intercultural night

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8 countries, one demos

8	32	8	40
COUNTRIES	YOUNG PEOPLE	GROUP LEADERS	IN TOTAL

Each country sends a team of 5: four participants aged 18–30 and one group leader.

Austria — HOST

Innovative Education Center (IEC)

Vienna · 4 + 1

Italy

Associazione di promozione sociale Flow (Flow APS)

Villanova Mondovì · 4 + 1

Georgia

Empowerment Horizon Group

Tbilisi · 4 + 1

Romania

Asociația Tinerilor cu Inițiativă Civică

Tulucești · 4 + 1

Greece

Spintheras (Σπινθήρας)

Athens · 4 + 1

Spain

Asociación Creant Europa

Valencia · 4 + 1

Portugal

Associação Check-IN

Beja · 4 + 1

Ukraine

Constellation Korostiv

Korostiv, Lviv oblast · 4 + 1

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Who can participate?

Every national team of 5



- **2 “Creatives”:** basic skills in graphic design, photography or street art. Peer tutors in the Design Lab.
- **2 “Activists”:** motivated for social change, no art background needed.
- **1 group leader:** an experienced youth worker and mentor.

Participants

- Aged 18–30
- Living in one of the 8 partner countries
- Interested in democracy, peace, human rights and visual expression
- Available for the whole exchange, 27 March – 4 April
- Ready to prepare beforehand and run a “Local Echo” poster action at home
- No perfect English or art experience needed

Inclusion first. At least half of participants face fewer opportunities (economic, geographic or social obstacles). We aim for gender balance.

Group leaders

- No age limit
- At least 3 years of Erasmus+ or youth work experience
- Experience in intercultural mediation, crisis management or emotional first aid
- Supports the team before, during and after
- Runs the daily “Family Group” reflections

Selection by motivation. No CVs or English essays: “How would visual art help you express something words cannot?” Answer in writing, by voice note or drawing.

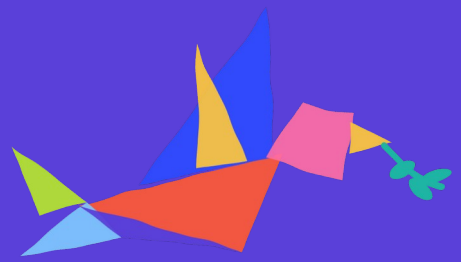
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06 — LOCATION

Vienna

Austria's capital is a city of museums, coffee houses and parks, with a long history of art carrying political messages, from the Secession to today's street art.

Good to know: the exchange falls over Easter (28–29 March are public holidays, so most shops close). Early spring can be cool and rainy: bring layers.



WHERE WE WILL STAY AND WORK

HOME BASE

A&T Hotel & Hostel

Leibnizgasse 66, 1100 Vienna, Austria

Where we sleep, eat and hold most of the training sessions.

OTHER VENUES

More workshop venues in the city will be confirmed with the agenda.

MUSEUMS WE WILL VISIT

Demokratikum

The Austrian Parliament's interactive visitor centre on how democracy works

Wien Museum

Vienna's story from the Habsburgs to Red Vienna and today (permanent exhibition)

DÖW

Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance: exhibition on resistance 1934–1945

Erlebnis Europa

Europe Experience: an interactive exhibition on the EU and its Parliament

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Getting to Vienna

Accommodation, food & materials: 100% covered

Your travel to Vienna and back is covered by the project. The same budget also pays for local transport and other project costs, so we kindly ask everyone to travel smart:

1 Economy class

Please choose the most affordable economy option that still works well for you.

2 Luggage is OK

A piece of luggage included in your ticket is fine. Just keep it reasonable.

3 No paid extras

Please skip seat selection, priority boarding and on-board food or drinks. We can't reimburse these.

4 Ask before you buy

Send your proposed route to the coordinator and wait for confirmation before booking.

Good to know

- Keep all tickets, invoices and boarding passes: we need them to reimburse you
- Train and bus are warmly encouraged whenever they are a realistic option
- Travel costs are reimbursed after the exchange, based on real costs and full participation
- Any questions? Ask us before booking, we're happy to help

Arriving in Vienna. Vienna Airport (VIE) and Wien Hauptbahnhof have direct public transport into the city. Directions to the hotel follow with the agenda.

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Prepare & pack

BEFORE YOU COME

- Visual research: photograph street art, murals or posters about peace and democracy where you live, and upload them to the shared DEMOS board
- Online meeting with all teams before Vienna
- Plan a green route to Vienna with your group leader
- Prepare your intercultural night as a team

WHAT TO BRING

- ID card or passport
- European Health Insurance Card (EU) or travel health insurance (non-EU)
- Towel for shower (not provided)
- Personal medication
- Warm layers, rain jacket, walking shoes
- Reusable water bottle
- Upcycling material: old magazines, newspapers, flyers, packaging
- At least one laptop per team

Intercultural night

Bring food, music, games or traditions from home and make it interactive. No PowerPoint presentations! Mind allergies and diets.

Youthpass

Everyone who takes an active part receives a Youthpass certificate, the Erasmus+ recognition of your learning. youthpass.eu

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09 — JOIN US

How to apply

NOW

Open call & selection by each partner

7 DEC 2026

Partners send their final team list

18 JAN 2027

Online preparation & travel booking

END OF JAN 2027

Detailed agenda & practical info sent

27 MAR – 4 APR

DEMOS youth exchange in Vienna

WITHIN 30 DAYS

“Local Echo” poster actions at home

Want to join?

Read this infopack, then contact the partner organisation in your country (page 5) or fill in the application form. Selected participants will be contacted by email.

Application form: [LINK]

CONTACT

Pelin Öztürk

Project coordinator · IEC Vienna

EMAIL: pelin@zentrumib.org & info@zentrumib.org

PHONE : +43 67762915517/ WHATSAPP: +905368824277

www.zentrumib.org · INSTAGRAM: iecaustria

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