



# Treasure Hunt of EU Values Feasibility Kit for Organisations





G D A Ń S K



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# INTRODUCTION

The "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit has been developed in order to assess and explore the organisational potentials, motivation, interests, barriers, limitations and needs for innovative and meaningful support to youth volunteer engagement. It serves as a starting point for volunteer involving and youth organisations to foster democratic and value-based engagement through development of volunteer programmes and volunteer opportunities based on values, democratic engagement, and leadership in affirming EU values such as peace, solidarity, equality, social inclusion, human rights, sustainable development, etc. By embedding these core values into their activities, organisations can cultivate a more inclusive, fair, and democratic society.

#### The "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit aims to:

- Evaluate the readiness and capability of organisations to implement value-based programmes.
- Provide practical recommendations and action plans to improve programme effectiveness.
- Foster a deeper understanding and integration of EU values within youth and volunteer initiatives.

The kit is divided into six sections, each focusing on a specific aspect of organisational readiness and programme development. Each section includes: a brief overview of the area, its significance, and its reflection on values; targeted questions to assess current practices and capacities; practical advice and best practices to improve and align with values; clear steps and strategies for implementing improvements in this area. This helps organisations to raise awareness and explore areas such as existing youth and volunteer programmes, youth participation, existing capacities and resources, organisational values, and potential for future development in the area. The intention of this questionnaire is to encourage organisations to think about areas in which improvement is needed and provide a clearer picture of the next steps that need to be taken and to use the existing potentials within the organisation, accompanied with useful recommendations.

Additionally, an appendix includes a game designed for volunteers aimed at raising awareness about the importance of volunteering and participation in youth programmes in line with European values such as solidarity, tolerance, democracy, human rights, and equality. The game provides a fun and educational way for young people to learn about these values and encourages them to actively participate in volunteer and youth programmes.

The "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit has been designed by partner organisations and discussed through dialogue saloons in Croatia, Ireland, Poland, Denmark, and Slovenia. The final version has been adapted according to the feedback received through organised dialogue saloons.

# THE CONCEPT AND CONTEXT OF VALUES

In the "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit, we refer to the core values promoted by the European Union, which also resonate as universal values.

"The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lisbon Treaty, Article 2: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:12016ME/TXT&from=EN

In the context of this Feasibility Kit, those values are fundamental principles that guide actions and policies, fostering a sense of unity within communities. They are not only central to the EU but are also widely accepted and respected worldwide, representing ideals that support democratic societies and the well-being of all individuals.

# The Core EU Values<sup>2</sup>

**Human dignity** is the foundation of all fundamental rights. It is the principle that every person deserves respect and ethical treatment, regardless of their background or circumstances. This value emphasises the intrinsic worth of every individual and the need to protect and honour their integrity. It is inviolable, must be respected, and protected.

**Freedom** encompasses various aspects, including freedom of thought, conscience, religion, expression, and assembly. It is the right of individuals to make choices about their lives and express their views without unwarranted interference. Freedom is essential for personal development and democratic participation. It is protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

**Democracy** is the system of governance where power is vested in the people. It is characterized by free and fair elections, active participation of citizens in political life, and transparent and accountable institutions. Democracy ensures that citizens have a voice in decision-making processes and that their rights and freedoms are protected.

**Equality** means that all individuals are treated equally under the law and have equal opportunities to thrive. This value advocates for non-discrimination and inclusiveness, ensuring that everyone, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or other characteristics, has the same rights and opportunities. Equality is about equal rights for all citizens before the law. The principle of equality between women and men underpins all European policies and is the basis for European integration.

**The rule of law** is the principle that all individuals and institutions are subject to the law. It ensures that laws are fairly applied and enforced, protecting citizens from arbitrary governance. This value upholds justice, accountability, and legal certainty, forming the backbone of a fair society. The EU is based on the rule of law with everything it does, founded on treaties agreed by its countries. Law and justice are upheld by an independent judiciary, with the European Court of Justice having final jurisdiction.

**Human rights** are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person. These include civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. The protection and promotion of human rights are essential for dignity, equality, and justice, providing a framework for individuals to live freely and safely. Human rights are protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, covering rights such as non-discrimination, protection of personal data, and access to justice.

Even though it has not been specifically listed as one of the EU fundamental values, solidarity is often mentioned as one of the key principles of European Union and also particularly important in the context of this Feasibility Kit. **Solidarity** is the commitment to mutual support and unity among individuals and communities. It involves a sense of responsibility and cooperation to help others, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged. This value fosters social cohesion and collective well-being, emphasising the importance of standing together.

The values highlighted in the "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" are not only cornerstones of the European Union but are also universal principles that support a harmonious and equitable society. By understanding and embracing these values, organisations and individuals can contribute to the development of inclusive, just, and resilient communities.

 $<sup>2\</sup> https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/principles-and-values/aims-and-values_en$ 

# TREASURE HUNT OF EU VALUES - FOR ORGANISATIONS

Welcome to the "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit. This kit is designed to help civil society organisations in assessing potential for developing innovative and value-based youth programmes and activities that support the promotion of values.

The kit is divided into six areas, each focusing on a specific aspect of organisational readiness and programme development.

Each section follows the same structure:

- Explanation: a brief overview of the area, its significance, and its reflection on values.
- Questions for civil society organisations: targeted questions to assess current practices and capacities.
- Tips and tricks or recommendations: practical advice and best practices to improve and align with values.
- Next steps and action plan: clear steps and strategies for implementing improvements in this area.

By exploring each section, organisations will discover valuable insights and actionable plans to foster democratic engagement, social inclusion, and other key values in their programmes.

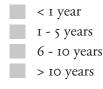
The final sections address broader organisational challenges, potential for growth, and risk mitigation, helping organisations create more effective and sustainable youth programmes. Let's start the hunt for values!

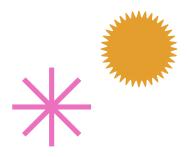
# **Organisational Background**

1. Name of the organisation

#### 2. Mission/vision and aims of the organisation

3. How long has the organisation been actively involved in youth-related activities?

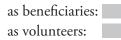




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4. Describe the current youth or volunteer programmes and/or activities offered by the organisation.

#### 5. The number of young people involved in the organisation:



# **1. Values and Youth Engagement**

This section explores how well does your organisation understands and incorporates the universal values into youth programmes. These values, such as democracy, equality, human rights, and social inclusion, are essential for fostering a sense of community and belonging among young people. By embedding these values into your activities, organisation can cultivate a more inclusive, fair, and democratic society.

Understanding and promoting these values, which present the core values of the EU, within youth programmes not only aligns with broader societal goals but also empowers young people to become active, informed, and responsible citizens. It helps in building a solid foundation for lifelong engagement and advocacy for these universal principles.

### Questions for assessment

1. How familiar is the organisation with the core values promoted by the European Union described after the introduction to this Feasibility Kit (e.g., democracy, equality, human rights, social inclusion)?

- Not familiar at all
- Slightly familiar
- Moderately familiar
- Quite familiar
- Remarkably familiar

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2. Please rank the values below based on their relevance to your mission and youth or volunteer programme objectives

|                            | Not<br>relevant | Relevant to a small extent | Relevant to<br>a moderate<br>extent | Relevant to a<br>considerable<br>extent | Relevant to a great extent |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Peace                      |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Solidarity                 |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Equality                   |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Social inclusion           |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Human rights               |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Sustainable<br>development |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Human dignity              |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Freedom                    |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| Democracy                  |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |
| The rule of law            |                 |                            |                                     |   |                            |

#### 3. Does the organisation currently integrate values into its youth programmes?

Not at all

To a small extent

To a moderate extent

To a considerable extent

To a great extent

Please describe shortly how does your organisation integrate EU values into its youth programmes: *For example:* 

**Human rights campaigns:** Our organisation runs a human rights awareness and advocacy campaign where youth participate in workshops, community dialogues, and advocacy events. We provide training on human rights documentation and collaborate with legal aid clinics to empower youth in advocating for human rights protection.

**Democracy in action:** We incorporate democratic principles by involving youth in decision-making processes within our organisation. We organise regular elections for youth council positions and facilitate debates on community issues, encouraging active participation and understanding of democratic governance.

**Equality workshops:** To promote equality, we conduct workshops and training sessions focused on gender equality and diversity. These sessions include interactive activities and discussions aimed at challenging stereotypes and fostering an inclusive mindset among participants.

**Solidarity projects:** Our solidarity projects engage youth in community service activities such as food drives, environmental clean-ups, and support for marginalised groups. These projects are designed to build a sense of community and mutual support among young volunteers.

#### 4. In your opinion, can values positively impact the development of youth programmes?

- Not impactful at all
- Slightly impactful
- Moderately impactful
- Quite impactful
- Highly impactful

Please provide your specific examples or insights on how values can positively influence youth programmes: *For example:* 

**Enhanced engagement and participation:** by integrating the value of democracy, youth are given opportunities to participate in decision-making processes, leading to increased engagement and a sense of ownership over the programmes. Improved social inclusion: incorporating the value of social inclusion ensures that programmes are designed to be accessible and welcoming to all youth, fostering a sense of belonging and community.

**Empowerment and leadership development:** promoting human rights within programmes empowers youth to advocate for themselves and others, developing strong leadership skills and confidence.

5. Does the organisation gather any feedback or measure the impact of its youth or volunteer programmes on promoting and underpinning values?

- Not at all
- To a small extent
- To a moderate extent
- To a considerable extent
- To a great extent



# 6. How do the youth or volunteer programmes reflect on the local community and support the social development of the community?

#### For example:

1. A human rights awareness and advocacy campaign engages youth and volunteers in workshops, community dialogues, and advocacy events to raise awareness about human rights issues. The programme provides training on reporting and documentation, collaborates with human rights organisations, and offers legal aid clinics to empower the community to advocate for the protection of human rights.

2. A social inclusion initiative for youth facilitates workshops, community activities, and mentoring programmes to promote social inclusion. The programme fosters partnerships with local organisations, implements awareness campaigns, and provides training on diversity and inclusivity, creating a supportive environment for marginalised groups and fostering a sense of belonging within the community.

3. An equality advocacy programme for youth conducts workshops, awareness campaigns, and advocacy events to promote equality. The programme collaborates with advocacy groups, implements educational initiatives on gender and diversity, and provides resources for addressing inequalities, fostering a more inclusive and equitable community.

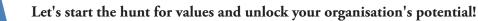


#### **Recommendations:**

- Conduct workshops and seminars on EU values for staff and volunteers.
- Integrate value-based discussions and activities into regular programmes.
- Develop projects highlighting values (e.g., human rights campaigns).
- Include values in planning and evaluating activities.
- Use surveys and focus groups to measure engagement with values.
- Partner with local organisations for shared values.
- Organise events celebrating EU values.
- Allocate resources for value-based education.

#### Next steps and action plan

- Identify gaps: conduct an internal assessment to identify areas where the organisation can better integrate EU values.
- Set goals: define clear, achievable goals for promoting these values within your programmes.
- Implement strategies: develop and implement strategies based on the tips and recommendations provided.
- Monitor progress: regularly review and adjust your approach based on feedback and outcomes.
- Celebrate success: acknowledge and celebrate milestones and successes in promoting EU values within your organisation.





| Area                              | Aim   | Proposed activities | Responsible person | Due date |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Values and<br>Youth<br>Engagement | Better<br>understanding<br>of the values and<br>their relevance to<br>the organisation's<br>mission<br>Integrating<br>values into youth<br>or volunteer<br>programmes |                     |                    |          |
|                                   | Measuring the<br>impact of youth<br>or volunteer<br>programmes on<br>promoting and<br>underpinning<br>values  |                     |                    |          |

# II. European Identity, Citizenship and Cultural Exchange

This area focuses on fostering a sense of European identity, citizenship, and cultural exchange among youth. It emphasises understanding and appreciating the diverse cultures within the EU while promoting a shared sense of belonging and active citizenship. Promoting European identity and citizenship helps young people understand their role in a larger community, encouraging them to participate in democratic processes and appreciate cultural diversity. It strengthens the unity and fosters mutual respect and cooperation.

### **Questions for assessment**

1. Does the organisation incorporate elements of EU identity, citizenship and cultural exchange in its youth and volunteer programmes?

- Not at all
- To a small extent
- To a moderate extent
- To a considerable extent
- To a great extent



Please describe how are they expressed in the activities or actions undertaken by your organisation: *For example:* 

**EU-themed events:** celebrating Europe Day with cultural performances, food festivals, and exhibitions highlighting the diverse cultures within the EU.

*Civic engagement projects:* organising local community projects where youth can participate in activities like voter registration drives or public forums discussing EU policies and their impact.

**Online platforms and simulations:** using online platforms to connect youth from different EU countries for virtual exchange projects or implementing EU simulation games to educate about the EU's legislative process and democratic engagement.

2. Please mark how your organisation encourages youth and volunteers to develop a sense of EU citizenship and awareness on the EU and its values:

- Education and information sharing
- EU-themed events and celebrations
- Incorporating EU values in activities
- Online engagement to share EU-related content, news, and success stories
- Promoting participation in the European Solidarity Corps or Erasmus+ programme
  - EU simulation games
  - Cultural exchange and exposure to different EU cultures





#### **Recommendations:**

- Implement educational sessions about EU history, institutions, and values to build awareness and understanding.
- Organise events celebrating EU achievements and cultural diversity, such as Europe Day or cultural festivals.
- Facilitate involvement in European Solidarity Corps, Erasmus+, and other EU initiatives.
- Encourage youth to participate in local and EU-wide civic activities and elections.
- Establish exchange programmes with other EU countries to promote cross-cultural understanding.
- Utilise online platforms to connect youth with their peers across Europe for discussions and collaborative projects.
- Create projects that reflect EU values such as equality and social inclusion, ensuring they are integral to daily activities.
- Engage EU ambassadors and mentors to share their experiences and inspire young people.
- Use social media and other online tools to share EU-related content, news, and success stories.
- Implement EU simulation games and online activities to provide interactive learning experiences.



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#### Next steps and action plan

- Identify gaps: assess current programmes to identify areas where European identity and citizenship can be better integrated.
- Set goals: define specific goals for promoting EU values and cultural exchange within your programmes.
- Implement strategies: develop and execute strategies based on the recommendations provided.
- Monitor progress: regularly evaluate the impact of these initiatives and adjust as needed.
- Celebrate success: recognise and celebrate achievements in fostering EU identity and citizenship among your participants.

#### Let's continue the hunt for values and deepen the sense of European unity and identity in your organisation!

| Area                                 | Aim   | Proposed activities | Responsible person | Due date |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| European<br>Identity,<br>Citizenship | Incorporating<br>elements of<br>European identity,<br>citizenship<br>and cultural<br>exchange in youth<br>and volunteer<br>programmes |                     |                    |          |
| and Cultural<br>Exchange             | Encouraging<br>youth and<br>volunteers to<br>develop a sense<br>of European<br>citizenship and<br>awareness on the<br>EU              |                     |                    |          |



# **III.** Diversity and Inclusion

This area examines how organisations ensure their youth programmes are inclusive and accessible to individuals from diverse backgrounds. It focuses on creating an environment where all participants feel valued and respected. Diversity encompasses various characteristics such as ethnicity, gender, so-cio-economic status, ability, sexual orientation, and cultural background, or any other differentiating factors. Promoting diversity and inclusion is crucial for fostering a sense of belonging and ensuring that all young people have equal opportunities to participate and benefit from the programmes. It aligns with EU values by advocating for equality, social inclusion, and human rights.

### **Questions for assessment**

1. Does the organisation ensure that its youth programmes are inclusive and accessible to young people from diverse backgrounds?

Not at allTo a small extentTo a moderate extent

- To a considerable extent
- To a great extent

Please provide examples of how the organisation promotes diversity and fosters a sense of belonging among youth: *For example:* 

**Inclusive programme design:** designing programmes that include activities and materials accessible to everyone, such as offering sign language interpretation, providing materials in multiple languages, and ensuring physical accessibility in all venues. **Outreach and engagement:** conducting targeted outreach to underrepresented communities through partnerships with local organisations, schools, and community centres. This helps ensure that information about programmes reaches a diverse audience and encourages participation from all sectors of the community.

**Safe spaces and support groups:** creating safe spaces and support groups for youth from marginalised communities where they can share experiences, discuss challenges, and receive support from peers and facilitators. This promotes emotional well-being and a sense of belonging.

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2. What barriers for participation have the organisation tried to change or break down in order to open its programme or organisation to new groups?

- Limited funding/resources: The organisation has secured additional funding or reallocated resources to support diverse participation.
- Lack of awareness: The organisation has conducted outreach and awareness campaigns to inform diverse groups about the programme.
- Cultural/language barriers: The organisation has provided translation services, multicultural events, or language support to include non-native speakers.
- Accessibility issues: The organisation has improved physical accessibility and provided accommodations for individuals with disabilities.
- Socio-economic barriers: The organisation has offered scholarships, sliding scale fees, or free participation to ensure inclusivity for all economic backgrounds.
- Limited networks: The organisation has expanded its partnerships and networks to reach underrepresented groups.

Inadequate training for staff/volunteers: The organisation has provided diversity and inclusion training to staff and volunteers to better support diverse participants.

Other:

#### **Recommendations:**

- Ensure physical and digital accessibility by providing accommodations such as ramps, sign language interpreters, and accessible online platforms.
- Conduct targeted outreach to inform diverse groups about your programmes. Use various channels like social media, community centres, and local events.
- Regularly train staff and volunteers on diversity and inclusion to create a supportive environment for all participants.
- Provide translation services and multilingual materials to include non-native speakers.
- Build partnerships with local organisations that work with underrepresented groups to expand your reach and support.
- Design activities that celebrate diversity and encourage participation from all backgrounds.
- Create channels for participants to share their experiences and suggestions for improving inclusivity.
- Implement mentorship programmes that pair participants from diverse backgrounds with experienced mentors.

#### Next steps and action plan:

- Identify gaps: conduct an internal review to identify areas where diversity and inclusion can be improved.
- Set goals: define clear, measurable goals for enhancing inclusivity in your programmes.
- Implement strategies: develop and execute strategies based on the tips and recommendations provided.
- Monitor progress: regularly assess the effectiveness of your inclusivity efforts and adjust as needed.
- Celebrate success: recognise and celebrate milestones in promoting diversity and inclusion within your organisation.

Let's continue the hunt for values and ensure that everyone feels included and valued in your organisation's programmes!





| Area                       | Aim  | Proposed activities | Responsible person | Due date |
|----------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Diversity and<br>Inclusion | Ensuring<br>accessibility<br>and inclusivity<br>of the youth<br>programmes to<br>young people<br>from diverse<br>backgrounds |                     |                    |          |

# **IV. Resources and Capacity**



This area evaluates the availability and adequacy of financial, human, and infrastructure resources within an organisation to develop and sustain value-based youth and volunteer programmes. Assessing these resources is crucial for ensuring that programmes are well-supported, effective, and sustainable. Adequate resources are essential for the successful implementation and longevity of programmes that

promote values. They ensure that the organisation can provide high-quality activities, support staff and volunteers, and maintain necessary infrastructure.

### **Questions for assessment**

1. Does your organisation have relevant financial resources for value-based youth and volunteer programmes development?

- Extremely limited resources
- Limited resources
- Adequate resources
- Sufficient resources
- Abundant resources
  - Is there anything missing:

2. Does your organisation have relevant human resources for value-based youth and volunteer programmes development?

- Extremely limited resources
- Limited resources
- Adequate resources
- Sufficient resources
- Abundant resources
  - Is there anything missing:

3. Does your organisation have appropriate infrastructure resources for value-based youth and volunteer programmes development?
Extremely limited resources
Limited resources
Adequate resources
Sufficient resources
Sufficient resources
Is there anything missing:

4. Does the organisation assess/evaluate/measure/monitor the capacity and skills of its staff and volunteers to deliver quality value-based youth programmes?
Not at all

To a small extent
To a considerable extent
To a great extent
To a great extent

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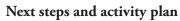
If your organisation does such kind of assessments, please describe how:



#### **Recommendations:**

- Seek funding from multiple sources, including grants, donations, sponsorships, and partnerships with other organisations.
- Develop a detailed budget plan that allocates funds effectively and ensures sustainability.
- Focus on recruiting skilled staff and volunteers and provide regular training to enhance their competencies.
- Implement support systems for volunteers, including mentoring, recognition programmes, and opportunities for personal and professional growth.
- Ensure that physical spaces are accessible, safe, and well-equipped for programme activities.
- Invest in modern technology and digital tools to support programme delivery and management.
- Conduct regular assessments of staff and volunteer skills to identify areas for development.
- Implement feedback mechanisms to continuously improve the capacity and effectiveness of your team.





- Identify gaps: evaluate current resources and identify any gaps in financial, human, and infrastructure resources.
- Set goals: define specific goals for improving resource allocation and management.
- Implement strategies: develop and execute strategies based on the recommendations provided.
- Monitor progress: regularly review and assess the impact of these strategies on programme quality and sustainability.
- Celebrate success: acknowledge and celebrate improvements and achievements in resource management and programme delivery.

#### Let's continue the hunt for values and ensure your organisation is well-equipped to deliver impactful, value-based programmes!

| Area                      | Aim   | Proposed activities | Responsible person | Due date |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Resources and<br>Capacity | Investing in<br>relevant resources<br>(financial, human,<br>infrastructure) for<br>value-based youth<br>and volunteer<br>programmes<br>development<br>Assessing the<br>capacity and<br>skills of staff and<br>volunteers to<br>deliver quality<br>value-based youth<br>programmes |                     |                    |          |



# V. Youth Participation and Empowerment

This area assesses how organisations engage young people in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of youth and volunteer programmes. It also explores the methods used to empower youth to take on leadership roles, ensuring their active participation and ownership of initiatives. Involving youth in these processes is crucial for fostering a sense of responsibility, leadership, and commitment to the values promoted by the organisation. It ensures that programmes are relevant, effective, and resonate with the needs and aspirations of young people.

### **Questions for assessment**

I. Does your organisation involve young people in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of youth or volunteer programmes?

Not at all
To a small extent
To a moderate extent
To a considerable extent
To a great extent

2. Can you provide examples of how the organisation has empowered young people to take leadership roles?

#### For example:

**Leadership training programmes:** offering dedicated training programmes focused on developing leadership skills such as project management, public speaking, and advocacy. These programmes equip young people with the skills needed to lead initiatives and manage teams effectively.

**Youth-led initiatives:** encouraging young people to propose and lead their own initiatives that align with the organisation's mission. This could include social campaigns, community projects, or educational workshops, empowering them to take charge and see their ideas come to the daylight.

**Public speaking opportunities:** providing platforms for young people to speak at conferences, community events, or in front of media. This exposure builds their confidence and positions them as youth leaders and advocates.



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3. How satisfied are you with the involvement of youth and volunteers into initiatives in your organisation that promote values in local/national/EU context?

- Not at all satisfied
- Basic satisfaction
- Moderately satisfied
- Considerably satisfied
- Highly satisfied



#### **Recommendations:**

- Involve youth in the planning stages of programmes by creating youth advisory boards or committees.
- Assign young people active roles in programme implementation, such as team leaders or project coordinators.
- Offer training programmes that develop leadership skills, such as public speaking, project management, and decision-making.
- Pair young people with mentors who can guide and support them in taking on leadership roles.
- Implement regular feedback sessions where youth can share their experiences and suggestions for improvement.
- Encourage young people to lead evaluation processes, assessing the effectiveness and impact of programmes.
- Recognise and celebrate the contributions of young leaders through awards, certificates, or public recognition events.
- Provide opportunities for further development, such as internships, scholarships, or advanced training programmes.



#### Next steps and activity plan:

- Identify gaps: evaluate the current level of youth involvement and identify areas for improvement.
- Set goals: define specific, measurable goals for increasing youth participation and empowerment.
- Implement strategies: develop and execute strategies based on the tips and recommendations provided.
- Monitor progress: regularly assess the level of youth involvement and adjust strategies as needed.
- Celebrate success: acknowledge and celebrate milestones and achievements in youth participation and leadership.

#### Let us continue the hunt for values and empower the next generation of leaders within your organisation!





| Area  | Aim  | Proposed activities | Responsible person | Due date |
|---|--|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Youth Participa-<br>tion and Empo-<br>werment | Involving<br>young people<br>in the planning,<br>implementation,<br>and evaluation of<br>youth or volunteer<br>programmes<br>Involving youth<br>and volunteers into<br>initiatives in the<br>organisation that<br>promote EU values<br>in local/national/EU<br>context |                     |                    |          |

# VI. Networking and Knowledge Exchange

This area focuses on the organisation's participation in networks and platforms that enhance youth development and the promotion of EU values. It also evaluates how the organisation stays informed about best practices and innovations in the field. Active networking and knowledge exchange are vital for organisational growth and programme effectiveness. They provide opportunities to learn from peers, access new resources, and stay updated with the latest trends and best practices in youth development and value promotion.

### **Questions for assessment**

I. Does the organisation actively participate in Civil Society/Public authority bodies networks or platforms that focus on youth development and values?

- Not at all
- Rarely
- Occasionally
- Frequently
- Actively and extensively

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#### 2. How does the organisation stay informed about best practices and innovations in the field?

- Engaging in networking activities by participating in conferences, seminars, workshops, and eventsMembership in professional associations
- Training and workshops, learning exchanges, learning from successful programmes
- and examples of good practice
- Online resources and webinars
- Research and publications
- Consulting with experts

Other:



#### **Recommendations:**

- Become an active member of local, national, and international networks focusing on youth development and EU values.
- Regularly participate in conferences, seminars, and workshops to exchange knowledge and build connections.
- Maintain memberships in professional associations that provide access to resources and networking opportunities.
- Engage in continuous learning through training programmes, webinars, and online courses.
- Utilise online platforms and databases to access the latest research, publications, and case studies.
- Participate in virtual events to stay informed without the constraints of travel.
- Regularly consult with experts and thought leaders in the field to gain insights and advice.
- Engage in peer learning activities, such as study visits and learning exchanges, to observe and adopt best practices from other organisations.



#### Next steps and activity plan:

- Identify gaps: assess the current level of networking and knowledge exchange and identify areas for improvement.
- Set goals: define specific goals for increasing participation in networks and staying updated with best practices.
- Implement strategies: develop and execute strategies based on the tips and recommendations provided.
- Monitor progress: regularly review the impact of networking and knowledge exchange activities and adjust as needed.
- Celebrate success: acknowledge and celebrate achievements in expanding networks and enhancing knowledge within your organisation.

# We are almost done! Let us finalise the hunt for values and strengthen your organisation's capacity through active networking and knowledge exchange!





| Area                        | Aim   | Proposed activities | Responsible person | Due date |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Networking<br>and Knowledge | Active participation in<br>networks or platforms<br>that focus on youth<br>development and EU<br>values |                     |                    |          |
| Exchange                    | Informing about<br>best practices and<br>innovations in the<br>field                                    |                     |                    |          |

# Final Sections: Challenges, Potential for Growth, and Risks

These final sections of the questionnaire are designed to help organisations identify and address broader organisational challenges, assess potential for growth and improvement, and develop strategies to mitigate risks. By reflecting on these areas, organisations can create more effective and sustainable youth programmes that align with values, ensure continuous improvement, and proactively manage potential obstacles.

Let's delve into these critical aspects to enhance your organisation's capability to foster meaningful and impactful youth engagement!

# CHALLENGES

### **Questions for assessment**

I. Please rank the challenges the organisation faces in developing youth programmes that promote values.
 (I – the biggest challenge; 7 – the least challenge)

- Limited funding
- Inadequate skills in reaching and involving a diverse range of youth
- Inadequate skills and knowledge in tailoring programmes to be inclusive and adapted to diverse needs of youth coming from diverse backgrounds
- Inadequate skills and knowledge on integrating EU values into youth programmes
- We are not able to ensure sustainability of the youth value-based programmes

We are experiencing challenges in retaining/keeping dedicated youngsters and volunteers who share the vision of promoting EU values

Other:



#### Recommendations for overcoming challenges:

- Explore diverse funding sources such as grants, sponsorships, and crowdfunding. Collaborate with other organisations for joint funding applications.
- Provide training for staff on outreach strategies and cultural competence. Partner with community organisations to better understand and reach diverse populations.
- Invest in continuous education on inclusivity and adapt programmes to meet diverse needs. Involve youth from various backgrounds in programme design.
- Offer specialised training on values and how to embed them in programmes. Utilise resources and best practices from other successful initiatives.
- Develop long-term strategic plans that include sustainability goals.
- Engage in regular fundraising and build a network of loyal supporters and volunteers.
- Create a positive and supportive volunteer environment.
- Offer recognition, growth opportunities, and clear paths for advancement within the organisation.

### POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH

1. What are the organisation's aspirations and vision for its youth programmes in the next 3-5 years?

2. How does the organisation plan to align its activities with the values?





3. How do you asses the organisation's potential in specific areas or aspects from this questionnaire? (I – extremely low potential; 5 – extremely high potential)

| Area   | ı<br>extremely<br>low | 2<br>low | 3<br>good | 4<br>high | 5<br>extremely<br>high |
|--|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|
| EU Values and Youth<br>Engagement                          |                       |          |           |           |                        |
| European Identity,<br>Citizenship and Cultural<br>Exchange |                       |          |           |           |                        |
| Diversity and Inclusion                                    |                       |          |           |           |                        |
| Resources and Capacity                                     |                       |          |           |           |                        |
| Youth Participation and<br>Empowerment                     |                       |          |           |           |                        |
| Networking and Knowledge<br>Exchange                       |                       |          |           |           |                        |

4. What kind of a support would your organisation need to improve its potential for developing value-based youth programmes?

More funding opportunities and financial support

Enhanced training and capacity-building programmes

Improved networking platforms for knowledge sharing

Greater focus on inclusivity and diversity initiatives

Policies that support long-term sustainability and youth/volunteer retention

Other:



#### **Recommendations:**

- Define a clear and inspiring vision for your youth programmes, outlining long-term goals and desired impact.
- Develop a strategic plan that aligns with your vision, including specific objectives, timelines, and measurable outcomes.
- Ensure all activities and programmes reflect and promote EU values such as democracy, equality, and social inclusion.
- Communicate these values consistently across all organisational materials, events, and interactions.
- Conduct regular assessments of your organisation's strengths and areas for improvement using tools like surveys, feedback forms, and SWOT analysis.
- Compare your performance with similar organisations to identify best practices and areas where you can enhance your programmes.
- Actively pursue grants, sponsorships, and other financial support to expand your programmes.
- Invest in training and development for staff and volunteers to build skills and knowledge.



- Participate in professional networks and forums to share knowledge and learn from others.
- Focus on creating inclusive programmes that attract and retain a diverse range of participants.
- Develop policies that ensure the long-term sustainability of your programmes and the retention of dedicated youth and volunteers.

# **Potential Risks and Mitigation Strategies**

# **Questions for assessment**

1. What potential risks do you foresee in developing innovative youth programmes that support EU values?

- Funding instability
- Resistance to change within the organisation or community
- Difficulty in maintaining youth/volunteer engagement
- Legal and regulatory challenges
- Cultural misunderstandings or conflicts Other:
  - 2. How does the organisation plan to mitigate these risks?



#### **Recommendations:**

- Seek multiple funding sources such as grants, sponsorships, donations, and fundraising events.
- Create a detailed budget with contingency plans to manage financial uncertainty.
- Clearly communicate the benefits and necessity of changes to all involved parties.
  - Offer training and development opportunities to keep volunteers motivated and engaged.
  - Regularly review and stay updated on relevant laws and regulations.
  - Consult with legal experts to ensure compliance and address potential legal issues.
  - Provide training for staff and volunteers to understand and respect diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Foster an environment where open and respectful discussions about cultural differences can take place.





# APPENDIX TREASURE HUNT OF EU VALUES – A GAME FOR YOUTH



# **Game Objective**

Promoting awareness of the importance of volunteering and youth programmes in line with European values such as solidarity, tolerance, democracy, human rights, and equality.

The game provides a fun and educational way for young people to learn about European values and encourages them to actively participate in volunteer and youth programmes.

### **Number of Players**

3-6 players

# **Game Duration**

60-90 minutes

For a shorter game duration, players can reduce the number of cards in play. For example, they can play with 10 Value Cards, 10 Activity Cards, and 10 Challenge Cards. When reducing the number of cards, ensure the number of Reward Cards in play is appropriate. There can be as many Reward Cards as there are action cards marked with a Reward symbol in the game.

### **Required Materials**

- Opaque bag
- 3 action tokens (1 Value token, 1 Activity token, 1 Challenge token)
- 15 Value Cards
- 15 Activity Cards
- 15 Challenge Cards
- 12 Reward Cards
- 2-6 sets of score cards from 1 to 5 (depending on the number of players)
- Scoring table
- Scoring explanation card

# Game Rules

#### Starting the Game:

Place the 3 action tokens in the bag.

Each player receives 1 set of score cards from 1 to 5.

Place 4 decks of cards face down on the table: 1 deck of Value Cards, 1 deck of Activity Cards, 1 deck of Challenge Cards, and 1 deck of Reward Cards.

Each player draws 1 Value Card, 1 Activity Card, and 1 Challenge Card from the decks and keeps them hidden

from the other players.

The oldest player starts the game. Play continues clockwise.

#### During a Player's Turn / Action:

The player chooses one of their three cards, reads the action without showing the card to the other players, and begins their action related to the chosen card:

- Value Card The player must describe how this value can be applied in the local community or volunteer activity.
- Activity Card The player must present a concrete plan for implementing this activity.
- Challenge Card The player must describe how they would solve this challenge in a real situation.

After completing the action, scoring follows (see "Scoring").

After scoring, the player shows the card to the other players. If the card has a "Reward" symbol, they draw a Reward Card (see "Reward Card"). The used action card (whether it has a "Reward" symbol or not) is removed from the game. Then, the player draws one action token from the bag. Depending on the drawn token, they draw one card from the corresponding deck and keep it in their hand, always having three cards. The action token is returned to the bag. This ends their turn, and the next player continues the game.

#### Scoring:

For each completed action, the player receives points.

Scoring is done using the "Peer Review" model.

After the player performs the action, the other players evaluate the action by choosing a score card from their set (1 to 5) that best and most fairly matches the given solution.

#### Scoring Criteria: creativity,

relevance, feasibility

#### **Points:**

- 5 The action is fully completed
- 4 The action is satisfactorily completed but not entirely
- 3 The action is completed moderately
- 2 The action is completed to a very small extent
- 1 The proposed solution does not meet the task at all

All players reveal their chosen score card simultaneously. The choice of the score card is final, with players required to explain their choice of points. Players should encourage each other and provide constructive feedback to keep the game motivating and educational. All players' points are added together and entered into the scoring table.

#### **Reward Card:**

Certain action cards have a Reward symbol. A player can only earn a Reward if their action is scored with a minimum of 3 by each of the other players.

The player entitled to a Reward draws one Reward Card from the deck. Depending on the content of the card, they either perform the action immediately, showing it to the other players, or set it aside without showing it to the other players. A set-aside Reward Card can be used in their turn at any time during the game. Used Reward Cards are removed from the game, except in cases where the card's benefit can be used multiple times during the game.



#### End of the Game:

The game ends when the last card from any action deck is used. The player who draws the last card from any of the action decks has the right to perform their action. After scoring their action, the game ends. In the final action, the player does not have the right to earn a Reward. The player with the most points wins.

# MATERIALS FOR THE GAME

Action tokens







#### Value cards

Front cover of each card:

Text for the value cards (back cover):

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS** TOLERANCE DEMOCRACY respecting and accepting a system in which all the basic rights and freedoms that belong to other people's opinions, citizens have the right to beliefs, and customs. participate in every person in the world. decision-making, usually through voting. How can you show What are some of the tolerance towards basic human rights? How can you participate in someone who has How can you contribute to decision-making in your a different opinion protecting human rights in community? from yours? your community? Why is it important for When was the last time everyone to have the right you were tolerant? to vote? FREEDOM JUSTICE RESPECT SOLIDARITY having the right to make treating everyone equally mutual support and recognising and and with respect for their appreciating the value of assistance among people your own choices and express yourself without rights. other people and their within the community. fear of repression. opinions. How can you promote How can you show solidarity in your What does freedom justice in your How can you show community? mean to vou? community? respect towards others Can you recall a situation How can you support When was the last time in everyday life? freedom of expression in you witnessed injustice Why is it important to when you felt solidarity? your community? and how did you react? respect differences? **COOPERATION INCLUSION** TRANSPARENCY EQUALITY working together with involving all people, open and clear all people have equal rights and opportunities, others to achieve regardless of their communication of differences, in all aspects regardless of their common goals. information and decisions. of society. differences. How can you promote How can you improve Why is it important for cooperation in your How can you promote transparency in your everyone to have equal community? inclusion in your community? When was the last time community? When was the last time opportunities? How can you promote you collaborated with Why is inclusion you were transparent in equality in your others and how did it go? important? your communication? community? COURAGE CREATIVITY RESPONSIBILITY **EMPATHY** taking care of your own facing challenges and using imagination and understanding and sharing risks despite fear. the feelings of others. actions and their innovation to create something new. consequences. When was the last time How can you show you showed courage? empathy towards others? How can you take How can you use creativity responsibility for How can you be in your community? When was the last time your actions? courageous in everyday When was the last time you witnessed someone life? What are your you created something showing empathy? responsibilities towards new? the community?

#### Activity cards

Front cover of each card:

Text for the value cards (back cover):

|  | WORKSHOP ON<br>WOMEN'S RIGHTS<br>Organise a workshop for<br>young people on women's<br>rights and gender equality.<br>The workshop can include<br>discussions and activities<br>that raise awareness<br>about gender equality.<br>Which values are associated<br>with your activity? | <section-header><section-header><text></text></section-header></section-header>  | ENVIRONMENTAL<br>ACTION<br>Organise a tree-planting<br>event in the local park.<br>Involve schools and<br>citizens to raise awareness<br>about the importance of<br>nature conservation and<br>combating climate change.<br>Which values are<br>associated with your<br>activity?  |
|--|--|--|--|
| SUPPORT FOR<br>CHILDREN'S LEARNING<br>Volunteer at a local school<br>to help children with their<br>learning. Support children<br>in their education and skill<br>development while<br>promoting equal access to<br>education.<br>Which values are<br>associated with your<br>activity?  | FINANCIAL LITERACY<br>WORKSHOPS<br>Organise financial literacy<br>workshops for young<br>people. The workshops<br>can teach basic financial<br>skills such as money<br>management, saving, and<br>investing.<br>Which values are<br>associated with your<br>activity?                | PROMOTING MENTAL<br>HEALTHOrganise an activity to raise<br>awareness about mental<br>health. The activity can<br>include discussions,<br>meditations, and creative<br>workshops that promote<br>mental health and well-being.Which values are<br>associated with your<br>activity? | ORGANISING A<br>CHARITY FAIR<br>Organise a charity fair to<br>raise funds for those in<br>need. The fair can include<br>the sale of used items,<br>crafts, and food to raise<br>funds for local humanitarian<br>organisations.<br>Which values are<br>associated with your<br>activity?                                    |
| CREATIVE WORKSHOPS<br>DOR CHILDREN<br>Organise creative workshops<br>for children with a focus on<br>European values. The<br>workshops can include artistic,<br>musical, and drama activities<br>that encourage creative<br>expression and learning about<br>European culture.<br>Which values are associated<br>with your activity? | VOLUNTEER CAMPOrganise a volunteer<br>camp for young<br>people. The camp can<br>include various activities<br>that promote skill<br>development, cooperation,<br>and community<br>engagement.Which values are associated<br>with your activity?                                      | <section-header><text></text></section-header>   | HUMAN RIGHTS<br>WORKSHODSOrganise educational<br>workshops on human rights<br>for young people. The<br>workshops can include<br>interactive sessions,<br>simulations, and discussions<br>on the importance of<br>protecting the rights of all<br>individuals in society.Which values are associated<br>with your activity? |
| <section-header><section-header><text></text></section-header></section-header>  | <section-header><section-header><text></text></section-header></section-header>  | <section-header><section-header><text><text><text></text></text></text></section-header></section-header>  | INCLUSIVE CULTURAL<br>PROGRAMMES<br>Organise a cultural programme<br>that includes minority<br>communities. The programme<br>can include performances,<br>exhibitions, and workshops that<br>celebrate the cultural contribu-<br>tions of minority communities.<br>Which values are associated<br>with your activity?      |

#### Challenges cards

Front cover of each card:

# Text for the value cards (back cover):



#### **Reward cards**

Front cover of each card:

Text for the value cards (back cover):

|   | BONUS<br>POINTS<br>You earn 5 additional<br>points for your current<br>action. This card must be<br>used immediately.   | EXTRA<br>Internet.<br>The perform the same<br>action again and achieve<br>a higher score. Enter the<br>higher score in the scoring<br>table, whether it was<br>achieved in the first or<br>second attempt. This card<br>can be used immediately<br>or at any time during your   | FRIEND'S<br>HELP<br>Ask for help from another<br>player. The difference between<br>the points scored and the<br>maximum points (5 points per<br>player except the player you<br>asked for help) is deducted as<br>negative points from the player<br>who helped you.<br>This card cannot be used<br>in one of the following rounds. |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>CARD</b><br><b>EXCHANGE</b><br>Exchange one of your<br>cards for a new card from<br>the same category deck.<br>When exchanging, review<br>the deck and choose one<br>card of your choice. After<br>choosing a card, put your<br>old card back into the deck<br>and shuffle it. This card can<br>be used immediately or at<br>any time during your turn<br>throughout the game. | EXTRA BONUS<br>POINTS<br>This card allows you to<br>score an additional 3<br>points in each scoring<br>round as long as you hold<br>it. This card can only be<br>used from your next action<br>onwards.   | <b>TEAM</b><br><b>ASSISTANCE</b><br>You receive help from the<br>entire team to perform an<br>action. Instead of the<br>points awarded by other<br>players, you receive the<br>maximum number of<br>points (5 points per player)<br>for this action. This card<br>cannot be used<br>immediately but can be<br>used in one of the<br>following rounds. | <b>DOUBLE</b><br><b>POINTS</b><br>Double the points you have<br>received. This card can be<br>used immediately or at any<br>time during your turn<br>throughout the game.   |
| INSTANT<br>INSIGHT<br>This card allows you to look at<br>all the action cards of another<br>player, choose one and take it<br>into your hand, giving one of<br>your cards to that player. The<br>exchanged cards do not have<br>to be from the same category.<br>This card can be used<br>immediately or at any time<br>during your turn throughout<br>the game.                  | JOKER<br>CARD<br>This card allows you to use if<br>as one of the reward cards<br>that have already been used<br>during the game. Review the<br>used reward cards, choose<br>one of your choice, and<br>immediately gain additional<br>benefits. This card can be<br>used immediately or at any<br>time during your turn<br>throughout the game. | QUICK<br>INTERVENTION<br>Choose one of your cards<br>and achieve the maximum<br>number of points (5 points<br>per player) without<br>performing the action.<br>Remove the selected card<br>from the game. This card<br>cannot be used<br>immediately but can be<br>used in one of the<br>following rounds.  | <b>BIG</b><br><b>LEAP</b><br>This card allows you to add<br>10 points to your total<br>score at the end of the<br>game. This card can only<br>be used at the end of the<br>game.  |
| <b>REWARD</b><br><b>SEIZURE</b><br>This card allows you to<br>look at another player's<br>reward cards of your<br>choice, choose one, and<br>take it from the other<br>player. This card can be<br>used immediately or at any<br>time during your turn<br>throughout the game.  |   |   |   |

# Scoring explanation card

#### **SCORING:**

Scoring Criteria:

- Creativity
- Relevance
- Feasibility

#### **Points:**

- 5 The action is fully completed
- 4 The action is satisfactorily completed but not entirely
- 3 The action is completed moderately
- 2 The action is completed to a very small extent
- I The proposed solution does not meet the task at all

# Score cards



# Scoring table

| PLAYER 1 | PLAYER 2 | PLAYER 3 | PLAYER 4 | PLAYER 5 | PLAYER 6 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
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# CONCLUSION

The "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit provides a comprehensive framework for civil society organisations to assess and enhance their capacity to promote European Union values through youth and volunteer programmes. By following the structured approach outlined in the kit, organisations can systematically evaluate their current practices, identify areas for improvement, and implement effective strategies to integrate core EU values such as democracy, equality, human rights, and social inclusion into their programmes.

Through the six sections of the kit, organisations can:

- Understand the importance of EU values: gain a deeper appreciation of how EU values align with their mission and the benefits of incorporating these values into their activities.
- Assess organisational readiness: use targeted questions to evaluate their current capacity and readiness to deliver value-based youth programmes.
- Adopt best practices: implement practical tips and recommendations to enhance their programmes and align more closely with EU values.
- Develop action plans: create clear, actionable steps to address identified gaps and continuously improve their initiatives.

The final sections of the kit address broader organisational challenges, potential for growth, and risk mitigation. By reflecting on these areas, organisations can develop sustainable strategies to overcome obstacles, capitalise on opportunities for growth, and proactively manage potential risks.

Moreover, the included game for volunteers serves as an engaging and educational tool to raise awareness about the importance of volunteering and youth programmes aligned with European values. It encourages young people to actively participate and fosters critical thinking and discussion on key values such as solidarity, tolerance, democracy, human rights, and equality.

As organisations embark on this journey to integrate EU values into their youth and volunteer programmes, they will not only enhance their own capacity but also contribute to the development of inclusive, just, and resilient communities. By fostering a culture of democratic engagement, social inclusion, and respect for human rights, these organisations play a vital role in shaping the future of Europe and its values.

#### Appendix

Plain language descriptor of this document

### INTRODUCTION

The "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit is designed to help organisations understand how to better support and engage youth volunteers. It focuses on encouraging democratic and value-based activities that promote EU values such as peace, equality, and human rights. By using this kit, organisations can work towards a more inclusive and fair society.

The kit's main goals are to:

- Check if organisations are ready and able to run value-based programmes.
- Give practical advice to make these programs better.
- Help organisations understand and integrate EU values in their activities.

The kit is divided into six sections, each focusing on a different aspect of preparing and developing programs. Each section includes an overview, important questions, advice, and steps to improve. This helps organisations think about their current programmes, resources, and potential areas for growth.

There is also an appendix with a game for volunteers to learn about EU values and the importance of volunteering. This game makes learning fun and encourages active participation in volunteer programs.

The kit was developed by partner organisations and refined based on feedback from discussions in Croatia, Ireland, Poland, Denmark, and Slovenia.

# THE CONCEPT AND CONTEXT OF VALUES

The "Treasure Hunt of EU Values" Feasibility Kit focuses on key values promoted by the European Union, which are also widely recognised around the world. These values include respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and human rights. These principles help create unity and support democratic societies.

#### Core EU Values:

- Human Dignity: Every person deserves respect and ethical treatment.
- Freedom: Includes freedom of thought, religion, expression, and assembly. Essential for personal growth and democratic participation.
- **Democracy:** Power is held by the people through free and fair elections and active participation in political life.
- **Equality:** Everyone is treated equally under the law and has equal opportunities, regardless of gender, race, or other characteristics.
- Rule of Law: All individuals and institutions are subject to the law, ensuring justice and accountability.
- Human Rights: Basic rights and freedoms for every person, including civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights.

**Solidarity:** Although not an official EU value, solidarity is important in this kit. It involves supporting and helping others, especially those who are vulnerable. It promotes social cohesion and collective well-being. By understanding and embracing these values, organizations and individuals can help create inclusive, fair, and resilient communities.

