

PREFACE

uCivic - Using New Technologies for Civic Education (589682-EPP-1-2017-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBY-ACPALA) was a capacity-building project in the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme. The initiative was implemented, between 07-2017 and 06-2019, by Human Rights Youth Organisation (Italy), Centro de Estudios Paraguayos Antonio Guasch (Paraguay), Biderbost, Boscan & Rochin (Spain) and Asociación Civil Gurises Unidos (Uruguay).

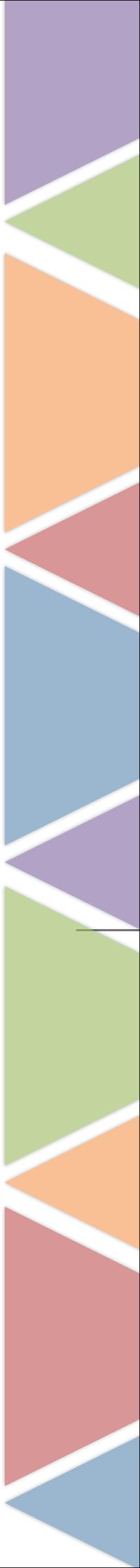
uCivic was designed with two specific goals. First, to **generate an exchange of good practices** (between Italy, Paraguay, Spain and Uruguay) on which strategies really work and are attractive for the civic-political empowerment of young people. Second, to **design a free virtual ToolKit on how to develop civic competences** and raise awareness on political issues among the new generations of Latin-Americans and Europeans (specially youngsters with fewer opportunities). Both included theoretical and practical information of five specific competences: **political attention, political knowledge, political participation, political efficacy and political tolerance.**

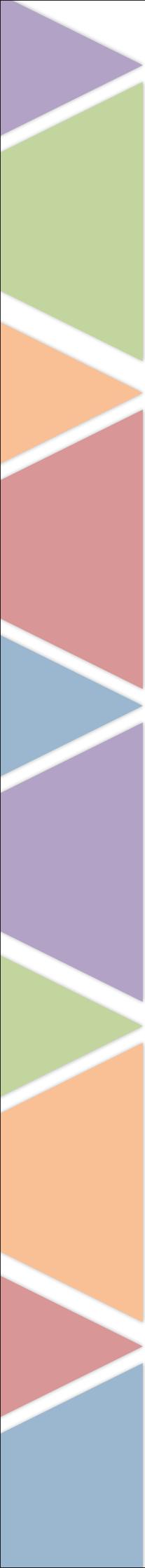
The process behind the project had a structure of three phases. The first one consisted in a **kick-off meeting in Salamanca** (Spain), where the partners were able to agree on the action frameworks that were carried out throughout the process. Then, each partner celebrated **virtual surveys with youth workers and focus groups with youth workers and young people**, in order to know their needs about civic competences and the best way to learn them. With all the information above, the partners designed the first versión of the ToolKit.

In the second phase, the ToolKit was presented among youth workers in the **first training course of the project celebrated in Montevideo** (Uruguay). In this meeting, the participants were able to identify the characteristics that had to be maintained and those that had to be improved in the ToolKit. With the feedback above, the partners designed the second version of the ToolKit and tested with young people of their own localities (Misiones, Montevideo, Palermo and Salamanca).

In the third and final phase, the partners celebrated the **second training course of the project in Palermo** (Italy). In this mobility, the results obtained in the testing were presented and the reasons that caused those impacts were exposed. In addition, **good practices were exchanged to enhance and improve the characteristics of the ToolKit**. With all the above, the partners designed the third and final version of the uCivic ToolKit that was released to the world in Asunción and Misiones (Paraguay).

In this regard, uCivic developed a series of actions, from which emerged **reflections, proposals and educational tools that were systematised and shared in this publication**. That's why is important to mention that you have in your hands a ToolKit that was designed through a consultative process and **tested in four countries by numerous youth workers and young people** from Latin America and Europe.





At the same time, the partners consider that **it is important to make the following considerations**. At first instance, the activities proposed are not a fix recipe. This means that **each youth worker has the freedom to adapt the ToolKit according to its context**, the young people with whom it works and the competence it wants to develop.

At second term, although the activities proposals are placed as one, **the step-by-step design allow the youth workers to develop the competence selected in several sessions** and taking the time it consider necessary (according to the needs of young people and its own).

On the other hand, we trust that **this ToolKit will be an input for youth workers, teachers and educators** interested in including the topic of civic competences in their daily work and fields. At the same time, we hope that **this publication can be an invitation to continue the research and development** of new practices in civic education.

Finally, we want to **express our gratitude to all the staff, youth workers, youngsters and entities that spent their time to make this project** and its ToolKit possible. Without forgetting our thanks to the Erasmus+ Programme, for giving us the opportunity to generate cooperation ties between Latin America and Europe.

Yours sincerely,

