



DEMOCRACY WEEK

Peace Volunteering Network

Norway

Activity Report
2024

Projects and Activities

Organisational Information

Organisation name: Peace Volunteering Network Norway (PVN Norway)

Registration number: 932 346 796

Location: Markens gate 35 4612 KRISTIANSAND S

Peace Volunteering Network (PVN) is a civil society organization dedicated to empowering young people to become active contributors to peaceful, democratic, and inclusive societies. Through youth engagement, cross-sector collaboration, and intercultural dialogue, PVN supports young people in developing the skills, knowledge, and opportunities needed to actively participate in their communities and decision-making processes. The organization works at local, national, European, and international levels through research, capacity building, advocacy, and community initiatives.



PVNN program areas:

Youth Empowerment and engagement



This goal is more focused on empowering young people to be an active part of political and social life, and understand and practice the democracy. This empowerment is coming from their direct engagement, also through the increase of capacities for youth workers, youth coordinators and youth organizations. The focus on such youth activities will be the Erasmus Plus program, but not limited

Democracy and human rights



Cross-sectorial collaboration for Transparency and accountability; against Radicalization and violent extremism; Hate speech, violence: Youth participation; Media Literacy; Promote the Norwegian values of democracy in Balkan region

Peace / Intercultural Dialogue and Learning



Co-existence, integrations, inclusion; nonviolent communication; peace education, migrants

Volunteering as tool for democracy and peace, community developments



Enabling inclusive and professional legal and institutional environments for volunteering; in municipalities, civil society and private sector

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Activity Report 2024

As a new established organization officially (October 2023), and as informal group May 2022 , during 2024 PVN was focused on three main pillars

a) Developing organizational strategy and procedures

b) Youth engagement and Future projects

c) Partnerships and collaboration

Key activities

- Establishment of the organisation and development of organisational procedures and strategic documents such as Strategic Plan , Action Plan, Communication Strategy, Partnership plan, Fundraising plan etc
- Participation in meetings and networking activities with youth organisations and partners from Norway and Europe
- Contribution to discussions on youth participation and civic engagement initiatives
- Preparation and development of international youth cooperation projects
- Initial engagement with local stakeholders and youth actors in Kristiansand
- Hosting Mobility of Youth Workers during Democracy week , in May 2024

These activities helped the organisation build partnerships and prepare for future youth projects and Erasmus+ cooperation, but not limited

a) Developing organizational strategy and procedures

As a newly established organisation, PVN Norway focused on developing its internal structures and capacities. During 2024 PVNN was focused on the below objectives:

Strengthen organizational capacity:

- Develop and approve the Strategic plan
- Develop and Approve the action plan
- Develop a communication and PR strategy
- Developing organisational procedures
- Establish a coordinating team for maintaining the organization and its actions
- Create a group of collaborators and volunteers
- Invest in staff training and development programs.

Ensure financial stability and sustainability

- Explore funding opportunities at European and international levels and make and maintain a fundraising database
- Develop the fundraising strategy
- Explore the social responsibility options for funding with private businesses
- Take part in donors' meetings and other events to meet potential donors and organizations at the European level
- preparing project proposals for Erasmus+ Youth programmes and other youth programs - aiming a youth exchange in Norway , and mobility in youth workers in Norway and Belgium

These efforts aim to create a strong foundation for long-term youth engagement activities in Norway and internationally.

b) Youth engagement and Future projects

Empower young people to be active in mobilities and exchanges at national and international level

- Host youth exchanges in Kristiansand, Promote exchanges of young people from Norway in different countries of the Balkans and Europe for 1-week activities
- Contribute to Kristiansand Youth Forum
- Develop non-formal learning education, and soft skills of young people and increase awareness of Leadership, Decision-making, youth engagement and participation, through the practice of non-formal education tools

Enable environment and capacities for youth empowerment through the focus to the youth workers and youth organizations

- Develop partnerships across Europe with active organizations in the youth field, mainly with the Erasmus Plus program
- Organize training and study visits for youth workers in Norway
- Engage youth workers from Norway in mobilities across Europe
- Participate in the European Academy of Youth Workers

Activity Report 2024



Democracy and Well being - Study Visit

Mobility of Youth Workers in Kristiansand during Democracy Week (2-7 May 2024)



The study visit focused on the themes of democracy, human rights, and well-being and brought together youth workers and volunteers engaged in organizations, centres, and institutions working in these fields. Participants attended various events within the Democracy Week programme, visited municipalities and NGOs, and participated in workshops designed to exchange experiences, explore new methods, and strengthen cooperation among youth workers.

The main aim of the activity was to create a space for learning, reflection, and collaboration where youth workers could develop skills, build partnerships, and plan future initiatives promoting democracy and well-being in their communities. Through the study visit, participants enhanced their knowledge, motivation, and practical tools to support young people, foster civic engagement, and contribute to healthier and more inclusive communities at local, national, and international levels.

Peace Volunteering Network Norway (PVNN) contributed to the organization of this international study visit in Kristiansand, Norway, held during the Week of Democracy. The project was led by the applicant organization JOETZ (Belgium), with FIDA Norway as the official partner. PVNN played an important role in supporting the preparation of the activity and facilitating connections between partners and stakeholders involved in the initiative.

Visit in Norwegian parliament about collaboration and youth Development



Peace Volunteering Network Norway (PVNn) Norway facilitated and organized an official study visit to Oslo, including meetings at the Norwegian Parliament and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway. The visit brought together representatives from the Parliament of Albania and the Center for Violent Extremism, creating a platform for dialogue on youth policies, democratic participation, and regional cooperation. The delegation engaged in constructive discussions with Norwegian parliamentary representatives and institutional stakeholders on approaches to strengthening youth engagement in democratic processes, promoting active citizenship, and supporting inclusive governance. Particular attention was given to the role of youth policies and cross-sector cooperation in building resilient and democratic societies. In addition, the meetings addressed Norway's institutional approaches to good governance and strategies for preventing and countering violent extremism. The exchange also highlighted Albania's growing role as a contributor to regional stability in the Western Balkans. This visit strengthened institutional relationships and opened opportunities for further collaboration in areas related to youth empowerment, democratic development, and civic engagement.

c) Partnerships and cooperation

In 2024, PVN Norway strengthened cooperation with:

Local stakeholders and organizations

- Samsen Youth Center in Kristiansand
- Municipality of Kristiansand
- University of Agder
- Arkivet and Platform
- UNA Norway
- Fleksi
- FIDA
- Red Cross

Organisations working in the youth field in several European countries, including:

- Belgium
- Portugal
- Slovenia
- Greece
- Romania
- Albania
- Kosovo
- Serbia
- North Macedonia

Through these partnerships, the organisation explored opportunities for joint youth projects focused on participation, civic engagement, and inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities.