



Peace Volunteering Network

Norway

Activity Report
2025

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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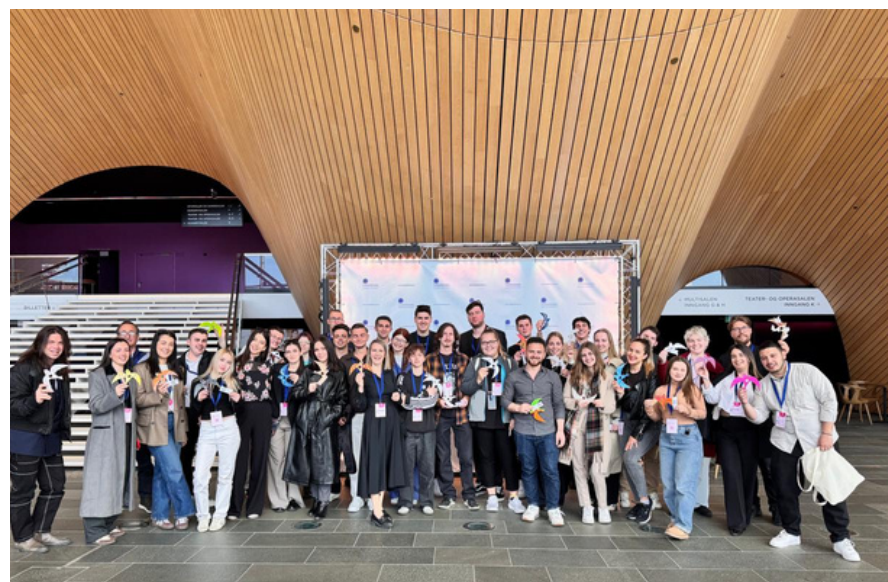
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Activity Report

2025



Activity Report 2025

Youth LEAD

Feb 25 - Oct 25

KA152 - Mobility of Young People
Role: Applicant Organisation



Transforming Youth Work

June 25 - February 26

KA153 - Mobility of Youth Workers
Role: Applicant Organisation



ACT YOU

Feb 25 - Feb 26

KA153 - Mobility of Youth Workers
Role: Partner Organisation



PROJECTS 2025

Democracy at cross roads in Kristiansand

Conference
6 May 2025



Kristiansand Youth Forum - Coorganisers

Conference
3-4 May 2025



Democracy at Cross Road in Albania

Conference
27 October 2025



CONFERENCES 2025

Youth Lead

Youth Leadership, Engage, and Advocate for Democracy

2024-3-NO02-KA152-YOU-000268859

Mobility of young people with and without fewer opportunities / special needs to share, explore, practice and co-create tools and practices of effective youth engagement. This project contributed to increasing youth engagement in political and social life, and create an inclusive environment of civic engagement where young people share and learn with each other, and are encouraged implement/practice at the local level some aspects of democracy.

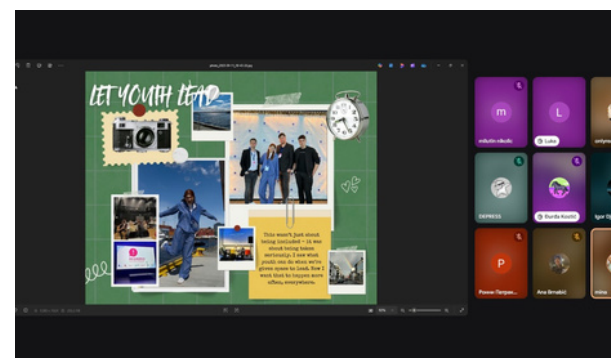
- Organized a **Youth Exchange** of 55 Participants from 10 countries of Europe in Kristiansand, Norway (1-7 May 2025)
- Participants learned how to engage in civic life and democratic processes.



- Done around **15 Local Workshops** where participants presented the results of the youth exchange, around 250 youth were reached
- **"Can you hear me" raising awareness campaign** which was shared in **Democracy Week of Kristiansand - European Conference** through peace doves with messages from young people given to the politicians in the conference and shared in social media.
- **Created a democracy toolbox** to empower organisations and young people on how to engage youth in democratic processes through different practices in different countries

Youth Lead

15 Local Workshops in 9 countries with around 250 youth participants



After the main Youth Exchange activity of the YLEAD project, participants organized follow-up workshops in their respective countries with their peers. These sessions aimed to share the results and experiences from the project and to disseminate the knowledge gained during the exchange. During the workshops, participants introduced different models of youth participation in democracy that they had learned throughout the activity, encouraging their peers to become more engaged in civic and democratic processes.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

NORWAY * ALBANIA * NORTH MACEDONIA
HUNGARY * BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA * KOSOVO
SERBIA * ROMANIA * SLOVENIA



Youth Lead "Can you hear me" raising awareness campaign

Young participants developed the initiative 'Can You Hear Me?', aimed at amplifying youth voices on democracy and participation. During the European Conference in Kristiansand Democracy Week, participants presented messages they had created addressing European leaders and decision-makers. As a symbolic action, they crafted peace doves representing young people's hopes for dialogue, peace, and democratic engagement, which were shared with EU leaders and politicians attending the conference. The activity also inspired a social media campaign through which participants further disseminated their messages, raising awareness and encouraging broader youth engagement in democratic processes.

Link for full messages

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGmhEfETgY/qJRTwsEarkuwm4vJ-FPTw/view?utm_content=DAGmhEfETgY&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utlId=h0478ac1f84



Democracy at Cross Road Kristiansand Norway

This cross-sectoral collaboration from media, universities, civil society organizations, municipalities, and young people was highlighted through the conference “Democracy at Crossroads,” which brought together representatives to discuss the current challenges facing democracy and explore joint solutions. The conference created a platform for dialogue and cooperation among different societal actors, emphasizing the importance of working together to protect and strengthen democratic values. By fostering discussions between institutions, academia, civil society, and youth, the event encouraged collaborative approaches to promote transparency, civic engagement, and active participation in democratic processes at local and national levels.



KRS European Youth Forum

Kristiansand Democracy Week 2025

3-4 May 2025

During the Youth Forum held in Kristiansand, participants of the youth exchange actively engaged in discussions on democratic participation and youth involvement in decision-making. As a result of these discussions, the young people collaboratively developed a Call to Action outlining the key priorities and recommendations they believe should be addressed in order to strengthen democracy in their countries. This document reflected the collective perspectives of the participants and was presented during the European conference in Kristiansand.

Link for full Call to Action

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAGzr8v_1bY/fl6NxR6W_9NxLZPDafMaJw/view?
utm_content=DAGzr8v_1bY&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=viewer](https://www.canva.com/design/DAGzr8v_1bY/fl6NxR6W_9NxLZPDafMaJw/view?utm_content=DAGzr8v_1bY&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=viewer)



Transforming Youth Work

From Ideas to Action in Local and European Contexts

2025-1-NO02-KA153-YOU-000302767

Strengthen youth participation in democratic and social life by enhancing the capacities of youth workers and providing them with practical models, tools, and resources to better engage young people in democratic processes. Through international cooperation and learning exchanges, particularly drawing inspiration from well-established democratic practices in Norway, youth workers gained valuable knowledge and strategies to promote active citizenship among young people, especially in countries with hybrid democracies where trust in institutions and access to information can be limited.



Main Activities

- Study Visit in Arendalsuka and Kristiansand
- Training course in Durres, Albania

Transforming Youth Work Study Visit in Arendalsuka and Kristiansand

Study visit to Arendalsuka in Arendal, where 27 youth workers had the opportunity to observe firsthand how the Norwegian model promotes democratic participation and dialogue between citizens, civil society, and national and local institutions. The visit also included meetings with organizations and stakeholders in Kristiansand. Through these exchanges, participants explored successful democratic practices, shared experiences from their own countries, and reflected on how such models could be adapted to their local contexts. The activity fostered networking, mutual learning, and discussions on the challenges and opportunities for strengthening democracy and youth participation across Europe.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

NORWAY * ALBANIA * CZECHIA * GREECE
UKRAINE * BULGARIA * ARMENIA * NORTH MACEDONIA
KOSOVO * BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

PROJECT 2025



Transforming Youth Work Training course in Durres, Albania

Brought together youth workers from the participating countries to strengthen their skills in designing initiatives that empower young people and enhance their participation in democratic life. During the training, participants worked collaboratively to exchange experiences, develop practical tools, and build partnerships, resulting in the creation of six project ideas aimed at promoting youth empowerment and active engagement in democratic processes in their respective communities

- **A manual on how youth workers can engage young people in democratic life were created**
- **A research on youth perceptions on democracy nowadays is being finalised**
- **6 new youth projects between partners are created**



Democracy at Cross Road in Elbasan, Albania

Promoting democratic participation and dialogue, a conference titled “Democracy at Cross Road” was organized in Elbasan, Albania, marking the **launch the Platform for Democracy and Peace** inspired by the Norwegian democratic engagement model of Arendalsuka and Kristiansand Democracy Models. The initiative was led by the Municipality of Elbasan with the support and collaboration of international partners including the Municipality of Kristiansand, Municipality of Arendal, University of Agder, and PVN Norway. The General Coordinator of Arendalsuka participated in the event, sharing insights and supporting the replication of the model in Albania. The conference brought together around 170 participants: youth, media representatives, universities, civil society organizations, and local authorities to discuss current democratic challenges and the importance of strengthening dialogue between institutions and young people. This event marked an important step toward establishing a sustainable platform for democratic debate and civic engagement in Albania.



ACT YOU

Promoting ACTIVE participation in professional development activities for YOUTH workers, youth leaders, organisations and institutions involving young people with fewer opportunities.

The ACT-YOU project aimed to strengthen the professional development of youth workers working with and for young people with fewer opportunities, particularly those with disabilities and from disadvantaged backgrounds

Study Visit in Liege Belgium

- Visiting Belgium models of centers NGOs, local institutions on how they work with people with disabilities

Training course in Albania

- How youth workers can design concrete activities for people with disabilities and work with them
- A translated manual also in Norwegian Language is created



Local Youth Engagement Activities

In cooperation with **Forum for Integrering og Dialog Agder (FIDA)**, PVN Norway has been actively involved and contributed in several local youth engagement initiatives in Kristiansand aimed at promoting inclusion, participation and community engagement among young people, particularly those from multicultural and socially diverse backgrounds.

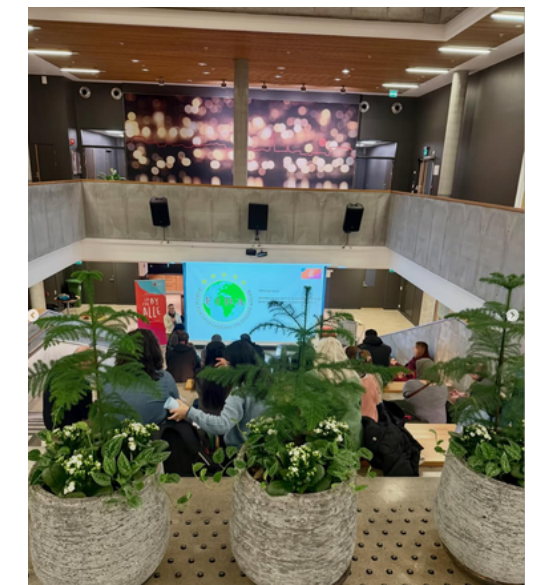
Through this cooperation, representatives of PVN Norway participated in and supported selected youth-oriented activities organised within FIDA's network where we are a member, and this engagement is contributing to develop youth groups and activities for PVN at the local level. These activities provided opportunities for PVN Norway to connect with local youth communities, strengthen partnerships with organisations working in integration and youth participation, and gain practical experience in youth engagement and inclusion work in the Norwegian context.

Open Youth Meeting Space

PVN Norway representatives participated in youth engagement activities connected to FIDA's open meeting space for youth, a low-threshold initiative organised several days per week in FIDA's premises. The meeting space provides a safe and inclusive environment where young people can gather, build social relations and take part in informal activities such as board games, gaming, discussions, homework support and shared meals. The initiative particularly targets youth who may lack access to structured leisure activities and serves as a preventive measure against social exclusion.

Community Activity Days for Youth and Families

PVN Norway representatives participated in community engagement activities organised by FIDA, including large community activity days for children, youth and families. These events include sports activities, games and shared meals and aim to provide free and inclusive recreational opportunities for families who may have limited access to organised activities. Participation in these events has been high, with approximately 300–380 participants attending each event, demonstrating strong community interest and engagement.



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FIDA FC – Youth Football Activities

PVN Norway participated in youth engagement activities connected to FIDA FC, a weekly football training initiative for children and young people who often do not participate in organised sports due to economic or social barriers. The training sessions provide a structured environment that promotes teamwork, belonging and positive youth development. The initiative also organises small internal tournaments and community sport events, creating opportunities for youth from diverse backgrounds to interact and develop social competences.



Through cooperation with FIDA and its network of 29 multicultural member organisations in Agder, PVN Norway has gained access to youth communities that are often underrepresented in international youth programmes. This cooperation strengthens PVN Norway's ability to engage young people with fewer opportunities and to create pathways for their participation in future local initiatives and European youth cooperation projects.

Achievements in a Nutshell 2025

- 55 Young People empowered through Youth Exchange to be part of democratic life (**Youth LEAD**)
- 250 young people informed through the local workshop (**Youth Lead**)
- 61 Youth Workers inspired and empowered to create new models for youth participation in democracy (**TYW**)
- Co-organizer at Kristiansand Youth Forum (**Youth LEAD**)
- Creating and sharing Youth Call to Action shared with European & National Politicians (**Youth LEAD**)
- "Can You Hear Me" awareness campaign during Democracy Week (**Youth LEAD**)
- Democracy Tool Box for organisations (**Youth LEAD**)
- Replication of Arendalsuka model in 3 Countries (**TYW**)
- 6 new projects created between organisations for 2026, in which PVN Norway is a part of them in 4 (**TYW**)
- A manual of how youth workers to include young people in democratic life. (**TYW**)
- A research for youth engagement in Democratic Life is on the way to be finalised (**TYW**)
- 3 Conferences to create a platform of connection for multi stakeholders to tackle democracy issues nowadays and take concrete actions on improving the situation (**TYW**)
- A manual of best practices for youth workers in disability field (**ACT You**)
- 60 youth workers improving skills on working with young people with disabilities (**ACT You**)



Plans for 2026

- **Focus on strengthening the local youth group** and expanding it to the national level, while engaging Norwegian youth in mobilities and exchanges across Europe.
- **Expand partnerships with Norwegian youth organizations** focused on youth participation.
- **Facilitate the Festival of Democracy**, which will be piloted for the first time in Albania in October 2026, inspired by Arendalsuka. PVN Norway will play a role in the youth pillar, sharing good Norwegian models of dialogue and engagement for youth, youth workers, and youth stakeholders.
- **Improve the development and submission of small collaborative project applications** and reapply to establish Youth Democracy Labs in partnership with international organizations.



Plans for 2026

- **Increase fundraising** efforts for youth empowerment initiatives.
- **Focus on employability** and the development of soft skills among young people.
- **Prioritize mental health** and well-being of young people.
- **Address youth disinformation** and media literacy.
- Apply again for a **study visit to Arendalsuka** and organize a seminar during the Democracy Festival in Albania (the “Arendalsuka baby”).
- Finalize a partnership and participate as a partner in a KA2 project with the Goethe-Institut in Austria focusing on youth and EU policies.
- **Participate as a partner in a KA2** project on youth and storytelling led by Two Plus Two in Italy.
- **Continue as a partner in a KA153** project with VIEWS International in Belgium focusing on youth inclusion.

Donors



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our donors and partners from Norway and 15 more countries around the Europe, for their continued trust, collaboration, and support.

Partners



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