

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

| PROJECT                   |                                                                                       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Participant:              | [3] - [Sofiyska Platforma]                                                            |
| PIC number:               | [931767160]                                                                           |
| Project name and acronym: | [COMPASS Europe: Civic Education and Dialogue for Europe's Future] — [COMPASS Europe] |

| EVENT DESCRIPTION             |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Event number:                 | [7]                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Event name:                   | [NECE & COMPASS Lab: Europe and the world – trust, alliances, and civic education]                                                                                                              |
| Type:                         | [awareness-raising]                                                                                                                                                                             |
| In situ/online:               | in-situ                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Location:                     | [Brussels], [Belgium]                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Date(s):                      | [03.06.2026 – 04.06.2026]                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Website(s) (if any):          | <a href="https://nece.eu/europe-cannot-educate-for-democracy-as-if-the-world-has-stayed-the-same/">https://nece.eu/europe-cannot-educate-for-democracy-as-if-the-world-has-stayed-the-same/</a> |
| Participants                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Female:                       | 23                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Male:                         | 10                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Non-binary:                   | 2                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 1 [Albania]:     | 2                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 2 [Belgium]:     | 11                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| From country 3 [Germany]:     | 4                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 4 [Hungary]:     | 2                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 5 [Croatia]:     | 3                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 6 [Bulgaria]:    | 6                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 7 [Poland]:      | 1                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 8 [Czechia]:     | 1                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From country 9 [Switzerland]: | 1                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                                |    |                                 |    |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|----|
| From country 10 [France]:      | 1  |                                 |    |
| From country 11 [Italy]:       | 1  |                                 |    |
| From country 12 [Ireland]:     | 1  |                                 |    |
| From country 13 [Netherlands]: | 1  |                                 |    |
| Total number of participants:  | 35 | From total number of countries: | 13 |

## Description

*Provide a short description of the event and its activities.*

The NECE & COMPASS Lab “*Europe and the World – Trust, Alliances, and Civic Education*” brought together civic educators and civil society practitioners to explore how geopolitical change, shifting alliances, and growing uncertainty are reshaping democratic participation and the role of civic education. Through expert discussions and collaborative exchanges, participants examined questions of European identity, democratic values, trust, security, and the impact of global developments such as Russia’s war against Ukraine, changing transatlantic relations, technological power, and conflicts in Europe’s wider neighbourhood. The Lab highlighted the need for civic education to move beyond traditional approaches by strengthening democratic judgement, dialogue, digital and economic literacy, and the ability to navigate complexity and uncertainty. Participants discussed practical methods such as foresight, simulations, dialogue-based learning, and multi-perspective approaches, while emphasizing the importance of supporting educators in addressing controversial topics and helping learners engage critically with information, power, and competing narratives in an increasingly interconnected world.

## DAY 1

The first day of the NECE & COMPASS Lab focused on exploring the changing relationship between Europe, global developments, and civic education.

The first discussion, with Tsveta Andreeva from the European Cultural Foundation and Botond Feledy from the European Leadership Programme, explored European sentiments and the relationship between trust, democratic participation, and attachment to Europe. Participants reflected on the fact that, despite political instability and growing societal tensions, a sense of belonging to Europe remains relatively strong, while considering how this sentiment can be translated into democratic engagement and shared responsibility.

The following panel, featuring Almut Möller from the European Policy Centre, Botond Feledy, and Louisa Slavkova, broadened the discussion to Europe’s position in a changing international environment. Participants examined the impact of Russia’s war against Ukraine, changing transatlantic relations, China’s growing influence, conflicts in Europe’s wider neighbourhood, and the role of digital platforms in shaping public discourse. The discussion highlighted the growing importance of geopolitical developments for civic education and the need to address these issues without reducing them to simplistic narratives of competing blocs.

In the afternoon, participants worked in smaller groups facilitated by Mila Moshelova to explore how these developments affect civic education practice. They discussed how topics such as security, sovereignty, migration, climate change, and democratic resilience can be addressed in educational settings while supporting critical thinking, empathy, and democratic judgement.

The day concluded with a panel featuring Cornelius Adebahr, Sophie Pornschlegel, Sven Gerst, and Mila Moshelova, focusing on civic education in an age of distrust and changing power relations. Participants reflected on the pressures facing democratic institutions and the role of civic education in strengthening democratic resilience.

## DAY 2

The second day shifted from analysis to methods and practical application. Through two capacity-building workshops facilitated by Dr. Maja Nenadović, participants explored dialogue as a tool for making sense of complexity and addressing difficult societal questions. They discussed how dialogue can help learners engage with uncertainty, examine different perspectives, and approach controversial topics in a structured and constructive way.

Participants then shared current practices and new approaches from their own organisations and educational contexts. Facilitated by Mila Moshelova, the exchange focused on methods related to dialogue, media and digital literacy, and democratic participation, while also considering how learners can better understand the influence of technology, economic realities, and information environments on public life.

The Lab concluded with a co-creation session led by Mila Moshelova, during which participants worked in small groups to develop practical ideas and pilot initiatives addressing issues such as trust, democratic resilience, geopolitical awareness, and civic engagement. The closing reflection brought together the main insights from the two days and highlighted the need for civic education to engage more directly with geopolitical change, digital transformation, economic realities, and growing distrust. Participants left with practical methods, new perspectives, and opportunities for continued collaboration.

| HISTORY OF CHANGES |                  |                            |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| VERSION            | PUBLICATION DATE | CHANGE                     |
| 1.0                | 01.04.2022       | Initial version (new MFF). |
|                    |                  |                            |
|                    |                  |                            |