



European Agenda for Adult Learning in Slovenia

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Civic education - the global perspective

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From Ancient Greece,
via The Declaration of the
Rights of Man and of the
Citizen) in 1789
until UN Universal Declaration
of Human Rights

Elements: freedom, justice and
peace.

Later: social rights, political
rights, human rights.

New meaning with modern
democracies!



**Citizenship
around the
globe**



Citizenship – global diversity

- Western Europe - political engagement and representative democracy, the right of 'common' people to take part in decision making; EDC
- North America - active participation in a sovereign political community; economic factors
- Africa (experiences of colonial past); *Ubuntu* - spirituality, non-material order...
- Latin America - social movements, political and social power, a weapon in the struggle against social and economic exclusion and inequality
- Asia: multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and multi-lingual diversity, (Confucian tradition - rule of virtue and duty; 'soft authoritarianism') - emancipation of economically and socially deprived
- Arab region (extreme diverse; instability, armed conflicts) – citizenship mixed with national and religious identity

 *'patriotism' and nationalist discourses* vs *mankind, participation and inclusion*

What citizenship is NOT:

- 'Partisan' education
- Voting and taking care of local environment
- Be a member of NGO

Paradigm shift

civic education – active citizenship – EDC – GCE (global citizenship education)

- Globalisation (ICT, economy, culture...)
- Financial crises
- Migrant and refugee crises
- Climate change and environmental degradation
- Several waves of pandemic, most recently COVID-19
- Rise of authoritarianism, populism, xenophobia, human rights violations

Global citizenship education

- Global Citizenship education includes:
 - peace and, sensitivity and openness toward otherness
 - intercultural education and prevention of violence, extremism and genocide
 - education on international perspectives, understanding and solidarity
 - cosmopolitanism
 - education for sustainable development (ESD)
 - climate change - knowledge and skills needed for living responsibly towards the planet and nature
- GCE is about:
 - possessing globally-relevant information and knowledge on global problems
 - having global awareness, a consciousness about the worldwide impact of our actions, and the worldwide forces shaping our actions
 - but also: a moral choice that invites action!



Why global and active citizenship? – some examples

- Citizenship, economic development and development of the democratic society (Venezuela¹, South Korea², Singapour³...)
- Citizenship and financial developments (Greece⁴, Switzerland⁵...)
- Citizenship and environmental issues (Brazil⁶, Norway,⁷ Serbia⁸...)
- Citizenship, conflicts and migrants (Germany⁹, Afghanistan¹⁰...)
- Citizenship, COVID-19 and new normal (Oxfam report¹¹; human rights and democracy¹²; ICT and AI¹³...)

Citizens have a say in creating „a new normal“!

Why global, active and critical citizenship? – some examples (resources)

- 1 <https://www.cato.org/commentary/corruption-democracy-venezuela>
- 2 <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020/country-chapters/south-korea#>
- 3 <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/abs/authoritarian-legality-in-asia/is-singapore-an-authoritarian-constitutional-regime-so-what-if-it-is/A8C6A2FB8E068A59D6DDBCA95440FFA8>
- 4 <https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Pappas-24-2.pdf>
- 5 <https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/switzerland-responsible-for--13-billion-in-losses-to-tax-evasion-globally/46447156>
- 6 <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/democraciaabierta/leaked-documents-show-brazil-bolsonaro-has-grave-plans-for-amazon-rainforest/>
- 7 <https://glineq.blogspot.com/2021/07/is-norway-new-east-india-company.html>
- 8 <https://www.slobodnaevropa.org/a/most-ekologija-trovanje-srbija/31327651.html>
- 9 <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-approves-over-1-billion-in-arms-deals-to-middle-east/a-56118758>
- 10 <https://www.cNBC.com/2021/09/10/9/11-millionaires-and-corruption-how-us-money-helped-break-afghanistan.html>
- 11 <https://www.oxfam.org/en/press-releases/one-emergency-tax-billionaires-pandemic-windfalls-could-fund-covid-19-jobs-entire>
- 12 https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/COVID-19_Special_Report_Final_.pdf
- 13 <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2020/may/13/naomi-klein-how-big-tech-plans-to-profit-from-coronavirus-pandemic>



Thank you!