



To have a voice to be heard!

The European Project “**Extraordinary Citizens**” (Project Number: 10108925) started last January and has several objectives that aim to encourage and facilitate the inclusive participation of young people with intellectual and physical disabilities in our society, as well as to address the protection and promotion of human rights among this category of people. Thus, this Project is mainly based on **three essential pillars: Respect, Dignity, and Inclusion**. Indeed, the Project goes in harmony with the fundamental principles that can be found in the **Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda** developed by the European Union. As a result the Project is in consonance with goals such as, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, reduction of inequalities, and peace, justice and strong institutions.



The Consortium

The consortium of the “Extraordinary Citizens” Project is formed by 5 different organisations, which are all experts in the field of social inclusion. The coordinator of the Project is **Manos Tendidas Foundation**, based in **Madrid, Spain**. The rest of the partners are **KAI (Lithuania)**, **KMOP (Greece)**, **ALDA (France)**, and **Aproximar (Portugal)**.



Kick-off Meeting in Madrid

In March 2023, Manos Tendidas Foundation has had the pleasure to host the **first meeting of the Project in Madrid**. During the meeting, all partners have had the opportunity to get to know each other, organise and present the working plan for each working package, and solve any doubts or problems about the logistics of the Project.



Democratic Rights Study

The first part of the Project consists mainly in investigating the current situation of democratic participation of young disabled people in our society. Therefore, our first step has been to analyse the legal rights of young disabled people at national and international level, in order to find out the situation of their active role in the democratic processes

Focus Groups

Another task that has been carried out at this stage of the Project, is the Focus Group activity. This activity intends to give a voice to disabled people, NGO personnel, social workers, family members of disabled people to debate about the current situation of their democratic rights and the needed improvements that can be made in order to enhance the active role of disabled people in our society.

Good Practices

Last but not least, the consortium has also researched for 3 Good Practices per partner country. These Good Practices are all about the promotion of active citizenship and democratic rights of young disabled people. All Good Practices that have been included, have different approaches to the issue, in order to analyse the various methods that are used to improve the active role of young disabled people.

Next Steps

The next steps of the Project are various. The consortium will soon publish a Report Study that will include all the results found in the Democratic Rights Study, Focus Groups, and Good Practices, in order to have an overall and clear view on the current situation of young disabled people active participation in the democratic processes. This Study Report will be available in all partners' languages on the Project's website. Also, the consortium will meet up for the 2nd Transnational Partnership Meeting online in July, which will be held by Aproximar, in order to see the general advancement of the Project.



Co-funded by
the European Union

The content of this publication represents the views of the author only and is its sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

