



International Projects in Education

Democratic Education

The education system in a democratic country must contribute to young people becoming responsible citizens. Education should not only convey knowledge about democratic structures and processes, but also offer an understanding of democracy as a way of life.

The Department for International Projects in Education (IPE) at PH Zurich is committed to promoting both knowledge about democracy as well as the development and experience of democratic processes and behaviour. It deals with topics such as teamwork, managing conflict, dealing with controversial issues and building networks for democracy education. Participation in the family, at school and in society is the primary goal of all democratic education projects.

Thematic fields of democratic education

- Autonomy and participative leadership in professional learning communities
- Integration of democratic educational principles across the curriculum
- Democratic governance
- Participatory school development
- Human rights

Cooperation with the Council of Europe

The Department IPE has cooperated with the Council of Europe in numerous mandates. On its behalf, we have developed extensive teaching material on democracy and human rights. They are available free of charge in 16 languages on these web platforms: living-democracy.com and ipe-textbooks.phzh.ch

Democratic education projects

DECIDE

The project "Decentralisation for Improved Democratic Education" supports schools and authorities in Ukraine in the implementation of the school reform "New Ukrainian School". The focus lies on the decentralisation of the education system.

Country: Ukraine

Funding: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Project duration: 2019–2030

SUDECU

The project "Sustainable Democratic Culture" promotes the skills of sustainable and democratic interaction for youth and parents in the Macedonian and Albanian communities in North Macedonia.

Country: North Macedonia

Funding: Community Fund Canton of Zurich, Switzerland

Project duration: 2023–2026

Completed projects:

EDISON

The project "Experience Democracy in Schools Now" accompanies the participatory democratic development of schools in Kosovo. The project "Edison Living Democracy Advocacy Campaign" aims to disseminate the teaching materials on democratic education published on the multilingual website living-democracy.com.

Countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Greece, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

Funding: Community Fund Canton of Zurich, Switzerland

Project duration: 2020–2023

DOCCU

DOCCU stands for "Development of Citizenship Competences in Ukraine". In a first phase, modules on "Education for Democratic Citizenship" and "Change Management" for civil servants, school leaders and teachers were developed. In the

follow-up project, schools, teachers and school leaders were supported in the process of transforming schools into places of living democracy.

Country: Ukraine

Funding: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Project duration: 2012–2018 (First and second phase)

International Projects in Education (IPE)

The Department IPE of the Zurich University of Teacher Education has many years of experience in educational development cooperation and in the exchange of knowledge between universities. We focus on the continuing professional development of lecturers, teachers, administrators and NGO staff and also offer training for students and parents on diverse topics:

Life and Future Skills	Teaching and Learning	Inclusive Education
Democratic Education	Job Orientation	Transcultural Learning

Contact

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Publications on democratic education

The website [living democracy](http://living-democracy.com) offers materials on democracy and human rights education for students, teachers, school principals and parents in 16 languages:

→ living-democracy.com



Democratic education materials on the platform IPE-Textbooks:

→ ipe-textbooks.phzh.ch

