YOUTH POOL

what happened this year?

INTER ALIA
Civic Action Meeting Point

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Youth Pool 2022

what changed?

This year, Youth Pool gave more flexibility to the participants to explore and decide how they wish to use Youth Pool digital place and tools for making changes and become more community active. The methods developed in the context of Youth Pool 2021 were available online for any participant to use, experiment with and ask questions about them. In this sense, although there was an initial structure based on Youth Pool 2021, participants engadged with the content and context differently. That had its challenges but also benefits for empowering and inspiring participants taking the initiative to decide how they would like to use the Youth Pool digital space. Let's see how it went!

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Youth Pool Mapping

Becoming familiar with each other!

The first step when meeting each other digitally was to map our current positions of the map and add pictures of our favorite places!

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Youth Pool Interests

VOLUNTEERING

COOPERATION

ENVIRONMENTALISM

ACTIVISM

MOVIE DIRECTORS

HUMAN RIGHTS

MUSIC

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

YOUTH POLICIES

MEMBERS OF NGOS

INCLUSION

EU PROJECTS & CULTURE

TV SERIES

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

TRAVELING

ENGINEERING

WORK OR STUDY IN CREATIVE SECTOR

DIGITALISATION

Then, we spoke about our interests and identified common aspects of our lives!

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Youth Pool Cooperation

We asked ourselves why and how we like to cooperate...

- Solving easier and faster a problem, creating a project easier and faster, having more ideas, supporting teammates, listening to each other.
- Uniting different skills, celebrating succeeds and projects' closures, experimenting with crazy ideas, sharing responsibilities within a group, learning from each other, saying positive things to motivate each other.
- Finding different ideas, having different skills, people researching and learning, enthusiastic attitudes, open-minded and responsible people, debating reasonably.

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Youth Pool Cooperation

We asked ourselves what things makes us not wanting to cooperate...

- Not respecting others, not listening, not accepting other's ideas, not sharing equally the responsibilities and work, not arriving on time, sudden changes, changing opinions and availability, not fulfilling their parts, not shared or common visions
- Not respecting time, when crazy ideas are disregarded, lack of compromise, when is difficult to delegate work when it is necessary
- Non open minded attitudes, not listening to team members, biased approaches, ignoring others' ideas, competition against group members, causing constant tensions

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Youth Pool Group Agreement

We got ourselves a group agreement with additional tips on how to cooperate better!

- Respect others
- No discrimination
- Arrive on time or inform
- Turn on cameras
- Turn off cameras when not present
- Turn off speakers when not speaking
- Use the hand option on Zoom to speak
- For a direct response to the person that spoke before you, use an additional hand sign
- Support each other
- Active listening
- Shared responsibility, contribute to tasks, participation
- Be positive and motivate each other
- Consider crazy ideas, be open minded
- Share skills and peer-to-peer learning
- Cooperation instead of competition
- Stay calm!
- Be consistent!
- Be open to compromises but defend your ideas respectfully if needed.

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Community Mapping

*After **speaking about each others local realities**, participants were asked to take a walk to their neighborhood, identify the places they like to visit the most, observe the people, their activities, pay closer attention to the space and take notes on their observations!*

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Community Mapping

Based on their observations, participants shared preliminary ideas on changes they would like to see in these places.

My park: all kinds of people are using it - collect waste, sustainable environment, change of people's attitudes

Kung fu "school" - It is for children and adults with disabilities or not. To become more inclusive with bigger space, more trainers, more people should learn about this.

Thrakomakedones suburb area with residents and tourists, need for better waste management and adoption of stray animals

Fountain squares (city centre) - Noisy, dirty, bad smells from restaurants, no opportunities to get fun for the elderly - need new air filters for restaurants more trees :D

Fountains Square - open space tourist destination. Young people gather. There are festivals and racing competitions. Making it more inclusive for the elderly and disabled

Workplace - bad work environment, need for more trust, professional dignity, cooperation

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Engaging with the community

Participants were invited to think about ways to interact with the people of the places they like to visit...

"What if I organize a music workshop in the park with my friends? The people there could join to learn a new musical instrument and have fun with a musical background..." - Lukia

And this is what she did! Lukia organized an informal music gathering and got also the opportunity to talk about waste management with some of the people that joined.

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Engaging with the community

Why should we care interacting with the community?

Because we want to propose changes and actions that are relevant to them. This means that we should know the people of the community! Besides, we might find people that would like to be on board with us and collectively implement any changes and actions to make a place better! People using the place, probably know better its challenges and important points of intervention that should or should not be made.

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Summer activities

Youth Pool informal group

Since the remaining Youth Pool participants where interested in the environment, Virginia thought about organizing simultaneous environmental actions during the summer in our local communities. her organisation was already implemented different activities. It would be nice to work together as a group, to bond more, exchange ideas and make new projects as a network!

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