



Dear Community of Practice,

young people are facing a world of multiple crises today. Often, we feel like we live in a world that supposedly was made for us, but without us. We want to change that. It's time to **step up and take action**, to create a more peaceful, equal, democratic, and sustainable world!

The **Ambassadors of Generation Europe – The Academy** are a network of about 60 young activists from all over Europe. From their experiences of successfully achieving small and big changes, we have compiled the **Guide to Activism**. This **online handbook** supports young people to find their way to make a difference. It is a guide:

- With many starting points and no defined end.
- With many answers but also questions to think about.
- With many examples from the Ambassadors' experiences.

The Guide to Activism is a **tool for individuals and groups to develop skills of Active Citizenship** and to experience political efficacy. On the following pages, you will find a method we prepared, that groups of youngsters can use to get to know the guide. After that just go with the flow! As long as you have a wish to create a change for the better, you can't be wrong.

Start the journey of taking action with us!



SCAN ME

GET TO KNOW THE GUIDE



SCAN ME

The following tasks are created to get to know the Guide to Activism better. It's best to work with them in small groups: 6 to 8 persons. Use the website generationeurope.org/guidetoactivism to work on the questions.

1. Basics of activism

What is the "triangle of activism"? Find it in the Guide, look at it and think of its idea. If you could summarize its idea in one quote, what would it be? Do you agree with the idea? Remember some situations from your life that could confirm it.

2. How does the guide work?

To get an idea how to work with the Guide to Activism, agree on one idea of a possible action that you could organize. Have in mind that there are many possible topics (human rights, climate change, gender equality, education, mental health etc.) and many different forms of action (demonstration, event, creating a project/product, spreading the word etc.). **What chapter would help you to start working at the idea?** Open the Guide and find out the points that could help you to get started.

3. Motivation

Now, let's get to know more about motivation. **What types of motivation are described in the Guide to Activism?** Find at least one example for each type of motivation from your everyday life.

4. Soft skills

Do you have an idea what soft skills are? Make a list of five to ten soft skills that would be helpful for planning and implementing your imaginary action. After that, open the category "Soft Skills" in the Guide to Activism. **What skills from your list can you see and what useful skills can you additionally find there?**

5. What is peer-to-peer?

Do you know what is the peer-to-peer approach? Learn more about it in the chapter "Group". Think of different groups you are in, for example at school, your friends, sports or a youth club. Discuss whether the principles of the peer-to-peer approach play a role in these groups. If not, think about how this approach could help to improve the groups.

6. Quiz

What do you think, in what category of the Guide to Activism can you find the following quote: "Being independent in activism may be one of the most valuable virtues. ...Educating ourselves constantly is an attitude that is much needed in activism. So, try to be up-to-date with news, new information, discussion with your peers etc as much as you can. This can also guarantee your independence". **Find the quote and check your guess.**

7. Making a plan

We all have plans: a plan for the day, a plan on how to organize a party and so on. **Have you ever created an action plan?** If you have, how did you organize your activities to reach the goal? What did the plan look like? Compare it with the idea in the category "Take action" of the Guide to Activism. If you haven't, find the template for an action plan there as well.

8. Group discussion

Look at the page with the "Fruits for Thoughts". Exchange your own thoughts and questions after getting to know the Guide to Activism. Share and discuss them with the group, or with another group who learned about the guide as well. The chapters of the Guide to Activism are all interconnected. There is no fixed starting point and no end.

We don't know what ideas, questions and challenges you are facing right now. But we are pretty sure that the power of the guide can help you to find some inspiration, support, and answers. **Reflect on what is your biggest challenge to get started with activism. What stopped you until today?** This is the starting point in the Guide to Activism for you.



Get started!

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GENERATION EUROPE - THE ACADEMY

Generation Europe – The Academy is an international network of youth work organisations and a funding programme for European cooperation. Our goal is social participation for all.

We are getting involved: In our communities and across all borders. Together we create opportunities for participation at local and European level, regardless of origin, parents' income and previous success in the formal education system. **More information:** generationeurope.org

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