1. Basic Information

Workshop Title:

"Europe at a Crossroads" – Challenges and Decisions of the European Union

Scriptwriter:

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Duration:

approx. 2–2.5 teaching hours (120–150)

Number of Participants:

12–25 people

2. Workshop Objectives

General Objectives:

• Developing civic awareness of the European Union functioning

• Developing the ability to look at EU problems from different perspectives

• Encouraging reflection on the future of European integration

Specific Objectives:

• Understanding that the European Union is a process of negotiations, compromises, and choices

• Learning about different points of view (citizen, politician, migrant, Member State, candidate country)

• Developing argumentative and opinion-forming skills

• Strengthening empathy and dialogue skills

3. Target Group Description

The workshops are aimed at adults, especially seniors, interested in the European Union, social, and civic affairs. No specialist knowledge is required – the participants' life experiences and willingness to engage in drama work are crucial elements.

4. Working Methods

• Drama/role play

• Moderated discussion

• Group work

• Brainstorming

• Elements of an interactive lecture

5. Teaching Materials and Aids

• Role cards for participants

• Sheets of paper, pens

• Flipchart or board

• Markers

• Clock or timer

• Materials for writing "Senior Declaration on the Future of the EU"

6. Workshop Procedure

1. Introduction

• Welcoming the participants

• Presentation of the workshop objective and rules (respect, no "right" or "wrong" answers, right to change one's mind)

• A brief introduction to the drama method

2. Main Part — Educational Activities

Activity 1: "The Europe I Remember"

Objective:

• Engaging participants

• Using personal experiences related to the EU

Activity Description:

Participants work in pairs and share their memories and reflections on the European Union.

Instructions:

The facilitator asks participants to work in pairs, answering the following questions:

• When did I first hear about the European Union?

• How has the European Union changed in my life?

After working in pairs, those who are willing share their short statements with the group.

Time:

15 minutes

Materials:

None

Activity 2: Drama – "EU Future Summit"

Objective:

• To demonstrate the complexity of decision-making processes in the EU

• To experience different perspectives and emotions

• To develop argumentative skills

Activity description:

Participants take part in a simulated European Union "summit," during which they debate key challenges facing the EU.

Instructions:

1. Participants draw roles of:

- Polish citizen

- citizen of an "old EU" country

- EU politician

- migrant

- representative of a country seeking to join the EU

- EU skeptic

2. Each group receives a card describing their role and prepares arguments regarding the following issues:

- accepting migrants

- further enlargement of the European Union

- the possibility of countries leaving the EU (using Brexit as an example)

3. A debate, moderated by the workshop leader, then takes place – "EU Future Summit." It is emphasized that this is not about expert knowledge, but about arguments, emotions, and the perspective of a given role.

Time: 60 minutes

Materials:

Role cards, problem cards, note cards, pens, flipchart

Activity 3: Discussion and Reflection

Objective:

• Deepening the reflection

• Raising awareness of the difficulties of decision-making in the EU

Activity Description:

Discussion in the group after the drama. Instructions:

The facilitator asks the following questions:

• What was the most difficult thing for me in this role?

• Did I change my mind during the workshop?

• Can the European Union please everyone?

Time: 20 minutes

Materials:

flipchart

3. Summary and Reflection

Collaboratively develop and write down the "Seniors' Declaration on the Future of the European Union" – a document containing the participants' most important conclusions, values, and demands (1–2 pages).

Time: 30 minutes

7. Workshop Evaluation

• Short debriefing

• Evaluative questions (e.g., what was most valuable, what surprised the participants)

• Optional: anonymous short surveys

8. Recommendations

• Continuing the workshops as a series of meetings

• Exploring selected topics (migration, EU enlargement, civil rights)

• Organizing similar workshops with different age groups

9. Appendices

- Role Cards:

Print the cards (A5 or A4), preferably on colored paper. Each participant (group) draws one card. They don't have to "act"—they just need to speak from their role's perspective.

- Problem Cards: To be drawn by the facilitator during the drama (depending on the pace of the debate, the facilitator draws 2-4 cards).