

Education for democratic citizenship in turbulent times Meeting and understanding in the Global Risk Society

Civic education depends on real encounter between people: it is about connecting people and ideas, of sharing experiences and new insights. It shows various perspectives and offers competence in explaining, evaluating and analyzing. At the end there is an informed, independently acting, effective, and responsible citizen who evolves into a political subject.

This evolution is currently more necessary than ever.

Encounters and exchange between people are more than necessary.

But how does that work in times of Corona? Is it possible at all?

On **December 3rd 2020** we want to show that civic education does not have to sit frozen like a deer in the headlights of a car. Using new tools enables us to still organize encounters, to facilitate exchange, to give room to controversy and promote enlightened political action, even under the conditions of a global pandemic.

Doing just that, we take a glance at ‘Climate crisis’, ‘International upheavals’ and the ‘Status quo of Solidarity within the EU’. Together with actors of civic education, dealing with these current political topics, we explore the advantages and disadvantages of digital tools and the virtual learning environment. Furthermore we discuss what the digitalization of political discourse and the mediatization of political communication affords. Is civic education in a virtual environment capable of finding the right answers? Which options are transported by the new digital formats and what are their tensions and possibilities for our work?

We want to discuss these topics in a panel of experts from various countries and fields of expertise on **Thursday, December 3rd**. **The Zoom conference starts at 10.00 a.m.**

Thomas Krüger, President of the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb), will outline his ideas on ‘Civic education in turbulent times’ and will be happy to discuss with the audience after his opening speech.

From 1.00 p.m. on we want to cast a spotlight on three topics in subsequent forums.

Forum I, 1.00-2.30 p.m.: “CLIMATE RESCUE AND DEMOCRACY”

As experts are invited:

* *Dr. Ignacio Campino, Chairman, BiWiNa e.V.*

* *Ms. Trang Le, Vice Director, GreenViet Biodiversity Centre, Da Nang, Vietnam and Ms. Chau Bui (Visible Impact UG)*

* *Dr. Elke Mannigel, Team leader International Projects, OroVerde – Tropical Forest Foundation*

* *Luca Samlidis, Freelance journalist & presenter, Fridays-for-Future*

* *Kathrin Schroeder, Consultant for Energy Policy, Misereor*

Moderation: Dr. Meik Nowak, Senior Project Manager, Gustav-Stresemann-Institut e.V. (GSI)

Forum II, 3.00-4.30 p.m.: “WORLD POLITICS OUT OF JOINT”

As experts are invited:

* *Lina Kushsh, General Secretary, Ukrainian Journalists Union*

* *Ophélie Omnes, President of the Union of European Federalists France*

* *Dr. Wolfgang Ressmann, Chairman of Federal Association of Citizen Media*

* *Prof. Dr. Daniel J. Walther, Wartburg College, Iowa*

Moderation: Bernd Neuendorf, Journalist und State Secretary (retired)

**Forum III, 5.00-6.30 p.m.: “SOLIDARITY, DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE,
DIVERSITY AND PRIVILEGES”**

As experts are invited:

- * *Dr. Jürgen Born, Project manager at Institute for Church and Society, Evangelical Church of Westphalia, Schwerte*
 - * *Andreas Christ, Management, edu:impact UG; Head of office, Europa-Punkt Bonn*
 - * *Nejra Dedić-Demirović, Director of study, auslandsgesellschaft.de, Dortmund*
 - * *Mikael Leyi, General Secretary, SOLIDAR, Brussels*
 - * *Serge Palasie, Specialist promoter for Refuge and Migration, One World Net NRW (Eine Welt Netz NRW), Düsseldorf*
- Presentation: Holger-Michael Arndt, Managing Director, CIVIC GmbH - Institute for International Education, Düsseldorf*

Final round, 7.00-8.30 p.m.:

***DIGITIZATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY, MEDIATIZATION AS A CHALLENGE
FOR CIVIC EDUCATION***

As experts are invited:

- * *Dr. Helle Becker, Department of Transfer for Civic Education, Essen*
- * *Thammo Draeseke, Project Manager at GSI / currently Project Manager at Society of European Academies, Bonn*
- * *Ulrika Engler, Head of the Lower Saxonian Centre for Civic Education, Hannover*
- * *Dr. Guido Hitze, Head of the Centre for Civic Education of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf*
- * *Barbara Menke, Federal Executive Director for Work and Life, Chairwoman of the Federal Committee for Political Education (bap)*

As moderator, Ms Kerstin Pettenkofer (*Sustainable at Work*) will accompany you through the day.

Digital implementation, UX design and technical support in cooperation with "2811 Social Enterprise UG, Berlin" and "Weltweit - Gesellschaft zur Förderung lokaler Initiativen e.V., Bad Soden".

The event is being held with the support of the providers of civic education in the Bonn/Cologne/Rhine-Sieg region.

The event will be simultaneously translated (German-English).