



European Network for social volunteering

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With media literacy against totalitarian antidemocratic ideologies

Call for partners for a project under Europe for Citizens Programme

Open to applicants from the following countries: EU28 + Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, FYRO Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia

The economic crisis in Europe and worldwide created conditions in which populist and different extremist ideologies are increasing their influence in society and in politics.

At the same time, many democratic systems seem affected by lack of active democratic participation of citizen, as shown by the decrease of the number of active voters at elections.

In such a situation, extremist and right-wing organizations are offering what they consider a simple solution: blaming minorities of all kinds (migrants, ethnic or linguistic minorities, LGBT, etc.) labelling them as the cause of society's problems. Such a phenomenon is reinforced by using misleading information and spreading fear.

Addressing minorities as the cause of social problems is not a new communication/political strategy in history, but as evident nowadays is still very effective.

Same or similar strategies were used already by different totalitarian regimes in Europe and beyond in the past, but today the impact of such techniques is more effective and more widespread thanks to the use of modern and diffuse communication technologies.

Through this project, we would like to strengthen European Civil society in order to make citizens aware of risks connected with propaganda and information and communication technologies, related to the spreading of violent, anti-democratic and totalitarian ideologies.

We would like to make European citizens, young citizens in particular, aware of the role that propaganda and misuse of media can play in creating cultural conditions for extremist, racist, xenophobic and radical behaviours, promoting at the same time a thought and critical use of the same media.

The objectives of the project:

- remember European totalitarian past and its consequences
- increase critical thinking of European citizens towards communication strategies which are used by populist and extremist movements
- provide information on how to develop a thought and critical approach to media, with a special focus on new and “social” ones
- increase active participation and debate on the issue, by means of art and new media.

For more information on the project and how to apply as partner, [read the call](#) and if you are interested, give us a feedback **by the end of the 26th of February**.