

Concept Note: Global Youth Political Participation Index

With half of the world's population being under 30, the continued survival of democracy is highly dependent on buy-in and support among its youth. However, young people, particularly from marginalised communities, are chronically underrepresented in politics, including in parliaments, political parties, local governments, and at the ballot boxes. Meanwhile, in civic affairs, young people are engaged and take leadership in social movements, but struggle to be taken seriously by established politicians. Young people's disenfranchisement has important consequences for the state of democracy, which indeed cannot be a true democracy if it is not inclusive of its young citizens.

The Youth Political Participation Index aims to map the inclusion and participation of youth in public affairs on a global scale, filling an important gap in the available data on the state of formal and informal youth participation in several spheres of political participation worldwide.

Project background:

The European Partnership for Democracy (EPD) is a non-profit organisation that supports democracy worldwide. It comprises nineteen European civil and political society organisations from twelve EU member states present in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America. More information about EPD is available at www.epd.eu.

The WYDE Civic Engagement Initiative aims to improve the enfranchisement, empowerment, and inclusion of youth in all levels of democratic participation at the national, regional, and global scales.

Features of the website:

- The website will be a standalone website linked to EPD (e.g. youthparticipationindex.epd.eu - tbc)
- The website should have a user-friendly interface which enables users to explore the youth political participation data of every country.
- The website should include content as posts/ a news section of new findings linking it with WYDE activities. It should have the ability to add and adjust pages / menu research material produced under the WYDE initiative that can be added in the future.
- There should be the possibility of aggregating and importing external posts/news in the above mentioned section.
- Website should be responsive for all possible devices (PC, Tablet, Smartphone)
- An SEO optimization should be included
- The index should also have analytics tools to monitor website traffic and user engagement.

- The website needs to include interactive features such as charts, maps, and graphs to visually represent the data and also allow users to customise views and compare data across different criteria or regions.
- Ideally it should be possible to input all data values for the above mentioned graphs directly from the file provided (CSV or file template to be provided as sample)
- Data should be easy to download (CSV formats)
- Produce visualisations on the following:
 - Already covered countries in different colour depending on its total rate on the map
 - Total youth participation rate for each country (scale and rate need to be determined)
 - Rate of the country per each category
 - Identify top countries in youth political participation
 - Display comparisons of all of the above between countries

Note on the dataset:

- The website that will be used for this project initially will contain data from around 15 countries and the number of countries will be gradually increased to 50.
- **Categories of youth political participation:**
 - Four main categories with some potential indicators (TBC):
 1. Youth's social and economic inclusion
 2. Youth in Political Affairs
 3. Youth Participation in Elections
 4. Youth in Civic Society and Social Movements

Examples:

- <https://v-dem.net/>
- <https://freedomhouse.org/explore-the-map?type=fiw&year=2023>
- <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/>
- <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2022>
- <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI>
- <https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/>