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EFIVOS PROJECT KA3 ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

# YOUTH E-NEWSPAPER

The **EFIVOS** Methodology Handbook on creating teams of young journalists that run their e-newspapers



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## What is the EFIVOS Methodology Handbook?

**EFIVOS Methodology Handbook** is the upscaled methodology of the Young Journalists programme and a non-formal learning practice on media and news literacy. It provides guidance to educators, social/youth workers, media professionals to support young people coming from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds in media activities and to encourage and equip them with competencies to participate in media production as digital media creators by running their own e-newspapers.

This handbook is a step-by-step guide providing all the necessary information for trainers in order to create teams of young journalists that manage and run their own digital media. It, also, provides tips on how to deal with the needs of this particular age group so you can better support and help them become the voice of tomorrow.

## **1**. What is EFIVOS?

EFIVOS is a KA3 Erasmus+ programme aimed to assist youth from migrant and minority ethnic backgrounds to integrate into society by developing their media skills. Also, lays particular emphasis on the empowerment of females, to increase their voice in the media field through new communication technologies.



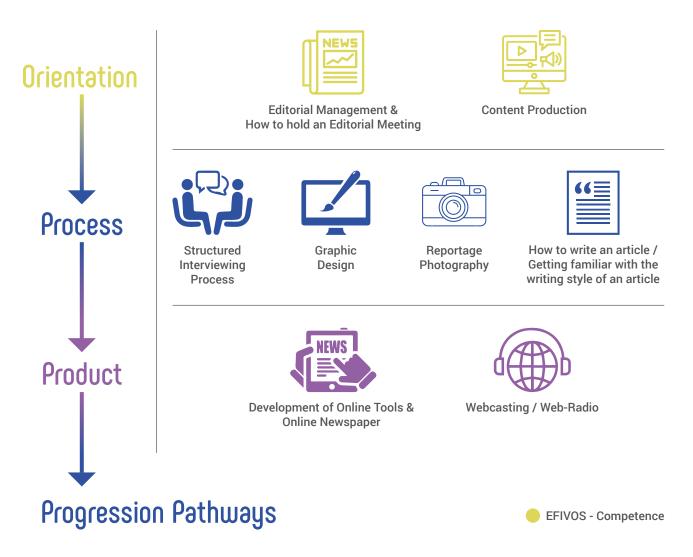
**Encouraging and Fostering Inclusive Values** among youth by increasing awareness and enhancing knOwledge and Skills requirements in a digital era. EFIVOS is also the Greek word for 'teenager'.

EFIVOS takes to scale the Young Journalists programme - an initiative developed by Network for Children's Rights in Athens, Greece - and promotes it through a partnership of 7 organisations in six countries (see appendix 1). In the framework of the Young Journalists programme, refugee, migrant, and Greek youth run their own printed newspaper Migratory Birds, which is distributed as an insert of the Greek newspaper I Efimerida ton Sintakton, as well as the web radio Dandelion. Through this initiative, the overall aim is to convey the principles and values of journalism, to promote intercultural dialogue, to help teenagers and young adults exercise their basic rights, such as the right to freedom of opinion and expression, to empower their social integration and to combat xenophobia.

For more on the history of Young Journalists go to [Young Journalists and Migratory Birds].

EFIVOS' main goal is the development of the skills of young people to work with digital media. The training sessions are going to be organized in such a way that these young people will be equipped with media and digital literacy skills, get professionally involved with these professions and enter the digital media industry, even start-up a new business in media.

For that goal, EFIVOS consists of eight components:



In addition, young participants are coached to improve their language competencies and develop translation skills.

## **2**. What do young participants achieve on EFIVOS?

By engaging in EFIVOS, young people develop a range of technical skills and essential competencies for the workplace, as well as democratic participation in society. In compiling these skills and competencies, the EFIVOS project team referred to the content of the original Young Journalists programme, as well as the outcomes of focus groups with young people and professionals in the various participating countries (appendix 2).

In terms of technical skills, these encompass the full range of skills required for media production as indicated in the EFIVOS structure above, for example:

- Learning to write in appropriate styles
- Questioning techniques
- Handling a camera/voice recorder
- Editing (written, audio, and visual content)
- Planning and researching
- Using social media to reach an audience effectively, etc.

The full list of technical skills that young participants can develop on EFIVOS is set out in section 4.1.3.

In terms of competencies for the workplace, the editorial process ensures young participants are required to:

- Collaborate and adapt
- Think creatively
- Become problem-solvers
- Give and act on feedback
- Pay attention to the quality of their work, and develop their craft
- Keep to deadlines

Through their work on EFIVOS, young participants develop competencies for democratic participation by exercising fundamental human rights, such as freedom of expression, freedom of speech, freedom of thought. As they create content and engage in the editorial process, young participants also develop a critical understanding of the world around them, noticing, for example, whose voices are being heard, and whose are silenced. They learn to evaluate the reliability and credibility of different information sources, to challenge media representations when they are stereotypical or biased, and to avoid such practices themselves.

Finally, by being part of a team that produces a good quality product available to the public, young participants develop a sense of pride and increased self-esteem and confidence.

## **3**. Why is the EFIVOS approach important?

Digital media are a powerful tool through which minorities and people from disadvantaged backgrounds can be heard. But in order to be understood, have an impact, and reach a wider audience and the decision-makers, the message has to be crafted.

Through digital media, youth have found a channel through which they can share their thoughts, ideas, and stories but this, in many cases, may go unnoticed. They may also be wary of sharing content in the public domain for fear of negative responses.

EFIVOS creates a safe and inclusive space for young participants to express their concerns, needs, and thoughts. It is not a single person exposing themselves to public reaction, instead, EFIVOS provides a platform where many create content collaboratively towards a common goal. EFIVOS cultivates the skills and competencies that will allow young participants to be active creators, instead of passive consumers of information.

For more on the evidence for EFIVOS as good practice go to [EFIVOS as a good practice model].

## **4**. How to implement EFIVOS?

## 4.1 Preparation

Drafting and planning the programme takes place in two stages. Firstly, there is the creation of the professional team that establishes the structure – the framework for the programme within which media outputs can be produced. In the second stage, there is the creation of the youth team which works with the professionals to agree on outputs: the style, form/structure, and the content they want to create for their e-newspaper, and co-construct the plan for delivery.

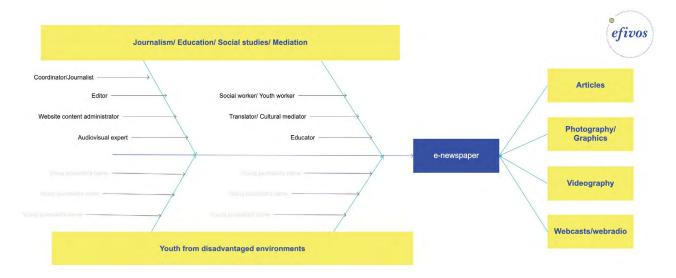
## 4.1.1 Creating the professional team

The team that trains and supports the young participants requires a range of professional skills and experience related to the eight components. Those professionals may not have the exact skills that are required in the components, but they can easily acquire those skills if those are related to what they already know. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the quality of young participants' learning progress will depend on the quality of knowledge and skills of the professionals who train them.

It is also necessary for some of the professional team members, at least, to bring the experience of delivering training/teaching, and of working with youth from disadvantaged backgrounds. Where it is not possible to create a team with members that have this experience, mentoring partnerships should be established, so those could develop it with a colleague's professional support.

The project lead trainer/coordinator should assemble the team according to (a) the roles that the EFIVOS project requires, and (b) the skills which young participants need to develop as they engage in the components of the project.

## 4.1.2 Project roles



The primary role of the project is the **Coordinator**. This should be a professional journalist who organizes the team and acts as editor-in-chief. The coordinator is responsible for ensuring that the project is set up according to the tasks set out in section 4.1.4.



#### Editor

A professional journalist who supports the work of the coordinator. The editor's main responsibility is the editing of the content the team creates and also cooperates with the coordinator on other processes of the project.



#### Social Worker / Youth Worker / Educator

Professionals with experience working with youth coming from disadvantaged backgrounds to provide assistance and support to the participants.



#### Web Content Administrator

A professional from the digital media field responsible for all the material to be uploaded online. The role includes general administration of the website and communication and cooperation with the web developer.



### Audio-Visual Expert

A professional responsible for the image, sound and video products and equipment. The role could also include graphic design.



#### **Translators / Cultural Mediators**

Professionals responsible for cultural mediation and/or translation and text editing of the spoken languages in the team. They are responsible for minimizing language and/or cultural gaps between the team members. During journalism classes and editorial meetings, participants are encouraged to take the role of the translator if the professionals are not available.



#### **External Partners**

Media professionals and digital media trainers who host digital media workshops and journalism classes for the team.

## 4.1.3 Professionals skills

### Technical and organizational skills

The activities and skills which young participants need to develop are set out below by the EFIVOS components.

Professionals who deliver those components need to bring the corresponding skills with them.



### 1.Editorial Management

- Design and make clear to the team the end-product
- Give clear guidance to the team on what they need to produce/achieve
- Provide a timeline for content production
- Ensure deadlines are met
- Interpret and follow an editorial brief
- Manage difference of opinions on content and editorial decisions
- · Chair and contribute to editorial meetings
- Ethics of journalism rights and responsibilities
- The concept of freedom of speech, and the ethical dilemmas of applying this
- Understand the complexity of media production



### 2.Content Production

- Search for new subjects to report on / find inspiration for an article
- Research and assess the quality of the source
- Understand and recognize fake news
- Refer to sources & copyrights
- Copywriting
- Report news
- Create appealing content to a widest
  possible audience
- Proofreading
- Be original

## 3.Structured Interviewing

- Hold an interview
- Interaction with people from other parts of the world
- Interaction with the host population
- Create text/audio/video interview
- Questioning techniques
- Get used to taking notes
- Storytelling
- Active listening



- Take proper photos
- Photo-reportage
- Storytelling photography
- Handle a camera
- Control picture settings and effects
- Understand framing, angle, light, colour editing



### 4.How to write an article

- Write an article or text
- Express ideas well
- Write for journalistic media
- Appropriate use of language to appeal to audiences
- Write news stories
- Storytelling
- Be familiar with text formats and styles



- Know the basic composition skills and basic creativity rules of design
- Aesthetic understanding
- Create original content
- Edit content



- Record audio and editing
- Convert audio tracks and understand file formats
- Sound design
- Produce a radio show
- Produce a podcast
- Create videos
- Operate a camera and shoot a video
- Video editing
- · Communication and verbal expression skills



- Setting up the digital distribution plan for online media
- Copywrite for different media
- Manage social media
- Online editing
- Use a content management system (CMS) like WordPress
- Branding
- Upload texts, images, audios, and videos
- Manage stylesheets

#### Other dispositions and skills required of the professionals

EFIVOS professionals need to be highly organized and maintain a level of productive discipline among the young participants and ensure that they are motivated to continue. Young people on the project come with a range of skills and experiences. All members of the professional team need to be able to accommodate these, either individually or in collaboration with colleagues, and so specifically should:

- Be reasonably strict
- Be patient
- · Set specific expectations for the young participants
- Devolve responsibility to the young participants, so they understand the consequences of the choices they make (good and bad), and the importance of reliability
- Understand the role of challenge and structure in learning, and organize sessions accordingly
- Know when an issue is beyond their expertise, and who to refer to for support particularly, where emotional, behavioural and mental health issues are concerned.

In addition, they need to make the most of the team's capacity and skills and to transfer to them the importance of commitment.

### 4.1.4 Setting the foundation: a framework for the programme

Due to its ambition for young participants, the EFIVOS programme requires careful planning and coordination. The following checklist outlines the key activities the coordinator needs to plan for and carry out with the support of the professional team – delegating tasks where possible to make the most of the capacity of the team.

- Drafting a project plan and a monitoring system
- · Scheduling and coordinating the professional team's meetings
- Organizing events & workshops
- Reaching out for new youth team members
- Getting signed consent forms from a family member/legal guardian
- Organizing the translation process with translators/cultural mediators

- Inviting professionals of various fields to meet with the team
- Organizing visits in professional premises such as a newspaper's printing house, media offices, radio stations, etc.
- Communicating and collaborating with educational institutions and NGOs
- Organizing attendance at events, presentations, conferences, etc.
- Deciding how young participants can get formal recognition for their participation, for example, certificates, internships, scholarships, etc.

### 4.1.5 Planning the programme

At the first project meeting, the professional trainers should be introduced to EFIVOS, its ethos and structure. They should agree on their aspirations for the programme and use its planning tool to put its building blocks in place, and begin deciding who should be responsible for delivering what tasks. It is important for other stakeholders, young participants and representatives from the young participants' communities to be involved in the planning process at the early stages. They should either attend the first meeting or a follow-up meeting where they are introduced and invited to comment on the planned programme.

The involvement of young participants and community representatives in the early planning is essential in order for the whole team to be motivated from the beginning. It will also sensitize the professionals early on to language issues and the sort of language support the project needs. Secondly, including young participants and community representatives in the planning process will enable them to understand other support needs, such as access to interviewees and other data sources, and the community can start preparing ways to help the young participants.

The involvement of stakeholders in early planning is also essential, not least as they may be able to provide the resources and access to facilities and expertise required on the programme. Their early "buy-in" also supports the sustainability of EFIVOS.

### 4.1.6 Reaching out to participants

The outreach is the most important step in the process. The professional team needs to reach out to youth members from different communities that may be interested in this activity. For their participation, there are no criteria except the willingness of the youth members to join a group of young journalists who will create their content under their own initiative.

The starting point is the presentation of the project to include all the necessary information. The professional team should only create a basic structure of the website, as it will be the participants who will ultimately shape its content, structure and aesthetic.

The outreach occurs in several ways, e.g.:

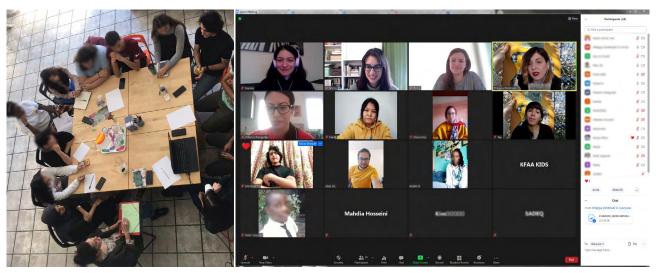
- Face-to-Face
- Outreach to refugee camps, shelters, youth centres, organizations, and NGOs
- Outreach to schools and educational entities
- Outreach to the neighbourhood and local community
- Through mailing lists

- Through dissemination activities in events and conferences
- Open call on social media and website
- Newsletters to stakeholders

### 4.1.7 Practical considerations

### **Appropriate Space**

The experience from the Young Journalists programme shows that it is not always immediately obvious where editorial meetings and journalism classes should take place. During the implementation of the Young Journalists programme at the Schisto Refugee Camp, facilities changed quite often, from under-the-trees classes to the most high-end new public library of Athens. Now, the editorial meetings and the journalism classes consistently take place at the Youth Center of the Network for Children's Rights, which is a meeting point and a reference point for the young participants and houses the equipment and all the printed issues of the newspaper. Also, it is the place where the professional team works and comes in touch on a daily basis with the participants when needed. During the pandemic of COVID-19, the team continues to have editorial meetings and journalism classes or via online video calls.



Left: Editorial meeting held in NCR's Youth Center 2020 | Right: Online editorial meeting 2021

The requirements for establishing the space should ensure that it is:

- Available throughout the implementation of the project to maintain stability
- Timetabled, so everyone knows the scheduled activities
- Available outside of timetabled sessions so that young participants can drop in and use the facilities to get on with their work
- Convenient for young participants to access
- Supervised when young participants are there, so they have support and feel safe
- A welcoming, safe and inclusive space for all.

In the case of online journalism classes and/or editorial meetings, try to establish a specific time that they can call/video call to ensure stability.

### Equipment

A journalistic digital project has specific needs in terms of equipment that will support the running of an e-newspaper. In short, the basic needs of the project are the following:



Internet Connection For research, for managing the website, and for uploading/storing the digital files for the archive (Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.)



**Cloud Sharing Services** The team should establish from the beginning a cloud sharing service that the material can be accessible and used by all.



**Computers** (Desktop, Laptop) To upload the digital content to the website (also possible using a tablet or a smartphone).



Tablets (one for every 2 participants) Text edit, Word, Google Doc, Open Office, Libre Office, Camera, Microphone.



**Smartphones** Voice recorders and cameras.



**Projector** For journalism classes, workshops and editorial meetings.



Adobe Cloud (or any other free editing programs)<sup>1</sup> For creating and editing audiovisual products & designs.

The additional equipment below ensures a more professional approach but is not essential for the delivery of EFIVOS:





**DSLR Camera** For both video and photo capture.



Stationery Paper, notebooks, pens, pencils, rubbers, etc.

The equipment may be donated or sponsored by companies or through an appeal to individuals. Items of equipment should be recorded in a catalogue and be available for renting or any other purpose.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For any program, there is a free version for student purposes that could be used.

#### How to decide on the equipment needed

Although the use of a computer screen is easier for typing and for the editing process, tablets may be a better choice because:

- Most participants may not own a personal computer and are more familiar with the use of a smartphone's or a tablet's interface and applications
- Changing the keyboard from one language to a non-Latin one is easier, as tablets show the letters in the alternative language (on PCs, these need to be learned by heart, or the alternative alphabet arrangement stuck onto the keyboard)
- Tablets are easier to carry around.

If PCs are used, try to access keyboards designed for the alternative language, or set these out on the existing keyboard by using stickers. If young participants can access a touch-typing course online in their language, the time spent on this will enable them to overcome this problem in all circumstances and save time in the long run.

### Software for digital skills development

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills development is a key benefit of the EFIVOS programme. It is, therefore, important that up-to-date software is available for participants to work with. Below is an indicative list of the skills participants develop on each component, along with the types of software packages and equipment required.

| Components                 | Digital Skills                                                                                                                       | Suggested programmes /<br>equipment                                                           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Editorial<br>Management    | Word documents, online<br>documents, presentations                                                                                   | Microsoft Word, Google, Slack,<br>Trello, Google Drive                                        |
| How to write<br>an article | Touch Typing, online analysis & research, document structure                                                                         | Microsoft Word, Google<br>Docs, Etherpad, OpenOffice,<br>LibreOffice, Ubuntu Studio           |
| Content                    | Search engine optimization                                                                                                           | Word, Databases (ResearchGate,<br>Scholar, Dialnet)                                           |
| Reportage<br>Photography   | Editing Skills, Camera Handling,<br>Picture Settings and Effects,<br>Telling Photo-Stories, Framing,<br>Angle, Light, Colour Editing | Photoshop, Ubuntu Studio,<br>Gimp                                                             |
| Structured<br>Interviewing | Analysis of questioning, Prepare<br>and perform audio and video<br>recordings, Transcription                                         | Survey Monkey, Google Forms,<br>Zoom, GoToMeeting Photo, Video<br>camera, Tripod, Microphones |

| Graphic<br>Design              | Framing, Angle, Typography<br>Layers, Cutting, File Formats,<br>Creating Image Compositions                                                                     | Canva, Adobe Illustrator                                                                      |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Webcasting,<br>Web-Radio       | Multimedia Editing, Edit and<br>Convert audio tracks, File Formats                                                                                              | Google Podcasts, Zoom,<br>GoToMeeting, Ubuntu Studio,<br>Audacity                             |
| Video                          | Camera Handling, Image<br>Settings and Image Effect,<br>Framing, Dramaturgy, Editing,<br>Video Journalism                                                       | Ubuntu Studio, Da Vinci<br>Resolve, iMovie                                                    |
| Development<br>of Online Tools | Programming, Branding, Front-<br>End editing, Manage menus and<br>tabs, Implement texts, Images,<br>Audios and Videos, Manage<br>Stylesheets, Uploading Content | Survey Monkey, Google Forms,<br>Zoom, GoToMeeting Photo, Video<br>camera, Tripod, Microphones |

## 4.1.8 Website

Set up the website early, so it is ready for designing and managing when the young participants are ready to do so. What is needed at this stage is the basic structure and elements of the website. Choose a free and open-source content management system (CMS) like WordPress. Include young participants in the setting up of the website so they become familiar with the process and provide them with guidance when needed:

- Agree on the name of the project, pick a corresponding domain name
- Purchase hosting
- Install WordPress
- Explore with young participants various websites, as a basis for a discussion about the structure they would like for their website
- Design the graphics and the logo
- Customize the site with themes and plugins (as the project progresses, so do the needs for the website)
- Plan the general structure including:
  - An "about" section presenting the identity of the team
  - Sections for uploading articles and images
  - A section for important issues for each community, such as immigration
  - Sections for the radio, video, or any other feature (if needed)
  - A "contact" section including a contact form and an e-mail address
  - A "call to action" banner inviting new participants to the team.

A significant, yet challenging element is the inclusion of multiple language formats. This element offers participants the opportunity to create content in their language and share it with their

community, and so enhances intercultural awareness and cross-cultural dialogue, by opening the project to a wider audience.

While structuring the website with the web developer, pay attention to create a mobile-friendly website as most of the young participants use their smartphones to visit the e-newspaper.

### 4.1.9 Signed consent & GDPR form

All the participants have to sign a consent form and a GDPR form (appendix 5). If the participant is underaged, personal communication with the parents/legal guardians is necessary at the beginning and also throughout the project. It is imperative to include cultural mediators or social workers in the process to overcome any hesitancy on the part of parents/legal guardians due to cultural differences.

The professional team should get the signed forms before the participants begin on the project. Through this process, the participants consent their names (or nicknames), original content and photos to be used publicly for the purposes of the project and also that their personal data is protected.

## 4.2. Training

### 4.2.1 Training young participants on EFIVOS

EFIVOS is a competence-building model – meaning that provides participants with a collection of competencies that together define successful performance in a particular work setting. It is also a student-centred approach since it should be the young participants themselves who make decisions about their e-newspaper, their role in it, and the content they want to create. This demands a lot from the professional team – since they need to be part mentors, part teachers, part critical friends.

Professionals should maintain a balance between *challenge and support*. This means allowing young participants time and space to experiment, but also demonstrating and giving direction where necessary. Professionals should get to know each participant individually, and set the challenge appropriately. Some participants will progress more quickly than others – the important thing is that each participant can improve at their own pace, and use that as their benchmark for progress.

Professionals should also develop questioning skills, asking open questions where possible, rather than giving direct instruction, so the onus is on the young participant to think through a solution. Professionals help young participants to be objective, and so, a focus on facts and organizing questions around facts will help develop this discipline in them. It will also help to de-personalize critical feedback. Opinions should be justified with evidence.

Through the whole process of content creation, the professional team may need to be ready to take action at any stage the young participants might find difficulties. For example, the professional team might need to help them by giving them 2 sources for their article. This is important because it will give them a starting point. Although it is "their responsibility", try to be as helpful as possible so they can understand the steps of the process. Overall, the principle is to encourage them to be involved

in as many parts of the project as possible, as soon as they are ready to do so.

As with any group of young people, attitude problems or communication issues may occur. This is best solved and managed through discussion and open dialogue. The role of the professionals is to be supportive, to provide alternatives, and to be flexible to make things work out, but also to make sure that young participants work within the boundaries of safe working and within the discipline of the editorial processes. Young participants should be reminded that they need to be respectful to the rest of the team and that the differences must be resolved to achieve this. It is also important for translators and cultural mediators to be available to help overcome communication problems due to language and/or cultural differences.

With this group of young people, mobility is a fact of life: new participants arrive, and older ones might leave. For this reason, it is essential to ensure that each journalism class is a self-contained unit with a clear learning aim, and support is in place for new participants. For example, experienced members might encourage and support the new ones in their first steps in the project. It is also helpful to provide the new members with the educational material of the journalism classes.

### 4.2.2 The first meeting - orientation

The first team meeting should work as the foundation of the project. Professionals and young participants should get to know each other through ice-breaker and bonding activities that will help them agree on the purpose and the goals of the team. The professionals have to get to know the participants and their backgrounds in order to understand their needs. They always need to keep notes on the young participants' interests and ideas for content creation because this will be a good source of inspiration on days that they don't know how to proceed. Also, in this way, they understand that their ideas matter and are more eager to open up and develop them.

To this end, the professionals should run the EFIVOS focus group activity (appendix 3). This will encourage an open discussion about the reasons they are interested in participating, meaning what is this going to offer to them personally, to their community, and to the society they live in. It is very important to set common goals as a team. If there are any concerns, the whole team can discuss them freely.

To raise their enthusiasm, explain the benefits of EFIVOS at this stage, including their chance to:

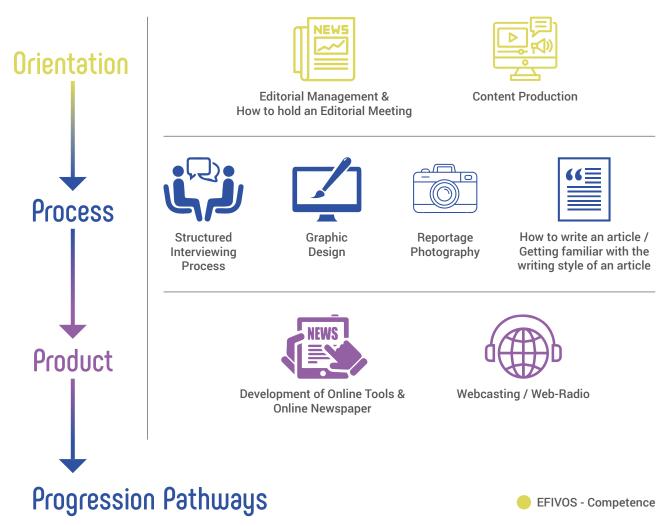
- Meet and interact with people at their age
- Exercise self-expression within a safe space
- · Become known within their community and among a wider audience
- Develop technical and work skills
- · Learn to express themselves better generally, and also in the host country language
- Create more impressive curriculum vitae

Once the whole team gets to know each other better, it is suggested professionals explain how the programme is structured based on its 2 essential elements - the editorial meetings and the journalism classes. It is the time to explain the benefits of each element and to determine the frequency according to the needs of the team.

Last but not least is to establish a way to communicate with the young participants. It is suggested to create a professional email account for the project as well as an account that would allow communication through chat applications such as Telegram, Whatsapp, etc., to create group conversations and communicate with the whole team. Also, bear in mind the legislation of the country in terms of underaged participants and GDPR.

### 4.2.3 Organizing the training phase

The training phase must be of sufficient length to provide the necessary time for the participants to bond, set their goals, and achieve the production of their e-newspaper.



The training phase starts with the first meeting of the team in order to clarify the focus of the project and the goals of the team, followed by a journalism class on how to run an e-newspaper. This is the beginning of the editorial management process. These first team meetings should establish a training plan for the journalism classes covering the 8 components of EFIVOS, and then, editorial meetings should be scheduled to ensure that the creation of content is on track and being maintained to good journalistic standards (see section 4.2.4).

The next journalism classes should focus on content creation to develop basic skills in developing journalistic content, such as research, establishing the credibility of sources, etc.

The following ones allow the young participants to specialize in different areas of content development, and so can be configured according to participants' interests and needs and the skills available by professionals. The coordinator has the flexibility to structure this part of the programme in different ways according to local circumstances. For example, an approach might be that the components run consecutively and so, all participants attend all journalism classes. On the other hand, they might run in parallel, with the team splitting up so that each member of the team attends one or two journalism classes, and brings that expertise back to the team.

The number of journalism classes the coordinator establishes for each component is also a local decision, based on the time participants need to develop the associated skills. A good model is for participants to attend two or more journalism classes, with practical tasks set between them, so they have a chance to practice, review and take feedback in the following ones.

For guides on organizing each component go to the component planning guides **[EFIVOS Component Planning guides]**.

### 4.2.4 Editorial meetings

Editorial meetings are essential for the process of creating journalistic content and the key to the success of running an e-newspaper. The purpose of editorial meetings is to be a collective process where the whole team gathers to discuss all the aspects of the e-newspaper, brainstorm, plan the next topics of future content items, analyse the performance of the already published content and work on their ideas and/or articles. Young participants also get guidance and a professional opinion on the spot about their work that can help them develop their skills. Even participants who cannot attend the journalism classes will find editorial meetings beneficial.

In young journalists' editorial meetings, decisions should be made democratically, with all young participants able to express themselves. When the professional trainer has to override or alter a decision, it is important to give clear reasons for this. This will help young participants understand the parameters and ethics of good journalism.

In creative processes, such as editorial meetings, it is important to provide a structure that creates space for free-thinking but also respects time and task management. This could be achieved with efficient meeting management. Also, regular editorial meetings can help keep the content on track and the team stays motivated and enthusiastic about the mission.

The structure of the agenda can be agreed upon at the first editorial meeting and then adapted for each editorial meeting as required. It should include upcoming activities, tasks, ideas, and concerns. The frequency of editorial meetings should be set out in the first editorial meeting and scheduled in diaries.

Due to the number of items to be discussed, the suggested duration is 2-4 hours including a break. It is also suggested to keep a small budget that covers needs like snacks and drinks.

## Tips:

- **1.** Determine frequency
- 2. Define processes and responsibilities in advance
- 3. Define meeting goals and send out an agenda
- 4. Get everyone involved
- 5. Keep editorial meetings short
- 6. Stick to the planned agenda and to a clear structure of the meeting
- 7. Discuss what's coming up
- 8. Check the progress of current assignments
- 9. Brainstorm content ideas
- **10.** Address editorial issues and concerns

For face-to-face editorial meetings, a four-part structure is suggested (based on Young Journalists experience - appendix 6):

- Part 1 [15-20 minutes]: welcome and introduce new members, bonding time (casual chat and team-building games)
- Part 2 [1.15 hour]: agenda: where we are at, problems, solutions, next articles, ideas, setting goals, deadlines
- Part 3 [15 minutes]: small break to have a snack, chat and rest
- Part 4 [1.15 hour]: guests or work on the content.

For online editorial meetings, the structure should cover the team's needs, it is suggested, though, a shorter duration.

### 4.2.5 Journalism classes

The purpose of journalism classes is to educate young participants on the basic elements of journalistic content creation and the complexity of media production including topics such as the ethics of journalism, research and assess the quality of sources, creating original and appealing content, etc. The journalism classes need to be independent of the editorial meetings and each class is suggested to cover a specific topic. The professionals present the theory in basic steps and then include a practical part where young participants get to understand the subject. For example: Introduce the basic steps of writing an article, then ask the participants to write in 10 minutes the basic structure of the article they suggested in the editorial meeting (that is why it is important to keep notes of their ideas). In the end, give feedback and discuss.

Online journalism classes have many challenges. For example, participants from disadvantaged backgrounds may not have internet access or teenage members may not have the willingness to participate in an online class. This is why the professionals need to find the best way to structure and schedule these classes according to their team's needs and keep the members motivated to participate. For those who do not attend the classes, keep the educational material as an online archive that is accessible for everyone.

The duration and frequency of the classes need to be set from the beginning of the project taking into account the participants' needs. In the Young Journalists programme, the journalism classes are being held twice a month and the duration is 1 hour. A useful tip is to have frequent reminders of the dates on the group's chat. Another tool that can help is a private page on the website where the members will have access and will be able to check the timetable, zoom links or uploaded materials and agendas. Lastly, it is important to keep track of the attendances in a sheet.

### 4.2.6 Evaluation

It is important that what young participants learn is visible to the professional team, to the project funders, but, most importantly, to themselves, not least as a motivating factor. The most important evidence of progress in skills development is the project outputs.

The evaluation also occurs on an ongoing basis as professionals give feedback to young participants but also young participants give feedback to each other. This needs to be captured so that those organizing and funding EFIVOS can also understand young participants' progress. To this end:

- At the end of each journalism class, professionals should lead a whole group discussion for 10-15 minutes to discuss what young participants have learned and what their next steps should be. This should be captured, for example, by photographing notes (clearly written) on a flipchart or logged by the professionals.
- Each young participant should maintain a log, and make a note of their progress at significant moments in the process. Again, a 10-minute slot at the end of editorial meetings would be ideal for doing this, where the young participant notes down the feedback they have received, their reaction to it, and the things they have learned.

## 4.3 Creating the e-newspaper

### 4.3.1 What is an e-newspaper?

The term *e-newspaper* refers to newspapers that are published electronically. It can be a form of print publication published on the Internet; additional or complementary content to print publication published online; or original publication published exclusively online, with special characteristics such as navigation support, advertisement, and style of presenting the news.

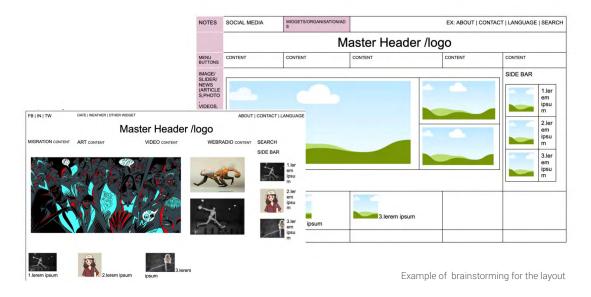
Although the basic format for a printed newspaper is based on the articles, in the e-newspaper there is the opportunity to include other formats such as podcasts, videos, illustrations, digital images, etc., to enrich the digital content of the website. That means that there are many different roles in producing an e-newspaper such as editors, photographers, radio producers, videographers, graphic designers, web content administrators, social media managers, etc. In general, an online version creates more opportunities in terms of content, structure, format, audience reach, mobility, interactivity, accessibility, pace and cost.

## 4.3.2 The e-newspaper's logo and layout

The young participants, with the help of the professional team, need to define the look of their e-newspaper, starting from the name of their e-newspaper, creating the logo and then finalizing the website's layout.

Planning will put the participants in teamwork and critical thinking context. The team should decide all the aesthetic parts such as the fonts of the articles, the colour of the design, and the overall aesthetic of the interface. Having organized the needs, then, the information can be given to a web developer that will create the website according to the specific needs.

The creation of both the logo and the layout can serve as activities of the journalism classes where the participants will be introduced to basic graphic and web design theory.



### 4.3.3 The content of the e-newspaper

The young journalists will elaborate and discuss the content they are interested in creating. The professional team will assist them through an open discussion about the content that will attract their interest and their active participation.

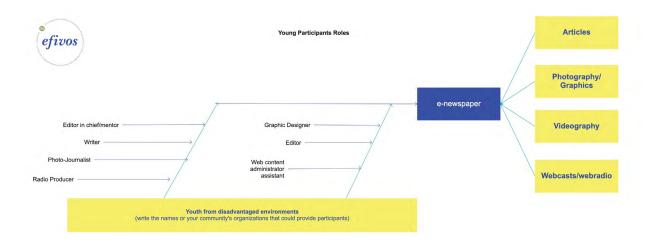
The content of a journalistic website could be divided into thematic specializations like Arts & Culture, Gastronomy, Music, Sports, Travel, Fashion, Environment, Science, Media, Foreign Affairs and World News, Local and Community Issues, Politics, etc. Each specialization allows the participants to learn about the special features of journalistic work, and, also, to explore their interests. It is possible to include different specializations in separate categories on the website.

Although the basic format for a printed newspaper is based on the articles, in an online edition there is the opportunity to include other formats such as; podcasts, videos, illustrations, digital images, etc., to enrich the digital content of the website.

## 4.3.4 Roles

The next step is for the professional team to explain the roles that are needed in such a project and which requirements are included in each one. Depending on their interests and talents, each participant could choose a role (or more).

In the beginning, it is important that all participants experience every role. In this process, it is necessary to remind them of the skills and the benefits that will be obtained in order to give them motivation. To achieve the desired results, all the participants should follow the guidelines and respect the deadlines as well as work as a team.



The roles in producing a digital newspaper may include:

Editor-in-chief/mentor: In the team of Young Journalists, the editor-in-chief is one of the members of the initial team that cooperates with the coordinator and stands as a mentor for the newest members. The editors-in-chief:

- Make sure that the content expresses the team
- Have an active role in the creating and editing process of the material
- Undertake the presentation of the project at refugee camps, schools, organizations, etc.

**Writer.** A writer is responsible for providing written content. The writers of the team develop their ideas based on their personal interests. With the guidance of the professional team, they develop those ideas by utilizing journalistic methods.

**Photo-journalist:** Photojournalism is a particular form of journalism that uses images to tell a story in strictly journalistic terms. Photojournalists take pictures that contribute to the news story-telling and help communities connect with each other. They deliver news in a creative format that is not only informative but also entertaining.

**Radio producer:** A radio producer creates the content and sets the structure of a radio show, broadcast, and podcast.

**Video-journalist:** A video journalist shoots, edits and presents video material to tell a story in journalistic terms.

**Graphic designer.** A graphic designer is responsible for assembling images, typography, or motion graphics to create a piece of design. They can also be responsible for typesetting, illustration, and web design.

**Editor.** A person that is responsible for the editing of articles or audio-visual content. Web content administration assistant: A person who provides website pages with content. They plan, write, edit and upload digital material and promote it via social media, and other digital marketing channels.

**Social media manager.** A social media manager is responsible for curating a project's social media accounts. They monitor, moderate, and respond to audience comments, manage social media partnerships with others and create and/or post shareable videos and images.

### 4.3.5 Editorial Policy

The editorial policy is the set of guidelines by which a news organization operates. It includes the news organization's attitudes toward its community and aids editors in making editorial decisions.

The professional team in dialogue with the participants should develop together an editorial policy for their media. In doing so, they establish and define their own ethical rules that all should follow. These should be informed by professional codes of practice, as applied in their own country, both for printed press and online journalism **(CODES BY COUNTRY)**. The youth team can also draw on examples of editorial policies from media organizations in their own country, as well as the editorial policy of the Migratory Birds that can be found in appendix 4. When the editorial policy is agreed upon, it must be made available and followed by everyone.



## International Principles of Professional Ethics in Journalism

efivos

- 1. People's right to true information
- 2. The journalist's dedication to objective reality
- 3. The journalist's social responsibility
- 4. The journalist's professional integrity
- 5. Public access and participation
- 6. Respect for privacy and human dignity
- 7. Respect for public interest
- 8. Respect for universal values and diversity of cultures
- 9. Elimination of war and other great evils confronting humanity
- 10. Promotion of a new world information and communication order

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## 4.4 Running the e-newspaper

## 4.4.1 Content production, editing, and translation

## **Content Production**

Now is the time for the young journalists to create content!



The time has come for young journalists to create content. They choose their subject, and then, start researching and working on their project. During regular meetings and through democratic processes, the whole team decides what will be published. The team sets deadlines at editorial meetings to keep the process on track but respects the free time of the participants. Word limits and practical boundaries can be difficult to work with, though important because they will help them understand better the process and develop soft skills.

When it comes to creating content on a free subject, young participants may hesitate and not know how to proceed. They may also feel their personal interests are not appropriate or of interest for the "public" more widely. Brainstorming during the editorial meetings is a good way of overcoming this. If participants work in small groups or pairs, they may be more confident to generate ideas for content. Use ideas from earlier meetings and focus groups to give inspiration for content. The editorial process, as described in section 4.2.4, ensures that the content is moulded towards the planned end product, under the supervision of the editor-in-chief and the professional team. The digital content is finalized and sent for translation if needed. Any content edit has to be done in conjunction with its originator, preferably giving them options for changes so they maintain ownership of the piece. The originator's views should always be primary, and no changes imposed on them, but rather as the result of negotiation.

The translation team should ensure cultural and personal nuances in the original are conveyed in the translation, and accessible to the alternative language audience. This is a job for a professional translator, whose first language ideally is the one the content is being translated into.

### 4.4.2 The role of deadlines

Deadlines are essential to achieve a smooth operation of the project. Maintaining discipline in meeting deadlines without sacrificing the quality of the content are the two key standards the professionals must instil in the young participants.

In the beginning, professionals set small goals that can be easily achieved within the allocated time frame. Gradually, as participants develop their skills, the professionals should increase the challenge accordingly.

## 4.5 Publication

After some period of training on digital and journalistic skills, the creation of the website, and the creation of the original content, the first posts are ready for publication. The whole team can celebrate what they have achieved. All this work is finally done, and the results are ready for people to see!

Now is time to evaluate their work as a team, find the next steps, and have a detailed review of the publications at the editorial meetings. This process is very important for the improvement of the young journalists' skills.

What did we like and what did not work? Would we change something, and what would that be? Any translation mistakes? Any typos?

At the same time, the journalist/coordinator should assess the impact the work has had on the community. First, to talk with the families/legal guardians and make sure that everything is under control after publishing the content. Then, to take notice of the wider community in order to protect the participants from any unwanted exposure.

When all the above steps are completed, it is time for the professional team to gather the team and brainstorm for the next steps.

Every publication is important to be posted online via social media in order to reach a wider audience. They are the medium that young people use the most, so it will be more fun and useful for the participants to develop their skills in digital marketing while promoting their work.

## 4.6 Opening up to the community

Opening up the project to the community has a lot of aspects and is beneficial for its growth and sustainability.

### **Online community - Social Media**

Create an online community of followers that supports your e-newspaper through social media. As much as possible engage with your audience. A good tip is to collaborate with influencers or media networks that would benefit also from such a collaboration. Having an online community gives the opportunity to make the project self-funded via crowdfunding activities. It will also provide you with feedback on the content of the e-newspaper allowing growth opportunities.

### Connecting your project with the local educational community

Educational institutions, schools, and other NGOs need to know your work. Make sure they are aware that you are providing a safe, non-formal educational activity that could serve as an asset to their practice. A collaboration with an NGO can include fundings, providing space or equipment for your meetings and, of course, new participants. Universities and journalistic schools can serve as a space for scholarships, studentship with reduced tuition fees or free classes. Also, both the professional and the youth team can present the programme as a good practice of an inclusive and alternative journalistic project as well as a non-formal education activity.

### **Media community**

Introduce your project to your local media companies and even partner with them to host content of your e-newspaper to their media platforms. Cooperate with stakeholders of the media institutes/ organizations in order to offer support in public relations and training on-site. This could be done by providing: their own material, training by journalists and media experts, internships or visits to media headquarters.

#### To the wider community

Contact stakeholders from local and national authorities. Taking interviews from local stakeholders or even the Mayor can provide dissemination and support of the project in a subtle way. Organize cultural events to support integration.

It is important to open up to the community as a team of young people that wants their voice to be heard and not their disadvantaged backgrounds. Also, covering a wider variety of topics that would enrich the content of the e-newspaper could be a key to its impact and to how many people it will inspire/reach and make it more appealing. Young participants should also develop content that makes the connection between cultures or situations of their country of origin and the host country. This will encourage them to explore the cultural heritage and history of their host country and boost their integration and social inclusion.

### **Sustainability and Networking**

Opening up to the community will increase your network. Become part of relevant networks and attend events, conferences, festivals, etc. Grab any opportunities where you can present or pitch the project. Partners want to be part of success from early on.

For the sustainability of the project, it is important to ensure it continues to meet the needs of both participants and the audience. Sponsorships and donations are important to the project's lifespan. If it is possible, merchandise or other income sources will provide the team with fuels for creativity and sustainability.

## 5. Appendices Appendix 1: The partners

**Network for Children's Rights** is a non-profit organization whose aim is to safeguard the rights of children as set out by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child [1989]. It is a network built on solidarity and empowered with knowledge and culture in order to improve the quality of life of children and offer them the pleasure and feeling of achievement that come as a result of team effort and group initiative.

**Action Synergy S.A** is an education, training, and knowledgebased application organization that is actively involved in the development of education technologies, training methodologies, and the development of e-learning training courses. Action Synergy S.A. disposes of long experience in the management and coordination of European Projects. Since its foundation in 1986, the organization has participated in a considerable number of EU educational projects.

**Dedalus Cooperativa Sociale** staff is made up of economists, sociologists, psychologists, social operators, vocational trainers, cultural mediators, and peer operators with proven experience in research, planning, and management of social services. Dedalus' activities address problems related to gender, ethnicity, and other forms of discrimination, social exclusion of weak segments of the population, violence, and abuse. Dedalus provides its beneficiaries with a wide range of services: information and guidance, cultural mediation in access to social and health services, social protection, shelter, counselling, and training.

*Citizens In Power* is an independent non-profit, research centre that addresses the needs and demands of people through their involvement in social and civic life, by simultaneously providing them innovative material and free training related to a variety of fields, such as education (including online education), entrepreneurship and business, culture, labour market, and lifelong learning.



Action





**medien+bildung.com** was founded by the Media Authority of Rhineland-Palatinate in December 2006 as a not-for-profit Ltd. m+b.com develops and implements media education concepts in different educational sectors and for various target groups. Participants learn to understand, critically question and design media. The reflection on their own media consumption and the recognition of media mechanisms are important elements in this process. m+b.com sees the fundamental task of media education in teaching the skills that lead to meaningful, critical, self-determined and creative use of media as well as to social competence, and that enable participants to actively and responsibly participate in cultural, social, political, professional and economic life.

**Mobilizing Expertise** is an efficient Swedish SME for Nordic, European, and International Projects. Its main 5 working areas are; providing training, creating educational tools, mobilizing volunteers to professionalism, project management, promoting entrepreneurship among youth and adults. Its team consists of 5 experts with a diverse background who have worked in the private and public sectors.

*Inercia Digital* is an Andalusian (Spanish) social enterprise founded in 2010, focused on training, innovation, and traineeship in digital skills at a European level. The mission is to drive training and innovation in digital skills across Europe, for educational institutions as well as professionals, for the labour market and all European citizens in general.







# Appendix 2: Focus Groups to inform the design and objectives of EFIVOS

Each partner organized two focus groups with 8 participants each: one with young participants from disadvantaged backgrounds and the second one with the participation of stakeholders from the digital media field (companies, NGOs, trainers, etc.). The main aim of the focus groups was to identify the training needs and provide feedback on the draft proposal for the structure that is developed in this handbook.

#### Key points from the young participants

From the focus group with the youth is interesting to be noted that, although most of the young participants were using smartphones and social media, they were unaware of the general term of digital media. In their opinion, digital media were only social media and webpages. What is more, most of them depend on the information that is provided by their social media, whereas participants from the NCR that was part of the Young Journalists team showed a more developed journalistic awareness.

Most of the teenagers were interested to take part in a project like this but expressed some fears such as language competence and computer skills. On the other hand, they expected to gain the ability to express themselves clearly and precisely, to share opinions, to understand what others say, and "not always copy the same things". Also, the young participants believed that their participation in a programme like EFIVOS will offer them the knowledge to be able to spot the fake from the real news.

All the young participants felt the need to access news related to their home countries and, in many cases, felt that this is more important than following the news in the country they live in. When we asked "why", most of the answers were related to the feeling of belonging to their home country and a lack of language and understanding of the context in the country they live in.

#### Key points from the professionals

The members of the focus group agreed on the empowering aspect of a digital journalistic project. In their opinion, the aims of the project should be to develop a reflection on media communication and production, to assess sources, and to make clear that the core competence of journalists and media-makers lies in media criticism.

The appropriate approach of the trainers of the project **working with young participants** from disadvantaged backgrounds was also discussed since the socio-cultural differences between refugees are important to be taken into consideration. Some were also concerned about the lack of digital equipment that this project might entail and the need for professionals and translators. As far as the web page is concerned, it was suggested to have always in mind the always-changing form of the internet and the inability to control everything. For this reason, the team that will take on the project need to be adaptable to both the youth's needs but also the current trends.

## Appendix 3: Young participants' focus group questions for the first meeting – orientation

The following questions will help project organizers get a clear understanding of young participants' starting points, and also help young participants understand in more detail what EFIVOS entails, and what they can gain from participation. The questions were developed for the original focus group and act as a guide, so feel free to add to and adapt them for your purposes.

As this is the first time the group is meeting, there may be some reluctance to speak in front of many. It is, therefore, suggested that the participants discuss the questions in pairs first of all, before bringing their thoughts together for a whole group discussion. This will also enable those with low skills in the host country language to express their ideas to a peer who can then translate them.

- 1. Have you ever been involved in youth projects before? What was that about?
- **2.** What do you think about the media? Do you read newspapers, magazines, listen to radio broadcasts? Do you follow the news? Do you have any specific interests?
- **3.** What do you think digital media consist of? Do you prefer printed or digital media?
- **4.** What do you think the job of a journalist includes? (give examples)
- 5. Would you be interested to participate in a journalistic project, and if yes, why/ if not, why?
- 6. Who or what influences your decision to participate in this project?
- 7. What role would you like to have in the team?
- 8. If you should tell a story what would it be about?
- 9. What skills do you think that you will get after participating in a digital journalistic project?
- **10.** Anything else you would like to say?

## Appendix 4: The Young Journalists Editorial Policy example

### The Young Journalists Editorial Policy

We are the "Young Journalists" team of the inquisitive adolescents of the newspaper "Migratory Birds" and the web radio "Dandelion" - a project of the Network for Children's Rights. There are both boys and girls in the team and we come from a variety of countries, such as Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, and Greece. We write articles, make recordings, take photographs, and produce our own unique content. Access to the media is a powerful tool that can empower marginalized sections of the population, such as immigrants and refugees.

The "Migratory Birds" newspaper and the "Dandelion" web radio programme is a media project which gives us the opportunity to express fundamental rights, such as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and the freedom of the press. The work of Network for Children's Rights and this media project are in line with the main principles of the **Convention on the Rights of the Child**. We have created the following editorial principles that we should follow every time we write for our newspaper and record for our web radio.

Freedom of expression and press freedom are fundamental values in a democratic society. The mission of any institution committed to preparing productive citizens must include teaching these values and providing a venue for young participants to practise these values, both by lesson and by example.

As preservers of democracy, the Network for Children's Rights and the media project shall protect, encourage, and enhance free speech and the exchange of ideas.

### **Principles:**

- We use independent information free from political or advertising, self-promotion, or fundraising purposes.
- We respect the reader's and listener's opinions and we give voice to all different opinions. We advocate for pluralism.
- We will produce content that does not put our safety at risk We are careful and discreet when talking about issues related to violence, crime, death, political parties, and national policies and practices.
- We respect each other within the group of "Young Journalists" and we express our opinions for our colleagues with great respect.
- We shall not publish and express opinions that might incite violent actions, racism, intolerance, or religious fanaticism.
- Our content is not discriminatory, racist, xenophobic, sexist, profane, or propagating violence. We do not offend other children's or people's rights. For example, we do not express ourselves with offensive comments for other religions, countries, societies, sexes, colours, etc.
- Our content is not defamatory, malicious, abusive, accusatory, or inciting against an individual, group, government, country, religion, or sect.
- Our content does not make generalizations about an entire group, government, country, religion, or sect.
- Our content does not make allegations against an individual, group, government, country, religion,

or sect.

- We will not produce content that makes allegations against, advocate for, nor belittle or insult parties, party platforms, and political leaders.
- We shall not publish content that promotes harmful behaviours or practices. We shall always try to be objective.

### Sources and Copyright:

- 1. We shall always mention our sources unless there is a journalistic confidentiality commitment.
- **2.** We respect all copyrights and we do not reproduce content without the permission of its original creator.
- **3.** We do not reproduce views/references, etc., that do not originate from trusted sources.
- **4.** We recognize that, in line with the basic principles of journalism, adequate time must be devoted to doing research on our topics, before writing an article.
- 5. We shall always use valid sources when writing a text and when recording a radio show and not use our own opinion solely as their basis.
- 6. We do not copy our texts from the internet or other sources and we recognize that this is plagiarism. We publish pictures in our newspaper only after the oral or written consent/ permission of the person depicted in the picture. We are aware that in order to use the picture of a child, we need to seek consent from the parent/ guardian of that child.
- 7. When selecting images for the newspaper, we only use images that we have the right to use.

### Responsibility of young journalists and editorial team:

Each member of the team is responsible for the content he/she is creating. There must be a consensus between the teammates with regards to topics chosen and if there are off-limits topics, they shall not be included.

The editorial team is responsible for the content that is selected for publication. In this respect, the editorial team has the right to request the rewriting of an article, ask for further research to be conducted and suspend its publication for the next issue. No topic will violate human rights, dignity or good name, and there will never be personal, institutional, or political attacks; it will present positioning or information that is not rigorous (that is if it does not respond to given reasoning or is based on a theory or fact).

## **Appendix 5: Consent form example**



### CONSENT TO USE NAME, QUOTES AND/OR PHOTOS

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (parent/carer) of \_\_\_\_\_\_ hereby give Network for Children's Rights the absolute and irrevocable rights to use the name, quotes and/or photos and images of my child on the newspaper team project "Migratory Birds". I also consent my child to write articles, sign them with her/his full name and participate in all the activities related to the aforementioned newspaper.

I understand that the name of my child and/or the images will be used for the purposes of the newspaper and/or for any purpose which may include the project and I am fully aware of the significance of my consent for my child safeguarding.

I certify, by signing below, that I am of legal age, 18 years of age or older or that I am the parent or legal guardian of the identified minor. I have read this agreement and fully understand the contents herein.

Signature & Date this agreement signed: \_\_\_\_\_

The Network for Children's Rights recognises the need to ensure the welfare and safety of all young people taking part in any activity associated with our organization.

In accordance with our child protection policy, we take under serious consideration the best interest of every child and we do not permit photographs, video or other images of young people to be taken without the consent of the parents/carers and children.

## **Appendix 6: Example of editorial meeting's structure**

### Suggested structure by Myrto Symeonidou / current coordinator of the Young Journalists:

In the "Young Journalists" programme we structure the meetings in two or three parts: at the beginning, we have **an "unofficial" part** for approximately 15-20 minutes, like a bonding time including casual chat and team-building games.

The **first official part** of the meeting is the strictest, we have an **agenda** that we follow, we add what we need to discuss all together. We use a projector, so everyone can follow and take notes. We start **discussing**, first of all, what have we done till now, if we face any problems, we share thoughts and suggestions, and we bring all the news that we need to share with the team of "Young Journalists". Then, we discuss what we need to do from now on. We might discuss an idea that came to mind, who is interested in doing what, etc., and we inform them about events or journalistic workshops that are free. After that, we are preparing for what comes next. In that phase, we discuss the writing progress of the articles, inform everyone about what each member is writing about, and we remind them about the next meeting, what we have to do till then, when is the next journalism class. Then we have a **break**, to have a snack, chat, rest, and get ready for the second part.

On the **second official part** of the meeting, we have two alternatives: Either we have a **guest** or we **work on the articles**. If we have a guest, it can be anyone that could be interesting for the team. Otherwise, we split into teams to work on the articles with the "Young Journalists", we discuss how to handle the subject, how to write a specific article, etc. Also, we might have to create something altogether. Either way, after this process, we close the meeting.

We have tried an experiment and we are very positive with the results, at 2-3 meetings, we tried to **give one of the members the role of the coordinator of the meeting**, with our help. The young person, based on the agenda that we had, coordinates the whole meeting with the constant support of the coordinator. That gives them experience and the opportunity to understand the roles of our team better and how important it is to show respect to others and this process, also, helps them to develop social skills inside a safe environment.

