

**Project partners**



The Thüringer Volkshochschulverband e.V. (TVV) is the umbrella organisation of the 23 adult education centres in the federal state of Thuringia/Germany.  
 margit.kreikenbom@vhs-th.de



The Burgenländische Forschungsgesellschaft (BFG) is a non-profit organisation in the city of Eisenstadt in the federal province of Burgenland/Austria.  
 office@forschungsgesellschaft.at



The Verein Niedersächsischer Bildungsinitiativen e.V. (VNB) and its member, the Akademie Waldschloesschen are officially acknowledged state-wide adult educational institutions in federal state of Lower Saxony/Germany.  
 goettingen@vnb.de



Varietytown is a small educational company based in Cumbria, close to the border between England and Scotland. Variety Town provides support, knowledge and tools to enable shared learning, focusing particularly on community partnership and intercultural dialogue.  
 vta@live.co.uk



Vereniging voor Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims – VOEM – vzw / Association for Development & Emancipation of Muslims strives to close the gap between inhabitants with a Muslim background and the other inhabitants, organisations and authorities. We try to weave a network of dialogue between all world views. The strive for freedom, responsibility, emancipation, political awareness, sociological changes and so on is very important to us.  
 gent@voem-vzw.be



Oppland fylkesbibliotek Oppland County Library is a centre of competence and an initiator of library development in the Norwegian county of Oppland. We are network builders, focusing on libraries as arenas of advanced training. Oppland County Library coordinates and provides services for 26 public and 15 high school libraries.  
 fylkesbibl@oppland.org

**PATHWAYS TO INTERCULTURAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION**

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<http://pathways2.weebly.com/>

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The central aim of PATHWAYS is the exchange of ideas, experiences, educational methods and good practice examples between the partners about the implementation of intercultural and political education in the EU.

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Cultural diversity is not just visible and effective across national borders. Within each nation diversity is also present in regional, communal and political relations e.g. differences between generations. Therefore a person's experience of life can feature positive opportunities for cultural exchange but can also include aspects of social exclusion.

This specific social and cultural background combined with a unique world view experience exerts a significant influence on an individual's learning behaviour. Consequently this also has an effect on learning providers and how they engage learners with intercultural and political education.

Currently this form of education faces a shadowy existence in most European countries. Apart from a general "tiredness" towards politics, adult learners are often not interested in improving their political/cultural knowledge but tend to spend their time and money on more "valuable" education like improving their language or computer skills in order to improve their job chances or develop their career.

In an enlarged European Union, citizens face changes to their political, professional and social environment. Living, learning and working within a multicultural and socially diverse European Union necessitates intercultural competency and political knowledge to negotiate effective dialogue.

Greater opportunities for this branch of learning engender an inclusive Europe and European citizenship. Thus this partnership aims to uncover Pathways to Intercultural and Political Education within the European context.

# PATHWAYS TO INTERCULTURAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION



Through PATHWAYS the partners will share good practice and knowledge. They will gain understanding for the different situations concerning political education and intercultural learning in the different countries and organizations.

## PATHWAYS Objectives

Demonstrate and compare how each organisation targets, engages and works with learners in intercultural and political education in an increasingly diverse Europe.

## PATHWAYS Project aims

- Exploring (new) methods on Political / Civic Education
- Exchanging ideas within the Partnership
- Contacting the organisations, their staff and their learners
- Establishing a broader horizon and a better understanding between the partners on Intercultural dialogue
- Gaining a positive impact for our work with diverse target groups
- Unifying the different work contexts to one common collection on the topic: "Europe and I"
- Establishing a welcoming diversity against existing fears in our societies
- Using Diversity as a constant resource

## PATHWAYS Project activities

- Researching differences in intercultural and political education, local issues, interests and terminology
- Researching resources within our organisations: collecting, analysing, providing a comparison
- Recognising our own further education structures and the place of intercultural and political education in our organisations
- Building up a vocabulary of keywords and a collection of methods we are already using
- Documenting work with our learners through interview: How to learn without categorising?
- To learn how the organisations themselves learn: what? how? where? when?
- Encouraging "embedded diversity" within our organisations

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