







Living and learning democracy in schools and at home

The project “**Living Democracy Advocacy Campaign – Experience Democracy in Schools now**” aims to make the website www.living-democracy.com and its educational materials for teachers, students, principals and parents known in the following countries: Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Greece, Kosovo, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia and Serbia. Through this project we provide support in Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education. Our regional partners are offering workshops, trainings, webinars, seminars and network meetings, please contact them directly.

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Short biographies of the members of the “Living Democracy Advocacy Campaign”

ALBANIA	
	<p>Aida Serjanaj, born on 05.12.1964, in Tirana, Albania works at the Center of Educational Services, having graduated from the University of Tirana, Faculty of Political and Juridical Science, Philosophy branch, in 1987. Aida has taught high school since 2007 and is trained in Citizenship Education, Human Rights Education: national and international activities.</p> <p>E-mail: aidaserjanaj@gmail.com Phone: +355 6822 49 414</p>
	<p>Astrit Dautaj, born on 09.09.1959, graduated from the University of Tirana, Faculty of Political and Juridical Science, Philosophy branch, in 1983 and from the Faculty of Law in 1999. Astrit works at the Agency for Quality Assurance in Pre-university Education (ASCAP) and heads the Curriculum Development in the Directorate for Curriculum and Teacher qualification. He is responsible for Citizenship Education and Social studies curricula in Pre-university education. His numerous contributions to Albania's education system include authoring high school textbooks and teaching materials for social studies, coordinating social studies projects, crafting new citizenship education standards and assessment performance criteria for social studies and citizenship education, among others. He has served as core group member for policy development issues and curriculum reforms and collaborated in international projects under the auspices of the Council of Europe. He is a member of EPAN.</p> <p>E-mail: adautaj59@gmail.com Phone: +355 (0)698746859</p>
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	
	<p>Daria Duilović, MA in European Studies, heads the Department for Education Policy Coordination for Bosnia and Herzegovina's Ministry of Civil Affairs. Her extensive domestic, regional and international experience in the areas of education and training reform centers on human rights, capital development and EU integration processes. Daria is the EPAN member from Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p> <p>E-mail: dduilovic@gmail.com Phone: +387 61 217 141</p>
	<p>Emir Adžović, as a member of the Council of Europe secretariat from 1998-2018, Emir was closely involved in the development of the EDC/HRE approach, supporting its development, networking and promotion in most of the East European countries. At present, Emir works for the UNDP on the promotion of UN Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals. As a teacher (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo), avid learner and father of two school-age daughters, Emir is passionate about sharing his experience and institutional memory for the benefit of the process.</p> <p>E-mail: emiradzovic@gmail.com Phone: +387 61 165 210</p>

GEORGIA


Natia Natsvlishvili – Head of International Relations and Strategic Communications Department, Democratic Culture and Human Rights Education Program Manager (National Center for Teacher Professional Development); EPAN member for Georgia; EDC/HRE National Coordinator for Georgia; Experienced in several CoE projects on EDC/HRE and RFCDC; Editor, author, co-author of various resources for teacher professional development; Invited lecturer (Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgian National University, Ilia State University, Caucasus University); Director (Education and Research Center).

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Maia Nakashidze – with teaching experience since 2006, Maia is actively working in the field of education administration, managing various projects: 1. Introduction of Inclusive Education in VET system in Georgia (National Center for Teacher Professional Development with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education and Research of Norway) (2015-2016); 2. Instruments for implementation of the Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture (National Center for Teacher Professional Development with the cooperation of the Council of Europe) (2017); 3. „STEM festival - Science Traveler“ (National Center for Teacher Professional Development) (2020). She also serves as Administrative Manager at the Education and Research Center.

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GREECE


Dr. Gelly Aroni has been working for the Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors in the Ministry of Migration & Asylum since September 2020. She was actively involved in the establishment of Greece's Department of Refugee Education, serving as its head in the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs since 2016. She has extensive experience as a Physical Education teacher in Intercultural Schools, using cooperative games to promote, through active participation and collaborative learning, the principles and values of Democracy education. She has been working as expert and trainer in the Council of Europe and European Wergeland Center's programs on HRE/EDC, as well as expert collaborator and coordinator for Greece on the "Living Democracy" and "CORE" projects (Children of Refugees in Education).

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Dr. Angelos Vallianatos (PhD in Theology) has worked as a teacher and school advisor in Athens, Greece. He is trained in Intercultural Education, Human Rights and Citizenship Education in Greece and in Council of Europe (CoE) educational programs. He has been participating since 2005 in Council of Europe, Wergeland Centre and Arigatou International educational work as expert and trainer, creating and implementing educational training programs. He has authored, participated in authoring groups, published and translated educational material, texts and theses and also lectured at international and Greek educational conferences, about his scientific field, EDC/HRE, intercultural education, didactics and the use of new technologies in educational processes.

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KOSOVO


Arbër Salihu, having earned Ba and MA degrees in history (University of Prishtina), he is currently preparing his PhD dissertation in the field of Contemporary History of Kosova. He taught history from 1997 - 2000 and has served as curriculum developer in MEST since 2000. His expertise includes history and history education, authoring textbooks, providing workshops, lectures and teacher training. He has participated in numerous seminars, conferences and other activities in both Kosova and other countries and has served as national coordinator for Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights within the Council of Europe network of coordinators. He is an active founding member of the History Teachers' Association of Kosova.

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Shqipe Gashi (MA in pedagogy) most recently administered doctoral studies for teaching and learning. She has worked full-time in MEST Kosova since 2000 and previously served as teacher. Throughout, she has dealt with the treatment of democratic citizenship in school. She was a co-compiler of all basic documents of pre university education in Kosovo after year 1999, such as the curriculum framework (2001, 2011, 2012, 2016) and, most recently, competency-based lifelong learning. She coordinates civic education curricula and collaborates with the Council of Europe for democratic citizenship, as well as UNICEF, OSCE, IOM, UNFPA, UNDP, Red Cross, etc. in the drafting, editing, and reviewing of educational materials for democratic citizenship, teacher training and curriculum topics.

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MONTENEGRO


Vidosava Kaščelan, has worked a Senior Advisor for continuous professional teacher development in the Bureau of Education Services. She has served as a trainer of trainers and participated in numerous international conferences on Civic education, particularly those held in the organization of the Council of Europe, as well as in CoE's regional projects regarding Civic education. She co-authored the manuals for Civic Education, as well as brochures and working materials for teachers in these fields. She was appointed as an expert leader in the Council of Europe's EPAN team in Montenegro in 2017 and 2020.

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Ana Ivanović, Independent Advisor and Educational Supervisor (for General Organization and Sociology), has participated in numerous conferences and seminars on Civic education, Democracy and related areas. Her qualifications include teaching Democracy and Education and co-authoring educational-pedagogical and methodological standards for textbooks in the field of humanities. She has served as collaborator with the Council of Europe's EPAN team in Montenegro since 2019.

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REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA


Natalija Aceska, PhD - throughout her professional career span of more than 20 years, Natalija has been deeply involved in the educational system in Macedonia, serving as biology teacher, high school principal, and currently as an advisor at the Bureau for Development of Education/Ministry of Education and Science. She has served as executive director of the NGO “Knowledge Harvest” in Prilep since 2006 and was certified as a GLOBE International Coach to lead international teacher training and related professional development activities. In 2013, she was nominated as Scientix Ambassador for Macedonia by the Scientix project supported by the European Commission (www.scientix.eu) and continues to be actively promoting STEM. She has been a member of EPAN since 2018.

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Ivanka Mijikj serves as an advisor in the Bureau for Development of Education at the Ministry of Education and Science in North Macedonia. Her work is focused on creating educational standards and curricula for primary and secondary schools, as well as professional advisory work with teachers and teacher training. Her educational background includes earning B.S. and M.S. degrees in chemistry education from Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, as well as practical experience acquired as a high school teacher and participant in workshops, seminars, conferences, training sessions and projects. Ivanka Mijikj is highly interested and involved in promoting and supporting education for democratic citizenship and human rights education. She has also been a national EDC HRE coordinator at the Council of Europe.

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SERBIA


Snežana Vuković, PhD, Head of Department for human and minority rights in education in the Serbian Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. She is a professor in the Faculty of Sport Sciences Union University in Belgrade, a member of Network EDC/HRE CoE (National Coordinator for Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights of the Council of Europe) and EPAN Network. Her fields of expertise include childrens’ rights, stress management, inclusive education / marginalized groups of students, education of migrants, gender equality and prevention of family/gender violence, managing of human resources and teams, etc.

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Svetlana Lazić, PhD, works in Preschool Teachers Training College as professor in charge of pedagogic courses and also is an associate professor in the Faculty of Sport Sciences (Pan-European University, Bosnia and Herzegovina). Her fields of expertise include children’s rights, nursery, inclusive, and intercultural education. Following graduation, she worked as a television journalist, focusing mainly on educational programs, and advocated in the office of the Provincial Ombudsman of Vojvodina for the protection, implementation, and improvement of children’s rights. She has participated in EDC/HRE in Serbia and promoted its concepts at all levels of formal education from the beginning and has published papers in national and international journals.

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SWITZERLAND


Doris Kuhn, initially worked in the commercial and tourist industries in various capacities. She joined the PH Zurich in 2003 as an assistant in the subject area of education and subsequently studied anthropology, comparative religion, and art history at the University of Zurich, leading to a degree in Mediation. She has served in various departments of the PH Zurich, including initial teacher training and professional development, in both organizational and teaching roles. Since 2013, she has been actively engaged as a research assistant and project leader within the IPE project of Democracy Education and Human Rights (<https://www.living-democracy.com/>), life skills projects for vulnerable groups (<https://ipe-textbooks.phzh.ch/de/english/>) and the department of human resource management.

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Rolf Gollob, Prof. Dr. h.c. (*1955), was a primary school teacher before studying ethnology and journalism at Zurich University. Pursuant to acquiring his Master's degree, he concentrated on ethnological research and later went on to become a lecturer at Zurich University of Teacher Education. He has served in this capacity for 25 years now, focusing his efforts on civic education and intercultural pedagogy. As an expert on human rights and civic education for the Council of Europe, he has traveled frequently to South-East Europe since 1966. Within the IPE he is mainly responsible for the acquisition and realization of projects.

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