

PROJECT "CROSS-BORDER AND CROSS-SECTOR DIALOGUE
FOR TOLERANCE AND PEACE IN CENTRAL ASIA"



CENTERS "GENERATION OF PEACE"



Funded by the
European Union



ABOUT THE PROJECT

Funded by the European Union project **"CROSS-BORDER AND CROSS-SECTOR DIALOGUE FOR TOLERANCE AND PEACE IN CENTRAL ASIA"** aims to promote multilateral cross-border dialogue and cooperation between Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to encourage tolerance and understanding and prevent radicalization. The project is being implemented by a consortium under the leadership of the Foundation. Conrad Adenauer together with three national partners: Ecological Movement "BIOM" (Kyrgyzstan), National Yuksalish Movement (Uzbekistan) and Public Organization "Gender and Development" (Tajikistan) in the period from 2020 to 2023.



PROJECT MISSION

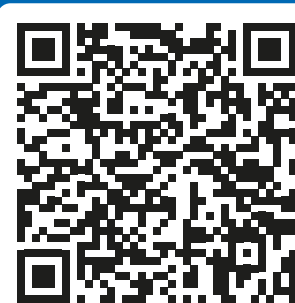
Promoting multilateral and cross-border dialogue and cooperation between Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan in order to promote tolerance, and mutual understanding and prevent radicalization.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The project aims to raise awareness of the roots of violent extremism and enhance the capacity for peacebuilding among youth and local civil society in the border regions of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. It also seeks to initiate and institutionalize various cross-border and multisectoral dialogue formats to promote tolerance, prevent violent extremism, and improve

collaboration between border communities, civil society, and local authorities.

The Centers for Friendship, Interethnic Accord, and Tolerance were established at three border universities in the Fergana Valley as part of the project. These centers facilitated the creation of debate and discussion clubs.



[Project prospectus](#)



[Promo video of the project](#)

FACTORS OF VULNERABILITY AND RESILIENCE YOUTH IN CENTRAL ASIA

Based on the research conducted within the project "Factors of Vulnerability and Resilience of Youth in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to Radicalization and Extremism: Analytical Report on the Results of Research Review" and "Analysis of Risks of Spreading Radicalism and Extremism Ideas in Central Asian Media and Social Networks," it can be confidently asserted that developing competencies in social life and the ability to assert one's position based on knowledge will enable the youth in Central Asia to counter the risks of radicalization. These risks can stem from external circumstances or be based on existing beliefs and stereotypes.

Youth can function as a crucial factor for positive change if they have appropriate education, access to rights, and opportunities through the development of skills, professional training, and new forms of social participation.

Access to quality education, including non-formal education, plays a vital role in shaping the skills and competence of the younger generation, enhancing their overall resilience, problem-solving abilities, and capacity for creating change.

Young people have valuable insights into the issues they and their communities face. From education-related challenges to issues related to ethnicity, religion, politics, and gender, they want to contribute to building a safer and more peaceful society for future generations.



¹¹ Azizi R., Karybaeva M., Korotenko V., Kirilenko A., Nazarov R., Fukalov I. Factors of vulnerability and resilience of young people in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan to the risks of radicalization and extremism. Analytical review based on research results / Ed. Editor: M. A. Karybaeva - B., 2022 - 97 p. URL: <https://peace4centralasia.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/factory-uyazvimosti-i-ustojchivosti-molodezhi-2.pdf>

² Dyikanbaev M., Islanbekova B., Karybaeva M., Rizoan Sh., Talaibek u Zh., Turakhanov J., Tyulegenov M., Ergeshov Z. Risk analysis of the spread of ideas of radicalism and extremism in the media and social networks of Central Asia. Research / Resp. editor: M.A. Karybaeva - B. 2022. - 100 p.

One of the most important conditions and components for the functioning of society in terms of sustainable development is the education system. It is precisely the education system that provides opportunities for shaping individuals capable not only of living in such a world but also of shaping it.

More than half of the population of Central Asia is under 30 years old, and it is estimated that around a million young people enter the labor market in Central Asia every year. These young individuals are full of energy, open to new ideas and opportunities, and eager to contribute to the development and well-being of their communities and society. They are the foundation of the future of the Central Asian region.

In Central Asia, many young people, especially girls, consider themselves excluded from discussions on peace and public security issues. The perspectives and views of the youth are often pushed to the background, and they are perceived as part of the problem rather than part of the solution. This approach not only ignores the potential of young people in promoting positive changes in communities but also alienates them and excludes any solutions they may offer to strengthen peace and security. Young women, in particular, are vulnerable to specific forms of violence and discrimination.

IN CENTRAL ASIA, THERE ARE FOUR APPLY RADICALIZATION:

1

PROBLEMS
IDENTITY AND
ACCESSORIES

2

WEAKENING
SOCIAL STRUCTURE

3

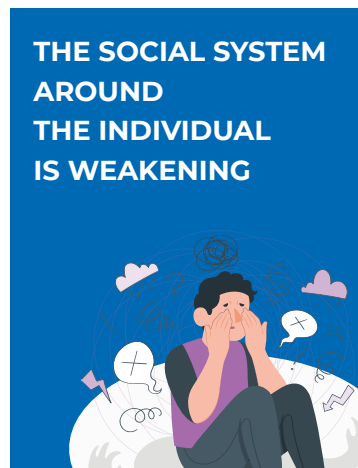
LACK OF PLATFORMS,
ON WHICH YOUTH
CAN SPEAK
YOUR COMPLAINTS AND
RESPONSE TO THEM

4

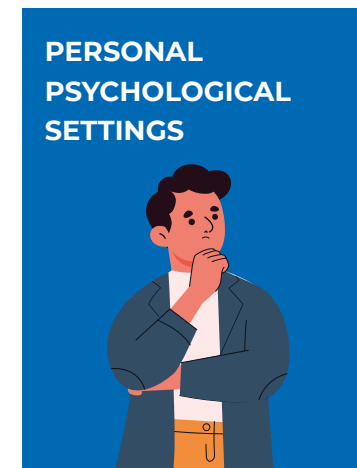
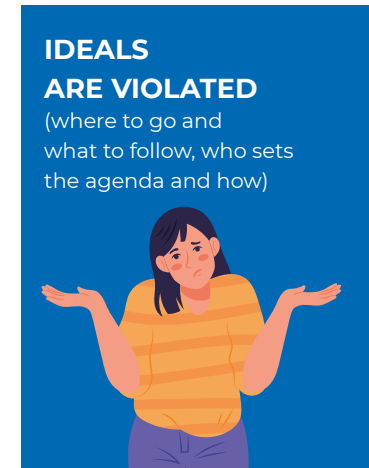
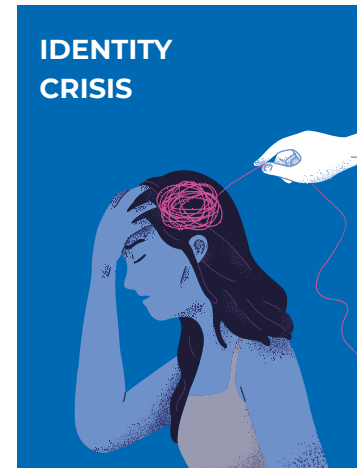
EXCEPTION FROM
ACCEPTANCE PROCESSES
SOLUTIONS

FACTORS RADICALIZATION

Impact of external circumstances



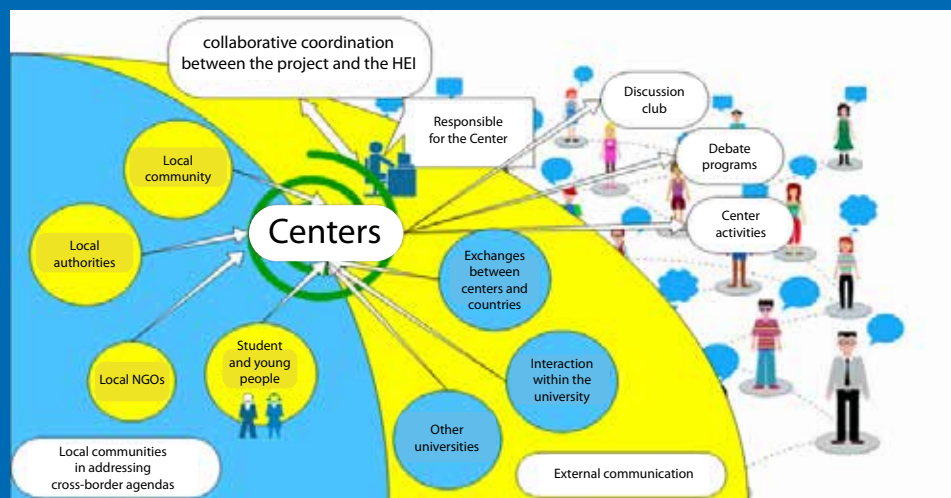
Worldview foundations



CENTERS "GENERATION OF PEACE"

The Center for Friendship, Interethnic Accord, and Tolerance is being created within the framework of the European Union-funded project "Cross-border and intersectoral dialogue for tolerance and peace in Central Asia" aimed at strengthening multilateral cross-border dialogue and cooperation between

Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan to promote tolerance and understanding and prevent radicalization. The project is being implemented by a consortium led by the Foundation. Konrad Adenauer together with three national partners: the Ecological Movement "BIOM" (Kyrgyzstan), the National Movement "Yuksalish" (Uzbekistan), and the Public Organization "Gender and Development" (Tajikistan).



The mission of the Centre: to function as a "Hub" - a dynamic network hub for various cross-border initiatives, capacity-building activities for civil society organizations and youth discussion platforms, and for the development of educational and informational materials.

DIRECTION OF THE CENTER'S ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROJECT:

- ▶ building and strengthening the capacity of student youth and local civil society actors, to promote mutual understanding, peacebuilding, and good inter-ethnic relations, ethnic and religious tolerance.
- ▶ support for various dialog formats, for example, discussion clubs, debate programs, training, and regional youth expert forums.

Target groups: Youth in all three target countries (aged 18 to 35), including youth activists from local grassroots organizations, girls, young representatives in local authorities, young teachers in universities of border regions, high school students, teachers, representatives of civil society, journalists, and local communities in border regions.

After the completion of the Project, the host universities will take ownership and continue to support the activities of the Centers.

APPROACH TO ORGANIZING A CENTER "GENERATION OF PEACE"

Center for Friendship, Interethnic Accord, and Tolerance - multifunctional expansion space, raising the level of youth and girls, involving them in active work, and initiating cross-border and intersectoral dialogue through deepening conflicts between people, limiting stereotypes, building trust, and promoting tolerance, and good neighborliness. It is equipped with a socially important discussion of the participation of all participants in online and offline events in a single discussion space and is a three-dimensional model: discussion and debate training center / virtual conference/video production studio.



**ALL CONDITIONS ARE CREATED IN OUR CENTER
FOR EVENTS ON THE MODEL "YOUNG TO
YOUNG" BOTH IN OFFLINE AND ONLINE
FORMATS, INCLUDING DEBATE TOURNAMENTS,
DISCUSSION SESSIONS, TRAINING, MASTER
CLASSES, AND MUCH MORE**





EDUCATION - AS A WAY OF TEACHING NEW ACTIONS, A METHOD OF THINKING AND A NEW BEAUTIFUL LIFE - GENERALLY HAS A GREAT POTENTIAL TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

Creation and development of debate clubs and discussion programs in the Centers of Friendship, International Congress and Tolerance of the Heart:

- » **Creation of a platform** where young people from among students and students of an educational organization, as well as young people and other interested persons from nearby areas, can unite to discuss urgent problems of their society and the world;
- » **The development of higher skills** among young people, such as analytical and critical thinking, generalization, scientific analysis of socially significant products and processes, the introduction of effective communications, public speaking, media literacy;
- » **Establishing a framework for building and strengthening capacity participants in the field of debate and discussion programs;**
- » **The development of young people's tolerance for the opinions of other people,** interaction in a group, and participation in group decision-making, as debates and discussions develop a respectful attitude towards differences of opinion among young people
- » **Active life position and humanistic outlook,** upsurge, and political culture
- » **Self-education and development of the worldview of the participants,** in the values of which good-neighborly, mutually respectful coexistence is recognized as integral basic guidelines;
- » **Formation of "soft skills/flexible skills" among participants,** such as, for example, skills of use in society, tolerance and respect for proven views, communicative competence, skills in implementing technologies for searching and analyzing information and reference literature.
- » **Creation of sustainable formats for strengthening counteraction stereotypes;**
- » **Strengthening reverse societies, in particular, youth;**
- » **Strengthening peacebuilding in society;**
- » **Promoting tolerance, and good inter-ethnic relations;**
- » **Countering the spread of ideas of mass extremism.**

The uniqueness of the discussion programs and debate clubs created within the framework of the project is that young people independent participation in the creation of platforms for their training and in the process become Messengers of the Generation of Peace.

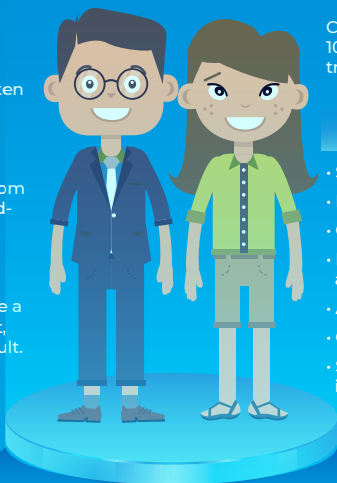
AMONG SOFT SKILLS:

Critical thinking - the ability to navigate the flows information, see cause and effect relationships, weed out the unnecessary and draw conclusions;

Communication - the ability to negotiate and establish contacts, listen to the interlocutor and convey one's point of view;

Creativity - to assess the situation from different angles, to accept non-standard solutions and feel confident in changing circumstances;

Teamwork is the ability to determine a common goal and ways to achieve it, distribute roles and evaluate the result.



STUDENT OR SCHOOLBOY



Communication and self-knowledge 100%, follow all scientific modern trends.

THINKING ABOUT...

- Social awareness
- Leadership
- Civic activism
- Positive perception of yourself and others
- Awareness and respect for diversity
- Conflict resolution and mediation
- Self-identification and community identification

Join us, participate in the debate tournaments and discussion programs of our project, and think about the prospects. The totality of the following competencies:

01

Social awareness

- the ability to accurately understand the feelings of others and evaluate their impact on behavior

02

Leadership

- the ability to set standards and manage a creative climate in which people strive for the achievement of long-term and constructive goals;

03

Civic activity

is the conscious participation of a person in the life of society, reflecting his conscious real social significant actions aimed at improving the state of society with a reasonable balance of personal and public interests.

04

Positive perception of yourself and others

- the ability to cope with your negative thoughts, and turn them into a positive mood, despite the presence of difficulties and life failures.

05

Awareness and respect for diversity

- understanding individual differences and creating a culture of equal opportunity that benefits both the individual and society.

06

Conflict resolution and mediation

- a conflict is a specific organization of activities in which the contradiction is kept in the process of its resolution. Participants of debate/discussion programs will be able to gain skills as mediators on issues of preventing radicalization and master exit/conflict resolution strategies

07

Self-identification and community identification

- the formation of a set of ideas of a person about his identity in all major modalities



WHAT IS A COMPETENCY?



According to the modern understanding of the term, competence (lat. conformity, proportionality) - defined as the integrated ability of a person independently apply various elements of knowledge, skills and methods of activity in a certain situation (educational, personal, professional).

In recent years, within the framework of the competence model, an idea has been formed about two types of skills - "hard skills" (hard skills) and "soft skills" (soft/flexible skills).³

"Hard skills" are associated with the future professional activities of students/youth, and "soft skills" are a set of non-specialized socio-psychological skills that ensure the success and efficiency of any kind of activity.⁴

Among the "soft skills", 4 skills stand out especially, "4K"

CRITICAL THINKING

ability to navigate information flows, see causal relationships, weed out the unnecessary, and do conclusions;

COMMUNICATION

negotiation skills and connect, listen interlocutor and convey your point of view;

CREATIVITY

assess the situation from different parties, take custom solutions and feel confident in changing circumstances;

TEAM JOB

ability to define a common goal and ways to achieve it assign roles and evaluate results.

It can be safely stated that the formation of competencies in the field of social life and the ability to defend your position based on knowledge, allows the youth of Central Asia to resist the risks of radicalization, which can come from both external circumstances, and be based on prevailing beliefs and stereotypes.

In general, debate/discussion programs allow the creation sustainable platforms/formats to strengthen youth potential through the formation competencies in the field of interaction with people and communities on violence prevention, radicalization, and conflict prevention, effective fight against stereotypes in order to encourage tolerance, good interethnic relations, the most counteracting the spread of ideas violent extremism.



Psychoregulation

Managing your emotions and mental state



Self-knowledge

Understanding your strengths and weaknesses



Storytelling

Ability to write beautifully and express your thoughts



Communication Techniques

Techniques for effective interaction with people



Time management

Time management, planning and achieve goals



Invention

Application of creative algorithms for solving non-trivial problems



Modern rhetoric

Ability to achieve your goals in public speaking



Lifelong learning

Techniques for effectively mastering new knowledge, changes, and skills

³ Koryakina N.I. Organization of social partnership in the children's environmental center. Environmental education: before school, at school, outside school, 2008. - No 4

⁴ Personalized model of education: manual / ANO "Platform of the new school". - M., 2019.

ABOUT THE DEBATE AND DISCUSSIONS

What makes discussions and debates effective human perfection?

Paola Volkova, Doctor of Art History, cultural historian, in her speech, says that "Greek philosophy ("Ancient Greek" - ed.), was formed around dialogues (practices of discussions, debates - ed.) about the main thing, philosophical dialogues, it was a tradition - Symposium. The whole nation has been talking for 500 years... training in philosophical dialogues around global topics... And why was this high experience accepted in Ancient Greece - these efforts were for one thing - a person must become human, he must defeat the centaur in himself.

Paola Dmitrievna Volkova
art critic, historian culture.



Open lecture course
Paola Volkova
"Conversations about Art"

Brudny, Aron Abramovich
psychologist and philosopher;
doctor Philosophical Sciences,
Professor⁵

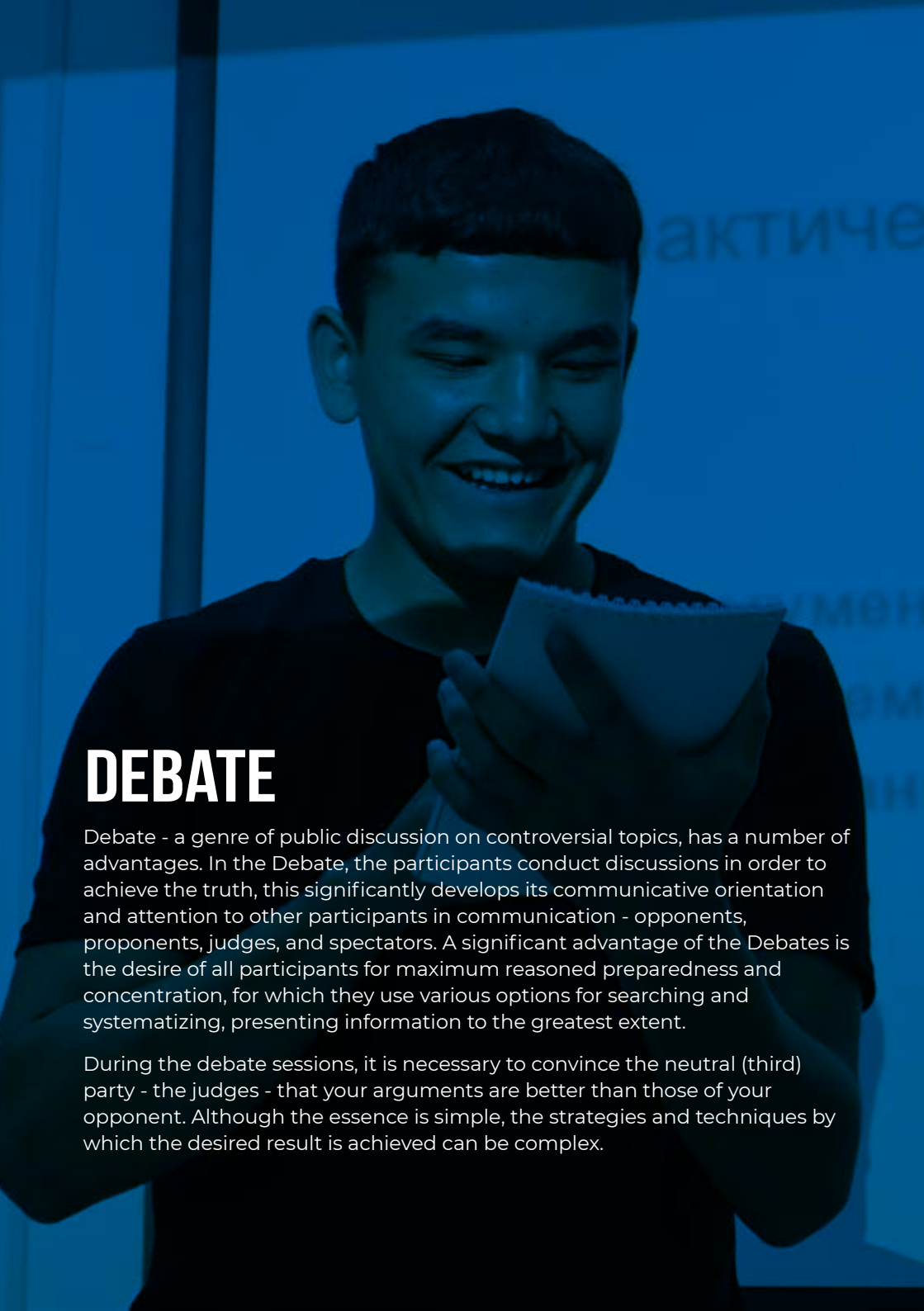


A series of lectures
by A.A. Brudny
"Human and society"

We find similar conclusions in the works of A.A. Brudny, in the series of lectures "Man and Society": to achieve at least 10% of their potential geniuses in their country, in 50 years will leave behind countries 100 or more times larger in population, but more conservative in this respect (education - author's note)."

An additional condition for the formation of competencies that contribute to positive changes among young people is the acquisition in the process of participating in debate and discussion events - the ability to analyze arrays of information, the ability to think critically, conduct a dialogue, analyze their own and other people's points of view, which will allow participants to learn how to evaluate the validity and reliability of certain judgments, to negotiate and find a compromise solution, to be an active participant in meetings with other cultures, resolving problem situations.

⁵ Aron Abramovich Brudny - Doctor of Philosophy, Professor, Honored Scientist, Honored Educator, laureate of the State Prize of the Kyrgyz Republic. Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic, and member of the California and New York Academies of Sciences.



DEBATE

Debate - a genre of public discussion on controversial topics, has a number of advantages. In the Debate, the participants conduct discussions in order to achieve the truth, this significantly develops its communicative orientation and attention to other participants in communication - opponents, proponents, judges, and spectators. A significant advantage of the Debates is the desire of all participants for maximum reasoned preparedness and concentration, for which they use various options for searching and systematizing, presenting information to the greatest extent.

During the debate sessions, it is necessary to convince the neutral (third) party - the judges - that your arguments are better than those of your opponent. Although the essence is simple, the strategies and techniques by which the desired result is achieved can be complex.

- » In debate, the topic is framed as a statement (eg, "This House believes school uniforms should be mandatory").
- » In the debate, the speakers of the affirmative side try to convince the judges of the correctness of their positions (assertion of the wording of the topic, for example, "intercultural dialogue should be a subject in school").
- » The speakers of the negative side want to prove to the judge that the position of the affirming party is incorrect (for example, "intercultural dialogue is not mandatory in the school curriculum", which means "the choice of a subject should be voluntary"), or that the interpretation of the topic and the argumentation of their position (case, aspects, support, and evidence) by the speakers of the affirming party is flawed.
- » With the help of reasoning, you will be able to convince the judge that your position on the topic is the best. That is, you give the judge a reason to believe that your position is correct. Arguments can be either weak or strong. You will want to present the strongest, most compelling arguments, and convince the judge that they are the best.
- » The judges, many of whom are former debaters, are highly skeptical. They will want to see that you have thought through the arguments, taking into account both points of view on a particular topic, and that your arguments can withstand the attack of opponents.
- » Along with the arguments, the participants in the debate should submit evidence to the judge (logic, facts, statistics), supporting their position. In debate, evidence is obtained through research. Basically, these are the opinions of experts.
- » After the judges have listened to the arguments of both sides on about the topic, they fill in the judges' protocols, in which they record decisions about which team was given preference based on the results of the debate (the arguments and method of proof of which were more convincing).

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DEBATE CLUB PREPARATION, PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN:

- Fundamentals of debate and the concept of debate culture;
- The importance of debate, competencies that develop in the process of mastering debate technologies (critical thinking, oratory, looking at the world from different angles, researching facts and building logical chains and argumentation, etc.);
- History of the development of the debate;
- Types of competitive, television, and political debate exist today.

DISCUSSION

The term "discussion" comes from the latin word "discussio," which means examination or investigation. Discussion is a method of deliberation and resolution of controversial issues. Currently, it is one of the most important forms of educational activity that stimulates students' initiative, promotes the development of reflective thinking, and aims to help them acquire new concepts, meanings, and knowledge.

The discussion arises when people are faced with a question that does not have a single answer. Through discussion, people formulate a new answer to the question that is more satisfying to all sides. The outcome can be a general agreement, a better understanding, a fresh perspective on the problem, or a collaborative solution.

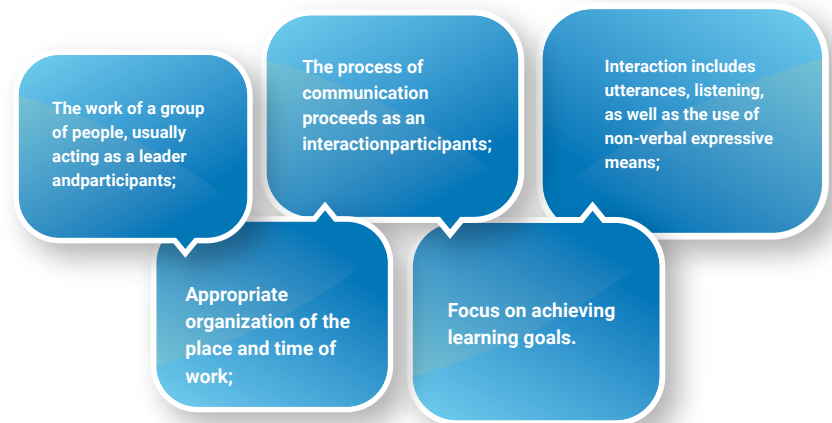
The significance of regular use of discussion in the present time is unquestioned by anyone. For a solid assimilation of knowledge and understanding of its practical application, it is necessary to read and memorize the material and discuss it with another person. It is essential for the discussions to be substantive and structured.

L. S. Vygotsky, S. L. Rubinstein, and many other researchers have argued that intellectual growth is a product of both internal and external, i.e., social processes. They have stated that a higher level of thinking emerges from interactions or dialogue between people.

DISCUSSION CLUBS

An informal educational space where participants form "new content". One of the most important forms of communication, a method for solving problems of describing reality and a peculiar way of knowing, allows you to better explain what is not fully clear and has not yet found a convincing justification. Useful in that it reduces the moment of subjectivity while providing general support for the beliefs of an individual or group of people.

Discussion signs:



As part of the preparation of discussion programs, participants will learn:

- ▶ History of development and use of discussion technologies in educational process;
- ▶ Algorithms for preparing and conducting discussion programs;
- ▶ Rules of work during the discussion;
- ▶ Discussion management cycle;
- ▶ Types of discussions;
- ▶ Methods of setting discussion questions;
- ▶ Formation of topics for the meetings of the Discussion Clubs;
- ▶ Distribution of roles during the discussion and preparation of the moderator and participants of the meetings of the Discussion Clubs;
- ▶ Formation of the Roadmap of the Discussion Club.
- ▶ The importance of discussion, competencies that develop in the process of mastering discussion methods (self-organization of participants, finding different ways to express their thoughts, increasing susceptibility to new information, a new point of view, etc.);



YOUTH GROUP PREPARATION “GENERATION OF PEACE”

Before you start organizing debates, discussions, and other informal educational activities among students or young people need to learn how to do it. Debate clubs and discussion programs cannot exist without people and the task of club members is to recruit new members. This is usually done once at the beginning of the school year.

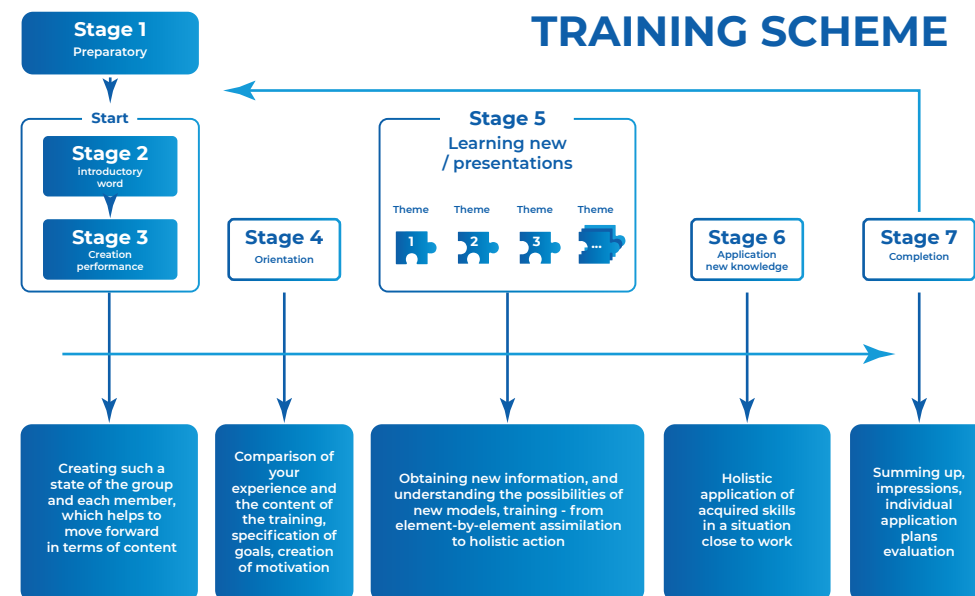
The guide for organizing debate clubs and discussion programs developed within the framework of the project will provide you with more detailed information.



Guidelines for organizing and conducting discussion programs and debate clubs in Centers of friendship, interethnic accord and tolerance

Also, in the Centers of Friendship, Interethnic Accord, and Tolerance, opened within the framework of the project, training is regularly held to prepare the youth group “Generation of the World”. After training coordination

the “Generation of the World” group independently, with the support of the administration of the educational organization, prepares and conducts educational events both in universities and in other educational organizations, or other sites of its locality, spreading positive narratives of peacebuilding, good neighborliness in the youth environment, thereby stimulating the involvement of young people in the process of participation in making meaningful decisions



The purpose of the training is to form a coordinating group "Generation of the Peace" from among young people, young teachers, and other interested parties and train them to organize a sustainable youth platform at educational organizations involved in the preparation and conduct of discussion programs, the formation and development of debate clubs, and other modern educational events

As a result of the training, participants:

- ▶ To get acquainted with the developed Guidelines and materials of the PROJECT "CROSS-BORDER AND CROSS-SECTOR DIALOGUE FOR TOLERANCE AND PEACE IN CENTRAL ASIA" in order to prepare and conduct discussion programs and debate clubs;
- ▶ Get acquainted with the concept of discussion programs and debate clubs in order to improve non-formal educational activities in educational organizations;
- ▶ Form competencies that contribute to self-development, socialization, and countering the risks and threats of radicalization in the interests of good neighborliness, mutual understanding, and maintaining peace in the Central Asian region;
- ▶ Learn how to organize discussion programs and debate clubs and other educational events in educational institutions.
- ▶ They will form a plan for creating discussion programs and a debate club.
- ▶ Form an active coordinating group "Generation of the Peace"

After completing the training, young people will know:

KNOW:

- components of debate and discussion technologies and ways of their application;
- methods of teamwork and joint preparation for debate tournaments and discussion programs;
- theory of judging in debates, facilitation and moderation of discussions;
- rules of work during the discussion;
- discussion management cycle;
- types of discussions;
- methodology for setting discussion questions.

BE ABLE TO:

- organize team interaction to participate in debates;
- keep the discussion at a "high level", preventing participants from shifting their focus to "habitual and banal demagoguery", giving the opportunity each participant to speak.
- use theoretical knowledge to participate in debates and discussions;
- judge debate rounds and give feedback;
- analyze and search for the necessary information independently, using the skills of comprehension and information analysis

THEMATIC BLOCKS OF GUIDELINES WERE DEVELOPED BASED ON RESEARCH

inner world

- Emotions
- Thinking
- Understanding
- Memory
- Attention
- Identity

Social world

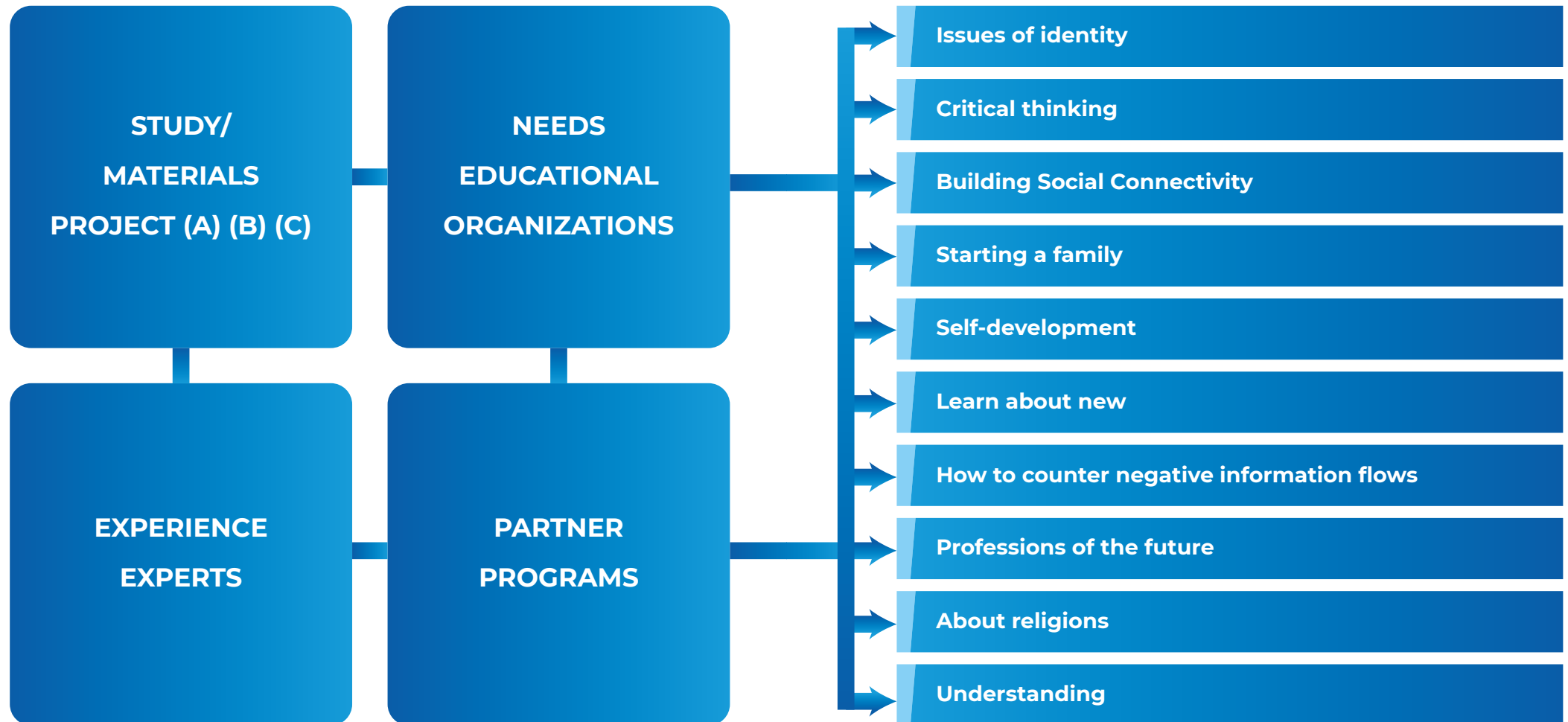
- Social Connectivity
- Professions of the future
- About religions
- Fundraising
- Social engineering
- Meditation
- Communication

Global discourses

- Challenges of the modern world
- Sustainable development
- Designing the future
- Opposition to radicalization

THEME DESIGN FOR DEBATE CLUBS AND DISCUSSION PROGRAMS

THEMATIC DIRECTIONS RECOMMENDED BY PROJECT EXPERTS



OTHER EDUCATIONAL EVENTS OF FRIENDSHIP CENTERS, INTERNATIONAL ACCORD AND TOLERANCE

**ORGANIZATION
VARIOUS SEMINARS**

**ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC
DEBATES ON CURRENT TOPICS**

MODEL UN

**CLUB
YOUNG DIPLOMATS**

**LITERARY CLUB
AND VIDEO CLUB**



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Centers "Generation of Peace" IN THREE COUNTRIES.



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