



2025

Annual Activity Report



BRIDGING FRONTIERS, SHAPING COMMUNITY

www.polylogos.eu
contact@polylogos.eu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDERS	3
VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES	4
PROJECTS 2024 - OVERVIEW	5
MEETINGS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES	6
ASPYRE EUROPE Co-Creation Workshops with Teachers	6
Elephant Talk International Data Training	7
Lives in Motion Teacher Training and Testing of Toolkit	8
Lives in Motion International Staff Event	9
Elephant Talk Preparatory Meeting with MEPs	10
Community-Led Event: From Idea to Impact	11
ASPYRE EUROPE Active Youth Forum Italy	12
Voices in the Agora: An Erasmus+ Event	13
REAL 2025 Summer School	14
ASPYRE EUROPE Active Youth Forum Romania	15-16
ELEPHANT TALK Local Data-Presentation and Dialogue Event	17
Elephant Talk - International Data Presentation Event in Brussels	18-19
Lives in Motion Testing Event in Zagreb	20
RE(CONSTRUCT) Consortium Meeting	21
ONGOING AND UPCOMING PROJECTS	22
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT – 2025	23-24
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	25
TEAM	26-27

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDERS

2025 was a year of learning, growth, and finding our rhythm. Our projects challenged us to stretch further, experiment with new methods, and build new partnerships. Through creativity, collaboration, and sustained commitment, we developed innovative educational tools and resources, and we are already seeing their impact in local schools and youth centres across Europe.

At the same time, as Polylogos put down deeper roots, the world around us became increasingly unstable. Democratic backsliding and the erosion of human rights continued across many contexts. New and growing challenges emerged around artificial intelligence, digital safety, and the online information landscape. Harsh rhetoric and policies increasingly threaten minority rights, women's rights, and the protection of migrants, while strict fiscal measures reduce access to essential public services such as education and healthcare. By the end of the year, experts and world leaders were openly questioning the future of a rules-based international order — if such an order ever truly existed — as allies turn against one another and democratic societies fracture from within. In this environment, it is difficult not to look at the future with concern.

And yet, we remain grounded because we know that what we are doing matters. We cannot do everything, but doing something is always better than doing nothing. Pro-democracy and human rights organisations like ours must move forward together, with courage and solidarity, doing our part to safeguard the values we hold dear. While the full impact of this work can never be fully measured, we see its effects in the lives of the young people we work with: young people who move from passive recipients to active participants, and from there to community organisers and change-makers. When young people recognise their own value as active agents in society — and commit early on to democracy, human rights, inclusion, and integrity — there is no turning back.

By investing in a new generation of pro-democracy activists and defenders, supported by a community that transcends generational, national, gender, ethnic, and other divides, we believe we can act as a counterforce to authoritarian trends and tendencies. Step by step, together, we can help move society toward a more democratic future — one in which everyone, everywhere, has equal rights and genuine opportunities to participate.

With compassion and hope,
Camilla & Liviu Bocănia



Liviu Daniel Bocănia
President and Executive Director



Camilla Regine Bocănia
Vice-President and Program Director

VISION, MISSION, OBJECTIVES

Our vision, mission, and objectives reflect our unwavering commitment to building bridges across communities and empowering future leaders through dialogue, education, and civic action.

Vision

Our vision is to shape inclusive communities, in which people can grow to be leaders of integrity, influence and impact.

Academics are always part of all curriculums, but we strive to offer extended access to experience, by putting together people willing to become, with people who are already there.

Mentorship is key to the Polylogos approach to fostering inclusive communities and leadership. Mentor- and mentee relationships grow out of inclusive communities, which transcend ethnic/national identities, age-groups, gender, and professional and educational background. We firmly believe that mentorship, rather than being a one-way street, should be mutually beneficial relationships based on trust and openness, in which both mentors and mentees are supporting each other on their growth journey

Mission

Our mission is to design and implement engaging programs that promote civic participation through democratic values, across all levels of society.

Objectives

- Identify and invest in aspiring leaders with a proven capacity and willingness to get actively involved in making positive changes for their communities.
- Offer trainings, guidance and a networking platform for leaders from across sectors in society, who want to grow in their capacity as leaders and mentors.
- Educate and empower citizens to get actively involved in their communities and in democratic decision-making processes.
- Strengthen the democratic culture and capacity of policy-makers and citizens, and help bridge the gap between political elites and the general public.

PROJECTS 2025 - OVERVIEW

lives in motion

Lives in Motion is a 20-month CERV-2023-CITIZENS-REM project running from May 2024 through December 2025. The project involves developing an interdisciplinary educational toolkit to help young Europeans critically understand migration, globalization, and global citizenship while promoting tolerance and diversity.

[POLYLOGOS.EU/LIVES-IN-MOTION/](https://polylogos.eu/lives-in-motion/)



Elephant Talk is an 18-month CERV-2023-CITIZENS-CIV project starting in July 2024 and running through December 2025. The project strengthens young EU citizens' engagement with gender-based hate speech through youth-led data gathering and visualization, while building youth workers' capacities and promoting civic dialogue.

[POLYLOGOS.EU/ELEPHANT-TALK/](https://polylogos.eu/elephant-talk/)



ASPYRE EUROPE is a 24-month CERV-2023-CITIZENS-CIV project being implemented from August 2024 through July 2026, in Romania, Italy and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project scales up the original ASPYRE project (2022-2023) to promote youth participation through civic education tools, Active Youth Forums, youth advocacy groups, and a European dialogue platform.

[POLYLOGOS.EU/ASPYRE-EUROPE/](https://polylogos.eu/aspyre-europe/)

RECONSTRUCT

(RE)CONSTRUCT is a 24-month CERV-2023-CITIZENS-REM project running from May 2025 to April 2027. The project addresses Europe's contrasting post-war trajectories, leading to democracy in the West and different forms of totalitarianism in the East. Young people (aged 15–30) engage in the project by participating in: (1) a traveling journalistic-theatrical performance; and (2) interactive workshops where participants step into different roles and perspectives to (re)imagine and (re)build society together.

[POLYLOGOS.EU/PROJECTS/RE-CONSTRUCT/](https://polylogos.eu/projects/re-construct/)

MEETINGS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ASPYRE EUROPE Co-Creation Workshops with Teachers and Educators

18-30 JANUARY 2025, CLUJ-NAPOCA (CLUJ), PECHEA (GALATI), HORIA (ROMAN)

As part of the ASPYRE EUROPE project, a series of Co-Creation Workshops were organised throughout January 2025, engaging more than 80 teachers and educators, as well as High School students, from rural and urban areas across Romania. The purpose of these interactive workshops was to equip teachers, educators and youth workers with practical tools to educate and empower youth to participate meaningfully in democratic processes. Similar workshops were simultaneously implemented by partners in Genoa (Italy) and Sarajevo (BiH).

The results from the workshops were compiled in an interactive **Toolkit on Democracy and Youth Civic Participation**, a comprehensive compilation of guidelines, practical examples and interactive workshop activities for teachers, educators and youth workers, tailored for use in formal and non-formal learning environments. The toolkit is published and freely available for download [here](#), in [English](#), [Romanian](#), [Italian](#) and [Bosnian](#).



Elephant Talk International Data Training

20-24 JANUARY, ATHENS

The Polylogos team, alongside 27 fellow youth workers, civic educators, and professionals from across seven European countries (Romania, Italy, Portugal, Greece, Croatia, Slovenia and Spain), participated in three full days of training in Athens to enhance their skills in data gathering and visualization, with a specific focus on **online gender-based hate speech**.

The event was the second in a two-part training series. The previous training event, which was held in Palermo in November 2024, allowed participants to explore data collection methodologies and ethical considerations. The training in Athens further consolidated this previously gained knowledge, while adding greater emphasis on data interpretation and visualization, equipping participants with practical skills to effectively present and interpret data for future actions.

Overall, the training served as an essential capacity-building opportunity for youth workers, who gained the tools and confidence to collect, analyze, and visualize data to combat online gender-based hate speech. As a direct result, participants from across seven European countries co-created the data collection methodology and visualization strategy that would be further implemented throughout the remainder of the Elephant Talk project.



Lives in Motion Teacher Training and Testing of Toolkit

20-28 MARCH 2025, CLUJ-NAPOCA AND CÂMPIA TURZII

On Thursday, 20th of March 2025 at Liceul Teoretic Nicolae Bălcescu (Cluj-Napoca), and on Friday, 21st March 2025, at Colegiul Tehnic Victor Ungureanu (Câmpia Turzii), a group of 28 dedicated High School teachers came together to test the role play activities developed within the Lives in Motion project. The Polylogos team facilitated the activities and gathered structured feedback from the teachers, in order to make final revisions and improvements.

The pilot testing sessions engaged high school teachers from a wide range of disciplines, including history, literature, psychology, social-emotional education, biology, languages, physical education, and engineering. Notably, the group included educators working in diverse educational settings, including teachers involved in the “A Doua Şansă” (Second Chance) programme, and teachers working in rural areas and classes where minorities are over-represented. This diversity of context, background, and perspective greatly enriched the feedback and affirmed the toolkit’s relevance across settings.

The teachers who joined the pilot events are committed to promoting the toolkit within their classrooms. As a result, the project’s reach will extend organically to high school students across different regions in Romania. The strong participation, positive feedback, and enthusiasm for continued collaboration all affirm that the role play toolkit is a timely and valuable resource for educators - and a catalyst for meaningful, up-to-date learning on migration in Europe.

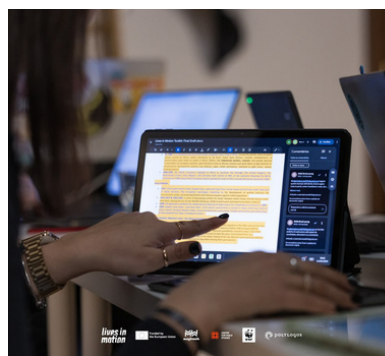


Lives in Motion International Staff Event for the Revision and Production of non-formal educational toolkit

2-5 APRIL 2025, PALERMO

Having gathered feedback from teachers, educators, youth workers and activists in various educational communities, the Polylogos team joined the project partners from Portugal, Croatia and Italy for a final intensive 2-days toolkit development meeting in Palermo. Participating at the event were also local teachers, MIDI students, youth workers and activists in Maghweb’s inclusive cultural hub and community library to implement the suggestions, changes, ideas, critiques and feedback previously gathered, and create the definitive, launch-ready but modifiable version of the toolkit.

The collaborative working sessions in Palermo resulted in the final version of **Lives in Motion: The Game**. As such, the meeting represented a crucial “arrival point” in the Lives in Motion educational journey, where participants could make final decisions and engage in creative and fruitful conversation and face-to-face collaborative work after the long, methodical and in-depth process of the game’s development local and international levels. It was also an opportunity for all toolkit developers to recognise and be inspired by the truly “plural” and “multi-perspective” quality of this new educational resource and the pluriverse into which it invites high school teachers and students to enter.



Elephant Talk Preparatory Meeting with MEPs

2-5 JUNE 2025, BRUSSELS

The Polylogos team, together with the Elephant Talk Coordinator from Maghweb, travelled to Brussels to meet with selected Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and their assistants from Italy, Portugal, Greece and Romania. The purpose of our visit was to present and co-organise the Elephant Talk “Youth and MEP in Dialogue” event, which was scheduled to take place in Brussels in October 2025.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) involved in this process: Leoluca Orlando, Nikalaos Pappas, Benedetta Scuderi, Elena Kountoura, Nicolae Ștefănuță, for their time, interest and energy; as well as policy advisors and members of the Femme Working Group and assistants Joana Soares, Paola Lupi, Iuliana Rof, Beatrice Rosica and Kyriaki Mouzaki.



Community-Led Event: From Idea to Impact

19-20 JUNE 2025, CLUJ-NAPOCA

On 19–20 June 2025, Polylogos organised “**From Idea to Impact: Project Design, Implementation and Evaluation**”, a dynamic two-day training in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. This Community-Led Event, funded by NGO Academy, brought together 20 dedicated participants from Romania and Moldova - NGO professionals (project designers, managers, coordinators, junior staff, and volunteers), social entrepreneurs, teachers, and educators - all eager to transform their ideas into meaningful, fundable, and impactful projects.

The training focused on equipping participants with practical tools to design projects that truly address community needs, navigate the complexities of funding, and integrate robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) strategies from the very beginning. Through interactive workshops, group work, and engaging discussions, participants learned to formulate SMART objectives, develop logic frameworks, and balance funder expectations with their organizational missions. A special highlight was the emphasis on **participatory approaches**, encouraging participants to involve beneficiaries directly in project design and needs assessments. Another key focus was integrating **M&E and impact measurement** from the outset, as a core part of project design.

The level of engagement among participants and the feedback we received highlight the importance of continuing to provide capacity-building opportunities for third sector organisations in Romania and in the region more widely. This is directly aligned with Polylogos’ mission to strengthen democratic culture and capacity, as a free, vibrant and robust third sector is essential for democracy to survive and thrive. For Polylogos and the wider stakeholder community, the event offered invaluable insights into regional capacity-building needs and laid a strong foundation for future partnerships and joint initiatives.



ASPYPE EUROPE Active Youth Forum Italy

25-28 JUNE 2025, GENOA

The Polylogos team joined consortium partners NIT and Agora Coop in Genova, Italy, for a few days of inspiring and impactful exchange. This visit was part of the **ACTIVE YOUTH FORUM ITALY**, one of the flagship events of the ASPYPE EUROPE project, which brought together young people, youth workers, and civic actors through a series of activities and meetings in Genova from June to September 2025.

At the heart of this experience was a shared commitment to strengthen youth participation and empower young people to become active shapers of their communities and societies. During our time in Genova, we engaged in meaningful conversations with Agora's dedicated street youth workers and the incredible young people they support. Together, we explored a powerful and timely question: How can minors strengthen their legitimacy when facing public authorities and other decision-makers, so they can push forward the changes they want to see in their neighborhoods?

Our days in Genova were also an invaluable opportunity for collaboration and learning among partners. By observing each other's approaches and engaging in hands-on activities, our teams gained fresh perspectives, new methods, and renewed inspiration to support young people more effectively in our respective contexts.



Voices in the Agora: Catholic Social Teaching and the Power of Youth Participation - An Erasmus+ Event

6-10 JULY 2025, CLUJ-NAPOCA

In July 2025, the Polylogos team of youth workers were invited by ACRO (Actiunea Catolica Romania) to lead a series of workshops on youth participation in democracy. Together with 50 inspiring young people from across Europe, we explored core values, identity and belonging, power dynamics, empathy, problem-solving and building alliances for change.

The interactive workshops series were taken from the newly developed ASPYPE EUROPE toolkit on Democracy and Youth Civic Participation.



REAL 2025 Summer School

20-27 JULY 2025, ŠIBENIK

Polylogos organised its first edition of the **REAL - Relevant Education for Aspiring Leaders - Summer School**. For one full week, a group of twenty aspiring leaders from Romania and Moldova came together in the ancient coastal town of Šibenik, Croatia, to develop essential leadership skills and competences. Participants engaged in immersive learning that combined critical thinking, ethical leadership, public speaking, trauma-informed responses, and inclusive civic theory - all rooted in the concept of the beloved community.

The participants were challenged to reflect on questions, such as

- What does it mean to be a leader in today's complex socio-political landscape?
- How do we approach conflict in a constructive way, without losing ourselves - or each other?
- How do gender, identity, and belonging shape us, and the way we see and interact with the world?
- What does it mean to dream with our feet on the ground?
- What does it take to form **beloved community** as coined by Martin Luther King Jr, a community that transcends barriers and has the power to create transformational societal change?

This Summer School was only possible because of the **incredible team of mentors and speakers** who shared their wisdom and care: Founders and Directors **Camilla & Liviu Bocaniala**, Mentors **Jack Fallow** and **Barbara Thompson**, Speakers and Trainers **Dr. Susan Kerr** and **Tena Žganec**, and our powerhouse team **Elise Jore** and **Cathrine Frederich**; and because of the generosity of **Comargo Business School** and our individual sponsors, who made sure finances were never a barrier for participation.



ASPYRE EUROPE Active Youth Forum Romania

11 & 17 SEPTEMBER 2025, CLUJ-NAPOCA

In September 2025, Polylogos organised two full days of the ASPYRE EUROPE Active Youth Forum in Romania, engaging over 140 participants. The Forum brought together 129 young people aged 16–24, from six High Schools across the county, alongside eight teachers and educators and four local decision-makers.

Strong institutional support was ensured through Polylogos' strategic partnership with the Cluj County School Inspectorate (Inspectoratul Școlar Județean Cluj), collaboration with the Cluj City Council, City Hall, and the Urban Cultural Center, including the provision of Pavilionul Tinerilor as the main event venue. The involvement of teachers who had previously participated in the ASPYRE EUROPE Co-Creation Workshops in January 2025 played a key role in motivating students to join the Forum with enthusiasm and curiosity.

Across the two days, the Forum focused on inclusive, participatory learning and dialogue. Young people from diverse backgrounds, including urban and rural communities, gender-diverse participants, and youth with disabilities, engaged in structured exchanges with local decision-makers, interactive sessions on Romania's political system, and hands-on workshops using the [ASPYRE EUROPE Toolkit](#). Through problem mapping and analysis exercises, participants collectively identified the issues most relevant to them and established Youth Advocacy Groups (YAGs) through a bottom-up, youth-led process.



Key Findings and Impact

Evaluation data collected through a post-event anonymous feedback survey highlights the Forum's **strong educational and motivational impact**. Over 80% of participants reported learning “much” or “very much” about the political system and their civic role, while more than 90% gained concrete insights into how to get involved in civic and political life. Importantly, 80.9% of respondents stated that they are likely or very likely to increase their civic engagement following their participation in the ASPYRE project.

Participant feedback further illustrates a strong sense of **empowerment and responsibility**. Youth reflected on their ability to initiate change from the ground up, to recognise the value of their own voices, and to challenge restrictive social norms, including around gender roles, by creating spaces for dialogue, support, and collective action. Importantly, the Forum succeeded in **creating a safe space where participants felt free to share personal experiences**. For example, one gender-transitioning youth openly spoke about the challenges he faces in public life, while another shared about their experiences with top-down power abuse and bullying in school; both receiving recognition, respect, solidarity and applause from their peers.

Following the Forum, participating youth committed to continuing their work in small groups and mobilising support for their causes among peers, families, and the wider community. This process will culminate in a series of **Civic Cafés planned for spring 2026**, ensuring that the Forum's impact extends well beyond the immediate participants and contributes to longer-term civic engagement at community level.

Key Achievements – ASPYRE EUROPE Active Youth Forum Romania

- **140+ participants engaged, including 129 youth from six High Schools**
- Inclusive participation, involving youth from urban and rural areas, gender-diverse participants, and youth with disabilities
- **12 Youth Advocacy Groups** established (target: 4)
- Meaningful dialogue between youth and decision-makers at local levels
- Learning outcomes (self-reported):
 - 94.1% increased understanding of their civic role (target: 80%)
 - 91.2% learned concrete ways to engage in civic and political life
 - 80.9% are likely or very likely to increase civic engagement (target: 80%)
- **Follow-up actions planned:** Youth-led Civic Cafés in spring 2026, supporting community outreach and long-term impact

Elephant Talk - Local Data-Presentation and Dialogue Event

24 SEPTEMBER 2025, CLUJ-NAPOCA

On Wednesday, 24 September 2025, the Polylogos team hosted a local dialogue event at Liceul Teoretic Nicolae Bălcescu in the heart of Cluj-Napoca as part of the Elephant Talk project. This session brought together over 60 high school students, alongside teachers, youth workers, and school administrators, for an engaging and reflective conversation about online gender-based body shaming: one of the most prevalent and under-discussed forms of hate speech young people face today.

The event opened with a presentation of the key findings from the national data collection process carried out earlier this year. The data reflects the voices of young people across Romania aged 15–30, with a particular concentration in the 15–18 age group.

Some of the standout statistics include:

- 56% of respondents reported having witnessed body shaming online.
- 24% have experienced it directly
- “Comparisons of physical appearances to others” was reported as the most common form of body shaming.
- 49% admitted to having engaged in at least one form of body shaming behaviour.
- Half of the respondents think that “If you expose your body on social media, you should accept all kinds of comments”,
- And yet, 70% of respondents believe that *something should be done* to address the issue.

The country reports and full results of the cross-European study are published on the Elephant Talk online platform: <http://www.stophatespeech.eu/>

A participatory mapping of online body shaming experiences



Elephant Talk - International Data Presentation Event in Brussels

14-16 OCTOBER 2025, BRUSSELS



On 14 October 2025, youth voices from across Europe took centre stage at the European Parliament in Brussels during the final data presentation event of the Elephant Talk project. This milestone marked the culmination of a year-long outreach and dialogue process led by Polylogos (Romania), in collaboration with Maghweb (Italy, project coordinator), Young Educators (Portugal), and Impact Hub (Greece). This collaborative effort brought together young people, youth workers, MEPs, advisors, and local NGOs to confront one of the most urgent and untapped challenges of our digital age – **online gender-based hate speech and body shaming**.

The event gathered 30 official participants, including delegations of young people from Italy, Portugal, Greece, and Romania, as well as youth workers, five MEPs and their teams, and civil society representatives from Belgium. Two participants from Iraq and Algeria also joined, bringing a valuable global perspective to the conversation, underscoring that online gender-based violence is a structural, European, and global challenge.

One of the most powerful aspects of the day was the youth-led presentation of national findings from the *Elephant Talk* survey. Each youth delegation shared personal reflections, posed critical questions, and grounded the statistics in lived experience. The engagement of five MEPs and their advisors created a rare opportunity for young people to speak directly with institutional decision-makers. The active listening and thoughtful responses from the MEPs validated the participants' experiences and opened the door to future collaboration.

Having the event hosted within the European Parliament held important symbolic value, and allowed youth to experience democratic engagement in action, within one of Europe’s most influential institutions. Finally, the inclusion of NGO representatives and participants from within and outside the EU helped to broaden the dialogue, underscoring the global nature of online gender-based hate and the need for solidarity across borders.

The Elephant Talk event in Brussels demonstrated that when young people are given the platform and support to speak, they show up with insight, courage, and clarity. While systemic change takes time, this event laid important groundwork, by amplifying youth voices and weaving them into the fabric of European-level dialogue on digital rights, inclusion, and safety.

As we look to the future, Polylogos and the Elephant Talk consortium remain committed to ensuring that young people are meaningfully included as co-creators of the solutions needed to build safer, more inclusive digital spaces for all.



Lives in Motion Testing Event in Zagreb

18-21 NOVEMBER 2025, ZAGREB

For three days, a group of diverse high school students living in Zagreb and other parts of Croatia played “Lives in Motion: The Game”, facilitated by the tool’s team of non-formal educators.



The Game invites players to enact and deconstruct the positions of power that are formed in different scenarios of migration into, out of and within Europe. It was introduced into schools in Zagreb during the Global Education Week 2025, where pedagogues and teachers are aiming to “promote societal awareness, active citizenship, and students’ understanding of their own starting positions in the world in relation to others” (Pedagogue, X Gymnasium).

The game was well received in learning contexts which usually lack the time or tools to break down barriers of discrimination (Pedagogue, X Gymnasium); enabling students to start understanding the interrelatedness of mobility, political and civil rights, history and power. It also stimulated students to explore, constructively and empathetically, their own position in relation to migration phenomena in Croatia, from its recent and contemporary histories as a departure point for emigration to its current controversial role in controlling migrations into the EU with an exponentially violent “border regime” (Rass and Wolff 1920).



Lives in Motion: The Game was developed within the framework of Lives in Motion, a non-formal educational project created by Maghweb in partnership with CPS, WWF and Polylogos, funded by the EACEA in the CERV, strand European Remembrance.

RE(CONSTRUCT) Consortium Meeting

24-26 NOVEMBER 2025, BERGAMO

From 24 to 26 November 2025, the REC consortium came together for two full days of in-person meetings to plan the project activities scheduled to take place in the Netherlands, Italy, Romania, and Poland in 2026. This marked the first time all project partners met face to face, providing a valuable opportunity to strengthen team dynamics, build trust, and deepen cross-country collaboration.

The meeting focused on aligning content, methodology, and implementation plans, including:

- Finalising a shortlist of personal histories from diverse post-war European contexts
- Developing the project's communication strategy and key materials
- Reviewing and discussing the concept theatre play script
- Presenting and refining the LARP (Live Action Role Play) game
- Advancing the toolkit development, implementation timeline, and dissemination strategy

RECONSTRUCT

About RE(CONSTRUCT)

RE(CONSTRUCT) is an educational and artistic project that brings the post-Second World War reconstruction of Europe to life through oral histories, performance, and participatory learning. Focusing on the pivotal moment when new societies, borders, and systems were being shaped, the project explores how democratic values such as equality, freedom, human rights, and the rule of law emerge, and why they still matter today. As part of the wider Iron Curtain Project, RE(CONSTRUCT) also examines Europe's diverging post-war paths in the East and West, inviting critical reflection on power, memory, and responsibility.

Addressing contemporary challenges such as polarisation and democratic backsliding, and with a strong focus on young people aged 15–30, the project combines a travelling journalistic-theatrical performance with interactive LARP workshops that encourage participants to step into different perspectives and collectively imagine how a democratic society can be (re)built - and protected - for the future.

ONGOING AND UPCOMING PROJECTS

As we move into 2026, Polylogos is proud to continue working on several inspiring European initiatives focused on education, dialogue, and civic engagement.

ASPYRE EUROPE (*August 2024 - July 2026*)

[POLYLOGOS.EU/ASPYRE-EUROPE/](https://polylogos.eu/aspire-europe/)

ASPYRE EUROPE builds on the success of the original ASPYRE project, scaling it up to foster greater youth participation in democratic processes across Romania, Italy, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through experiential civic education, youth forums, and advocacy networks, the project empowers young people to raise their voices and influence the decisions that affect their lives.

REC: RECONSTRUCT (*May 2025 - April 2027*)

[POLYLOGOS.EU/PROJECTS/RE-CONSTRUCT/](https://polylogos.eu/projects/re-construct/)

REC: RECONSTRUCT invites young people to step into the shoes of those who rebuilt Europe after the devastation of World War II. Through a traveling theatrical performance and interactive workshops, participants reflect on the foundation of democratic values like freedom, equality, and human rights - and explore what it means to (re)build a society today, when democracy is again under pressure. By remembering the choices made after 1945, the project sparks critical conversations about the Europe we want to protect and create for the future.

MAP (*January 2026 - December 2027*)

MAP - Media Awareness and Perspective - is a European project that strengthens media literacy, critical thinking, and active citizenship among young people - especially those in disadvantaged situations - as well as youth workers and educators in five countries: France, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, and Romania. Through training, participatory activities, youth mobilities, and digital storytelling, MAP supports young people to counter disinformation, engage in dialogue with decision-makers, and become informed, active contributors to democratic life and their local communities.

Touch'n Match (*February 2026 - March 2027*)

Touch'n Match is a European cooperation project that empowers blind and visually impaired people to engage with fashion as a form of creative expression, identity, and cultural participation. Implemented in Romania, Poland, and Austria, the project combines co-creation workshops and inclusive fashion mentoring with an AI-powered mobile app that translates colours, textures, and outfit combinations into multisensory experiences, supporting styling autonomy. Culminating in a public fashion show at the Transylvania Fashion Festival 2026, Touch'n Match showcases inclusive, tech-driven innovation and offers a scalable model for accessibility, empowerment, and equity in the cultural and creative sectors.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT – 2025

In 2025, Polylogos strengthened its role as a platform for dialogue, civic education, and democratic participation across Europe. Through a diverse portfolio of projects, partnerships, and educational activities, Polylogos reached young people, educators, civil society actors, and decision-makers, supporting them to engage critically with democracy, human rights, and social inclusion in both formal and non-formal learning spaces.

Empowering Youth as Active Democratic Actors

A central achievement of 2025 was the meaningful engagement of young people as agents of change. Through projects such as ASPYRE Europe, Lives in Motion, Elephant Talk and the REAL Summer School, more than 1200 young people across Europe deepened their understanding of political systems, civic and human rights, and democratic responsibilities. Evaluation data consistently showed strong learning outcomes, increased civic awareness, and a clear intention among participants to remain engaged in civic and political life. Youth were actively involved in identifying issues, co-creating solutions, and forming Youth Advocacy Groups that continue their work beyond individual events.



Strengthening Educators and NGO Professionals and Multiplying Impact

Polylogos significantly expanded its impact through educators, youth workers, and trainers. Toolkits such as [Lives in Motion: The Game](#) and the [ASPYRE EUROPE Toolkit on democracy and youth civic participation](#) were co-created with the active involvement of more than 160 teachers and educators in Romania alone, and disseminated to schools, educators, and nonprofit organisations across Romania, Moldova, and several EU countries. Feedback from educators confirmed the relevance, usability, and strong pedagogical value of these resources in addressing complex topics such as migration, democracy, and social inclusion. By supporting teachers as multipliers, Polylogos ensured that project results continue to reach new learners well beyond the original project timelines.

Additionally, through the **Community-Led Event “From Idea to Impact: Project Design, Implementation and Evaluation”**, Polylogos strengthened the capacity of NGO professionals to turn their ideas into fundable projects, with clear monitoring and evaluation strategies that actually enable organisations to focus their efforts where it matters: on impact, not just numbers.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT – 2025

Inclusion, Dialogue, and Safe Spaces

Across all activities, Polylogos prioritised inclusion and the creation of safe, respectful spaces for dialogue. Projects intentionally involved participants from diverse backgrounds, including youth from rural areas, young people with disabilities, gender-diverse participants, migrants, and refugees. By combining participatory methodologies with dialogue-based approaches, Polylogos enabled difficult conversations on identity, power, discrimination, and belonging, demonstrating in practice that diversity strengthens democratic culture.

Key Achievements at a Glance

- **6 European projects**
 - 2 projects successfully completed (*Elephant Talk, Lives in Motion*)
 - 2 projects launched and continuing into 2026 (*ASPYRE EUROPE, REC*)
 - 2 new EU-funded projects awarded, starting in January-February 2026
- **1,200+ young people** actively involved in project activities
 - ~400 youth in Romania
 - 150+ youth in Romania equipped with practical civic skills and democratic awareness
- **160+ teachers** and educators actively engaged in project activities in Romania
- New educational resources disseminated to **54 high schools** across Romania and Moldova and **15 non-formal education NGOs** across Europe
- **One policy recommendation** on online gender-based violence and body-shaming presented to Members of the European Parliament in Brussels, based on a youth-led participatory data collection process in 7 European countries

Building Long-Term Impact

Beyond individual activities, Polylogos focused on sustainability and long-term impact. Project results remain publicly accessible through toolkits, digital platforms, and open resources, and are actively promoted through ongoing partnerships and new initiatives. Follow-up actions, such as youth-led Civic Cafés, advocacy processes, and planned training-of-trainers formats, ensure continuity, scaling, and deeper community-level engagement. Through its work in 2025, Polylogos demonstrated that when young people and educators are trusted, supported, and equipped with the right tools, they can meaningfully contribute to more inclusive, resilient, and democratic societies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the young people, educators, partners, and community members who made 2025 another meaningful year for Polylogos.

Thank you, young citizens, for spending precious Saturday mornings sharing your lives, hopes, and dreams with us; thank you, teachers, for trusting us with your students and for collaborating with us in such an open and generous way; and thank you, partners and friends, for supporting us with warm meals, wisdom, friendship, resources, opportunities, energy, and inspiration. Together, Polylogos continues to grow into a truly transgenerational and global community, with the power to transcend divides and shape a more democratic, just, and equal society.

We are deeply grateful to our funders and supporters for believing in our mission and investing in a future rooted in democracy, human rights, inclusion, and solidarity. Together, we tear down barriers to participation and dismantle walls between communities, brick by brick. Here's to everything we have accomplished, and to everything still to come.



TEAM

POLYLOGOS.EU/TEAM

As an extension to our team, the **Polylogos Board of Mentors and Special Advisors** are actively involved in contributing to our activities, projects and initiatives. They provide expert guidance, deep knowledge and practical support.



Liviu Daniel Bocăniață

PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Liviu is a dynamic motivational speaker, experienced communicator, and event organizer with over 20 years of work in national and international settings. He coordinates ground actions, connects stakeholders and communities, and facilitates events of all sizes. Liviu has strong skills in mediation, logistics, and youth empowerment, and brings decades of experience as a trainer and mentor committed to strengthening participation and dialogue.



Camilla Regine Bocăniață

VICE-PRESIDENT & PROGRAM DIRECTOR

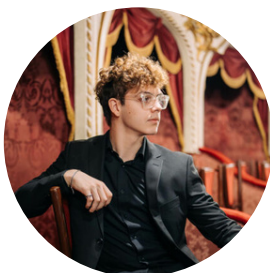
Camilla holds academic degrees in Psychology, Comparative Politics (BA), Peace and Conflict Studies (MA), and Social Innovation and Management (WU Wien). She has extensive experience designing and coordinating national and EU-level projects. Camilla is a strategic planner, speaker, and experienced facilitator of workshops, dialogues, and trainings. As a youth worker and mentor, she specializes in active citizenship, democratic participation, and social change.



Aurora Tudoran

FINANCIAL MANAGER

Aurora is an experienced financial manager who takes pride in delivering top results during audits and financial controls. She previously worked with Habitat for Humanity Cluj-Napoca and PATRIR, where she successfully oversaw the finances of six to eight concurrent projects. As she approaches the final chapter of her career, Aurora looks back with gratitude on the wealth of experience and knowledge she has gained throughout her professional journey.



Raul Tarko

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR & COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

Raul is an energetic young man who always juggles a million projects at the same time. With a long history as a participant in Polylogos projects and activities, Raul is now supporting the team with his communication and creative social media skills. Under his sweet demeanor lies a very talented volunteer coordinator with an eye for detail.



Diana Adomnicai

RESEARCH AND COORDINATION ASSISTANT (VOLUNTEER)

Diana is a creative and activist with a background in Scandinavian Studies, Pedagogy, Management and Counseling for People with Special Needs, and Music. Before recently returning to Romania, she worked in Sweden as a piano teacher and mentor for students with special needs at Uppsala University. Her mission is to help people reach their potential and embrace their true selves. Diana contributes research, coordination, and practical support to projects and events.



Vladimir Manea

GENERAL ASSISTANT (VOLUNTEER)

Vladimir studies Law at Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca. He dreams big, plans carefully and thinks strategically. He started engaging with Polylogos in 2022, as a participant to the very first Active Youth Forum (ASPYRE). Ever since then, he has developed in his competence and love for people. Now he brings his ideas and passion to Polylogos' ever-growing round-table.



Ilinca Pop

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (VOLUNTEER)

Ilinca is a student of Cognitive Science and Philosophy at Babeş-Bolyai University. Creative and curious, she is passionate about making mental health education more accessible and helping people connect with themselves and others. Since joining Polylogos in 2022, she has brought imagination and depth to the team. She values art and creativity as essential tools for connection and growth and hopes to make a meaningful impact in people's lives through empathy and understanding.