



Democracy through Drama



The **Democracy through Drama** Erasmus+ project aims to explore how we can use drama to create democratic spaces and classrooms that are sensitive to young people's voices and to discover how teachers across Europe might facilitate the conditions for this to occur. The project develops ideas and activities that can be implemented by teachers in their classrooms drawn from two relevant educational tools in the field: **Drama in Education (DiE)** and **Mimesis in Education (MiE)**.

We define **Democratic Classrooms** as spaces for creativity and imagination, where the child's experience is acknowledged, valued, nurtured, encouraged and developed. Democratic classrooms are free and safe spaces within the boundaries of a dramatic frame. Thus, drama is a holding environment to enable this and to facilitate collective decision-making by both young learners and teachers. Moving outside of the dramatic frame, then, allows both teacher and pupils to reflect upon the drama and examine the action.



Drama in Education (DiE) is a pedagogical process that offers students the possibility of engaging actively with situations they study and examining them from different perspectives through roles and tasks. Importantly, Drama in Education relies on engaging participants in fiction – fiction that they are creating themselves – and this provides a form of protection, offering an educational, rather than a therapeutic perspective. Drama in Education in this sense creates a space for participants to understand the world in which they live.

Mimesis in Education (MiE) builds upon a concept of theatrical training and uses it for pedagogical purposes. The concept of mimesis – transforming and recreating contents as poetry – is suitable for diverse educational contexts and practices. Mimesis and poetry are vectors for building a democratic coexistence, in which each member can truly express oneself and be understood in his/her expression by others.

Visit our Democracy through Drama **Resources**:
<https://portal.opendiscoveryspace.eu/en/search-resources-in-community/849147>



Project website:
<https://demodram.com/>

Online Community:
<https://portal.opendiscoveryspace.eu/en/community/democracy-through-drama-849147>

Teacher Training Academy:
<https://portal.opendiscoveryspace.eu/en/topic-courses/democracy-through-drama-teachers-academy>

Facebook:
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Project number:
2017-1-UK01-KA201-036559

Target groups:
Teachers, students, teacher educators, educational managers, policy makers, parents

Key Words:
Drama, Theatre, Democracy, Citizenship, Inclusion, DiE, TiE, Mimesis, Empowerment, Diversity, Community, Self-Reflection Tools, Societal Challenges, Values

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