



NEWSLETTER

TRAINING YOUNG PEOPLE TO REACT TO ANTIDEMOCRATIC SLOGANS

The lead partner Akademie Klausenhof brings together **5 other partners** (University of Augsburg from Germany, KatHaz from Hungary, Doğa Schools from Turkey, Socialna Akademija from Slovenia and InEuropa from Italy) to prepare a specific European training to respond to antidemocratic slogans and discourse, starting from a pre-existing and more general method developed by Dr. Prof. Klaus-Peter Hufer in the University of Augsburg. The training material will be freely accessible through a curriculum, a handbook, and an online self-learning tool (comic self-reflection stories).

The project outputs will be the result of the update of Hufer's method "**Argumentationstraining gegen Stammtischparolen**" (Argumentation against populist slogans, widely used in Citizenship Education in Germany, Austria and Switzerland) in a European sense: the partners will make a European version of the training, by enriching it with **Europe-specific topics, methods and inputs**.

The project, lasting 24 months, targets **young people between 13 and 30 years old** (and **youth workers and educators** working with people of those ages) who are victims of verbal (and physical) attacks through populist, extremist, sexist and stereotypical arguments (migrants, Jews, people with disabilities, women, disadvantaged people, queer people) as well as topics that have become particularly relevant in recent years and are the focus of radical, verbal attacks and hate speech. These topics include democracy, Europe, gender, climate change, sexual orientation and equality, science/health (vaccination), fake news and migration, war and humanism.

The material will serve as a basis for workshops and training conducted in the youth and school context, by educational institutions targeting youth. It will consider situations in the family and among friends, in public spaces and in leisure time, at school, in (political) discussions, in voluntary social or political engagement. There will also be a special focus on discussion forums in online media, especially in social networks.

The target group is primarily politically and socially interested and active young people from 13 to 30, who are to be strengthened in their civil courage to take effective action against radical arguments in everyday life online or in personal discussions.

But it's not finished! As we want to get young people in all the many possible ways in which they receive formation, the project also targets:



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ORIGINAL METHOD

WHAT IS ARGUMENTATIONSTRAINING GEGEN STAMMTISCHPAROLEN?

Stammtischparolen are populist statements and slogans with which numerous groups of people (often social minorities, but also representatives of the "elites") are discriminated against. Usually, they are also directed against "the" European policy. These slogans are dogmatic, rigid and prejudice-based: in these speeches, there are very strict categories ("we" and "they"), which defend their positions aggressively and with an exclusionary attitude.



Professor Dr. Klaus-Peter Hufer is a trainer, a lecturer, an author and scientist. He himself works as an adult educator and as an applied professor. His **Argumentation training*** teaches effective techniques and tricks for responding to populist slogans in conversations (e.g. with facts, irony, critical inquiries, etc.). In its interactive form, the argumentation training offers the opportunity to try out and experience in exchange with the seminar group how to react appropriately to such slogans.

Hufer's training has been frequently used in educational work for many years, also in youth education or in training for employees and volunteers of NGOs and other institutions, parties, companies, schools and organizations.

* Klaus-Peter Hufer: *Argumentationstraining gegen Stammtischparolen. Materialien und Anleitungen für Bildungsarbeit und Selbstlernen. 10. Auflage 2018, 120 Seiten, Wochenschau-Verlag, Frankfurt am Main*

WE STAND UP FOR EUROPE TOGETHER

PARTNER'S FIRST TRANSNATIONAL MEETING IN ISTANBUL

After the Kick-off meeting online, the representatives and project managers from each organization met in person for the first time **from 14th to 16th May** in **Istanbul**, hosted by the Turkish partner **Doğa Schools**, represented by Dr Zuhal Yılmaz Doğan & Umur Bakkal.



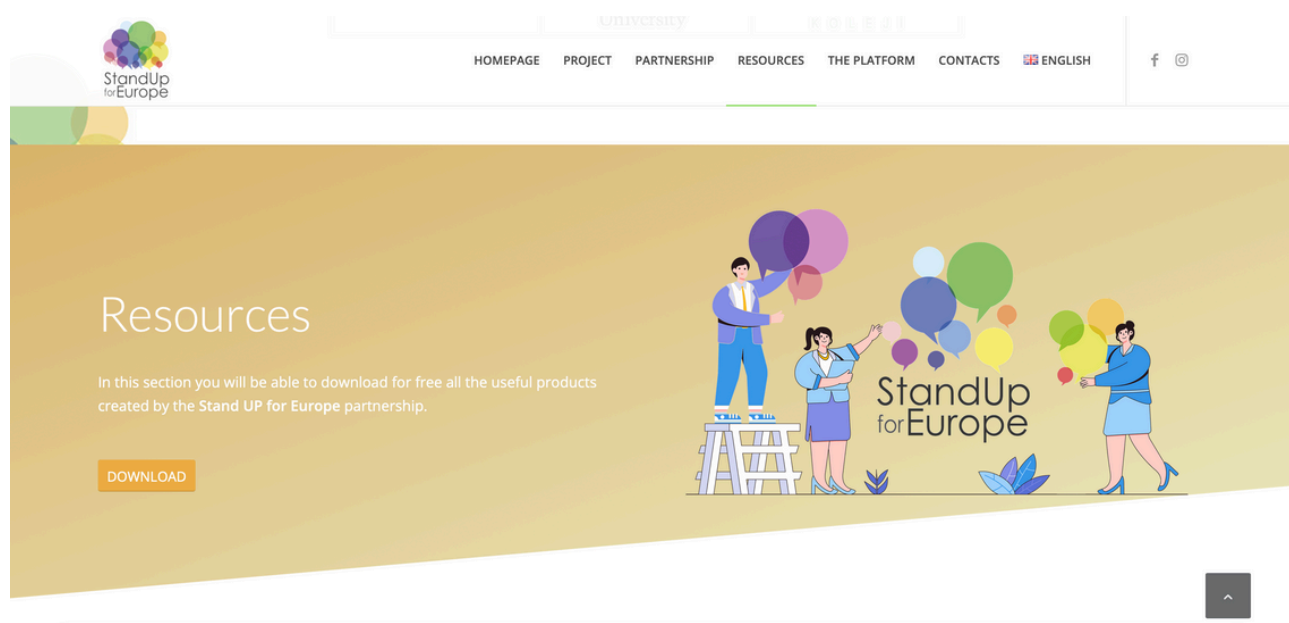
During the two-day Transnational Partners' Meeting (TPM), the partners delved into Hufer's method to start programming their operative plan to implement the project: Dr. Florian Wenzel from the **University of Augsburg** engaged the partners in a **practical demonstration of Hufer's method**. The partners also reflected on the project's learning objectives, on the communication strategy and on the **topics to be addressed**, defining the European values that need to be highlighted during the project's implementation.

The meeting has been a huge opportunity to get to know more about Istanbul and its culture too: on 17th May, the host guided partners in an exciting tour of the city.

THE LAUNCH OF THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE: WWW.STANDUP4.EU

During the TPM in Istanbul, we also agreed on the creation of the project's official website, and we decided to make it **simple, easily accessible** and **essential**. A safe place where young people and youth workers could go to get the information and training they need to deal with antidemocratic arguments.

Well, this safe place now exists: we are proud to present the website www.standup4.eu, ready and available in **all the project's languages** (English, German, Slovenian, Italian, Hungarian and Turkish).



The project website is the reference point for all the resources that will be created by Stand Up for Europe (including the platform) and for all the information regarding the method, the values involved and contact details of all the partners to get in touch with us.