

**ACHIEVING DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION THROUGH GLOBAL
CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION
POLICY ROUNDTABLE**

Concept Note

Building upon the 7 years-long work on evidence-based recommendations on [Citizenship and Lifelong Learning](#), [SOLIDAR Foundation](#) has launched a year-long process of data collection for advocacy, involving a wide range of stakeholders for the implementation of EU education policies, to collect data on Global Citizenship Education (GCE) provision in relation to Democratic Participation with regards to the European Parliament Elections. With the help of a researcher and building on the findings of [last year's policy paper on the role of GCE in supporting democratic participation and addressing current global challenges](#), SOLIDAR will collect data from CSOs on GCE and innovative practices across Europe, in particular in relation to Democratic Participation with regards to the EP Elections. Moreover, the research aims to identify enablers and barriers for an inclusive implementation of the European Education Area (EEA), and to elaborate policy recommendations. The research will address the dimension of the EEA related to Equity and Inclusion, and it will aim at identifying policy recommendations for enablers for the universal attainment of basic skills and competences for active citizenship.

This Policy Roundtable is organised with national and European experts and policymakers to identify the challenges at the policy level related to the topic of **Global Citizenship Education & Democratic Participation**.

The aim is to frame GCE as an enabler of Democratic Participation: without access to GCE it is not possible to understand the interconnectedness of national and European and global issues, and neither to understand the role and significance of institutions like the EU. Without this knowledge voting in national and especially European elections becomes very unlikely, being unable to relate the institutions' functioning to one's own reality and making it seem useless. This ultimately deprives citizens of their political right to vote, as they are deprived of any instrument to help to attach value to it and to understand its significance.

The roundtable results will steer the research on the connection between GCE and democratic participation. The resulting evidence-based policy recommendations will be presented in the Thematic Annual Conference in October which will draw participation of the key stakeholders for E&T policymaking in the EU, concluding the thematic advocacy cycle.

