

# Europe in Perspective

Transnational Training on  
Diversity in Cultural Learning

## Training Programme

### Getting to know Europe and each other better

Day **1**

#### 3 Exploring Europe 1

##### Activity

70 min

##### Useful for

Exploring what people actually know about Europe, its geography and its people.

##### Resources needed:

3-4 rolls of masking tape, electricians' tape in red, yellow, green, blue cut into short 2 cm strips. A small map of Europe.

##### Room layout:

Open clear space

##### What happens?

Participants are given masking tape and asked to create collaboratively a large map of Europe using the whole floor space, showing both the outlines of Europe and marking out all the individual countries.

Once the map has been created, the facilitator should lead a reflection. Asking questions such as:

- Was the exercise hard or easy?
- What made it hard?
- How much of the map were you able to contribute to?
- Where were your blind spots?
- As a European do you feel part of all of Europe or only some of it?
- Can you feel part of something that for you has so many blind spots?

Then each participant is given access to lots of strips of different coloured electricians tape. They are then asked to use the different colours to create an emotional map of Europe:

- If they think of a part of Europe to be exciting, forward looking, creative, dynamic, connected to hope they mark it with **yellow**
- If they feel a part of Europe is peaceful, safe, comfortable, beautiful etc. they mark with **green**.
- If they associate a particular part of Europe with danger, fear, conflict, crisis, threat, war etc. they mark it with **red**
- If they know nothing or little about it, they mark it with **blue**

The participants reflect on the picture of Europe that emerges. They can be asked:

- Why are particular countries positively represented while others are negatively represented?
- Where do they have their impressions/information from (visiting other countries, newspapers and TV, other social media, relations who have visited or lived in other countries)?
- Does the source of the information affect how bad or good the impression is?
- Did they feel that the view of the country is narrow or broad?
- How did they colour their own country?
- How has this activity affected their view of how they understand Europe?

### Notes for facilitators

This is a team building activity and the facilitator should be invisible while participants are making the maps. He or she should not try to help them, make suggestions or correct what they are doing. Participants should however be encouraged to discuss everything with each other. It should be the activity where the deeper conversations between participants start.

»Have you emotionally marked your own country? In some trainings it was noticed that participants did not mark their own countries. During reflection, the facilitator could ask participants whether they have done it or not. Why? Why not? If not, do they want to do it now?«

Jenny Karaviti, TENet-Gr, Greece

»If at all possible, you should leave the map on the floor until the next day. It reminds participants about the European dimension of the training.«

Piotr Idziak, MIK, Poland

»As a facilitator, I would highlight the importance of the 'emotional' reaction we are asking participants to highlight. Useful discussion questions might include: How does that vary and differ from sharing what you know about the country? What influences the way a country can make you feel? Are you comfortable with how that country makes you feel or do you want to reject that feeling? What would change the way that country makes you feel?«

Caz Brader, Curious Minds, England



Created by the German Federation for Arts Education and Cultural Learning (BKJ) and the international foundation Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE) together with numerous European partners. Funded by Stiftung Mercator and supported by the European Union within the scope of the Erasmus+ Youth in Action Programme.

This work only reflects the author's view. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

Free re-use as Open Educational Resource (OER) permitted and recommended.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License (CC BY-SA 4.0).

Please refer to as follows: "Europe in Perspective. Transnational Training on Diversity in Cultural Learning" by German Federation for Arts Education and Cultural Learning (BKJ) and Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE), License: CC BY-SA 4.0.

Contact: [info@bkj.de](mailto:info@bkj.de)

The license agreement is available online here:

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/deed.de> | The work is available online here: <https://europe-in-perspective.eu>