

Training: Life in a degrowth community

“From growth mindset to degrowth actions.”

Where and when?

Maribor, Slovenia

30.3. – 4.4. 2020

Participating countries:

Austria, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Romania, Portugal (3 participants from each country)

Why?

Degrowth is a concept, movement and a way of thinking which main emphasis is not merely on calling for less growth, consumption or production, but more fundamentally, in inviting one to shift and re-politicise the terms in which economic relations and identities are considered. Training may offer interesting points of departure for conceptualising and practising alternatives to consumer capitalism also in connection with deconstructing our perception of citizenship. Degrowth is mainly addressed by researches and not practically oriented so also non-professionals could grasp its valuability. On the training we will try breaking it down to think about it and live it so each of us could contribute to better understanding of global interdependencies.



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Watch video from the first “trial training” on degrowth [here](#).

How?

The training framework is a concept, a philosophy, a movement - degrowth, which will be examined from a theoretical perspective with some guest speakers working in the area of activism, politics as well as on the practical level.

Living in a degrowth community is an experimental and experiential five-day training course that will offer eighteen activists, youth workers the opportunity to explore mental constraints on our way to communities that respond appropriately to environmental, social and economic challenges. In the training, you will experience working for a community cause, explore the growing-up practices in the city of Maribor and address your challenges while trying to live as an active citizen striving for more just communities in the framework of your personal and professional life.



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The main purpose:

- bringing together practitioners and thinkers advocating transformations towards climate and social justice
- to promote cooperation and networking between diverse actors who share a common goal - the well-being of people and the environment
- empowerment and support for participants to remain active in your local communities/organizations and to incorporate concepts that associate with degrowth into our life
- ignite a debate and attention of local communities on degrowth concept in a more practical sense

Profile of participants:

For those who understand, or are willing to consider, that economic growth must not be the only indicator of good life and are ready to take action and search for more just practices.

If you would like to participate you must meet the following criteria:

- be 18 years old or older (no upper limit)
- have previous experience in activism, youth work, working in context of sustainability, climate justice, degrowth
- have a good command of English
- have a strong motivation to act as a multiplier upon your return
- commit to implement the learned knowledge and skills in practice back home
- commit to actively participate from the beginning to the end of the training
- be ready to cocreate programme together with the organizers

How to apply?

Applications should be sent to your sending organization, which will each select their own three participants. All those accepted will later receive a detailed info sheet by Voluntariat (how to get to the venue, how to book your travels, more info about the agenda of the project and your involvement into creating it). Deadline for applying is 12.02.2020. After selection you will be contacted by Voluntariat and will receive all the information needed as



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well be invited to contribute to the cocreation of the content with your own skills,
knowledge...

Travel costs and food

The training is financed by Erasmus+ funding. Travel costs are reimbursed up to:

Romania: 275€

Portugal: 360€

Austria: 180€

Czech Republic: 180€

Travel: We encourage you to travel as environmentally friendly as you can. Preferably taking buses, trains (we are aware this is not possible in some cases, especially if you are coming from Portugal, Romania e.g.).

Do not purchase any of the tickets before consulting with Voluntariat!!

Food: In the light of environmental crisis and the impact that agriculture has on the environment the food on the training will be mainly locally produced and vegan with some vegetarian options.

Contact:

If you have any further questions regarding the content or logistics you can contact us via
mail: wiki.voluntariat@gmail.com



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