



Strengthening Democratic

Participation for Climate Action:

Webinar Series

March 2025



KMOP – Social Action and Innovation Centre, in collaboration with five European organisations, is pleased to invite participants to the webinar series “**Strengthening Democratic Participation for Climate Action**” taking place from 10 to 31 March 2025.

This series provides a unique opportunity for educational professionals, youth workers, and young people to deepen their understanding and enhance their practical skills in empowering youth to drive climate action.

WHY ATTEND?

Participants will:

- **Learn** how to effectively engage young people in climate advocacy and mobilise their potential toward a more sustainable future
- **Gain** strategies to foster youth involvement in shaping climate policies and influencing decision-making across local, national, and international levels.
- **Explore** successful youth-led initiatives and discover how to adapt and implement these approaches in your own work with young people.

This is an essential opportunity for those committed to amplifying youth voices and fostering their participation in climate action and policy-making.

TARGET GROUP:

Youth workers, Youth organisations and leaders, educators and trainers, young people

BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



AGENDA & WEBINARS DESCRIPTION

Monday 10/03/25

(14.00–14.30 CET / 15.00–15.30 ECET)

Empowering Youth for Climate Action: The CLIMentines Guide for Youth Workers

Speakers: Rainer Maria Baratti & Federico Rucco

Monday 17/03/25

(14.00–14.30 CET / 15.00–15.30 ECET)

Participatory and Deliberative Democracy in Climate Action

Monday 24/03/25

Speaker: Paweł Żelazny

(14.00–14.30 CET / 15.00–15.30 ECET)

Words and Action: Discussing Children's Rights & the Triple Planetary Crisis

Speaker: Jana Berchtold

Monday 31/03/25

(14.00–14.30 CET / 15.00–15.30 ECET)

Climate Action & Policy Influence – Youth as Decision-Makers

Speaker: Thanos Andritsos



Webinar 1: The CLIMentines Youth Worker's Guide to Climate Action

This webinar will introduce the CLIMentines Youth Worker's Guide to Climate Action, a key resource designed to equip youth workers with the knowledge, methodologies, and tools to engage young people in climate advocacy.

The webinar will explore participatory and deliberative democracy principles, showcasing how these approaches can empower youth to take an active role in climate decision-making. Participants will gain insights into best practices for fostering inclusive climate initiatives, leveraging public participation tools, and implementing bottom-up democratic methods to drive meaningful change.

Webinar 2 : Participatory and Deliberative Democracy in Climate Action

This webinar will explore how participatory and deliberative democracy methods can strengthen youth engagement in climate advocacy. By highlighting approaches such as Citizens' Assemblies, Policy Labs, and Civic Monitoring, the session will demonstrate how young people can actively shape climate policies and influence decision-making at various levels. The speaker will share practical insights on organising youth-led Climate Assemblies, offering step-by-step guidance for structuring inclusive, impactful discussions. Additionally, the webinar will delve into civic monitoring as a powerful tool for tracking climate commitments and ensuring accountability in policy implementation.

Webinar 3: Words and Action: Discussing Children's Rights & the Triple Planetary Crisis

This webinar will examine the intersection of children's rights and the triple planetary crisis, focusing on the role of youth participation and local action in addressing global environmental challenges. The session will highlight key discussions from GC26 (General Comment No. 26 on children's rights and the environment) and explore the connection between local advocacy efforts and UN-level initiatives.

Webinar 4: Climate Action & Policy Influence – Youth as Decision-Makers

This webinar will explore how young people can actively shape climate policies through policy labs and participatory budgeting. With insights from expert and real-world examples from Greece and Europe, the session will highlight successful youth-led initiatives and discuss the challenges and opportunities of engaging young people in participatory climate governance. Key topics include the role of digital participatory platforms, the importance of youth involvement in decision-making, and strategies for youth workers to foster engagement.



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GUESTS

Angela Shkempi, CLIMentines Project Coordinator, KMOP

Angela is a Project Manager in KMOP's Civic Engagement and Governance Unit since 2023. She holds a BA in International and European Studies from the University of Piraeus. With a background in youth mobilities and Erasmus+ projects, Angela has gained valuable experience in fostering cross-border collaboration and promoting civic engagement. She further developed her expertise in international affairs during her traineeship at the Permanent Representation of Greece to the EU in Brussels in 2022. Her passion for youth engagement is demonstrated through her initiative to re-establish the department of JEF Piraeus-Athens in 2021, a youth organisation promoting an effective and democratic Europe. Her areas of interest include youth participation, education, inclusion, and civic engagement while co-coordinating KMOP's local youth teams.

Sofia Koudouni, Project Manager & Youth Trainer, KMOP

Sofia is a Project Manager and a Youth Trainer at KMOP's Civic Engagement & Governance Unit. She graduated from the Department of English Language and Literature at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and holds a Master's degree in European Studies: Identity & Integration from the University of Amsterdam. Her work focuses on youth, political participation, and sustainability. Passionate about social justice and youth empowerment, she actively promotes EU mobility opportunities while co-coordinating KMOP's local youth teams.

Thanos Andritsos, Common Space Co-founder

Thanos is an Architectural Engineer from the University of Thessaly, with postgraduate studies in Urban and Spatial Planning at the NTUA. He is pursuing a PhD at the National Technical University of Athens, specializing in policies and applications for Sustainable Urban Development within the Department of Urban and Spatial Planning. He has over fifteen years of experience in studies and projects related to Spatial Planning, Sustainable Urban Development, Integrated Territorial Investments, Urban Planning Legislation, and Participatory Planning in Greece, the European Union, and the Middle East. He is a founding member of Commonsense, an interdisciplinary firm focusing on spatial planning, social and environmental research, and Participatory Lab, a community dedicated to promoting participatory planning and governance to help cities adapt to climate change. He has authored or co-edited the volumes Participatory Planning: City, Environment & Climate Change, Sustainable Urban Development: What is the Role of Citizens?, Participatory Urban Budgeting, and Participatory Municipal Budgeting in collaboration with the Heinrich Böll Foundation.



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Paweł Żelazny, Youth Engagement Expert

Paweł is a youth engagement expert specializing in participatory democracy and EU policymaking. With experience in leading civic education initiatives and mentoring young leaders, he has coordinated projects that empower youth in democratic processes. His work explores how deliberative methods—such as citizens’ assemblies and policy labs—enhance youth participation in climate action. Paweł has collaborated with organizations like the Bronisław Geremek Foundation and PROM (NYC Poland), focusing on civic monitoring and policy advocacy. Passionate about fostering inclusive decision-making, he bridges research with practice to support youth-led climate governance.

Jana Berchtold, UN Youth Delegate

Jana holds the role of Austrian UN Youth Delegate (2023–2025) within the Austrian National Youth Council. She represents young people in Austria in UN processes and in UN-related topics. In addition to the representative work at international level, an equally important part of her mandate is to make international processes and their results understandable for young people in Austria. Jana has a Bachelor in Political Science and in Romance Studies at the University of Vienna and is currently working in the human rights related sector. She started with her advocacy work at the age of 13 by standing up for Children’s Rights and SDGs in a local project in Vorarlberg.

Federico Rucco, Project Manager Actionaid Italy

Federico has more than 10 years experience in People & Community Engagement, Campaigning and Project Management, he has coordinated activist networks, worked with social movements and developed training materials on campaigns and grassroots mobilization, as well as youth initiatives and global mobilizations. Active in youth and civic participation for over 10 years, he currently works at ActionAid Italy as PM for The Climentines Project.

Rainer Maria Baratti, Researcher Actionaid Italy

Rainer, collaborates with the Risk Management program of ActionAid International Italia E.T.S., where he is involved in the analysis of national and international public policies with a focus on participation and accountability in the disaster risk management cycle and in adaptation to climate change. He has written several publications on human rights, the environment and climate change.

ABOUT THE CLIMentines PROJECT

The project CLIMentines aims to empower a new generation of young people in Europe with the knowledge and tools to actively engage in and influence climate action policies at both national and European levels. The project's approach is based on four key pillars: fostering transnational networks between youth organizations, enhancing the capacities of youth workers and leaders, promoting active youth engagement—particularly among those with fewer opportunities—and strengthening young people's confidence and competencies to participate in policymaking. The project brings together seven partner organizations from six European countries, representing diverse geographical regions.

For further information please contact: climentines-project@kmop.org

