

## NECE – Basic information / May 2020

### What is NECE?

NECE is a networking format with (currently) nine partners from Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Austria, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

NECE is not an NGO or institution. It operates as an open transnational and diverse community of stakeholders (formal and non-formal education) of citizenship education (CE) from Europe and associated countries, providing a forum for debate on equal footing, knowledge exchange and advocacy for the ideas and values of citizenship education on the national and transnational level.

A 'Mission Statement' about challenges, activities, goals and our understanding of Citizenship Education can be found here: [www.nece.eu](http://www.nece.eu) and <http://www.nece-conference.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/NECE-Mission-Statement.pdf>

### NECE's three main 'pillars'

#### 1. Partners

- Federal Agency for Civic Education / *Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung/bpb*
- Centre for Citizenship Education, CEO (Poland)
- Civic Education Centre (Czech Republic)
- Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (Austria)
- ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law (the Netherlands)
- University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- Vote&Vous (France)
- Zentrum für politische Bildung, ZpB (Luxembourg)
- BELvue museum Brussels (Belgium)



#### 2. NECE Advisory Board

The Advisory Board consists of multi-disciplinary international experts who advise NECE partners on the intellectual and political level, including on social political discourses and pressing issues for democracy and citizenship education in Europe. Additionally, they provide advice on lobbying and political networking at the European level.

##### Advisory Board members are

1. Nelly Corbel, Lazord Foundation (France/Egypt)
2. Caroline Hornstein Tomić, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar (Croatia)
3. Boris Jokic, Institute for Social Research in Zagreb (Croatia)
4. Michalis Kakos, Leeds Beckett University (UK)
5. Sarah de Lange, University of Amsterdam (Netherlands)
6. Claudia Lenz, The Norwegian School of Theology (Norway)
7. Markus Lux, Bosch Foundation (Germany)
8. Niccolò Milanese, European Alternatives (Italy)
9. Jan-Werner Müller, Princeton University (USA)
10. Verena Ringler, European Commons (Austria)
11. Louisa Slavkova, Sofia Platform (Bulgaria)
12. Karolina Wigura, Kultura Liberalna (Poland)

#### 3. The NECE community – 'NECE citizens'

This 'pillar' is less structured but generates important effects, both externally and within the network itself. What is meant here are the many practitioners and activists in citizenship education and

academic communities in relevant fields for citizenship education. They who can be described as 'NECE citizens', without belonging to an organised institution.

### **NECE's tools and related networks**

#### Conference & workshops

The main tools for exchange and networking are the NECE events, especially the annual NECE conference. In between, workshop focusing on specific topics are being held in different European cities several times per year.

#### Newsletter & Database

Subscribe to the [NECE newsletter](#) to stay informed or add yourself or your institution to the [NECE database](#)!

#### Social media

Follow NECE on Twitter (@NECE\_Network), LinkedIn (NECE Network) and Facebook (NECE.network). #NECE2019

#### Focus groups

Focus Groups are temporary international working groups started by NECE Partners or Advisory Board members. They focus on specific transnational topics related to the profession of citizenship education. Currently, three focus groups are under construction:

- Parliaments and Citizenship Education, <http://www.nece-conference.eu/session/nece-focus-group-parliaments-citizenship-education/>  
Contact Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk ([t.meijvogel-volk@prodemos.nl](mailto:t.meijvogel-volk@prodemos.nl)) or  
Competences for Democratic Culture (RFCDC), <http://www.nece-conference.eu/session/nece-focus-group-competences-for-democratic-culture-rfcdc/>  
Contact: Claudia Lenz ([claudia.lenz@mf.no](mailto:claudia.lenz@mf.no) or [patricia.hladschik@politik-lernen.at](mailto:patricia.hladschik@politik-lernen.at))
- Civics Innovation Hub, contact: Louisa Slavkova ([Louisa.SLAVKOVA@sofiaplatform.org](mailto:Louisa.SLAVKOVA@sofiaplatform.org))

#### Corresponding networks

There are the following sister networks, founded on bpb's initiative in recent years:

- **Networking Arab Civic Education (NACE)** is an extension in the MENA region (co-financed by the Robert Bosch Foundation and the Foreign Office of Germany).  
Contact: Petra Grüne ([petra.gruene@bpb.de](mailto:petra.gruene@bpb.de))
- **Eastern European Network for Citizenship Education (EENCE)** is a regional network extension to the Eastern Partnership countries, financed by the Foreign Office and directed by bpb.  
Contact: Svetlana Alenitskaya ([svetlana.alenitskaya@bpb.bund.de](mailto:svetlana.alenitskaya@bpb.bund.de))
- **Creative Approaches to New Democracy through Innovative Inclusive Citizenship Education (CANDIICE)** is an ERASMUS+ project aiming at making education for democracy more creative, imaginative, artistic, engaging, inclusive and successful. Encompassing the UK, Croatia, France, Germany and Portugal, the project runs 2019 – 2022.  
Contact: Khalid Mahmoud ([khalid.mahmood@sdsa.net](mailto:khalid.mahmood@sdsa.net))
- The **'Transnational Forum for Citizenship Education'** (Forum transnational pour l'éducation citoyenne) is run by the bpb, the Franco-German Youth Office (FGYO) (Office franco-allemand pour la Jeunesse) and the NECE partner Vote&Vous. Other partners include the CEMEA, the Institut Français, the Goethe-Institut and the NECE Partner from Luxembourg, Zentrum für Politische Bildung.  
The goal is to facilitate the professional exchange on a transnational level, to integrate French partners and approaches to citizenship education and create new formats and tools for practitioners and educators.  
Contact: Christoph Müller-Hofstede ([christoph.mueller-hofstede@bpb.de](mailto:christoph.mueller-hofstede@bpb.de))
- **CENESA** (Civic Education Network for Eastern and Southern Africa) is an initiative in Uganda, inspired by NECE/ NACE (with support from the Robert Bosch Foundation). It is intended to act independently in the long term, but with relations to NECE.  
Contact: Petra Grüne ([petra.gruene@bpb.de](mailto:petra.gruene@bpb.de))