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## Press Release

### **EmpoweringYou project: A new innovative platform for the civic and political engagement of Youth**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of February was successfully organized by [KMOP-Social Action and Innovation Centre](#) the International Conference of the Empoweringyou Project regarding alternative ways of combatting the low civic and political engagement of youth.

This low participation will be addressed by the new innovative web [platform](#) of the [EmpoweringYou project](#), which was presented during the Conference. Specifically, this web platform offers basic education and training on democratic principles and imaginative activities, aiming to engage young EU citizens in discussions about democracy, access to rights and active participation. It includes 4 thematic areas: **Political Society, Governance and access to civic rights, Community and civic life, Human rights and social inclusion, Life skills necessary for civic engagement**. Additionally, the web platform was also developed in a [mobile application](#) for android devices.

This innovative platform is based on the low civic and political participation of young people across EU. Specifically, in the last European elections of 2014 the greatest abstainers were young people aged 18-24, of whom [72,2%](#) did not vote. Furthermore, there is a strong correlation between active citizenship and youth unemployment. The [youth unemployment rates](#) are alarming high, i.e in Greece is more than 38%, in Spain 32%, which increase the risk of poverty and lead to the social marginalization of youth. Within this context, youth population living at risk of poverty lack basic knowledge on basic areas such as democratic values, civic participation, human rights and this will be addressed by the Empoweringyou Platform and mobile app.

The project Empoweringyou is funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. Its main goal is to enhance the basic and transversal skills of young Europeans, promoting and empowering skills-based civic participation and governance, and simultaneously offering new digital solutions and innovative integrated pedagogies to encourage participation in civic life.

The partnership consists of:

- [Inova Consultancy](#) (U.K.)-Project Coordinator
- [CARDET](#) (Cyprus),
- [KMOP](#) (Greece),
- [Grupul Pentru Integrare Europeana Asociatie](#) - GIE (Romania),
- [Centro Servizi per il Volontariato delle Marche](#) - CSV MARCHE (Italy),
- [Asociacion de Personas Participantes](#) - AGORA (Spain).

For more information please visit: <http://empoweringyouproject.eu/en/>

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