# Gender journey and young women empowerment programme 2022

**The project increases young people`s knowledge and awareness about gender equality and reinforce young people`s role in creation of an inclusive and equal school/environment with a focus on increased youth active participation and women empowerment by tackling gender based discrimination.**

**The aim of the project is to raise awareness among Nordic** (Finnish, Swedish and Danish) and **Estonian students school and university students about deep-rooted gender inequalities in everyday social contexts and the stereotypes and prejudices that fuel it**. Also to create values for young people, that will promote the development and care of our society and spread tools to reduce inequalities. Advance discussion on gender roles and stereotypes needed to find constructive solutions. Provide constructive knowledge and skills on gender equality in the education system to ensure early intervention in the perpetuation of prejudices and stereotypes. This will be achieved through five main activities, which involve young people, students’ councils, teachers and student representatives in secondary schools and youth organisation.

**The target group of the project is young people upper secondary school students and young people 14-31+** years old and various local youth organizations and educators. The stakeholders are the educational institutions, governmental bodies and youth associations/civil society organisations, and certainly also the young parents and their networks. **Schools and Youth organisation should contribute to equality and democracy, according to the curricula of Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Estonia.**

**We know that norms and the breaching of norms cause some students to be subjected more frequently to offence, bullying, harassment and discrimination.** This is sometimes linked to the legally defined discrimination laws concerning gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, ethnicity and disability, but there is also a connection between different forms of oppression. In order to counteract the forms of bullying currently manifesting in Nordic schools, we must address questions about equality, power and norms. Also we need to transfer our knowledge and skills to our colleagues to Estonia, who also doing remarkable work in gender equality, but still suffers inequality and discriminations in different fields and existing stereotypes, prejudices, stigma and discrimination in terms of minorities and LGBT communities.

**Based on the experiences from local workshops held with the students, training and discussions with NGOs and the school teachers, and the process of developing and testing the method material** on youth and experts meeting, we will also **establish guidelines manual for educators.**

 **A summarizing event will be an international conference** to summarise all project activities, to present project outcomes and to discuss follow up activities. The project group is responsible for design and structure, but young people/ students are involved to influence the actual contents and mare a real impact on their future success.

Results:

* Individuals have the skills to meaningfully participate in democratic society - increases their skills and knowledge how to participate in democratic society by promoting gender equality and women role in society, how to avoid gender based stereotypes and empower men and women to a new understanding of social roles and importance of diversity. Participants will gain new skills and positive experience on gender issues and they will exchange their experience between each other and moreover young people will receive an opportunity to share own ideas and skills with governmental stakeholders and a mentors for own friends on issues of gender equality, as knowledge of it is important part of democratic society. Diverse communities work together around common agendas, building trust and positive perspectives.
* Diverse communities work together around common agendas, building trust and positive perspectives- project involves people with different genders, with different ethnicities and economic backgrounds, this will strengthen them together with general tasks and challenges, they will have time to build trust, positive perspective on gender equality theme and important of acceptance of differences. \* Institutions connect with diverse communities and build social cohesion- Young people will join with a non-formal network of young activist promoting importance to be tolerant, diverse and be an agents of change who will build social cohesion within communities. Youth will have more trust in governmental institutions and a civil society organisations, who deals with gender equality, gender based violence, women empowerment.
* Students and educators gain insight into their own rights, and into norm-critical and 4R method, and tools to evaluate their own school/organisations or in relation to, among other things, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, school legislation, and political goals concerning equal rights.
* We will produce a manual and advance discussion on gender roles & gender equality in the education system to ensure early intervention in the destruction of prejudices and stereotypes.

**Activities description:**

\*May- Aug 2022, Local Workshops will raise awareness, share own ideas, exchange their experience and provide a basic knowledge for young people on gender equality, equal treatment, own rights and participation. (6 participants per country)

**\*15-17 Sep 2022, Göteborg, Sweden** - **Training** is based on norm criticism, 4R and active participation methods and its dedicated for active young people & educators, who willing to improve own competences and gain new skills on gender equality, pay gap, equal treatment, family models, gender roles questions and allow participants to be a multipliers. (6 participants per country)

**\*17-20 Oct in Copenhagen, Denmark and 15-18 Nov 2022 in Tallinn, Estonia -** **Two Youth & Experts meetings** will give us an opportunity to systematise the bits and pieces of knowledge on gender-responsive education. Based on the experiences and outcomes of workshops and training held with the young people, discussions with the educators, and the process of developing and testing the method material. It will be a process of establishing educational toolkit on gender equality a guidelines for the youth organisations and educational institutions. (5 participants per country)

**\* 13-14 Dec 2022, Helsinki, Finland Gender Equality Youth Conference 2022** is an official platform for the constructive exchange of ideas, as well as for making summaries and general statements. The best participants from the workshops, trainings and discussion will be invited and as many different youth units as possible will be involved, from schools to youth centers. In addition to the specific work already done, the conference will add a new dimension to the topic by involving the views of recognized experts who are not necessarily qualified in terms of training. It also contributes to the wider dissemination of the project's general ideas and goals in society, as it helps to gain greater media attention. (8 participants per country) More about the project call: +372 55602993 / info@peacechild-estonia.org (New project webpage: genderjourney.eu will be ready by 1st of September 2022)