How to identify meaningful youth political participation activities?

1. Is the activity in line with the definition?
   - Direct voting by all (concerned) citizens
   - Elections of public representatives
   - Public participation platforms
   - Public discussion platforms
   - Actions of civil society

2. Define aims of the activity?
   - Is it voluntary?
   - Is it an active citizenship activity?
   - Does it require engagement of young people?
   - Does it shape, affect, or involve the political sphere?
   - Rights-based
   - Empowerment
   - Efficiency
   - Developmental

3. Define democratic environments?
   - Who makes decisions: all eligible citizens or elected representatives?
   - What does the decision-making depend on?
   - Preferences of all citizens
   - Preferences of voted representatives
   - Concrete policy suggestions from active citizens
   - Recommendations based on public debates
   - Public pressure

4. Determine meaningfulness of the activity?
   - Are the aims achievable in the given democratic environment?
   - Direct voting by all (concerned) citizens
   - Elections of public representatives
   - Public participation platforms
   - Public discussion platforms
   - Actions of civil society

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this work, commissioned by the European Union–Council of Europe youth partnership, are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of either of the partner institutions, their member states or the organisations co-operating with them.

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