



**GUIDELINES:**

# **CRITICS**

**"NO TO RADICALISM"**

**CRITICAL  
THINKING  
AND  
POLITICAL  
ACTIVISM**



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**<https://www.critics-erasmus.eu>**



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# CRITICAL THINKING

*Critical thinking is a competence which enables a person to position him/herself in a rational and analytical way when faced with everyday situations and therefore manifests itself whenever someone comes across some information, situation or attitude of other people and tries to make an analysis of its validity (understanding the facts, logic, argumentative coherence, etc.), its origin (who and what motivated the construction and dissemination of the information) and purpose (to whom the information intends to reach and with what objective). It approaches philosophical thought (logic, for example) and scientific thought, as it is understood as an expression of rationality.*



# STEPS IN CRITICAL THINKING

## 1. UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTENT

Information must be understood in a precise way so that it is not subjected to critical analysis. That is: in a first moment, the information must be understood based on what is being transmitted and without preconceived ideas.

## 2. CONTEXT OF THE CONTENT

Information is always structured on the basis of a world view. The critical subject must be able to find other information that is associated with it. This is part of a capacity to read the world and use other knowledge to position oneself ahead of the information.

## 3. ANALYSIS OF VALIDITY

Information is composed of arguments and facts. Thus, critical thinking involves the mental method of analysis of knowledge and information that allows the identification of lies and fake news.


## 4. SHARING

When a person tests the reading of information openly with a group, it opens up dialogue and "testing". This is a way of receiving feedback and learning through sharing, as others may draw attention to points that had not been considered, or point out gaps and mistakes in the analysis of the information.



# STEPS IN CRITICAL THINKING

## 5. CONCLUSION



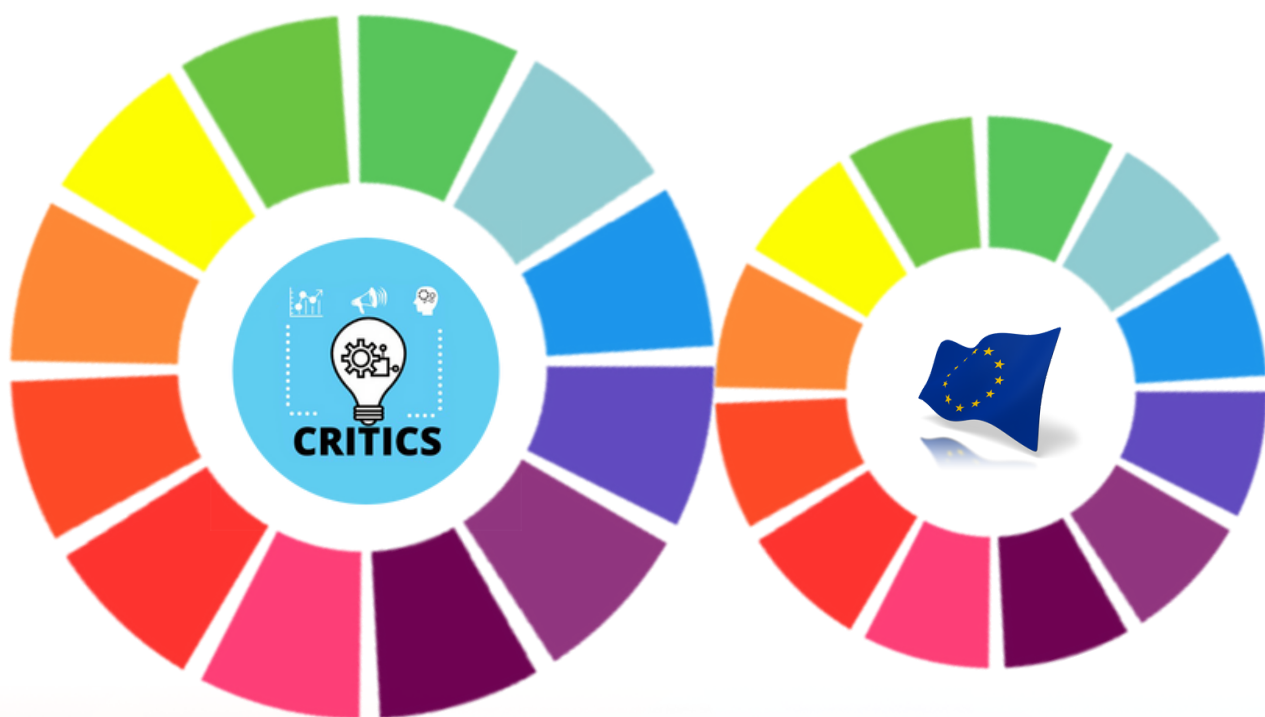
After understanding the information, contextualising it, analysing its relevance and validity and talking to others about their ideas and conclusions, the critical subject can reflect on how critical thinking has been expressed in the given situation, what points can be improved, give a meaning to the process and often use it to make a choice or take a position, in which they find the information based on their analysis.

*Critical thinking is a complex and hybrid competence, as it is formed by cognitive (knowledge about the subject, for example) and socioemotional skills, which enable the analysis of information.*





# HOW TO ORGANISE POLITICAL ACTIVIST ACTIONS





# ACTIVISM:

*Activism involves seeking change, for example with regard to social or ecological issues.*

*There are different ways of acting - online and offline.*

## ADVANTAGES



**AS AN ACTIVIST, YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AMAZING PEOPLE WHO WANT TO TAKE ACTION AND CHANGE THE WORLD.**



**DO YOU KNOW HOW TO PREPARE A GOOD ADVERTISING BANNER? HOW TO GIVE AN INTERVIEW ON TV? HOW TO SHOOT A PROFESSIONAL VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM? HOW TO CREATE GRAPHIC ELEMENTS? HOW TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR ACTIONS? AS AN ACTIVIST, YOU WILL LEARN ALL OF THIS!**



**REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOUR AREA OF ACTION IS YOUR SCHOOL, LOCALITY OR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD, IN AN INTERNATIONAL ACTION YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF REALITY.**

# I WANT TO BE AN ACTIVIST. WHAT SHOULD I DO:

## THINK ABOUT THE ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU



**Choose the issue that concerns you most: climate change, migration or perhaps inequalities?**

## I AM GOOD AT...



**You already know what is important to you. Perhaps you can sing very well, you are a good actor/actress, you can write interesting texts or you can do maths without a calculator?**

## LESS IS MORE



**Starts with small actions.**

**Now you know your strengths and can identify the issue that is most important to you.**

**Do you think you can translate your skills into local action to achieve your main goal (e.g. reducing the impact of climate change)?**



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**EXAMPLE OF GOOD  
PRACTICE: PORTUGAL**



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# EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE: AUSTRIA





# EXAMPLE OF A GOOD PRACTICE: GREECE





# INSPIRATION:

## YOUTH STRIKE FOR CLIMATE

**At least once a month, young people all over the world gather on the streets of their cities to protest against climate change. Now they do it online. Some elements meet to prepare banners and posters and then go out in protest.**



## ACT THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS



**Are you against something or are you fighting for something? Prepare graphic elements and act through photos. Involve as many people as possible, take photos of you with slogans and graphic elements and then share them on social media.**



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# INSPIRATION:

## PROTEST THROUGH ART

**Art and activism are a perfect combination. There are many murals dealing with migration, climate change or equality. Maybe you could organise a competition in your school or locality for the most interesting mural on a certain theme?**



## ONLINE CHALLENGE



**Have you seen on the internet people eating honey and trying to talk? Or people who stop eating meat for a week and create new vegan recipes? Or maybe people rapping? They all participated in an online challenge. Maybe you can create your own challenge on topics that concern you!**



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# HOW TO MAKE AN ACTION?

## 08 STEPS FOR YOUR ACTIVIST ACTION

### FOR WHOM?

01

THINK ABOUT WHO YOU ARE GOING TO ADDRESS YOUR EVENT TO. PEOPLE FROM YOUR SCHOOL? YOUR NEIGHBOURS? THE PEOPLE IN YOUR TOWN? TO STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY?

### THE RIGHT MOMENT

05

DECIDE WHEN YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOLD YOUR EVENT. AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR OR ON A SATURDAY AT 6AM ARE NOT THE BEST OPTIONS!

### IDEAS

02

BRAINSTORM. WRITE DOWN ALL THE IDEAS FOR EVENTS YOU MIGHT HAVE AND THEN DISCUSS THEM. ARE THEY FEASIBLE? WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES?

### COOPERATION

06

LOOK FOR PEOPLE OR INSTITUTIONS YOU CAN WORK WITH. IT COULD BE A LOCAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRANTS, PEOPLE ORGANISING THE YOUTH STRIKE FOR CLIMATE OR A FAMOUS TRAVELLER.

### FIND OUT MORE

03

LEARN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ABOUT THE TOPIC. RESEARCH, READ AND ASKS.

### PROMOTE

07

MAKE SURE YOUR ACTION REACHES THE EARS OF AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE. USE FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, TWITTER AND OTHER MEANS YOU CAN THINK OF. SHARE AND INVITE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE.

### ACTION PLAN

04

ARE YOU GOING TO PROMOTE THE EVENT ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM? PREPARE A LIST OF THE POINTS NEEDED TO MAKE YOUR EVENT.

### ACTION

08

THE TIME HAS COME! YOUR ACTION STARTS NOW. GOOD LUCK! AND REMEMBER TO ALWAYS HAVE A PLAN B IN CASE SOMETHING GOES WRONG.





**YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?  
OR  
DO YOU NEED HELP?**

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