

The Global Citizens' Dialogue on the Future of the Internet

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The Global Citizens' Dialogue on the Future of the Internet  
NARRATIVE REPORT ON ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN YEAR 2020  
by the Foundation in Support of Local Democracy



# MISSIONS PUBLIQUES

Bringing citizens  
into policy

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## The Global Citizens' Dialogue on the Future of the Internet

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### INTRODUCTION

In autumn 2002 FSLD decided to join the project “We, the Internet” initiated by Missions Publiques with the support of a coalition of global and national partners. FSLD acting as the project partner was responsible for preparation and implementation of the citizens’ dialogue process in Poland. The project has been conducted by the FSLD branch in Szczecin under supervision and monitoring of the FSLD Executive Board based in Warsaw.

The Global Citizens’ Dialogue on the Future of the Internet aims at putting citizens in the loop of the decision on this future by engaging ordinary citizens into open communication between them and the decision makers.

The project delivered in Poland has been designed according to guidelines and recommendations received from the project coordinator. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic most of the project activities has been implemented remotely with use of on-line events, debates and meetings including meetings for project implementers and project team.

The moderators referred to WTI guidelines, briefing materials presentations and videos developed by the project leader, which served as essential and complete step-by-step guide on how to design, organize and conduct the citizens’ dialogue sessions in Poland. All the supporting materials have been translated into Polish and adjusted to local conditions.

The action has been divided into 2-days long group on-line sessions facilitated by the moderators under supervision of the main moderator. Number of working groups: 8. Number of participants: 56. Number of group moderators: 6

### PROJECT ACTIVITIES

1. Translation of supporting materials for moderators and participants.
2. Recruitment.
3. Preparation of the moderators.
4. Promotion and information campaign.
5. Citizens’ dialogue sessions in Poland.
6. Evaluation of participant and reporting.

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### 1. Translation of supporting materials for moderators and participants

According to the instructions given by the project coordinators all project guidelines for moderators, briefing materials for participants, ppt presentations, videos subtitles and evaluation questionnaires have been translated from English into Polish with use of project templates in order to apply common graphic layout and design applied for the project.

In order to make sure that translated materials are coherent and reflect the project objectives FSLD has appointed one person responsible for overall coordination of preparation of the action. The person was responsible for constant review of the Polish content materials against its coherence with English versions of the documents with special focus on last changes and corrections.

### 2. Preparation of the moderators

The same person appointed by the FSLD to coordinate the translation works was also dedicated to take part in organizational and information sessions organized on-line by the project consortium to make sure that the action is implemented in Poland according to standards and requirements desired by the project leader. He participated in several on-line meetings and webinars for project implementers and watched guiding videos. Then he had 3 on-line briefing sessions for the Polish team of moderators to provide them with most up-to-date coordinates and guidance on project implementation, standards, organizational issues and evaluation requirements. The moderators have been introduced with both English and Polish versions of supporting documents, they watched together videos prepared for the dialogue sessions and discussed how to run the sessions. The moderators also received instructions how to proceed with the evaluation process in order to provide the project with sufficient results.

The moderators took part also in 3 preparatory workshops organized by FSLD to help them to get ready for group work and facilitation of the debates.

This preparatory stages was of extreme importance for the moderators as they had no sufficient experience in running on-line participatory events for citizens. The workshops for moderators had very practical approach – they could learn how to engage the participants into discussions, how to avoid difficult situations and mitigate conflicts etc.

After the dialogue sessions with citizens the moderators took part in an internal summary workshop organized by FSLD in Szczecin to exchange their experience and lessons learned as well as to summarize the results and outcomes. It is worth to mention here that the moderators were actively engaged into recruitment of the participants and stayed in touch with them during preparation of the citizens dialogue sessions.

### 3. Promotion and information campaign

The FSLD followed guidelines and templates provided by the project consortium to promote the action among citizens and policy makers in Poland.

All publications (paper and on-line versions) included required logotypes, information on project leader and partners and note on source of funding.

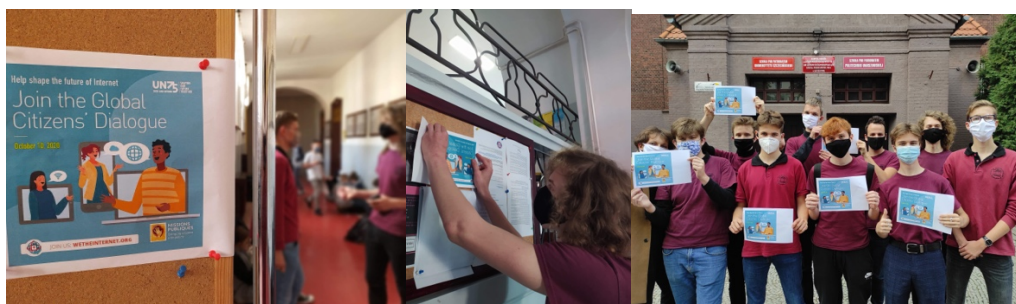
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The action has been promoted with use of the following channels of communication:

- 1/ FSLD branch in Szczecin website [www.frdl.szczecin.pl](http://www.frdl.szczecin.pl)
- 2/ FSLD FB profile of FSLD and its local branches
- 3/ Mass mailing addressed to schools and CSOs
- 4/ Tweeter (during and after the citizens dialogue sessions)

Information and marketing activities were carried out both online and stationary. Information campaigns were also conducted in schools.



The results of the sessions have been also disseminated among and by the participants themselves during and after completion of the debates. They were also spreading their comments and pictures for the event.

Link to the collected visual materials and videos collected during the session:  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qL2dzIB4glvcKOaUm8NEUIOS\\_ewybm?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qL2dzIB4glvcKOaUm8NEUIOS_ewybm?usp=sharing)

### 4. Citizens' dialogue sessions in Poland

The Citizens' dialogue Sessions have been organized remotely in the form of 2-days long sessions for 8 groups and 56 participants.

The meetings took place on: 10-11 October.

All sessions have been conducted in a dynamic way, with use of modern moderation and facilitation techniques, such as group exercises, case studies, and in-depth discussions supported with ppt presentation and videos (all translated into Polish). Participants debated on topics and problems included in the dialogue agenda for each session.

The dialogue sessions have been conducted according to the agenda and scenarios provided by the project consortium.

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The group was quite diverse, particularly we managed to involve a very wide span of people of different age and place of living.

The participants represented various age groups (from teenagers to seniors), gender and social background. They originated from 6 regions of Poland (West-Pomerania, Pomerania, Lower Silesia, Mazovia, Lodzkie and Lesser Poland).

Such mix of participants assured high group dynamics and fruitful deliberation, it also paved the ground for discussions and exchange of opinions especially on the role of internet and AI influence on our lives. Representation of citizens very well familiar with ICT and those having less expertise in this field was of crucial importance for the deliberation process.

The participants as well as the group moderators highly appreciated friendly atmosphere during the sessions, strong engagement and respect shown by the group members.

### 5. Evaluation and reporting

According to the project guidelines all participants were asked to fill in on-line evaluation questionnaires (translated into Polish) including entry, mid- and exit evaluation forms.

Their individual responses (other than choice-based responses) have been translated into English and uploaded to the evaluation tool provided by the consortium.

The detailed report on evaluation results is attached to this material but it is worth to emphasize that 80,4% of the participants said that such Citizens'

Dialogues should become a normal way of making decisions on the future of the Internet which proves that the action was successful and created solid grounds for future actions engaging citizens into the debate.