

Abstract

The thesis is inspired by the European Union project ETGACE, which examines the nature of active citizenship in six European states – Belgium, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom and Slovenia. The thesis introduces the concept of active citizenship in its context and different forms. The major aim of the survey is to find forms of learning strategies considered crucial by the interviewed, given the nature and form of their civic engagement, as well as the benefits resulting from active citizenship. Furthermore, it detects the intersections or congruence in life experience and opinions of interviewed active citizens, their attitude and view of themselves and the world. The survey has been implemented by qualitative interviews with active citizens (focusing on the form of their present life history), who significantly engage in various spheres (development aid, political literacy and education support, social services, communities development, etc.). They have been addressed through selected civil organizations.

Key words: Active Citizenship, Citizen Participation, Citizenship Education, Lifelong Learning, Qualitative Research