



The Competences for Democratic Culture – Collaborative Storytelling workshop

Type of event: Interactive creative workshop on democratic competences

Target group: Trainers, educators, youth workers, and facilitators interested in the Council of Europe's RFCDC framework

Short description:

The RFCDC: Competences for Democratic Culture – Collaborative Storytelling workshop introduces participants to the Council of Europe's Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture (RFCDC) in a creative and experiential way. Through a collaborative storytelling exercise, participants co-create a fictional hero who embodies the values, skills, knowledge, and attitudes of democratic culture. The process fosters imagination, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of how these competences apply in real-life contexts.

Framework (structure)

Before the session (online):

Participants receive a short overview of the RFCDC framework, including its four dimensions: values, attitudes, skills, and knowledge & critical understanding.

Pre-reflection task: "Which of these competences do you think is most important in your daily work?"

During the session (online or in-person)

1. Introduction to RFCDC, 10 min

- Trainer welcomes participants and introduces the RFCDC framework.
- Play a short Council of Europe video introducing the RFCDC.
- Provide participants with a one-page summary of the 20 competences.
- Exploring the RFCDC Competences (12:10–12:25, 15 min)
- Brief interactive presentation on the four dimensions of RFCDC.
- Ask participants: "Which of these competences do you see as most needed in your context?"

Online adaptation: Use Mentimeter or a Canva Whiteboard to collect reflections.





2. Task Briefing – Collaborative Storytelling 5 min

Trainer explains the creative task: groups will design a fictional “Super Hero X” who embodies RFCDC competences.

The story should include:

- Hero’s name and origin
- Key competences demonstrated
- Conflict or challenge situation
- Resolution through democratic competences
- Provide a shared document template or printable worksheet.

3. Group Work – Creating the Hero Story (30 min)

Participants work in small groups (breakout rooms or tables) to write their story.

Trainer visits groups to offer prompts and ensure competences are integrated.

Encourage creativity — groups may illustrate their hero on paper or Canva Whiteboard.

4. Story Sharing in Plenary (25 min)

Each group presents their hero story (max. 5 min).

Presentations can be read aloud, acted out, or shown visually.

Trainer notes competences demonstrated by each hero and highlights diversity of approaches.

5. Connecting Stories to RFCDC Framework (20 min)

Trainer leads reflection: “Which competences did you notice in your hero and in others?” Collective mapping of competences using Canva Whiteboard or flipchart.

Link findings to the four dimensions of RFCDC (values, attitudes, skills, knowledge/understanding).

6. Wrap-Up & Key Takeaways (15 min)

Trainer summarises the session: storytelling as a method for learning and internalising democratic competences. Participants write down one competence they want to strengthen further.

Closing reflection prompt: “If you were the hero, which competence would be your superpower?” Provide links to RFCDC handbook and Council of Europe resources.





After the session (online)

Follow-up email includes:

- Summary of hero stories and key competences identified
- Link to Council of Europe's RFCDC resources and handbook
- Reflection question: "How can you integrate these competences into your teaching or facilitation practice?"

