

# Citizen engagement

Rationale, Legal basis, Capacity Building

# backbones of democratic governance

“WE RECOGNISE that strong citizen and stakeholder participation, public integrity, inclusive representation, openness, quality evidence and accountability are essential backbones of democratic governance and necessary to support trust in public institutions.”

OECD, Declaration on Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy, 2022



I expect you to **actively communicate** on the Commission's actions and decisions and explain the benefits and opportunities stemming from our work. You should also help **tackle disinformation**, notably by providing clear and accurate information at all times.

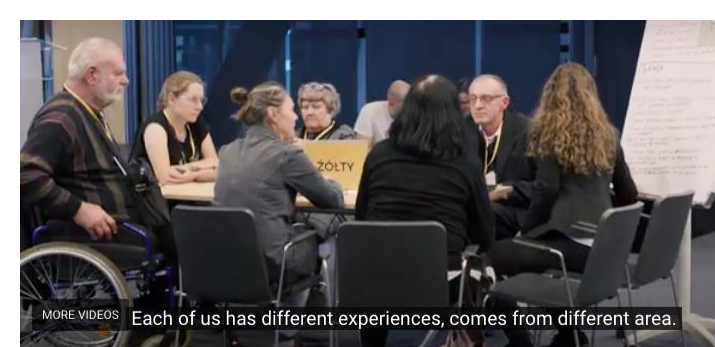
Third, this Commission will start **a new era of dialogue** with citizens and stakeholders. You should organise a first edition of the **annual Youth Policy Dialogues** within the first 100 days so that young people can be heard and can help shape your work.

This will be part of our work in embedding **citizen participation** in our work. We will build on the Conference on the Future of Europe to instil a true and **lasting culture of participative democracy**. We will choose policy areas and proposals where recommendations from a European Citizens' Panel would have the greatest value and follow up on their proposals.

*Mission letters, page 3*








**decidim**  
free open-source participatory democracy  
for cities and organizations

**decidim is a digital platform  
for citizen participation**

Free and safe technology.  
With all democratic guarantees.  
Reprogramming democracy is now possible with Decidim.



**citizen assemblies**

**participatory budgeting**

**participatory planning**

**co-design**



# Deliberative processes ‘wave’



**Innovative Citizen  
Participation and New  
Democratic Institutions**  
CATCHING THE DELIBERATIVE WAVE



# 45%

Database of the OECD.  
Deliberative processes in the  
EU

<https://doi.org/10.1787/339306da-en>

# Rationales

- TRUST
  - IN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND,
  - POLICY AND DECISION MAKING
- QUALITY OF POLICIES
  - fit for purpose*

# Recommendation on promoting the engagement and effective participation of citizens ... in public policy-making



- "The inclusive and effective involvement of citizens, civil society organisations and human rights defenders in political decision-making processes **should be actively promoted by public authorities**"
- "Member States should introduce citizen-led participatory and deliberative exercises <...>, **such as citizens panels, citizens assemblies, and other dialogue and co-creation formats.**"



# European Commission Communication on Enhancing the European Administrative Space (ComPAct), 2023

- where **citizen engagement in policymaking** is an area of **skills development** at Public Administrations level – **Pillar 1**



Brussels, 25.10.2023  
COM(2023) 667 final

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

**Enhancing the European Administrative Space (ComPAct)**



# The European Commission's Competence Centre on Participatory and Deliberative Democracy



**GUIDANCE**

**RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE REPOSITORY**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

**NETWORKING**

# Training on co-creation and deliberative processes

for local, regional and national public administrations

# objectives

- Equip **public administrations** across EU with practical knowledge and competences on how to do participatory processes
- Tailoring skills and competences to specific needs and contexts

# BASIC LEVEL

## RATIONALES

PLANNING

CO-CREATION  
METHODS

DELIBERATIVE  
METHODS

ONLINE PROCESSES

PARTICIPANTS  
RECRUITMENT

FACILITATION  
TECHNIQUES

ToT LEVEL

## FOLLOW UP



# Pilots in local language



Denmark, June 2023



Poland, October 2023

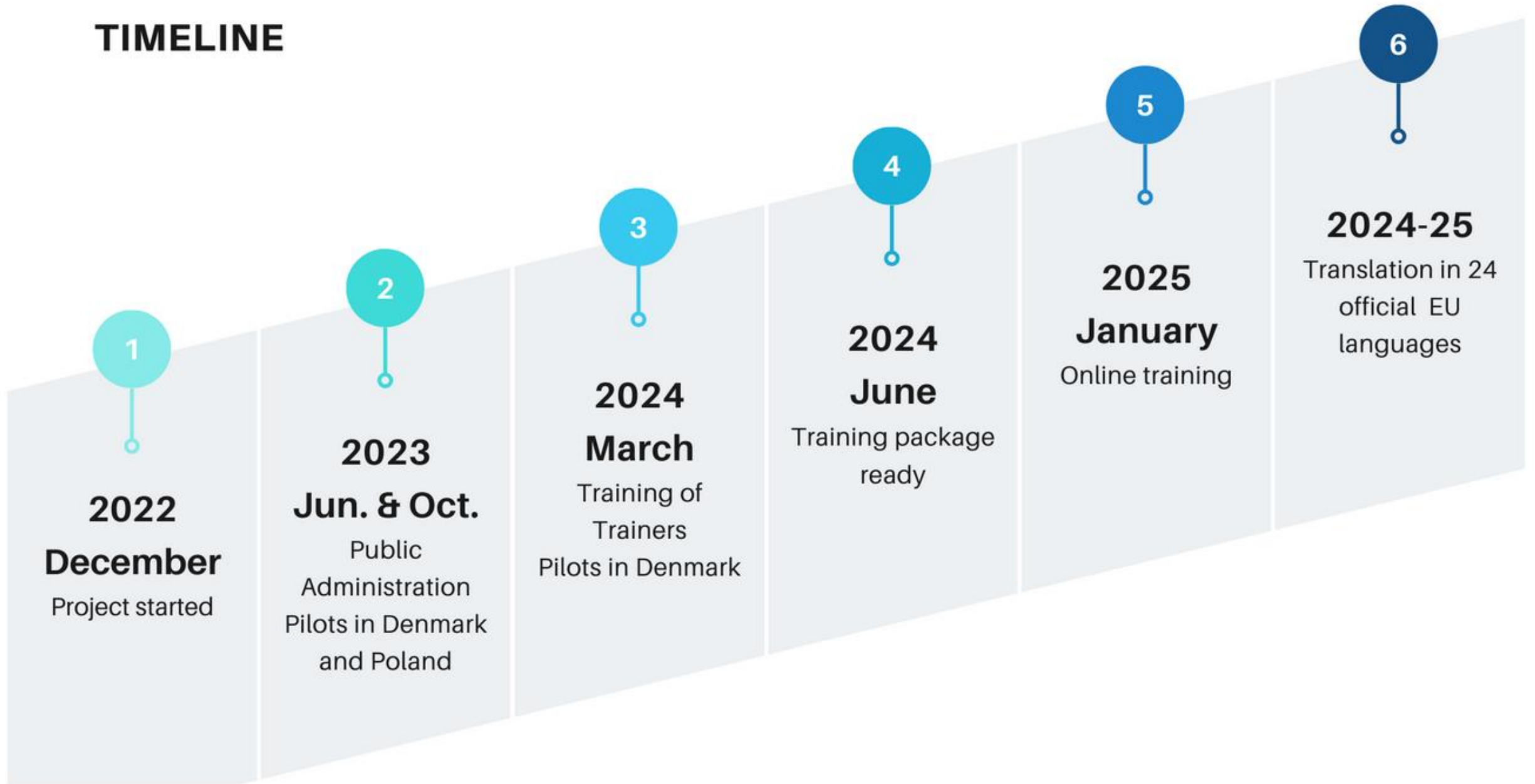
# Online training - EU Academy

## Goals:

- Support tailored training paths
- Foster community building

- ***Asynchronous activities***
- ***Synchronous sessions***

# TIMELINE





# Technical and Support Instrument?

- Mapping Needs
- Proposing recommendations and roadmaps to help public administrations to accommodate citizen participation practices
- Capacity building to public administrations
- Monitoring and evaluation frameworks
- **Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**
- **Contact CC-DEMOS/ OECD NOW**