

# Empowered by ACTION: Theatre of the Oppressed in Non-Formal Education with young refugees

An international peer learning experience for people working with refugees or on the topic of forced migration



**When:** 18 – 22 May 2026  
**Where:** Budapest, Hungary

## Introduction

How can theatre help young people express experiences and emotions that are hard to put into words? How can it raise awareness of social injustice and create space to explore possibilities for action in a safe and supportive environment? And how can youth workers use these methods in a sensitive and discrimination-aware way?

In this international training, participants will explore the Theatre of the Oppressed, an approach developed by the Brazilian theatre practitioner Augusto Boal. The approach makes social injustices visible and encourages participants to experiment with new ways of taking action. It also helps to express thoughts and feelings, develop empathy and build confidence. Theatre is understood not only as a form of artistic expression, but also as a powerful tool for dialogue, reflection, and social change.

Together, participants of the training will reflect on how these methods can be applied in their own practice – with the aim of empowering young people and creating meaningful, inclusive learning spaces. Participants do not need any prior experience with theatre or Theatre of the Oppressed.



## WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Learning by doing: Hands-on theatre exercises based on Theatre of the Oppressed
- A safe and supportive space to express experiences and emotions
- Reflection on how and under which conditions these methods can be used with refugee youth
- Exchange ideas with colleagues across different countries for working with young refugees and diverse youth groups
- A free afternoon with the possibility of visiting Budapest

## WHO IS THIS FOR?

- Youth workers, educators and professionals working with young refugees or in the field of forced migration
- Trainers in non-formal education who want to strengthen their skills in designing workshops and creating safe spaces for young refugees
- Anyone interested in working with refugee youth and exploring the Theatre of the Oppressed approach
- No previous experience with theatre or Theatre of the Oppressed is required

**IMPORTANT:** People with personal experiences of (forced) migration or racism are especially encouraged to join this training. We make sure to create safe spaces where everyone can share their experiences and ideas openly.

**Empowered by ACTION –  
Civic Education Crossing Borders**



The training is part of our international cooperation partnership "Empowered by ACTION – Civic Education Crossing Borders", funded by Erasmus+. In a network of five organisations from Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Germany, we focus on developing non-formal civic education in the context of forced migration. Our goal is to strengthen youth work professionals, promote empowerment-based approaches for young refugees, and explore creative, artistic, and discrimination-sensitive methods.



The training is part of an international series with the following focuses:

- **Training 1: 12 – 16 May 2025, near Cologne, Germany: Forced Migration & Youth Work – Learning, reflecting, taking actions**  
→ This training introduces the topic of forced migration, invites participants to reflect on prejudices and discrimination and supports developing practical approaches for working with refugees.
- **Training 2: 24 – 28 November 2025, in Prague, Czech Republic: Cultural and Artistic Methods in Civic Education**  
→ The focus is on using theatre, art, and creative forms of expression as tools for educational work with young refugees.
- **Training 3: 18 – 22 May 2026, in Budapest, Hungary: Theatre of the Oppressed by Augusto Boal**  
→ This training provides theatre methods for uncovering social injustice and test alternative ways of acting. The training aims to reflect on how, when, under what conditions and with what adaptations the participants can use the methods themselves.
- **Get Together Event: 23 – 28 November 2026: Exchange & Networking for Young Refugees & Professionals**  
→ This event will bring together young refugees who participated in local groups of the project and professionals to discuss the opportunities and challenges of participation and civic education.



We warmly invite you to sign up for all the training sessions. However, participation in only one training is also possible.

Homepage: <https://www.empoweredbyaction.com/>



## Information:

### When:

18 – 22 May, 2026

The training starts on Monday, May 18 at 6:00 PM and ends on Friday, May 22, at 11:30 AM. Please make sure to arrange your arrival and departure times to match the program schedule.

### Where:

Petneházy Aparthotel  
1029 Budapest, Feketefej u. 2-4.

The Petneházy Aparthotel is located in a green, quiet area in the Buda Hills, surrounded by nature while still close to Budapest.

### Language of the seminar:

English (Basic knowledge of English is required to participate in the training and exchange).

### Trainers:

Anna Vég, Kriszti Scholtz – trainers, forum theatre facilitators

## Costs:

### Reimbursement of travel costs:

Travel expenses for international travel up to €200 and for travel within Hungary up to €40 will be reimbursed. Please contact us if your travel expenses exceed these amounts.

### Participation fee:

- For Participants from Hungary, Poland and Czech Republic: €50 for accommodation in a double room (If covering the participation fee is not possible, you can indicate this in the application form - Financial constraints should not be a barrier to participation)
- For participants from Germany: €120 for accommodation in a double room

The fee must be paid in advance by bank transfer and covers accommodation, meals, and program costs.

Application: [For registration please click here](#)

Application deadline: 6 April 2026

## Contact:

If you have any support needs, please feel free to contact us.

Contact of the coordinating organisations Jugendakademie Walberberg and UNITED for Intercultural Action:

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