



**DigiEduHack Solution**  
**Thessaloniki - CitizenScience\_INOS**  
**Challenge: Thessaloniki -**  
**CitizenScience\_INOS Challenge 2020**

## **French language learning and digital activism**

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16 university students of the Department of Social and Education Policy of the University of the Peloponnese participated in this Challenge as an opportunity to develop their language skills (in French) and their digital activism skills.

### **Team: Students of the Department of Social and Education Policy who learn French (University of the Peloponnese)**

#### **Team members**

Antoniou Konstantina, Grivogiannis Konstantinos-Apostolos, Dimitriou Efthymia, Ismailai Ntiana, Kalaitzidou Anastasia, Kleideri Maria-Anna, Koutra Athanasia, Makri Konstantina, Mpampe Cristi, Ntaoulia Markela, Ntyrmisi Ntaiana, Perrakis Petros, Roufani Maria, Papadimitriou Vicky.

#### **Members roles and background**

The students, beginners of French at the University of the Peloponnese, formed groups of three during an online class in November 10. In groups they went through an indicative list of Citizen Science tools and initiatives and selected one they identified the most with. In small groups they produced texts in French language collaboratively.

Their tutor, Dr. Maria-Eleftheria Galani supervised the process and provided feedback for all language productions.

An introductory session on citizen science, digital activism and its role in language learning and teaching was given by Dr. Katerina Zourou, host of the Challenge.

## Contact details

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# Solution Details

## Solution description

The main goal of teaching social studies is to teach students to become responsible citizens. With a social studies background, university students become active citizens that can participate civilly in our democratic and diverse society. Therefore, we teach French language in a social context and in order not only to develop language skills but also social skills.

Our final product consisted of using digital tools so as to make students communicate and produce in French (in writing) through activism platforms. This approach was innovative and much more attractive to the students learning French. The strong participation of students in accomplishing the task proved the success of the solution and increased the students' interest in the class.

## Solution context

We usually teach a foreign language in traditional ways without involving other than language skills. Although, learning a foreign language should be set in an authentic, social context which will allow learners to become active citizens and get involved in their community. Therefore, we propose the use of digital activism tools which encourage students not only to learn french in a more attractive way but also to help and make their community a better place.

## Solution target group

The target group is Social studies students who learn French for specific and academic purposes. They will learn French and develop social skills at the same time.

## Solution impact

The main goal of teaching social studies is to teach students to become good citizens and through this solution the students were initiated in digital activism which is an effort to promote social, political, economic or environmental reform in the interest of the society.

## **Solution tweet text**

Use digital activism tools to learn French at the University of the Peloponnese.

## **Solution innovativeness**

We think that this teaching and learning approach through digital activism tools is completely innovative in the field of French language teaching because they usually use written manuals or videos but not such kind of tools. In addition, we think there is nothing similar in the market.

## **Solution transferability**

This solution can probably be used in other fields, too. Not only to learn a foreign language but also study environmental, economic, political problems. These digital tools offer a great variety of subjects to work on.

## **Solution sustainability**

We would like to repeat this class as the students' French learning level gets improved. Then, they would be able to accomplish more complicated tasks and deepen their knowledge and involvement in the digital activism tools (the internet, mobile applications, social media, platforms, etc.).

## **Solution team work**

We worked very well as a team and the students loved this collaborative effort. Teamwork motivates the whole group and makes the class more interesting and for these reasons, we will continue to work as a team.