



WELCOME TO THE WYRED PROCESS

Youth for Exchange and Understanding is part of a Project called [WYRED - netWorked Youth Research for Empowerment in the Digital Society](#)

“Society is changing, the tools we use are changing, the way we express ourselves is changing. Young people are at the forefront of this change, but they rarely get a chance to say what they think, or to influence policy.

WYRED aims to give the young a voice.”

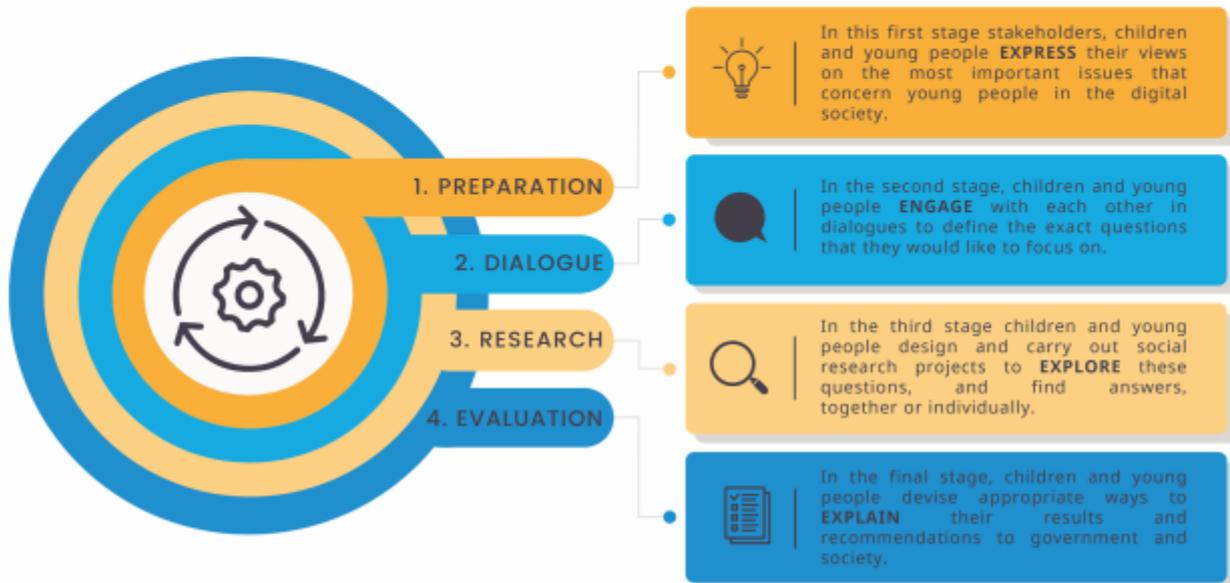
This project started in November 2016, aiming to engage young people in a process that they can investigate and examine issues that concern them in the digital society. Based on the previous processes that took place during 2017 ([Delphi](#) and [Social Dialogue](#)), we are in the process of working on specific selected topics.

To get to know more about the project, take a look at our infographics below:





Stakeholders, Children & Young People



What is the WYRED platform?

Share your thoughts with young people across Europe!

The platform is the space we have created so we can come together and discuss/work on important topics, while being sure that all people engaging are part of a safe online community.

We, with and for young people, would like to tackle several topics that are seen as important through your eyes and perspectives. A process that you can facilitate the discussion and work on issues that impact young people locally/nationally or from a European perspective.



As we really value respect, diversity and privacy, we would kindly ask you to **avoid sharing names, personal data or photos of you and others** (e.g a face pictures).

Engage and discuss:

In collaboration with other partners, we have set up three general topics (within [WYRED Platform](#)) that you can discuss. **It's up to you!**

1. [#metoo](#)

In the last few weeks, there have been a lot of news stories, in the US and almost every European country, about unacceptable sexual behaviour by men. Sexual discrimination, harassment and abuse seem to be much too common in our societies, as websites like [everyday sexism](#) make very clear. Some people say these attitudes are outdated and with time they will change, others see them as built into our society and very difficult to address. But they tend to say what they think without taking the views of young people, the future society, into account.

What do **you** think about it? In relevance to this part of the WYRED community, we would like to explore different aspects of sexism in our society.

There are three videos, in three Forum threads, which you can see in the Community:

The first is a song by Beyonce called Freedom.

The second is a video of Pink talking about her daughter.

The third is a talk about movies and sexism, and what movies teach us about what girls, and boys, women, and men, can be.

We would like you to look at them , and comment on any aspect that seems relevant to you. Maybe you would like to talk about how you see it happening in your life, or how we might make concrete changes, or maybe just comment on the video.

2. [Plastic beach](#) Where does all the plastic go when we throw it away? Well, some of it ends up in the South Pacific, on [Henderson Island](#).

A lot more ends up accumulating in enormous "trash islands" in the middle of our oceans. Did you know that by 2050, the weight of plastics in our oceans will be greater than the weight of fish?

There are many images on the Internet that illustrate the problem. But what about your area. In this thread, find an example of the problem of plastics pollution and take a photo, or make a video of it.

Post it to a Forum thread, in the Threads Panel within the Community, and write a message explaining **where it is, and what the problem is**. Or just share your **reaction to these pictures, or others you may find**.

And here's a song to listen to! [Plastic Beach](#).

3. **Tolerance?**

Imagine people named Zada, Xiaodan and Ruiling, Amadou and Dheepan. What would their life be like if they came to live in your town? How would they experience your area? How would they be treated? How would a day in their life be?

Share your ideas, or your experience, or your reactions to the pictures.

Put your thoughts in a Forum thread.

You shared your thoughts but want to dig deeper?

Start your own research with your friends or people involved in the platform!

A) How:

Collecting information from your discussion in each Community, we can together define a question/ questions. This will be our **“research question”** that would be good to be kept with an open mind and, if necessary, explored more. In addition, the research question can be adjusted as the research develops.

An example is:

1. Topic:

The topic is ‘youth disengagement’, which translates to: young people do not feel they can meaningfully engage with institutions, society etc.

2. Mind-map exercise:

A mind-map exercise is helpful in order to explore the context, the reasons, the consequences, the solutions etc. of the disengagement.

3. Research Question:

A resulting research question could be: “How can young people, who feel at home in the digital sphere but disengaged in society, have their voices heard?” (the questions has been modified as we included information based on some context and to the fact that we are indeed looking for a solution).

*Note that the research question may also be further segmented, e.g. by addressing both, actual and perceived problems. For instance, it could be that young people’s voices are being heard, but they still feel that nobody is listening. This may then require further investigation and potentially further refinement of the question.

B) Choosing a research method:

Based on your timeline, resources and personal schedules, you can select a suitable method that can support your discussion and research, in order to reach to conclusions in the best possible way.

Take a look at the images below and discover some possible ways to apply your research.



RESEARCH METHODS



THE TRADITIONAL RESEARCH



Research projects typically explore under-researched areas; they can also replicate an existing study in a different setting. They apply and test ideas in the real world. To be successful, you will need to be systematic, and apply the newly acquired knowledge in the real world.



CREATIVE PROJECTS

Similarly to the traditional research projects, but with particular attention on the collaboration between researchers, and on the creation of original design and artwork.



JOURNALISTIC APPROACH

A journalistic research is undertaken alone or in a team; key to its success are accuracy (get the facts right), impartiality (serve no interest but the truth) and accountability (if necessary, admit to errors and correct them). Take on the role of a reporter and conduct primary and secondary research, incl. photographic evidence. Tell the story so the majority of citizens can read it - your narrative skills will be tested.

ACTION RESEARCH



A process of inquiring about problems and taking actions to solve them. It makes use of several methods and requires participation of many stakeholders. It is based on the assumption that knowledge is always gained through action and for action. The goal is to come up with step by step solutions to existing problems.



SOLIDARITY PROJECTS

Solidarity projects promote mutual care and understanding. They target underserved groups and work with the support of the whole community. The idea is to empower target groups. Solidarity is support given to individuals or groups, who are reliant on outside help. It is different from charity since solidarity means mutual support, not just financial aid, so that the receivers can become self-reliant over time.

ETHNOGRAPHIC PROJECTS

Ethnography is the study of social interactions, behaviours, and perceptions that occur within groups and communities. The aim is to see the surrounding world from eyes of the target group. This is done through observations and conversations while immersed in the field. Ethnographic projects require a great deal of personal involvement, are very time consuming but can also be great fun.



Also check the following pictures that can help you map possible steps to reach to your results.

How to get Started



CHOOSE



DISCUSS YOUR CHOICE

Identify 1-2 methods you find most appealing. Discuss them with your Coordinator, to fully appreciate what they entail

GO!



TAKE THE FIRST STEP

Use the step-by-step guide to get started. Give yourself a timeline, and periodically review progress with your Coordinator.

RECORD

Remember to record every step you take, and to write down lots of information. This will make it easier to create the final report, in whichever format you have chosen, and to track back your work, if needed.

RECORD AND REPORT



PUBLISH

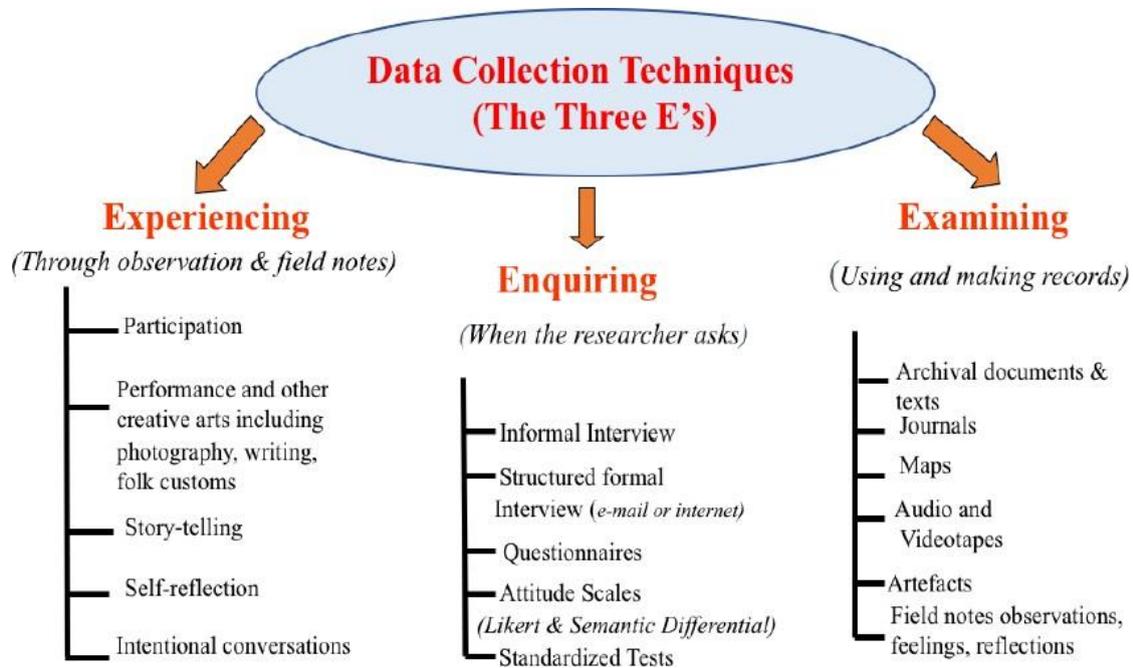
**PUBLISH YOUR WORK - CONGRATULATIONS:
YOU ARE NOW A PUBLISHED AUTHOR!**



C) Selecting data selection method:

Based on the process, something helpful, is how will we select information from our local, national and european realities.

Please take a look at the image below:



NOTE: It is very helpful to assign roles and responsibilities properly and define as a group your timelines.

D) Reporting:

Together, as part of the process, you need to decide who is going to do what, and by when.

Which means you need to Identify what the final, desired outcome is going to be (e.g. a fully edited, 3 mins video summarising interviews), and therefore we can decide on deadlines from the beginning.

Ongoing research:

As YEU, we support the engagement of young people as part of two ongoing research groups on the WYRED platform, based on topics of projects we have already been exploring with young people:



Tolerance towards other Cultures/Opinions;



Gender and non-binary gender identities.

Using WYRED platform we can discuss and document our research.

Interested to join? Here is how you can do that!

Send your email, date of birth and name to projects@yeu-cyprus.org

After that you can start discussing!

YEU team