



# GRAND CHALLENGE G5

Engaging youth in a cultural festival

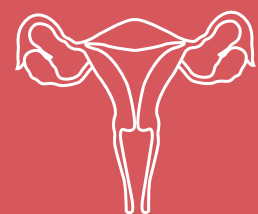




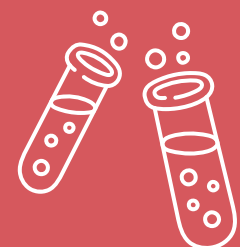
**Lea Combres**  
Developmental biology



**Eva Jenkins**  
Nutrition and Dietetics



**Sophia Avice**  
Medical Anthropology



**Saliha Saher**  
Chemistry



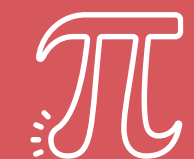
**Christine Law**  
Medicinal Chemistry



**May Alhajri**  
Cybersecurity

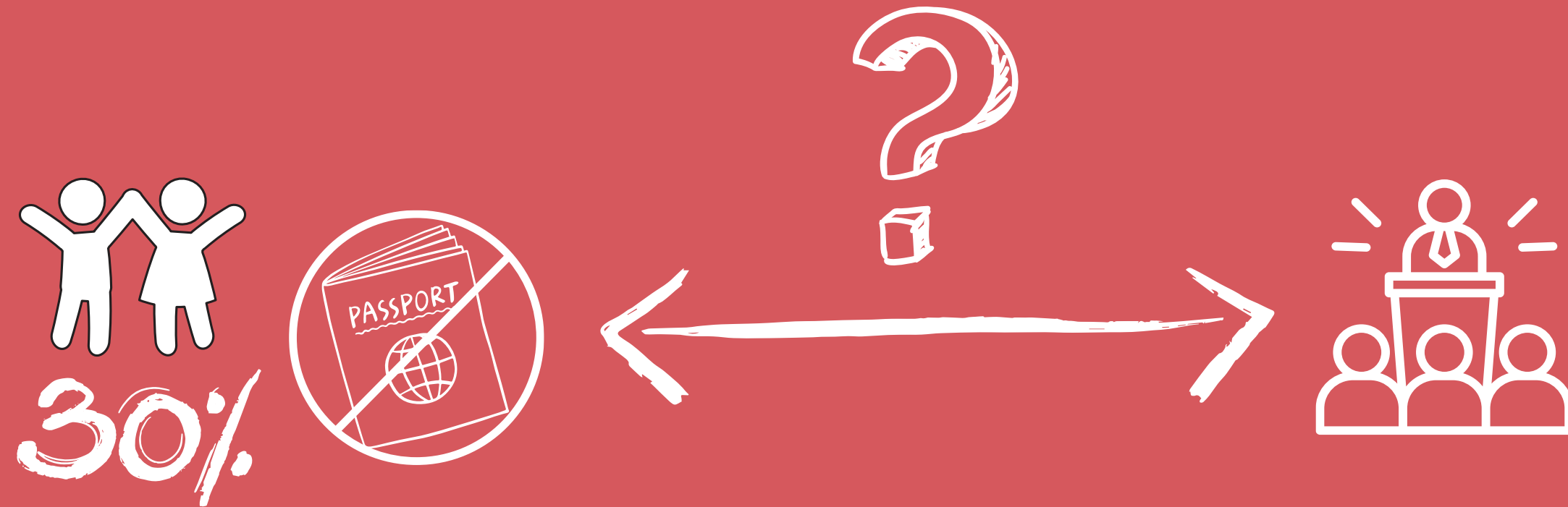


**Saeed Askari**  
Chemical Engineering



**Orion Zymaris**  
Mathematics

# Challenge #5



How can we enhance multicultural youth's engagement and participation in social, cultural and political decision-making process?



# Introduction to Prato

Prato is one of Italy's most culturally diverse cities, with 22% of its total population represented by migrants from **over 100 different nationalities**.<sup>[1]</sup>



25.7% of the foreign population in Prato is under 20 years old.<sup>[2]</sup>

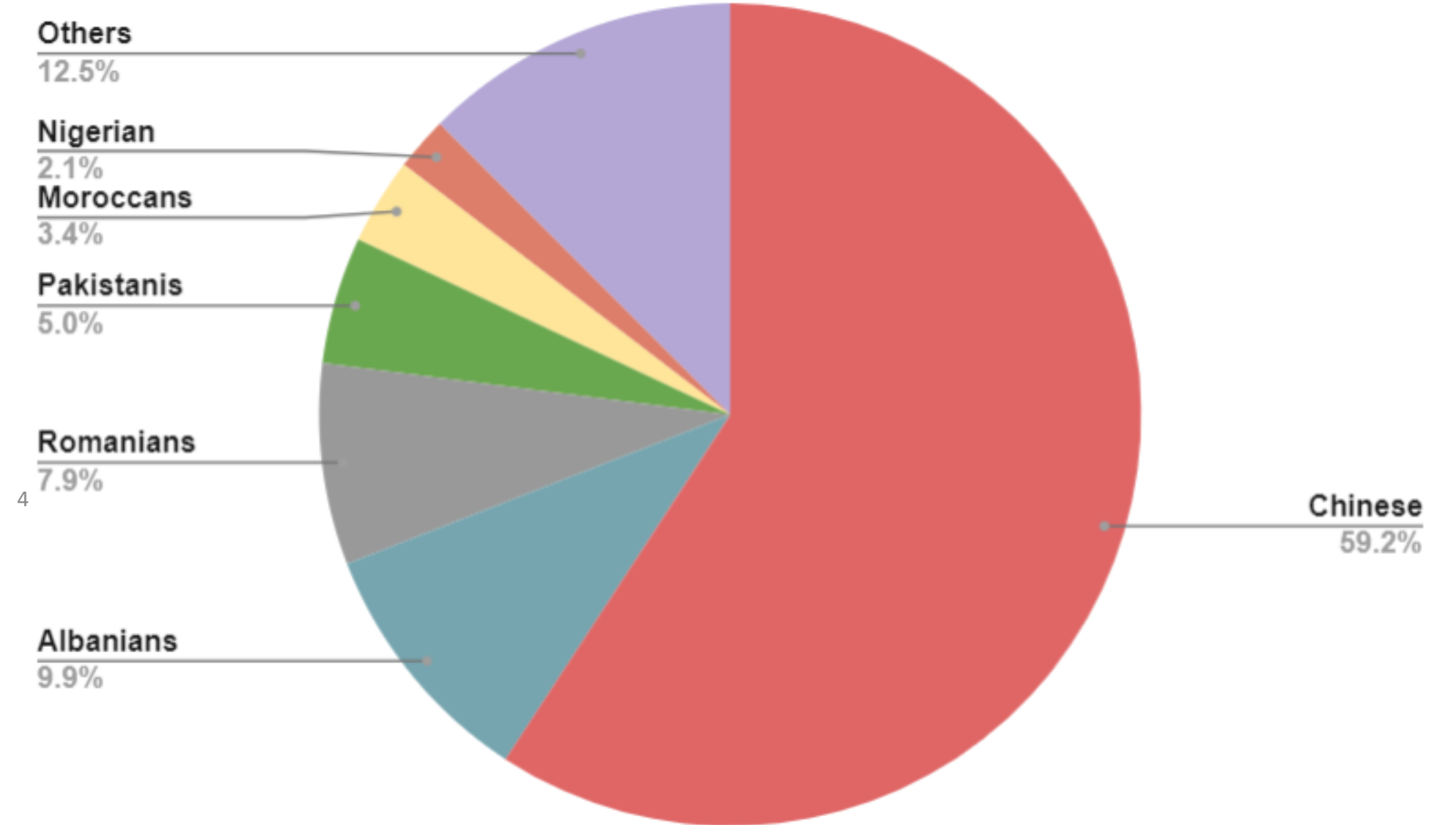


Figure 1. Proportion of nationalities among migrants in Prato as of March 2020.<sup>[1]</sup>

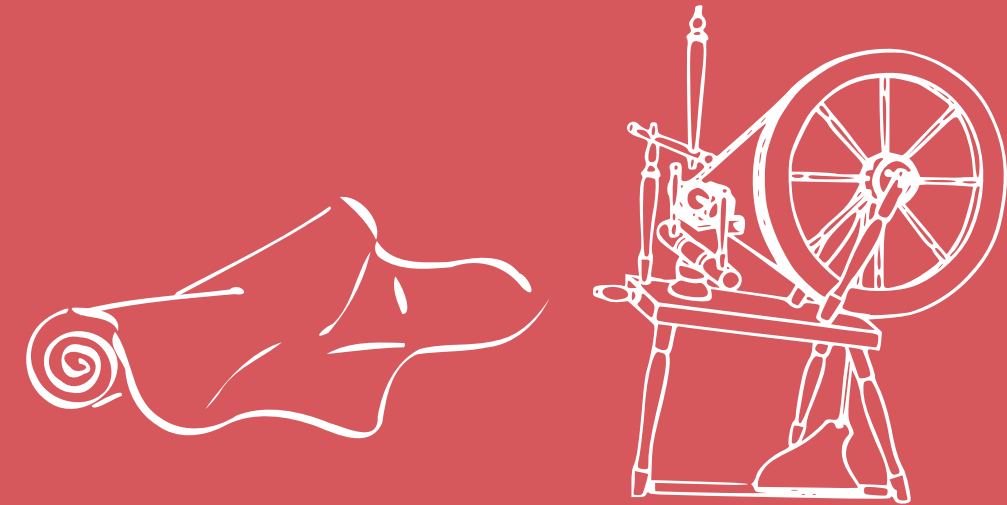
# Migrants in Prato

## Contributions <sup>[3]</sup>

Social



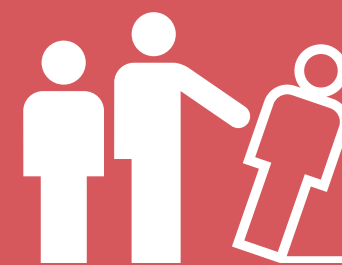
Economy



Most of them have limited access to a public voice. Why?



Migrants who were born in Italy can only apply for Italian citizenship at 18.



Negative discourse towards Chinese migrants has made it difficult for them to become Italian citizens. <sup>[4]</sup>

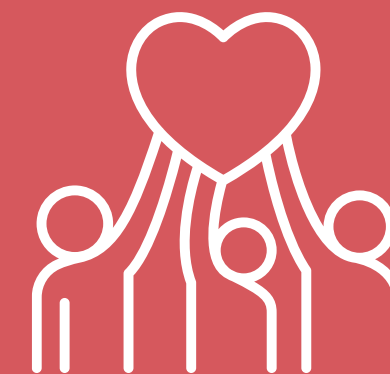
# Why is youth engagement important?



Youth's wellbeing

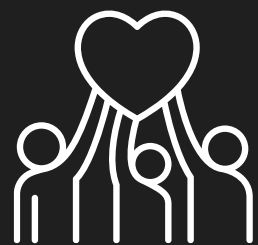
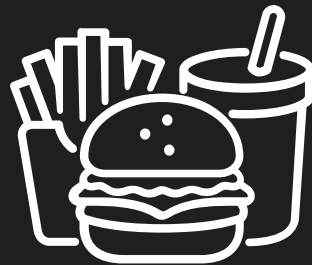
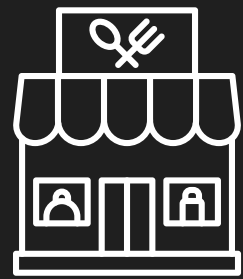


Sense of belonging and identity



Inclusive community

# YOUTH IN THE 城



# YOUTH FEST



## 01 JUN, 2024

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND SOCIAL CHANGE THROUGH  
TRANSCULTURAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



SCAN ME

Vintage Market  
Local Council  
Fundraising  
Networking  
Craft

Food Stores  
Sports Events  
Art Installation  
Recycling Store  
Music

# Marketing

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Prato YouthFest

2024 Updates Events About Contact Get Involved!

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## Events and Opportunities



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### Market Stalls

Where participants can create and show off wares, engaging in the rich history of creativity and productivity of Prato and other cultures.



### Pratovision

Not only will there be live music, but a live music competition! Talented young musicians can join forces for Prato's very own miniature Eurovision.



### Councillor Chats

A chance for young people to discuss their views and positions with local politicians and have their say!

# YouthFest

An annual community event!

*"Youth empowerment and social change through transcultural community engagement"*

## Attendees



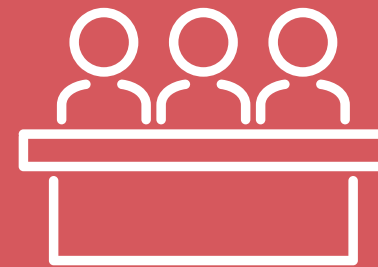
Students



Teachers



Parents



Local Council



Local Business



Community

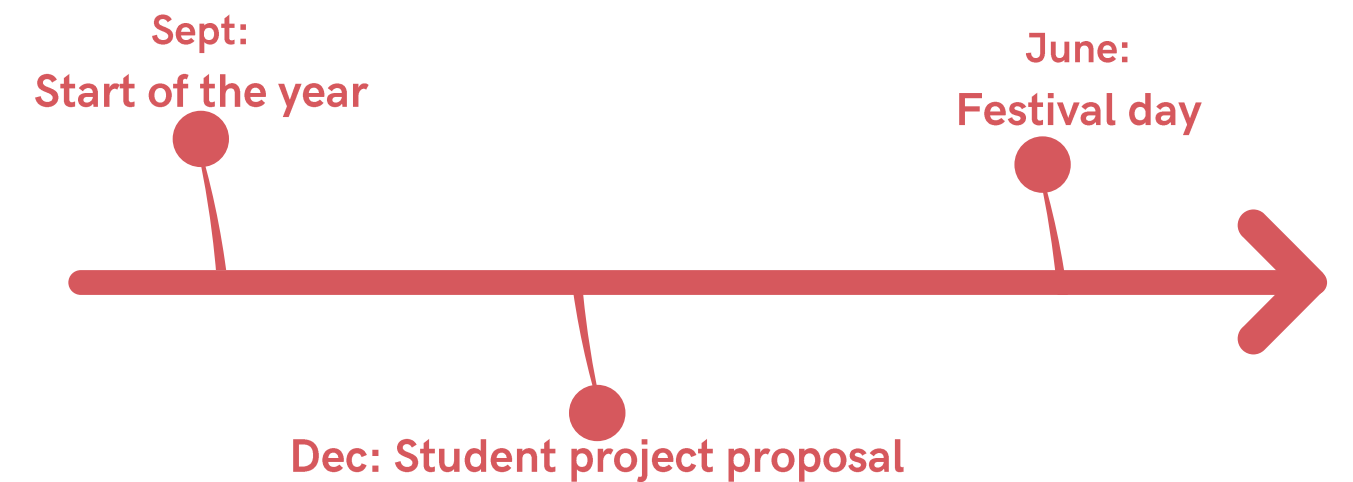
## Key stakeholders



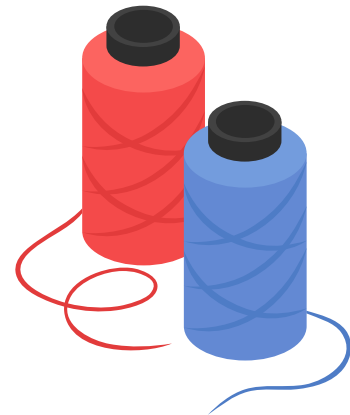
Local Business



City Council



# Social Activities



Engaging platforms for both students and  
community

10

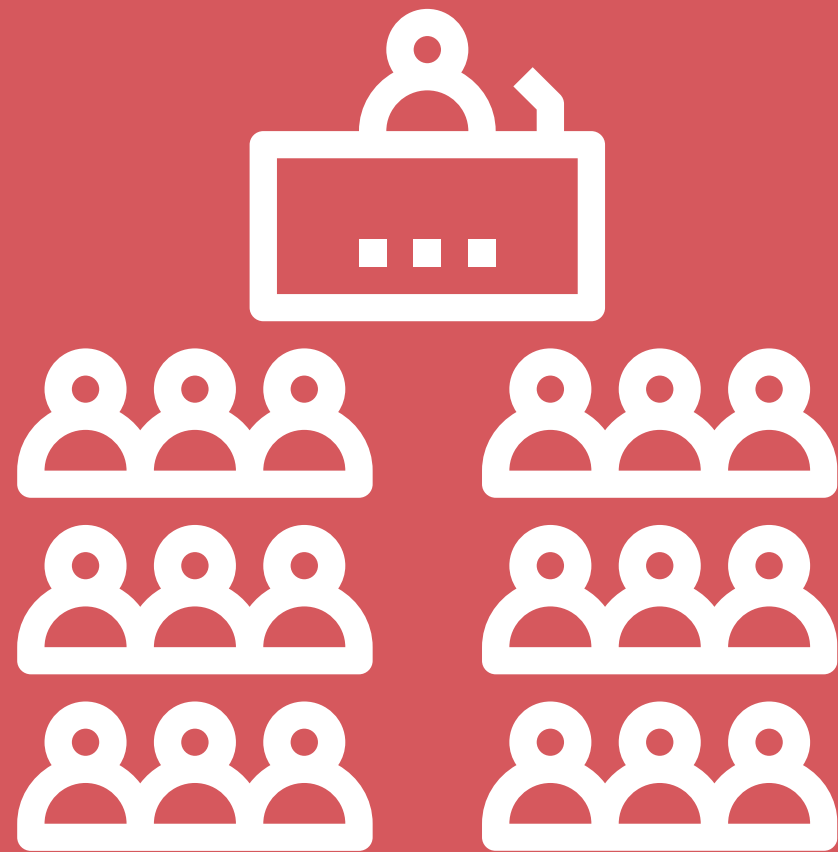
## Benefits

- Cultural awareness
- Empathy, sense of belonging
- Collaboration, teamwork, time management



# Political Activities

Open discussion between students and local council people



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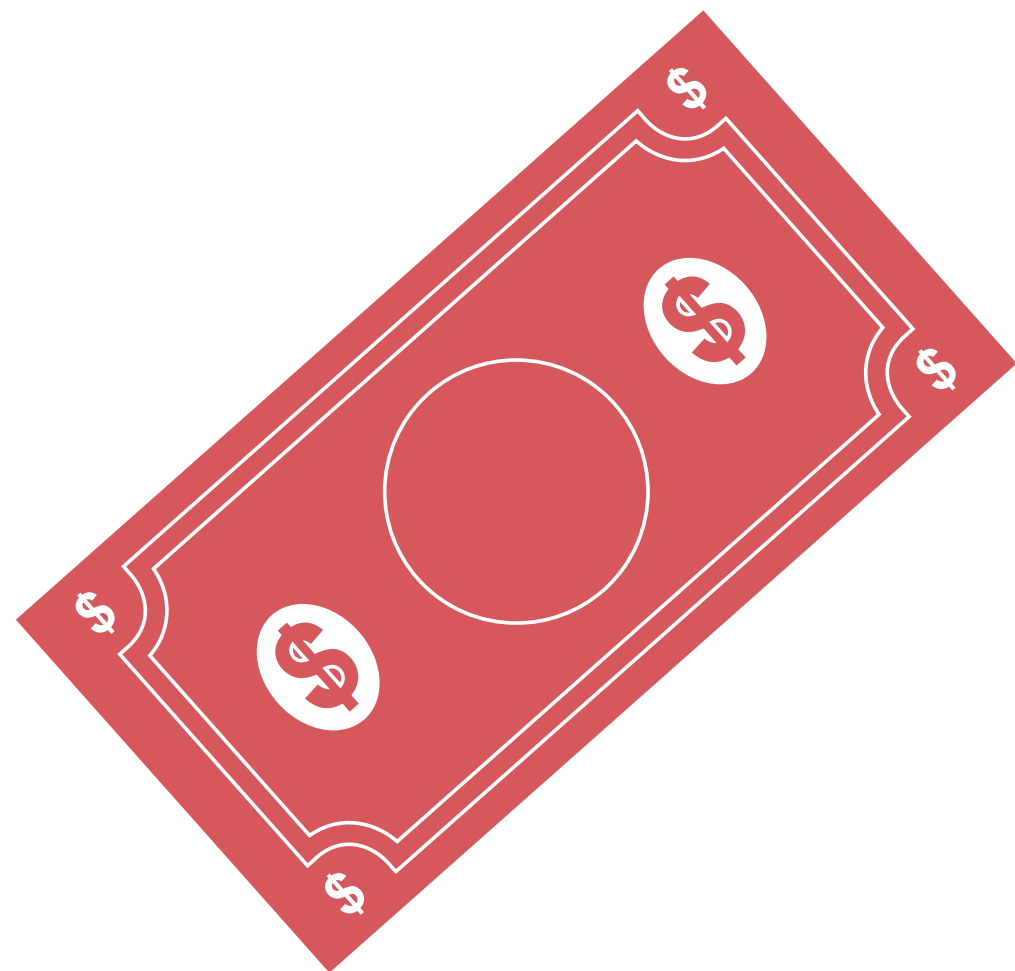


## Benefits

- Local democracy, role as citizen
- Student engagement, sense of belonging
- Critical thinking
- Public speaking, debate and negotiation abilities
- For community: transparency, bridges generations

# Economic Activities

Stalls selling various things to encourage economic, creative and social autonomy



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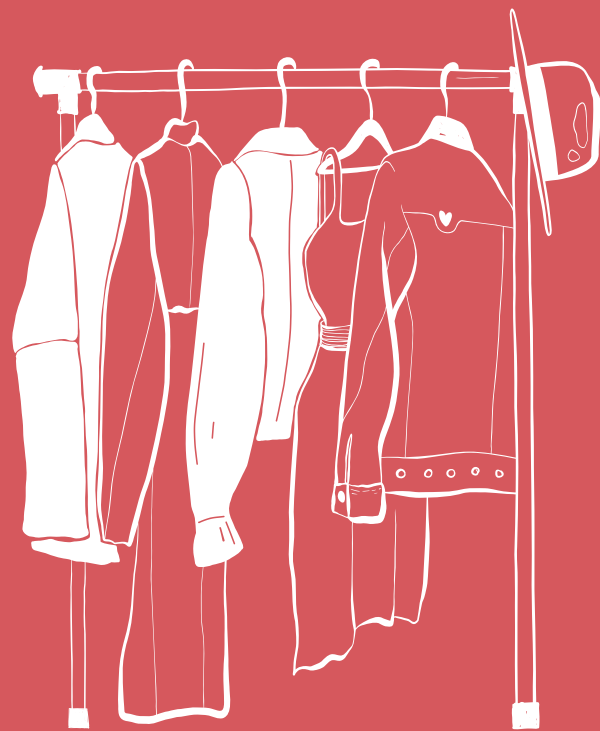
## Benefits

- Entrepreneurial and customer service skills
- Creativity and innovative thinking
- Responsibility
- For community: inspiration, show support

# Sustainable Awareness



➔ Stalls selling pre-loved items and where people can donate used items to promote circular economy



## Benefits

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- Raise eco-consciousness
- Responsible consumption
- Learn about recycling, reusing, and reducing waste
- For community: access to affordable items, promoting sustainable shopping practices

# Impacts of the Intervention



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- **Foster leadership**
- **Positive projects for society**
- **Awareness of youth concerns**
- **Visibility in the community**
- **Inclusion and transparency**
- **Future decision-making**

# Research Opportunities



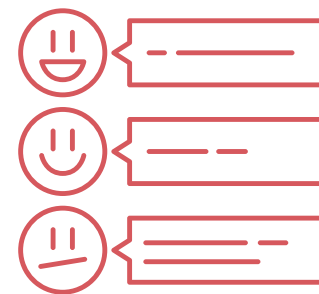
Survey for teachers  
Survey for students



Interviews with local council members  
Focus groups with students



Analysis of fundraising amount and sources



Feedback stations throughout festival to improve future events

# Proposed Funding Plan



**Community  
fundraising**



**Collaboration**



**EU Asylum, Migration  
and Integration Fund**



**Prato Officina Teen  
(Comune di Prato)**

# Proposed Timeline

1.5 years  
Before YouthFest

## Planning

- Set up organising committee
- Plan whole program
- Risk assessment

1 year  
Before YouthFest

## Collaborating

- Contact local council members
- Contact schools
- Contact local businesses

9 Months  
Before YouthFest

## Organising

- Sign up students, volunteers, and parents
- Advertise the festival
- Prepare for big day

The Grand Event  
YouthFest

## Execution

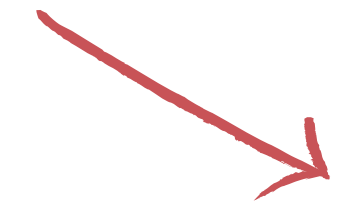
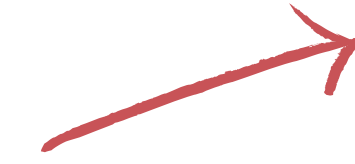
- YouthFest!
- Enjoy and inspire youth and their families

3 Months  
After YouthFest

## Post event analysis

- Analysis of success of YouthFest through various measures
- Start planning for next annual YouthFest!

# Summary



**Economy**



**Social**



**Politics**

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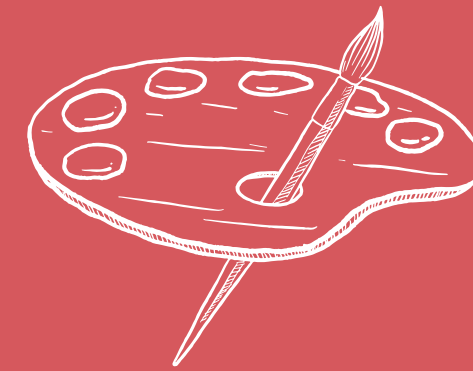
Fun



Share food



Come together



Art



Music

# Alternative directions



Curriculum development



Youth portal

for Direct communication between  
young people and the council

# Resources

- Ricatti, F, Dutto, M, Bono, A 2022, vol. 57, no. 1, pp. 129-145.
- <https://www.tuttitalia.it/>
- Ricatti, F, Dutto, M, Wilson, R 2019, *Modern Italy*, vol. 24, no. 4, pp. 369-381.
- Paciocco, A, Baldassar, L 2017, pp. 97-113.
- <https://youthinthe.city/it/la-nostra-prato/>



Thank you

# YOUTH FEST



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## Prato YouthFest

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