

Donation March Against Right-Wing Extremists

This activity is a “change of the game” for dealing with right-wing demonstrations: Neo-Nazi demonstrations are accompanied by posters and banners, which thank the participants for their donations to an initiative, which supports those who would like to exit the right-wing environment. The Neo-Nazis become involuntary donors against their own cause –donations for the march go to a project, which works against extremist ideologies and which is defined before the action.

Module

- Intervention
- Exit strategies

Purpose

The activity has three objectives:

- activation of democratic civil society on the ground by participation (donations) in the action,
- generation of frustration among the Neo-Nazis, which ideally refrain from future demonstrations,
- in the case of donations for the exit initiative "EXIT-Germany": anchoring of the exit offer in the heads of potentially interested persons.

Participants

youth in teaching units / participants in a right-wing demonstration or march (depending on the implementation, see below)

Description

For the first time, the action was held 2014 in the German city of Wunsiedel. For years now, Neo-Nazis have organized a "mourning march", which has been transformed into a charity event - without the knowledge of the participants. For each running meter 10 € were donated to EXIT-Germany - the exit program for Neo-Nazis. The result: 20.000 € donations and loads of surprised right-wing extremists.

Materials needed

A video documents the exercise:
<http://zentrum-demokratische-kultur.de/initiativen/?c=rechts-gegen-rechts>

Methodology

Methodologically, the change in the rules of the game is the core element, which generates uncertainty and puts the Neo-Nazis into a dilemma. Becoming involuntarily donors against the own cause leads to frustration and demotivation.

Advice for Trainer

This exercise might be taken as an example of coping with right-wing extremism during teaching units. It might also act as an example for comparable activities. The activity was developed by the Center for Democratic Culture (Berlin): <http://zentrum-demokratische-kultur.de>. For support as well as copyright-issues the center should be included in preparations of comparable activities.

Source / Literature

Well documented exercise; a video of the exercise can also be the starting point for discussions at schools and youth institutions.

Handouts

<http://zentrum-demokratische-kultur.de/initiativen/?c=rechts-gegen-rechts>



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Donation March Against Right-Wing Extremists. Retrieved %s, from %sSaturday April 25, 2026 from <https://toolbox.ycare.eu/courses/YCARE169/>

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Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



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