

Iceland
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**Active
citizens** fund

CONSULTATIVE MIGRANT FORUM

PROMISE: Protecting Unaccompanied Migrant Minors

Training for Consultative Immigrant Forum

Kick-off meeting

Proiect derulat de:



Terre des hommes
Sprijin copiilor.



SERVICIUL IEZUITILOR PENTRU REFUGIATI
ROMANIA

WELCOME! لَسَّالَامُ لَيْكُ

السلام عليكم

Kumusta!

Soyez les bien venus!

Добрый день!

Привіт!

Bine ați venit!



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POWER

- the ability to achieve a purpose. Whether or not it is good or bad depends on the purpose.
- ..many leaders understand power negatively, as being control and domination; something that cannot be shared without shaking its centre, rather than seeing it in a positive light as something that enables ..
- the degree of control over material, human, intellectual and financial resources exercised by different sections of society. The control of these resources becomes a source of individual and social power. Power is dynamic and relational, rather than absolute — it is exercised in the social, economic and political relations between individuals and groups. It is also unequally distributed – some individuals and groups having greater control over the sources of power and others having little or no control. The extent of power of an individual or group is correlated to how many different kinds of resources they can access and control.



STARTING AN ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN



AN ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

.... Is a plan, that includes information about:

- Who you are and what you want
- Analysis the environment in which you act: the legislative framework, as well as the people who have a say in the issue – the stakeholders
- Sets long term goals and short term objectives
- Plans activities – what to do, with what resources, who is doing it and when
- Establish what to say and through which communication channels

WHO YOU ARE?

- It clarifies to public who is addressing him
- It allows bringing supporters
- You make your issue more visible to the public
- It brings power to your issue through clarity, organization, structure
- You can evaluate your own resources

ELEMENTS OF A GROUP IDENTITY

- The name
- How many persons are involved?
- What resources can each of these persons bring (time, experience, expertise, connections etc.)
- Which are the communication channels for the group?

EXAMPLE:

	Name	Phone	Email	Studies/ Profession	Involvement/ Resources for the group
1	x	x	x	Journalist	Communication, graphic (Canva)
2	x	x	x	Legal studies	Legal framework research, events organisation, online questionnaires
3	x	x	x	High school student	Organising activities with kids/ teenagers (drawing) , short movie maker (CapCut), meme creator
4					



MIGRANTS RIGHTS IN ROMANIA





LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF CITIZENS IN PUBLIC DECISION MAKING



GETTING INFORMATION – THE LAW NO.544/2001

Romanian legal framework: Law on access to public information no. 544/2001

- The citizens right to ask for public informations related to institutions' activity
- Each public institution has a responsible dedicated to this law
- No need to justify the request
- Free of charge, unless printed copies are needed etc.
- Will not be released: personal data, military information, classified information etc.
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- There is a formal model, provided by the law, available on internet.

GETTING INFORMATION – THE LAW NO.544/2001

Information made available without request: organization's legislative base (laws, regulations etc.), structure, budget, newsletters, strategies, annual report about application of law no.544/2001 (how many request they have receive, what topics, etc.)

Tips & Tricks:

- To find the appropriate contact: search on internet: name of the institution + responsabil legea 544/2001
- Ask for a registration number
- Be clear about what you want

If they don't answer, you can make an administrative complaint to the chief of the public institution within 30 days from getting the refusal or since you have made the request.



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE WANT



WHAT YOU WANT? DETAILS ABOUT THE ISSUE/ THE PROBLEM

- Who has the problem? How many people are affected? How they are affected?
- Which are the consequences of the problem? What happens if it is not addressed?
- Since when is this problem?
- Who is in charge to solve it?
- Which is the solution? How is it addressed/ solved in other places of the country/ world?
- Are there any examples or studies we can use?
- Which is the relevant legislation?
- Anything else important?

Examples of Problem Statements

SHORTHAND DESCRIPTIONS	PROBLEM STATEMENTS
Inadequate Girls' Education <i>(from Ghana)</i>	There is a higher school drop-out rate among girls because many parents believe that investing in girls' education is a waste of resources since they will get married. In addition, teachers and school materials do not reinforce the importance of girls' education. Some parents also need to put their kids to work to be able to survive.
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Labor Rights Abuses <i>(from India)</i>	Workers work 12-hour days in poorly lit plants. Wages are less than 50 cents per hour. Frequently workers do not receive their wages for extended periods of time. They are unable to make demands because of threats that they will lose their job.

WHAT YOU WANT?

- You agree at the group level about the group aim
- You will know what to tell to others
- You will know what to ask and to whom
- You will build best arguments (and then messages) to use with public institutions

Different levels:

- ~~At general level = the mission of the group~~
- ~~At more specific level = different specific objectives~~

THE GOAL OF ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

The goal of an advocacy campaign = **the solution**

Recommendations for choosing a goal:

- It worth the effort, results in a real improvement in people's lives
- It can be won
- It is easy to understand
- It is clear who is responsible to put in practice the solution
- It respects the values of the group

EXAMPLE:

- “The Parents of Cireșari – Domenii Market” is a group of active people determined to change the Domenii Neighborhood in a modern, clean and friendly place for all its inhabitants. What brought them together is the permanent refusal of public institution to grant access to green area in of “Ciresari Sportive Base”.
- The civic group “Iași loves the tile trees” is made of 15 active members and has more than 20.000 supporters. From 2013 they ask to Iași City Hall to plan again on the main boulevard the tile trees. More about the group and their actions can be found on Facebook/[lasuliubesteteii](https://www.facebook.com/lasuliubesteteii).

WORK TOGETHER

Write down on flipchart paper in a few sentences:

- Who you are (include the name of the Forum)
- What is the problem you want to be solved
- What is the solution you advocate for



STAKEHOLDERS



STAKEHOLDERS = THEY HAVE A STAKE

Categories:

- The **targets** = those who can give you what you want (persons with a public function)
 - **Primary target** = the decision makers
 - **Secondary targets** = some who can directly influence them
- The allies and supporters
- The opponents

IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

- Who makes the decision? Who provides the funding?
- Who is involved in the decision making process?
- The decision makers: whom do they trust? Whom do they respect? Whom do they care?
- Who can influence those ones?
- Who is applying the rules? Providing the services?
- Who is affected by the problem?
- Who cares about those people?
- Who will be pleased if we win?
- With whom have we already worked before?
- What public figures had a statement on the issue before?
- What organizations are active in the field?
- Who had already tried to solve this?
- Who is affected, if we reach our goal?
- Who has something to lose?
- Who makes a profit if the problem persists?

WORK IN GROUPS

Make a stakeholder analysis

ADVOCACY STRATEGIES

Depending on

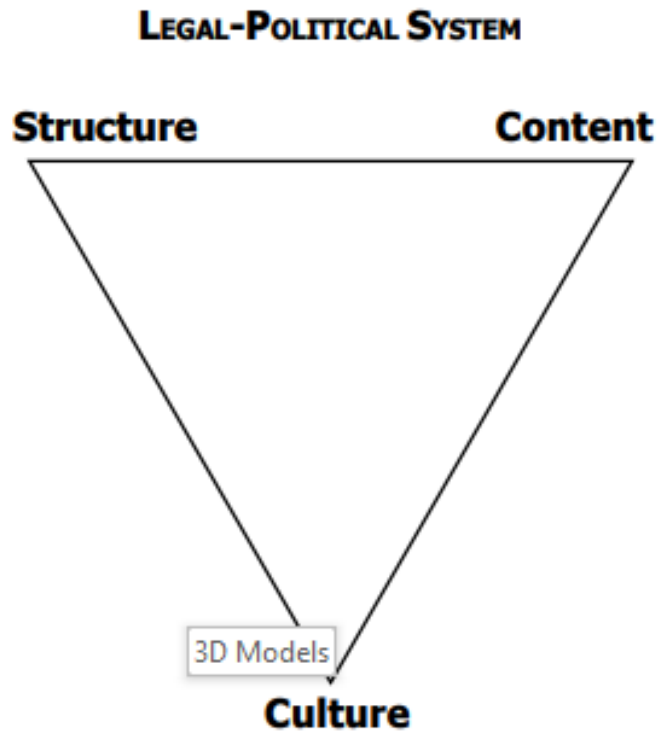
- Context
- Timing
- Organization
- Risk

- Pilot or model programs
- Collaboration/ working together
- Protest
- Litigation
- Public education and media; information and awareness
- Persuasion: lobby, clout, negotiation
- Research
- Organization and constituency – building

A shorter classification

- Information/ awareness
- Collaboration
- Confrontation

TRIANGLE ANALYSIS



The triangle framework is based on the idea that law and policy affect people's status and rights because they:

- regulate work and social relations; and
- define access to economic resources, opportunities and political power.

Laws and policies can be unjust in three ways:

Content: The written policy, program or budget can be discriminatory, or contradict a basic right.

Structure: Policies and laws may be not be enforced. Or, if they are, they may be enforced unfairly favoring some groups of people and neglecting others.

Culture: If citizens are unaware of a policy or law, or if social norms and behavior undermine their enforcement, the law does not exist in practice. This is the case, for example, when poor people are unaware of their rights and lack the resources to pursue a legal solution.

OBJECTIVES - SMART OBJECTIVES

S – specific

M – measurable

A – achievable

R – relevant

T – time bounded

ACTION PLAN

SMART Objective	Tactics/ Actions	Responsible/ deadline
Increasing the number of supporters of the group by 100 persons by the end of April	Creating an opinion poll to be completed online	Larisa – by April the 15th
	Reaching out to at least 5 other people	Each group member – 15-30 th of April
Increasing awareness on the issue: reaching 10.000 persons through online posts; 2 influencers writing about the issue	Making 2 posts on FB/ per week for the next 6 months	Alida and Jana, until September 2023
	Making photos showing the problems, to be used in FB posts	George, in June
	Research on possible influencers and contact 2 of them	Sophie, by 1 st of May
Convincing the decision makers to have a position on the topic	Make a presentation an each round table of the PROMISE project (8 round table, by October)	Dalila and Jamir

WORK IN GROUPS

Making an action plan

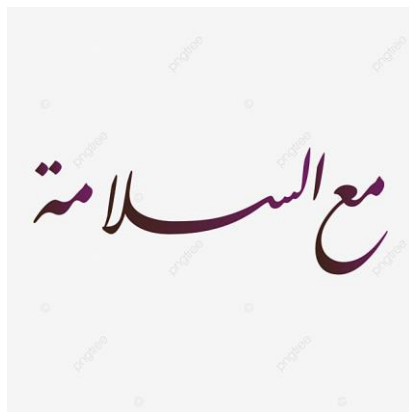
BIBLIOGRAPHY:

In preparing this advocacy training, the following materials were extensively used:

- Manual de advocacy, Centrul de Resurse pentru participare publică, București, 2015, available at: https://cere.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Manual_advocacy.pdf
- A New Weave of Power, People & Politics - Lisa VeneKlasen, Valerie Miller, Lisa VeneKlasen, Valerie Miller, available at: <https://justassociates.org/all-resources/a-new-weave-of-power-people-politics-the-action-guide-for-advocacy-and-citizen-participation/> available in English, French, Russian, and Spanish

Both are available online and are dedicated to increase advocacy skills for grassroots and civic organizations.

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PROMISE PROJECT -

Protecting the Unaccompanied Migrant Minors

- Organizations: Terre des Hommes Romania + Jesuite Refugee Service Romania (JRS)
- Creating an Migrants' Consultative Forum
 - Train the participants to have the skills to represent their community (February – March 2023)
 - Organize 8 thematic round tables with other NGOs and with public institutions to raise awareness on various issues faced by immigrants in their daily life (April – October)

BEING PART OF IMMIGRANT CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEANS...

- To participate in the training
- To participate at minimum 6 of the 8 roundtables
- To be open to other ideas and messages from your community
- To keep a regular contact with the project team (respond to requests, announce when you can't participate or do something you said you will, ask for help if needed etc.)

WHAT DOES "ADVOCACY" MEAN?

Asking a public official to do something that you want and that brings something good to more people

+

While asking, you are involving the community itself, you are not doing this alone

THE ROOTS OF THE WORD "ADVOCACY"

To advocate = to publicly recommend or support

To advocate = to support or argue for (a cause, policy, etc.) : to plead in favour of

Advocate = a person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy

Advocate = one who supports or promotes the interests of a cause or group

Advocate = one who pleads the cause of another

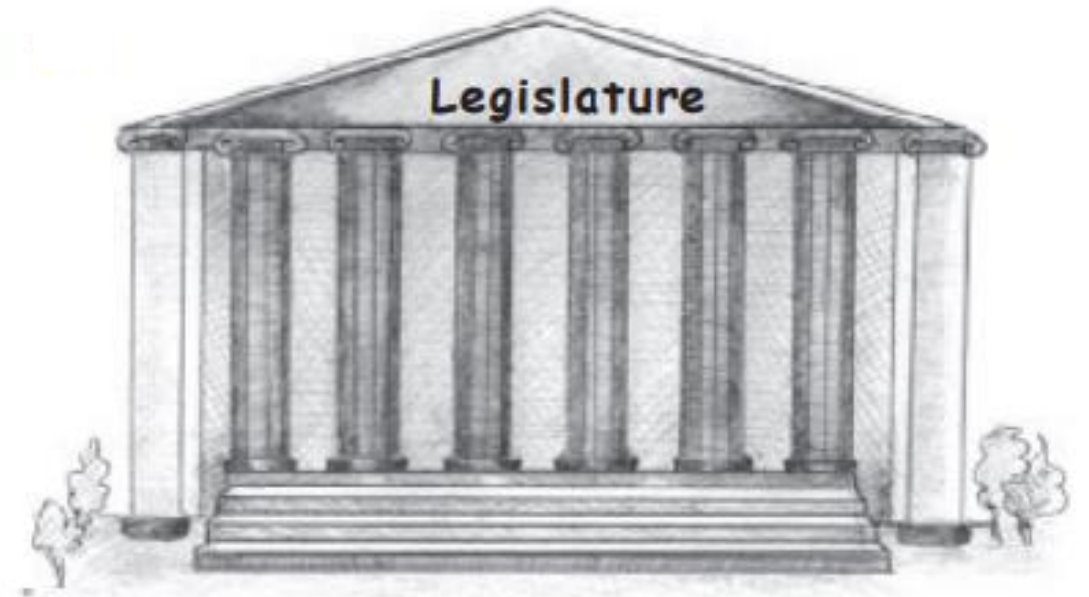
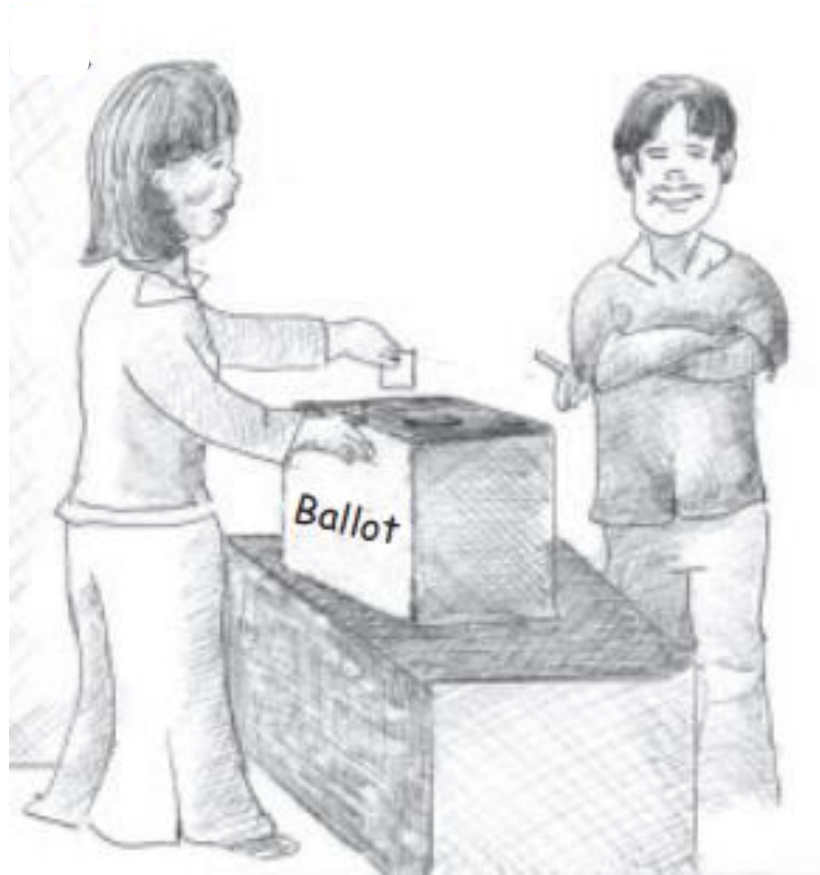
Sources: Merriam Webster Dictionary and Oxford Dictionary

NOT ONE, BUT MANY UNDERSTANDINGS OF ADVOCACY

Advocacy means efforts and organized action that take care of "invisible" problems, neglected ones, trying to influence public opinion and political decision. These efforts are starting from "what it is" and are trying to build "what it should be". Through advocacy one raises the access of people to the decisions that influence their lives. Therefore, advocacy means that people take something from the power of the institutions that govern their lives.

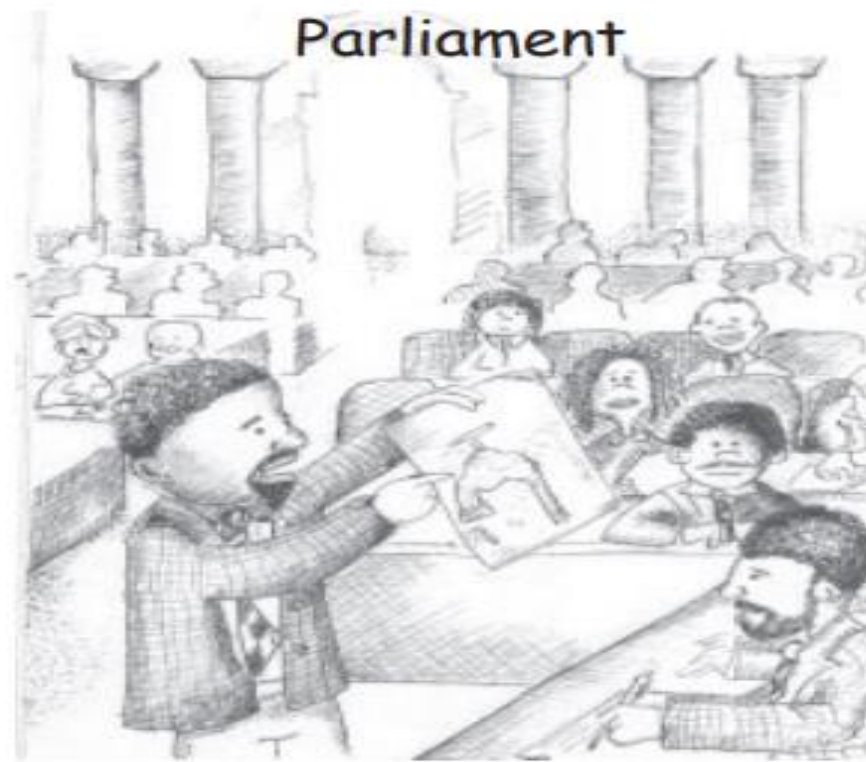
Adaptation from Advocacy for Social Justice, David Cohen

POLITICS MEANS.....



Source: "A New Weave of Power, People & Politics"

ADVOCACY MEANS....



"Experts" bring people's issues (the water problem) to policymakers

ADVOCACY MEANS...



People organize to bring their own issues to policymakers

Source: "A New Weave of Power, People & Politics"



WHO MAKES ADVOCACY?



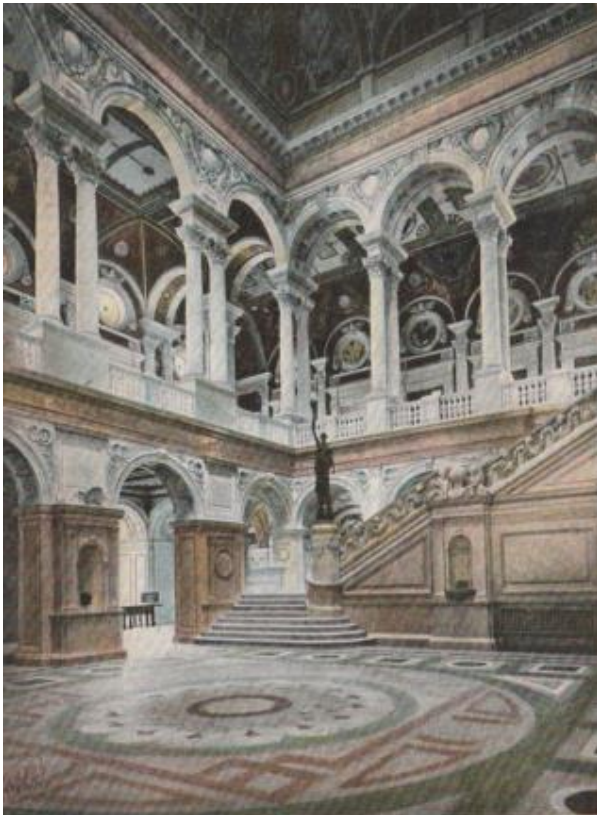
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”Advocacy is not just about getting to the table with a new set of interests, it’s about changing the size and configuration of the table to accommodate a whole new set of actors. Effective advocacy challenges imbalances of power and changes thinking.”

”Citizen-centered advocacy is an organized political process that involves the coordinated efforts of people to change policies, practices, ideas, and values that perpetuate inequality, intolerance, and exclusion. It strengthens citizens’ capacity as decisionmakers and builds more accountable and equitable institutions of power.”

Adaptation from ”A New Weave of Power, People & Politics”, Lisa VeneKlasen, Valerie Miller

COMPARED TO LOBBY - LOBBY MEANS....



Grand Entrance Hall, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

To lobby = seek to influence (a legislator) on an issue

To lobby = to conduct activities aimed at influencing public officials and especially members of a legislative body on legislation

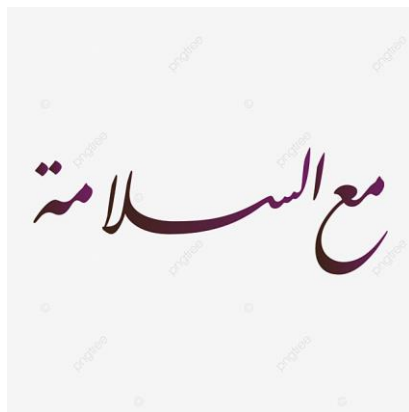
To lobby = to attempt to influence or sway (someone, such as a public official) toward a desired action

Lobby = a corridor or hall

Lobbyist = a person who takes part in an organized attempt to influence legislators.



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Migrants Consultative Forum

Advocacy training

Agenda

Saturday, March the 25th

9.30 - 10.00	Welcome coffee and networking
10.00 – 11.30	Presentation tour Sources of power Advocacy campaign. Who we are.
11.30 – 11.45	Break
11.45 – 13.30	What we want. The goal of an advocacy campaign.
13.30 – 14.15	Lunch break
14.15 – 15.00	Advocacy policies in protecting and promoting refugee rights, Jorunn Brandvoll, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR Romania, <i>Guest speaker</i>
15.00 – 16.30	Migrants rights – Romanian and international legal framework Romanian legal framework for citizens involvement in decision making Final remarks.

Sunday, March the 26th

9.30 - 10.00	Welcome coffee and networking
10.00 – 11.30	Stakeholders map
11.30 – 11.45	Break
11.45 – 13.45	Strategies. Objectives. Tactics. Making a plan.
13.45 – 14.30	Lunch break
14.30 – 16.00	Communicating the message.
16.00 - 16.30	Wrap-up. Next steps. Closure.

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În parteneriat cu :



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- Which is the relevant legislation?
- Anything else important?

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WRITING A PETITION

Addressing the public authorities a petition to ask their intervention (law changes, budget allocation etc.) is a fundamental right written in the Romanian Constitution, reglemented by Law 233/2002.

- Petitions / letters can have attached a list of supporters
- Can be send online or on paper
- The institution must answer in a 30 days delay
- Always ask for registration number

Online petition websites, created by civic comuunities:

www.declic.ro

www.avaaz.org

PARTICIPATING IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

According to Law no. 52/2003, the public administration authorities from have the following obligations:

- Announce the public when a normative act (decision of minister, city/hall etc.) is about to be adopted, publishing its written draft.

Usually, they have a separate section on their websites called “transparenta decizionala” or “proiecte in consultare publica”

- Receive suggestions from the public/ civil society for at least 10 days for each project of normative act
- If asked by an NGO, organize a consultation meeting about the draft with public participation

MEETING OFFICIALS

Most of the public officials, including the elected ones (mayors, local councilors, ministers, directors, members of Parliament etc.), have the obligation to have an audience schedule.

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- What organizations are active in the field?
- Who had already tried to solve this?
- Who is affected, if we reach our goal?
- Who has something to lose?
- Who makes a profit if the problem persists?

WORK IN GROUPS

Make a stakeholder analysis

ADVOCACY STRATEGIES

Depending on

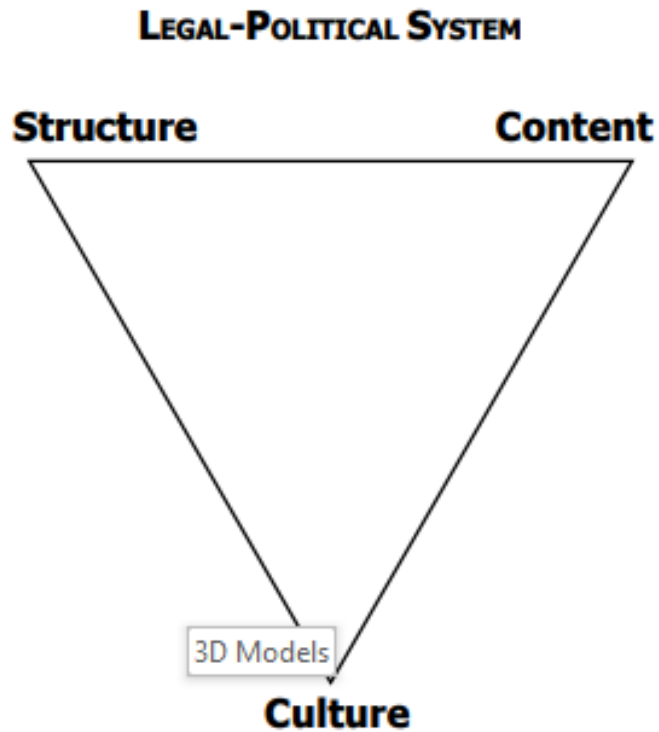
- Context
- Timing
- Organization
- Risk

- Pilot or model programs
- Collaboration/ working together
- Protest
- Litigation
- Public education and media; information and awareness
- Persuasion: lobby, clout, negotiation
- Research
- Organization and constituency – building

A shorter classification

- Information/ awareness
- Collaboration
- Confrontation

TRIANGLE ANALYSIS



The triangle framework is based on the idea that law and policy affect people's status and rights because they:

- regulate work and social relations; and
- define access to economic resources, opportunities and political power.

Laws and policies can be unjust in three ways:

Content: The written policy, program or budget can be discriminatory, or contradict a basic right.

Structure: Policies and laws may be not be enforced. Or, if they are, they may be enforced unfairly favoring some groups of people and neglecting others.

Culture: If citizens are unaware of a policy or law, or if social norms and behavior undermine their enforcement, the law does not exist in practice. This is the case, for example, when poor people are unaware of their rights and lack the resources to pursue a legal solution.

OBJECTIVES - SMART OBJECTIVES

S – specific

M – measurable

A – achievable

R – relevant

T – time bounded

ACTION PLAN

SMART Objective	Tactics/ Actions	Responsible/ deadline
Increasing the number of supporters of the group by 100 persons by the end of April	Creating an opinion poll to be completed online	Larisa – by April the 15th
	Reaching out to at least 5 other people	Each group member – 15-30 th of April
Increasing awareness on the issue: reaching 10.000 persons through online posts; 2 influencers writing about the issue	Making 2 posts on FB/ per week for the next 6 months	Alida and Jana, until September 2023
	Making photos showing the problems, to be used in FB posts	George, in June
	Research on possible influencers and contact 2 of them	Sophie, by 1 st of May
Convincing the decision makers to have a position on the topic	Make a presentation an each round table of the PROMISE project (8 round table, by October)	Dalila and Jamir

WORK IN GROUPS

Making an action plan



COMMUNICATING THE MESSAGE



BASIC PRINCIPLES

1. Know your audience.
2. Know your political environment and moment.
3. Keep your message simple and brief.
4. Use real life stories and quotes.
5. Use clear facts and numbers creatively.
6. Encourage audiences to take action.
7. Present a possible solution

POTENTIAL AUDIENCES

Who might be?

FRAMING YOUR MESSAGE

- Start with the advocacy campaign core's message (relate to “what you want”)
- Tailor the message to reach distinct audience
- Put your frame around the issue

A “CORE” MESSAGE IS...

A “core” message is one or two brief, direct statements that reflect:

- your analysis of the issue;
- the causes of the issue;
- who is responsible for solving the issue;
- your proposed solution;
- the actions you ask others to take in support of the solution.

HOW TO TAILOR

- tapping into the audience's priorities, values and concerns;
- giving relevant human examples;
- choosing the appropriate medium and moment for delivery;
- including a “what you can do” appeal that enables the audience to respond.

HOW TO FRAME

- translate individual stories into larger social and political problems;
- assign primary responsibility for the problem;
- present a clear solution;
- spell out your proposals;
- develop images that highlight your values.

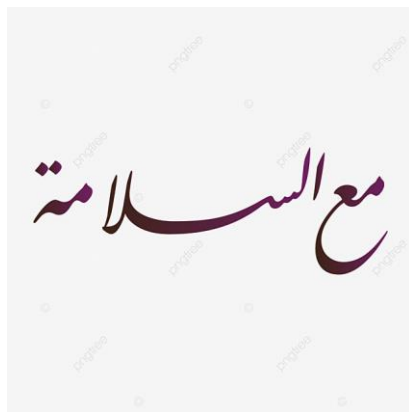
BIBLIOGRAPHY:

In preparing this advocacy training, the following materials were extensively used:

- Manual de advocacy, Centrul de Resurse pentru participare publică, București, 2015, available at: https://cere.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Manual_advocacy.pdf
- A New Weave of Power, People & Politics - Lisa VeneKlasen, Valerie Miller, Lisa VeneKlasen, Valerie Miller, available at: <https://justassociates.org/all-resources/a-new-weave-of-power-people-politics-the-action-guide-for-advocacy-and-citizen-participation/> available in English, French, Russian, and Spanish

Both are available online and are dedicated to increase advocacy skills for grassroots and civic organizations.

GOODBYE! لَسَّالَامُ لَيْكَ



السلام عليكم

Au revoir!

Palaam na po!

до побачення!

La revedere!