

Dear participants of the IDEA Debate exchange,

this year we are introducing panel discussions on IDEA Debate Exchange, here are the topics developed in a bit more detail.

1. Effective volunteer management: We want the organizations to talk about their problems with or successful strategies for recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers, and share your own experiences in creating a dedicated and motivated volunteer workforce.
2. Ethical challenges: engage in a discussion on the ethical dilemmas faced by debate organizations, challenges of working with young people, sharing how to maintain transparency, accountability, and mission integrity through positive ethical practices.
3. Partnerships and collaborations outside of NGO sector: exchange insights on building effective partnerships with businesses, government entities, and academic institutions, showcasing successful collaboration models and discussing mutual benefits. We will also talk about obstacles and problems in this field.
4. Engaging youth in political processes through debate: share your experiences in involving young people in political discourse and decision-making through structured debate programs, highlighting successful youth engagement stories or risks connected to our project. Experiences from current EU elections are particularly welcomed.
5. Advocacy for better positioning and visibility of debate: discuss effective advocacy techniques to elevate the status and recognition of debate as a critical educational tool, sharing case studies of successful advocacy campaigns or discuss how come debate organizations are not as effective in Europe as they are in some other areas of the world.
6. Integration of debate in school systems: explore the integration of debate programs into school curricula, sharing your experiences and positive outcomes in enhancing critical thinking and communication skills among students, is this a good or a bad goal?
7. Research and impact evaluation of debate education: share and analyze current research and methodologies for evaluating the impact of debate education on students and communities, discussing impactful research findings, share your own national research.
8. English language and international debate experiences: exchange insights and experiences from international debate programs, what are the experiences in other countries, what are other debate formats, should we debate in English or national languages?
9. What does debate community mean – A discussion on how we can remain more connected as a community outside of individual projects and events. We will talk about how we can continue to learn from one another throughout the year, utilize alumni connections and how we can most effectively leverage results and achievements of the entire network to achieve better recognition of debate in Europe.

