



# doing democracy

connecting academia and civil society across borders

## Kirill Repin | European University Viadrina

Civic Education | Political Participation | Community Building

Delete the topic(s) that are non-applicable to your organization.

### Short (Research) Profile & Mission

Organisation of a transsectoral summer school Viadrinicum, including FutureLab as a community engagement project, that aims to set up space for a translocal dialogue, between international participants and local dwellers of the twin city Frankfurt (Oder)-Słubice



### Current (Research) Project

Summer school Viadrinicum: A two-week educational format for students, young researchers, activists, artists and practitioners from various fields, where theoretical discussions blend with hands-on experiential learning in an urban environment. Guided by the notion of learning city, since 2022 the summer school has been combined with a format of an urban intervention in a centrally located public space of the twin-city Frankfurt (Oder)-Słubice, which serves as an experimental setting for participatory community engagement activities, with a focus on urban change.

### Current (Research) Project

### Questions to Academia

- What does academia need to contribute to democratic societal change?
- How receptive is academia for other kinds of knowledge? And what could be fruitful forms of dialogue between academic and non-academic actors of knowledge production (activists, artists, practitioners)?
- How do we design community engagement projects? Where could citizens science be integrated into the process of social research?

### Questions to Civil Society

- Does activism require theory? What could be its value/function?
- What are the necessary conditions for theoretical reflections in the context of civic activism?
- When is academia a helpful partner for civic activism and when is it rather an annoying distractor?

### Questions to (Political) Decision-Makers

- Where can research(ers) be integrated into decision-making process without it/them becoming a tool of technocracy?
- How can participatory processes be designed to actually enact democratic change?
- What are the possible funding schemes, that could enable projects with an open design, involving a mixture of both academic and non-academic formats?

### Contact

Kirill Repin

repin@europa-uni.de

