

# Sporty Conversations about Politics and More

BP

Debate & Critical Thinking

## Overview:

This informal learning activity combines sports (e.g. padel) with guided discussion and debate about European politics. Students engage with a Member of the European Parliament in a casual setting, encouraging open conversation and critical thinking. The session includes structured debating and debriefing

### Description of the practice

Students participated in an informal debate on important political issues with Member of the European Parliament, while **engaging in a padel game**. The students split into two groups, practicing their debating skills under the guidance of **DebatUnie** facilitators. Topics such as whether young people should be given voting rights at the age of 16 were discussed, with students presenting arguments for and against. Following the sports session, the **students continued their discussions**.

### Teaching methodology

- Sport-based interaction, guest speaker dialogue, structured argumentation, informal civic engagement.

### Resources and tools used

- Sports equipment for padel, debate materials, guest speaker.

### Innovative aspects

- innovatively combines physical activity with political discourse, creating a dynamic learning experience that makes political engagement more accessible and less intimidating for students.

### Target group:

VET students aged 16–20

### Duration of the activity:

3–4 hours (including sports session and discussion)

### Transferability Tip:

Pair with a civic or history module, or organize before EU elections to boost relevance. Suitable for schools with limited resources, as activities can be scaled to local settings.

### EU Focus Areas:

EU institutions, democratic participation, youth voice, European values.

### Contact Information:

For any queries or additional information, check out our website:

 <https://euclass.enac.org/>