

Promoting the Concepts of European Identity and Values in Ukrainian University Students: Insight into the Concepts of European Identity and Values and How to Promote Them among Ukrainian University Students

LESSON 4

EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP AND ITS BENEFITS

Perceptions of Inclusion, well-being and Identification with the European Union in Ukrainian university students



Co-funded by the European Union

In this lesson we will explore:

- What European citizenship means in higher education
- How EU values shape everyday academic interactions
- Why these values matter for student well-being and belonging
- Practical ways tutors can make European values visible in their teaching




Why European Citizenship Matters?

European citizenship is not only a legal status. It is something students experience daily through interactions, communication, and academic practices.

- Especially relevant for students adapting to new academic environments
- A lived experience shaped by daily interactions
- Students experience citizenship through practice.





Why It Matters in Higher Education

1

Student Experience

University life shapes students' sense of security, belonging, and identity, especially for those adapting to a new country or system.

2

Living Values

European citizenship becomes meaningful when EU values are visible in everyday academic interactions.

3

Tutor Impact

Tutors make these values tangible, helping students experience citizenship through practice, not just theory.



From Values to Experience

As discussed in Lesson 2, European citizenship is grounded in six core values.

In practice, these values are reflected through:

- ☐ Respectful communication
- ☐ Transparent procedures
- ☐ Fair assessment
- ☐ Student participation
- ☐ Inclusive classroom dynamics

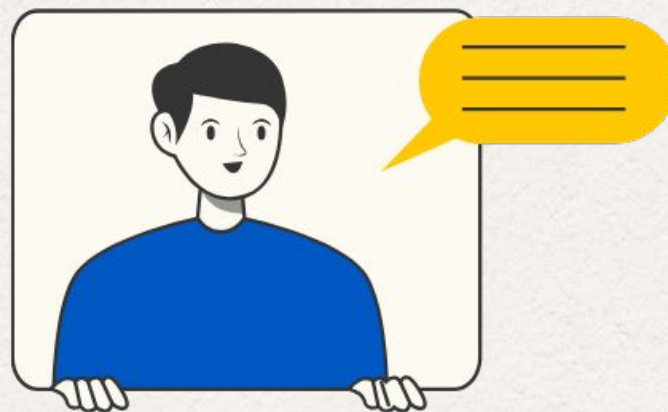
Citizenship is learned through experience, not documents!



How Tutors Can Demonstrate Values



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Treat students with respect, listen actively, and recognize contributions.

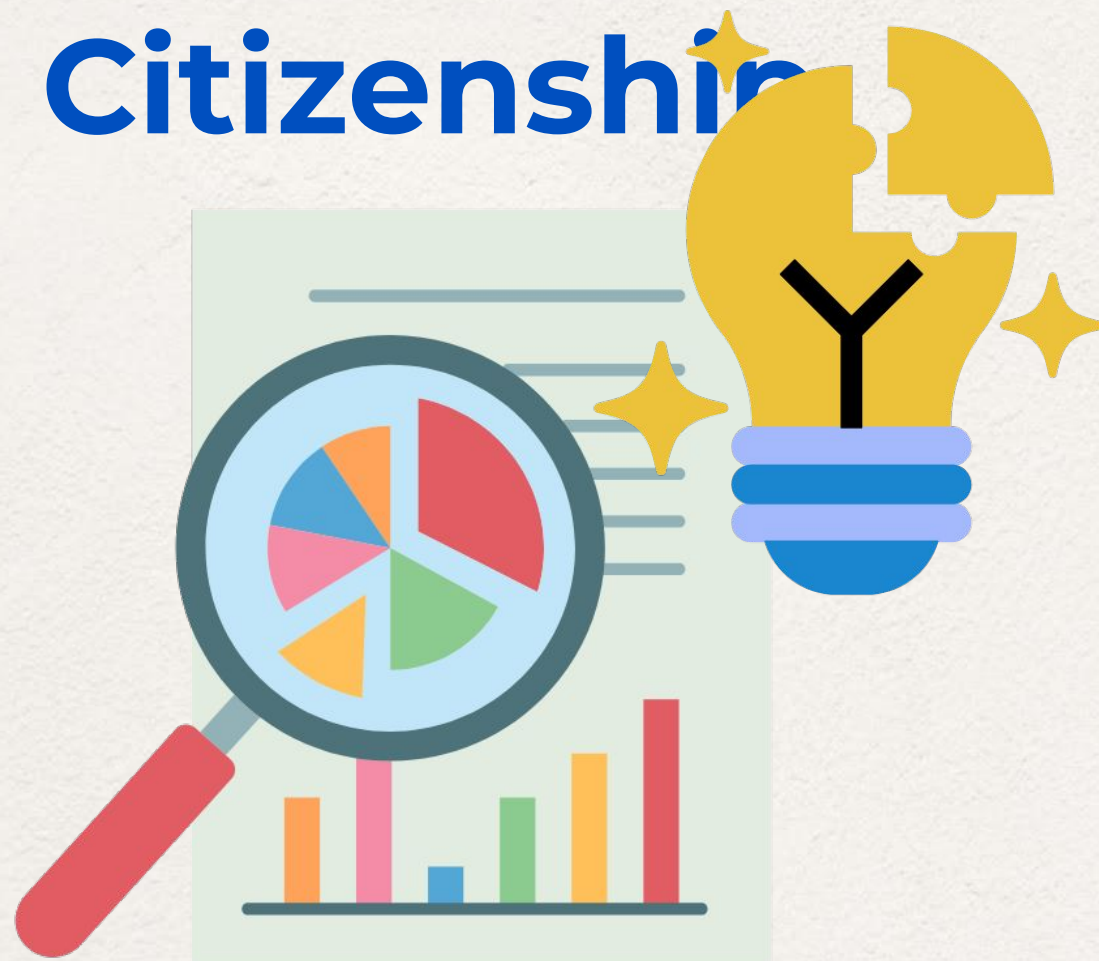
Encourage discussion and diverse viewpoints in the classroom.

Invite students to provide feedback and participate in shaping activities.

Offer clear instructions and transparent procedures.

Create safe, inclusive spaces and intervene when biases appear.

Practical Ways to Embed Citizenship



Practical actions make these values tangible and meaningful.



- Start each session acknowledging different perspectives.
- Provide rationales for decisions to reinforce fairness.
- Encourage collaboration and respectful debate among students.
- Model ethical behavior and inclusive communication.

Students experience European values through the tone, structure, and culture of the classroom.

Activity 4.1.

**One Value. One
Week. One Action.**



Choose one EU value to actively promote this week.



1. Reflect: How can I demonstrate this value in my daily interactions? Where in my teaching could it be more visible? Example: If you choose Equality, ask yourself: Are my assessment criteria fully clear and accessible to all students?



2. Write It Down: Write a short, practical commitment (1–2 sentences). Example: This week, I will provide a short written explanation of grading criteria before the assignment before deadline.



3. Include It in Practice: Implement the action intentionally during the week. At the end of the week, briefly consider: Did I follow through? How did students respond? What will I continue doing?

Thank you

Any Question?

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