




Changing School Democracy with School Participatory Budgeting

Join free webinar series on meaningful participation, shared decision-making, and school democracy in practice.

- **10 June · 5:00 PM** Roots and Routes: The Origins and Evolution of School PB
 - **18 June · 1:30 PM** Unlocking Potential: Young Leaders & Strong Teams
 - **23 June · 3:30 PM** SPB: Introducing Democracy in Primary & Secondary Schools
 - **24 June · 2:00 PM** SPB: How to Start Working at a School and Set Rules?
 - **26 June · 3:00 PM** Experiments with SPB: Is PB without Money Possible?
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Live Webinar

Roots and Routes: The Origins and Evolution of School Participatory Budgeting



**STEFANO
STORTONE**

CEO
BiPart



**TARA
BARTLETT**

Clinical Assistant Professor
Arizona State University



**DANIEL
SCHUGURENSKY**

Professor
Arizona State University



**10 JUNE 2026
5:00–6:30 PM
GMT+2**

Roots and Routes: The Origins and Evolution of School Participatory Budgeting



10 JUNE 2026
5:00–6:30 PM
GMT+2

What is School Participatory Budgeting—and where does it actually come from? Before it became a classroom methodology or a school project, PB was born in Porto Alegre, Brazil, as a radical experiment in urban democracy: a tool for redistributing power, not just resources, giving citizens direct control over public decisions. Over time, PB travelled the world and transformed. It simplified, adapted, and eventually found its way into schools—becoming a structured process for teaching civic participation, dialogue, and decision-making. But something shifted along the way. This webinar invites participants to go back to the roots—to understand what PB was originally designed to do, how it evolved into a pedagogical tool, and what may have been lost or overlooked in that transition. Starting from history, we will ask a more ambitious question: can School PB be more than a project? Can it become, like its predecessor, a genuine instrument of structural change—reshaping how schools are governed, how students are heard, and how communities make decisions together? Participants will gain a deeper understanding of PB's origins and theoretical foundations, a critical lens on current SPB practices, and fresh inspiration for reimagining what participatory budgeting in schools can truly become.



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**STEFANO
STORTONE**

CEO
(BiPart)

Civic activist, political researcher, and social entrepreneur, founder and CEO of the social enterprise BiPart. He holds a PhD in Political Sciences from the Catholic University of Milan. His professional and academic interests focus on democratic theory, civil society, political participation, and civic technologies. Over the course of his career, he has been involved in more than 40 participatory budgeting processes across a range of contexts, including cities, schools, and even a prison in Italy. He is a member of the Italian Open Government Forum and coordinates the Italian Observatory on Participatory Budgeting.



**TARA
BARTLETT**

Clinical Assistant Professor
(Arizona State University)

Clinical Assistant Professor at Arizona State University's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College. Her work focuses on public policy, democratic innovations, and youth participation in school and community decision-making. With 14 years of experience as a public school educator, she leads and supports civic education initiatives locally and globally. She co-directs the Arizona Civic Coalition and facilitates programs like Project Citizen and Kids Voting. Among his recent authored or edited books are *Educating for democracy: the case for participatory democracy in schools* (Elgar, 2025), *Inclusive civic education and school democracy through participatory budgeting*. (OnlineFirst, 2023).



**DANIEL
SCHUGURENSKY**

Professor
(Arizona State University)

Professor in the School of Public Affairs and in the School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University, where he is the founding director of the Participatory Governance Initiative, the director of the master's in social and cultural pedagogy, and the coordinator of the graduate and the undergraduate certificates in social transformation. Among his recent authored or edited books are *Educating for democracy: the case for participatory democracy in schools* (Elgar, 2025), "Global Citizenship Education in Teacher Education" (Routledge, 2020).



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Live Webinar

Unlocking Potential: Young Leaders & Strong Teams



18 JUNE 2026
1:30–3:00 PM
GMT+2



**AGNIESZKA
MASZKOWSKA**
President of the Board
SocLab Foundation



**AGNIESZKA
MOROZOWSKA**
SPB Coordinator
SocLab Foundation

Unlocking Potential: Young Leaders & Strong Teams



18 JUNE 2026
1:30–3:00 PM
GMT+2

Young people are not just part of SPB - they are its driving force. This webinar will show how to build a coordinating team that turns student ideas into real change, while ensuring that adults support the process without dominating it. We will look at the difference between acting as a mentor and acting as a manager, and reflect on how to avoid youthwashing by creating participation that is truly meaningful, visible, and impactful. Participants will gain fresh inspiration, practical strategies, and concrete tools for strengthening student agency and building authentic collaboration in school communities.



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**AGNIESZKA
MASZKOWSKA**

President of the Board of the SocLab Foundation, sociologist, trainer, evaluator, project coordinator, facilitator, and participation expert. With over 20 years of experience, she is a leading expert in civic participation and school participatory budgeting. She has been conducting educational projects for adults, NGO activists, and public administration. She also has extensive experience in educational work with young people. As an experienced mentor of School Participatory Budgeting, she has successfully implemented the process in over 50 schools. She is the co-author and editor of publications: "Building Youth Voice: A Toolkit for Developing Participatory Budgeting in Schools and in the Community", "Do It Yourself – Manual" (Youth PB Accelerator Erasmus+), "A Practical Guide for Coordinating Teams" and the chapter "Overcoming Barriers: Resources and Conditions" in: "School Participatory Budgeting: A Strategic and Implementation Guide". She serves on the Youth Policy Council at the Ministry of National Education.



**AGNIESZKA
MOROZOWSKA**

Graduate of Sociology at the University of Białystok, a recipient of the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education scholarship, and currently a PhD candidate at the Doctoral School of Social Sciences. At the SocLab Foundation, she works as a Project Specialist and co-implements, among other initiatives, an international project on School Participatory Budgeting. She has experience in delivering trainings and workshops for young people, teachers, and representatives of organisations and institutions. Her professional work also includes conducting social research, consultations, and needs assessments, as well as carrying out both quantitative and qualitative research. Co-author of recent educational publications on School Participatory Budgeting, including the guide "A Practical Guide for Coordinating Teams" and the chapter "Overcoming Barriers: Resources and Conditions" in "School Participatory Budgeting: A Strategic and Implementation Guide".



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Live Webinar

SPB: Introducing Democracy in Primary & Secondary Schools



23 JUNE 2026
3:30–5:00 PM
GMT+2



ROSA
TOÇA MÁRQUEZ

Primary Education Advisor
Regional Ministry of
Education of Cantabria

SPB: Introducing Democracy in Primary & Secondary Schools



23 JUNE 2026
3:00–4:30 PM
GMT+2

Aimed to Primary and Secondary schools advisors, in charge of designing teachers training itineraries, this webinar introduces the concept of School Participatory Budgeting (SPB), an educational tool that empowers students to decide how a real budget allocated to their school should be spent. Through a mix of reflective activities, expert presentations, and real-life examples from schools in Cantabria that have already implemented SPB, participants explore how this initiative fosters democratic values, civic competencies, financial literacy, teamwork, and a sense of belonging from an early age. The webinar also provides a practical roadmap for schools looking to get started, covering key phases such as setting the rules, generating proposals, and running a voting campaign, all led by the students themselves with adults playing only a guiding role.



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**ROSA
TOCA MÁRQUEZ**

Rosa Toca Márquez is a Primary Education Advisor for the Regional Ministry of Education of Cantabria (Spain).

She is a qualified Primary School teacher with specialisations in Music Education (University of the Basque Country) and Teaching English as a Second Language (Isabel I University of Castile). She also holds a University Expert qualification in Teaching Spanish as a Second Language from the Menéndez Pelayo International University.

Rosa holds Qualified Teacher Status (RP 04/33141, England and Wales). She worked as a Primary School Teacher from 2003 to 2006 and as a Secondary School Teacher of Spanish and ESOL from 2006 to 2008. She also worked in Adult Learning Education with Somerset County Council, teaching ESOL and Spanish.

She is a Registered Teacher with the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand (Registration No. 429112) and has worked as a Secondary School Teacher and Assistant Director of Languages, teaching Spanish and ESOL.



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Live Webinar

SPB: How to Start Working at a School and Set Rules?



24 JUNE 2026
2:00–3:30 PM
GMT+2



**LYUBA
BATEMBERGSKA**

Child rights advocate
Small Steps Foundation



**ANDRÉS
FALCK**

Executive Director
Coglobal

SPB: How to Start Working at a School and Set Rules?



24 JUNE 2026
2:00–3:30 PM
GMT+2

School participatory budgeting as a learning tool is gaining globally a momentum. In times when participation in democratic life and confronting the apathy do increasingly matter, we explore the potential of School Participatory Budgeting to cultivate participation habits from an early age. The webinar examines how to start participatory budgeting at school while engaging a broad number of students. It presents practical tools to involve students into setting school PB rules and creating conditions to engage students in the process from the beginning. It explores adolescents' participation in decision-making as a tool to introduce students to active citizenship and raise their confidence they could have an impact on the community. The webinar is dedicated to teachers, educators, youth-work practitioners and researchers interested in adolescents' engagement.



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**LYUBA
BATEBERGSKA**

Educator and child rights advocate, co-founder of the Small Steps leading to a change, an organization promoting child participation in decision-making and applied civic education. Her professional background is in social inclusion of segregated Roma communities working with both grassroots organizations, and local governments on policy development and advocacy. The Small steps team pionner in Bulgaria school participatory budgeting and develops programs taking into account the perspective of young people in decision-making.



**ANDRÉS
FALCK**

Executive Director of Coglobal, an organization specializing in participatory methodologies and deliberative processes with children and young people. Through Coglobal, he has coordinated local and European projects that strengthen participatory democracy, promoting the direct involvement of children and adolescents in public life and decision-making.

 Live Webinar

Experiments with SPB: Is PB without Money Possible?



26 JUNE 2026
3:00–4:30 PM
GMT+2



**MATEUSZ
WOJCIESZAK**

President of the Board
Field of Dialogue



**KONRAD RYSZARD
WYSOCKI**

SPB coordinator
Field of Dialogue

Experiments with SPB: Is PB without Money Possible?



26 JUNE 2026
3:00–4:30 PM
GMT +2

SPB is more than just a tool for managing money. During the webinar, we will explore how this methodology can be used to introduce real recommendations in schools—related to rules of operation, internal policies, and directions for institutional development.

We will show how, through this approach, school communities can move beyond project-based thinking and focus on broader, more strategic planning of school life. We will also consider how to engage students, teachers, and school leadership in decision-making processes that have a long-term impact on the school's daily functioning.

Participants will learn concrete ways to enrich the SPB process with new experiences and tools that increase its effectiveness and real impact on the school community. They will also leave with inspiration and practical tips that can be immediately applied in their work.



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**MATEUSZ
WOJCIESZAK**

President of the Board, member of the Participatory Budget Council of the Mayor of Warsaw and coordinated educational activities regarding participatory budgeting in schools. He also created the School Participatory Budget project in Warsaw, implemented since October 2018. He was the main executor of the research and consultation process for Warsaw's youth policy and the youth policy of the city of Lublin. He co-organized the first climate-related citizens' panel in Warsaw, where 90 randomly selected individuals developed binding recommendations on energy efficiency for the Mayor. Mateusz has co-coordinated five full-scale citizens' panels. Together with dozens of social organizations, he operates in SOS for Education, where a broad partnership is creating a new vision of public education in Poland adapted to the 21st century. He is a former plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Radom for Youth. Previously, he coordinated civic education programs, including: Young People Vote, Young Citizen and School Ambassador of the European Parliament. Involved in social projects and the third sector - member of the board of the National Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations



**KONRAD RYSZARD
WYSOCKI**

Sociologist, spatial educator, and proponent of metamodernism, stoicism, and mindfulness. He is a doctoral candidate in sociology and linguistics at the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School of the University of Warsaw. His research focuses on moral and social norms, language and space. He coordinates civic education programs, developing participation among children and youth. He creates projects using participatory budgeting methodology. He is co-author of the first publication linking the new school subject "civic education" with local government education in Warsaw. He has been associated with the Pole Dialogu Foundation since 2020. Previously, he supported teachers' programs in implementing educational projects. He believes in wise social education and effective teaching methods. He is a proponent of values-based education and coffee with plant-based milk.



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