



**YOU ARE  
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VOTE**

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**HOW TO INVOLVE  
PEOPLE IN YOUR AREA  
IN LOCAL MATTERS -  
GOOD PRACTICES OF  
THE “YOU ARE AT HOME.  
VOTE!” CAMPAIGN AND  
THE “YOUR VOTE. YOUR  
CHOICE” ACTION.**

**YOU ARE AT HOME. VOTE!  
CAMPAIGN**



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THIS PUBLICATION FORMS PART OF THE 2013-14 "YOU ARE AT HOME, VOTE!" CAMPAIGN IN IRELAND, AND CAME ABOUT THROUGH COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SCHOOL FOR LEADERS ASSOCIATION, FORUM POLONIA – IRELAND, AND AROUND 70 OTHER POLISH COMMUNITY AND IMMIGRANT ORGANIZATIONS, POLISH PARISHES, POLISH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, SCOUT ORGANIZATIONS AND A DOZEN OR SO LOCAL ACTIVISTS.

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# HOW TO INVOLVE PEOPLE IN YOUR AREA IN LOCAL MATTERS

## GOOD PRACTICES OF THE “YOU ARE AT HOME. VOTE!” CAMPAIGN AND THE “YOUR VOTE. YOUR CHOICE.” ACTION.

Do you belong to a local community that has no clear voice or authority? Do you think it necessary to create a space where local issues can be debated and addressed? Perhaps you consider the upcoming elections a much-needed opportunity to raise awareness of what’s actually happening in the neighbourhood? This brochure puts together all the best practices that will help you effectively encourage members of your local community to take part in public debate and/or get engaged in local grass-roots action. You will find practical guidelines on

how to best discern local needs, organise events, promote a cause and bring new supporters and allies on board.

The solutions described in this brochure are based on the extensive experience of the School for Leaders Association (and its partners) in improving voter engagement and turnout numbers at both national („Your vote. Your choice.”) and international (“You are at home. Vote!”) levels. The ideas are universal and can be adapted to local community where you are active. If you like to be “involved” and are looking for inspiration this may be just the thing for you!

### **Dominka Topolska**

Local activities coordinator (Ireland) for the „JESTEŚ U SIEBIE, ZAGŁOSUJ!” campaign.



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## PROMOTE IN BOTH TRADITIONAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA



Make the most of the media's communication potential to reach local residents. Whether it's a new road being built, a lack of nursery places, council opening hours, or new refuse sorting rules, local issues touch each and every resident and as such provide interesting topics for the local radio and press to cover. Establish and maintain contact with the media by sending materials about any subsequent activities.

YouTube, Facebook and other popular social networking sites provide ready-made channels through which you can present your activities. Various site functions enable you to organise virtual campaigns to complement the work you are doing in the field. A new audience can be gained and engaged as friends "join" and "comment" on various issues. It is quite often the case that actions involving short films or pictures with catchy slogans are

much more effective than published texts on the Internet. To attract a growing online audience it really does pay dividends to orchestrate a cross-channel campaign involving various social networking sites.

### WORK WITH THE MEDIA

- Create a database of journalists and email addresses of newspapers, websites (portals), radio stations.
- Get in touch with the media - by email, telephone, in person.
- Tell them the purpose of your campaign, elaborate reasons for its importance and stress that the action/project you are running is unpaid or pro bono.
- Ask newspapers and portals for free-of-charge space.
- Send articles and press releases on campaign-related events to the media.
- Convey to local or national radio your willingness to take part in programmes based around your action/project (e.g. the elderly, people with disabilities, interesting local initiatives, upcoming elections), or give a short talk about the current events related to it.



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## ORGANISE A “SELFIE” ACTION ON FACEBOOK

- Think of a short slogan promoting the action, one which anyone can personalize. Get it down on paper and take your picture with it - then post it on Facebook. Here are some examples of catchphrases used in campaigns to encourage Poles living abroad to vote: “I’m at home in (location name). I will vote.”, “I will vote in local/European elections because...”, “Dublin, I’m at home. I will vote.” The Polish national campaign “Your vote. Your choice.” uses the phrase “I’m going to vote.”).
- You can amplify the “selfie” action using Facebook hashtags, i.e. precede the words associated with your campaign with a #. This will help Facebook users find all the posts related to your action. Numerous posts can encourage more people to post their own selfies, or get them interested in the idea you are promoting and involve them in other activities. Example: #voteoclock.
- Suggest that those who’ve already posted their selfies nominate others to

take part in the action.

- Create a Facebook page to share pictures, films, links to press publications and news relating to your action, including announcements of upcoming events.
- You can synchronize your social media campaign using a software like HootSuite, hootsuite.com.
- Create an event on Facebook: include dates and locations of the grass-roots meetings you are organising, election dates and registration details, or of any other events you may be organising. Invite all your friends to join in the event and ask your Facebook friends to invite their friends, ad infinitum.

## USE INFOGRAPHICS TO VISUALIZE YOUR COMMUNICATION

- An infographic is a visualization of data in the form of a drawing, chart or graph to introduce your message in an understandable yet eye-catching way. Employ the services of a volunteer graphic designer.
- Some ideas about the content of your



infographics: how to register to vote, the power range of councillors, local government obligations re. people with disabilities, licenses granted by the city, a brief presentation of candidates running in the elections.

- You will find some interesting examples on [www.facebook.com/VoteGlosuj](http://www.facebook.com/VoteGlosuj).
- Once the infographic is finished post it on your action's website and Facebook, and send an email to the media, your friends, and prospective voters.
- Print the infographic and use it for posters or leaflets, to be displayed and distributed locally.

### **RECORD HOMEMADE PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS**

- Put together a screenplay. It can be a collection of footage of people saying why they want to vote, with a "step by step" guide to registering. If you want to focus on local issues - show people representing various groups of residents talking about their issues and interests.
- Involve such volunteers as actors, writers and camera operators.

- Upload the finished film to YouTube and Facebook, and distribute it by email; show it at all meetings related to your action.
- YouTube offers examples of videos made by "You are at home. Vote!" campaign activists in Ireland.
- Should you have a suitable budget or sponsor you can create a professional video, hiring professional filmmakers to do the job. When negotiating prices be transparent about the action. Stress that it is strictly pro bono and you may well be offered a discount.

### **LEAFLETS AND POSTERS**

- Design leaflets and posters, or use ready-made ones provided by organisers of campaigns such as "Your vote. Your choice." or "You are at home. Vote!".
- Recruit volunteers to distribute posters and leaflets.
- Check venues and dates of local events where you can reach a large number of residents – future recipients of your actions.

- Get detailed information from your local council about where posters can be put up.
- Distribute leaflets and posters in visible and often-visited places: shops, libraries, cultural centres, churches, schools. Be present at mass events - concerts, sporting events, picnics, etc.

**Important:** *Having leaflets handed out by volunteers is far more effective than leaving them in a place to be picked up. Volunteers will give your leaflets much-welcomed kudos.*

## DIAGNOSE - RECOGNIZE THE NEEDS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS



**Before organising a meeting with local residents check their needs, problems and expectations as best you can. As major users of local infrastructure they are the best source of knowing what does and does not work. This will help you tailor**

**the meeting or debate to the specifics of your community. A diagnostic study will furnish you with good arguments for the discussion and helps clarify those key issues to be tackled at the meeting. Before attempting any diagnosis be careful to go through all available materials - official public documents and/or results of earlier studies. Inform your public that a diagnostic study is being carried out (where, when, why) - on Facebook, website, media. Gather residents' ideas and opinions on how to best approach specific problems.**

- Post-its and boards/flipcharts. An invitation to 'finish a sentence' will encourage residents to respond/express themselves. "I think the unresolved problem of our community is...", "Green areas in our city...", "I do not use the local council sports centre because...", "Pavements are missing in ...street.", "Cycling policy in our area..." "In terms of culture, what the council offers is lacking...". Residents can write answers on boards hanging in the local



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- supermarket or council office, or stick “post-its” on flipcharts.
- The unfinished sentence must be clearly visible - on the wall of a building, on a blackboard/whiteboard, flipchart, or chalked on the pavement, projected onto a surface if you have access to a projector. Post them on Facebook, on your website, in the title of a media press release.
- As opposed to ‘unfinished’ sentences why not mark on a map (using pens or stickers) those areas where something needs addressing?
- To find information about places that need fixing in your area you can also use the online services and tools designed to report problems in public spaces: [NaprawmyTo.pl](http://NaprawmyTo.pl) or its British equivalent: [www.FixMyStreet.com](http://www.FixMyStreet.com), where all information on ‘needy’ public spaces is made public.
- Your diagnostic study is best done in teams of two, with one person encouraging residents to share information about local problems/issues.

- This person can also describe the study’s objectives, talk about follow-up activities and explain the best way to get involved. The second may manage the essential materials for the diagnostic study (map, flipcharts, markers, etc.). The study may be carried out simultaneously in several places, in which case numerous 2-person teams are necessary.
- Posting pictures on Facebook may encourage new people to participate in upcoming events.

## WHAT YOU NEED

### Materials:

- map of the local area
- cardboard and markers
- leaflets, posters, banners
- the ‘unfinished sentence’ - handwritten or printed

### Equipment:

- flipchart or whiteboard (blackboard)
- camera
- computer and multimedia projector (beamer)

Why not try to borrow the equipment from the local council, library or cultural centre



### Volunteers Needed:

- a person encouraging residents to participate in the study
- a person for logistics

### DIAGNOSIS FOLLOW-UP. WHAT NEXT?

- Write down the needs, problems and ideas mentioned by the locals; take a picture of the map marked “problem areas” and create a concise summary of the diagnostic study (processes and results) – then post it on your website, Facebook, and send to the media in the form of a press release.
- Based on your diagnosis you can best identify problems to be discussed at the residents’ meeting (see “Organise a Meeting with the Locals”).

Share all information on the results of your diagnostic study with the organisers of the action. Send them pictures, links, a short summary, and they will post them on the main page of the action.

## ORGANISE A MEETING WITH THE LOCALS



Meetings with local residents may vary depending on their purpose and the timetable of events important to the community. Upcoming elections offer a pretext to organise meetings about those elections (e.g. how to sign up to the electoral register, how to cast your vote). It is also a good opportunity to organise an pre-election debate with candidates. Such debates can help involve residents in local matters and raise awareness of how big a say they have on the management of local issues. A meeting may also focus on a specific issue, diagnosed as important for residents, and offers the opportunity to open or improve communication between residents, councillors and the local council. Whichever meeting format you choose it can be used to promote your organisation and inspire others to similar, engaging actions! Determine the format of the meeting and its agenda, invite guests, take care of snacks, organise a children’s corner.



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**Important:** *During debates be careful to represent those residents whose opinions you are aware of!*

### WHERE TO START?

- Choose a Location and Time for the Meeting
- When looking for a place to meet consider the number of participants.
- Choose a location which is commonly known or easily accessible.
- Check the suitability and availability of cultural centres, schools, council offices, libraries. The more “neutral” the location the better.
- Select the appropriate date and time for the group of residents whose presence you value most (weekday evenings or weekends). Double check that your meeting doesn’t clash with other important local or national events - such as a football match.

### CONTACT COUNCILLORS OR CANDIDATES FOR COUNCILLORS

If you choose to invite the incumbent councillor ask them to talk about their work

- powers and duties, the range of activities, and level of cooperation with the local community. Candidates are quite often happy to present their election programmes.

When speaking to both councillors and candidates stress your desire to encourage citizens to take part in elections, and how you aim to construct dialogue and cooperation between local authorities and residents.

Ensure equal gender representation on discussion panels.

### WHEN CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILLOR OR CANDIDATE PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT:

- any action or campaign underpinning the meeting (For example. “Your vote. Your choice.” or “You are at home. Vote!”);
- main purpose of the meeting (e.g. to convince residents to vote, to create a dialogue between residents and authorities or to discuss important local issues);
- who is the organiser of the meeting;
- possible participation of the media;
- the agenda - meeting length, agenda,

how and when councillors are asked to speak;

- what you expect from them (e.g. a five-minute presentation of the election programme, to underline the benefits of voting and the impact they have on changes in the area, to answer resident questions, etc..).

**Important:** *When organising a meeting with candidates make sure that both residents and candidates are part of the same constituency. Candidates will be interested in promoting themselves to their potential constituents; voters will want to contact candidates or councillors to raise matters of local importance.*

*We recommend that you receive confirmation of councillor/ candidate attendance two days prior to any debate*

## PROMOTE THE MEETING

Inform people about the meeting from the moment you start preparing it. Send press releases to the media and e-mails to councillors and residents, make good use of Facebook.

A good idea would be to try and piggyback your meeting on an event that will attract high turnout from residents, such as a local picnic. You should contact the organisers of such an event and offer to pool promotional activities.

One way of “stoking up interest” is to come up with an intriguing name for the meeting. The name may, for example, refer to a local problem or ongoing development plan for the area.

## MAKE SURE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- time and place
- purpose
- benefits to participants
- information on invited guests, panellists
- agenda

## How to Reach Residents with Information about the Meeting?

Do the following:

- send written invitations;
- hand out leaflets on the streets, in shops, at schools, in front of the church



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- and other public buildings;
- put up posters and “notices” in designated places;
- start word of mouth campaigns;
- publish announcements in the local press, web portals and discussion boards, appear on local television and radio;
- target parish announcements and newsletters;
- send e-mail invitations;
- use social networks: Facebook, Google+, MySpace, GoldenLine, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube etc.;
- post announcements on ‘friendly organisation’ websites

**Important:** *Information about meetings should be sent out at least 10 days in advance.*

You can find some inspiration for interesting, semi-official meeting formats that help bring residents together to exchange ideas and opinions on issues of local importance at: <http://www.maszglos.pl/strefa-wiedzy/narzedziownik/>

## WHAT ELSE WILL ENTICE RESIDENTS TO COME TO MEETINGS?

### Catering

Take care of drinks and snacks. When inviting residents, particularly in small towns, encourage them to bring along homemade cakes and snacks. Why not convince a local baker to provide catering in exchange for advertising their products during the meeting? It is worth asking the local council if they could finance (or at least co-finance) the meeting. When doing so, stress that the event is neutral, and you are inviting all the candidates from the constituency, regardless of political persuasion.

### Children's Corner

Organise a children's corner. It will make it easier for parents if child supervision and activities are provided during the meeting. The children's corner should be located in a separate room, and children must be come under the care of an adult willing to engage them in games and activities.

### Interpreter

If you invite candidates who do not understand Polish then provide an interpreter.

## CONDUCTING THE MEETING

**Prepare the hall:** hang an information poster on the front door. If access to the room or building is problematic (e.g. a room hidden on the second floor in a school), provide a map or signposts.

**Familiarise Participants with the Agenda:** a meeting agenda should be established well in advance and keynote speakers be made aware of its content. The agenda should also be made known to the public, so that everyone knows what to expect and when they can speak.

**Get a Moderator:** the meeting should be conducted by a specially appointed person with appropriate competences and/or personality traits to moderate speeches (granting the right to speak, monitoring time, etc.). This person should at the same time refrain from expressing their views, voicing their own ideas, or judging.

Create a good atmosphere and make sure the meeting runs to the agreed agenda:

- Greet all participants, introduce yourself and inform them of their respective roles.

- Present the purpose and expected outcomes of the meeting.
- Introduce agenda and timeframes.
- Introduce speakers and moderators.
- Discuss ways of working (rules of engagement, asking questions).

### *A sample agenda:*

- Start with a greeting and a presentation of the agenda
- Present the local needs and issues identified by residents - this may be in the form of several short talks by guest speakers, persons of authority within the community. You can use previously conducted analyses and diagnoses of social needs. Suggest a discussion of possible solutions to presented problems.
- Present the benefits of voting, of electing councillors; describe the potential impact on local matters including solutions to the problems in question.
- Show and present information on how to register for elections and how to vote (e.g. how to cast a valid vote).



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- Let your audience know how they can contact candidates and where they can read up on election programmes.
- (BREAK, if necessary)
- Speech by the invited councillor, in which they present their daily work and show the impact of their work on local life. They should also inform residents how they (councillors) can be contacted to discuss ideas, solutions and problems.
- Talks by candidates. Each candidate has five minutes in which to present their election programme, and how they propose to solve the most pressing problems in the constituency.
- Questions from the audience - residents to candidates.
- Networking - informal conversation between candidates and residents, mingling over coffee.

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

##### Materials:

- Prepare a short presentation on the structure and powers of local councillors, as well as how to register and cast a valid vote.

- leaflets, posters, banners

##### Equipment:

- computer
- multimedia projector (beamer)
- microphone
- flipchart

You can try to borrow all the equipment from the local council, library, cultural centre or 'friendly' organization.

##### Volunteers Needed:

- person to conduct the meeting
- Interpreter
- Photographer
- Extra people to help with the audience - answering questions about the organisation of the meeting, keeping track of the attendance list, helping fill out registration forms.

#### MEETING FOLLOW-UP.

##### WHAT NEXT?

- Keep in touch with residents and promise them regular updates and information on your activities - the progress of your campaign, organised events and meetings - via SMS, e-mail or Facebook.

- With regards to upcoming elections abroad - offer help in completing electoral registration forms. You can propose further meetings with residents for this specific purpose.
- Encourage participants to promote your campaign among friends and neighbours.
- To those who want to act to involve residents a bit more, offer help from yourself or your organisation, as well as promotional materials (leaflets, posters).
- Share the success of local actions with organisers. Send pictures, links, short summary, etc, to be posted on the main page of the action.

### CARRY OUT PROMOTION ACTIVITIES AT LOCAL AND/OR MASS EVENTS



**Both local cultural events and mass gatherings (concerts, meetings with famous people, themed parties and/or sporting events) provide opportunities to**

**get important information across to many people. Convince event organisers to endorse your action, prepare posters and leaflets, and organise an information point to engage volunteers in your promotional activities. Be on site on the day of the event. Inform, encourage, offer help.**

### CONTACT EVENT ORGANISERS

- When convincing organisers to endorse your action, introduce your objectives (e.g. increase turnout numbers, engage residents in public debate, bring residents and authorities together, solve important local problems) and the pro bono nature of your hard work.
- Emphasize that the person at the centre of the event (e.g. artist, athlete) can also inspire residents to get involved in local matters. This will have a major impact on the level of interest in the action. If he or she refuses, try and steal a little bit of the limelight for your action by taking to the stage yourself.
- Get permission to hang posters and banners and organise a visible information point.



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- By way of a barter you can offer to promote the event by posting information on your organisation's website or Facebook, and distribute event leaflets.

### INVOLVE VOLUNTEERS AND ACQUIRE MATERIALS

- Prepare leaflets, posters, registration forms, attendance lists with enough space for contact details.
- Recruit 2-5 volunteers to stand at the entrance and hand out leaflets.
- Arrange an information point where residents can get hold of information on upcoming elections, local issues, councillor duties, etc. Inform people about the possibility of receiving activity updates (via email, Facebook). Attract new volunteers by actively encouraging residents to join the action.
- Take pictures. Post them on Facebook

### ACTION FOLLOW-UP. WHAT NEXT?

- If you collect resident contacts details send an email thanking them for their

interest and involvement; send progress reports; keep in touch with them.

- Share your successes with event organisers. Send pictures, links, and a short summary - to be posted on the main page of the event.

### CARRY OUT PROMOTION ACTIVITIES AT LOCAL CHURCHES

**Take advantage of the fact that many Poles, particularly those in smaller towns, go to church. Any given Sunday or major public holiday offers an opportunity to reach out to potential recipients of your actions. Ask the priest, within the framework of the project you are running, to encourage parishioners to take part in the elections and/or remind them of their duty to act for the good for the local community. Have volunteers stand with leaflets (or registration forms) by the church entrance. Hand out leaflets yourself, answer any questions residents may have**



**and encourage them to participate in upcoming events you are organising.**

### **INVOLVE THE PRIEST**

Ask the priest say “a few words” as part of parish announcements to encourage the faithful to participate in elections and/ or other events that celebrate local life. Agree to have some information displayed on the parish notice board, and organise an information point just outside the church grounds.

- Send an email or letter to the parish priest asking for support. Try to arrange a meeting and/or call to explain the nature and purpose of your action.
- Explain that this is a non-political action. Emphasize that the activities are designed to help build an active community.
- Suggest a suitable statement that could be announced at mass.

### **HOW TO CARRY OUT THE ACTION?**

- Check the times of masses.
- Have volunteers stand in front of

the church to hand out leaflets to parishioners.

- Hand out leaflets yourself, encourage people to be active locally and vote, answer all questions from residents. Prepare a list where interested residents are able to leave their contact details.

### **WHAT YOU NEED:**

#### **Volunteers:**

- 2-4 people handing out leaflets and answering questions.

#### **Materials:**

- Leaflets related to the subject of your actions.
- Permission from the parish priest for a banner or roll-up to be placed in front of the church where volunteers are active.

#### **Equipment:**

- camera (document your actions!)

### **ACTION FOLLOW-UP.**

#### **WHAT NEXT?**

- Keep in touch with the priest, encourage him to inform parishioners of upcoming events, and to remind them of the importance of voting. Contact him



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personally and send emails detailing future actions.

- Share your successes with event organisers. Send pictures, links, and a short summary - to be posted on the main page of the event.

## INVOLVE SCHOOLS



**Primary and secondary schools are places where a large number of residents can be reached easily and efficiently. A significant number drop their children off at school every morning. This is a good opportunity inform local residents of your initiative. The school board and/or teachers may well be interested in engaging pupils in activities for the local community, as part of their obligation to further civic education. Contact a school, involve the Head and teachers in the campaign you are running, and organise an information meeting.**

## WHERE TO START?

### Contact school Heads in your community

Start by sending an email or letter, and make follow-up calls a few days later. You can also go to the school and talk to the Head in person.

### Explain what the Campaign is about

When making contact highlight the non-political, pro bono nature of the campaign; it is designed to promote integration among residents.

Include information about the action, links to websites, media publications, leaflets, posters, infographics

### Encourage - Talk about the Advantages and Benefits of Participation in the Campaign

You can use the following arguments:

- It is a campaign promoting civic participation. Emphasize that schools have a huge educational impact and are indispensable in promoting good civic attitudes.
- Other schools in the area, city, borough or Polish diaspora support the action.
- The school will gain additional publicity: will be listed on the main website, will be “promoted” in the course of planned

events.

- The school will be better known to the local community, more visible in the public space.
- Participation in your initiative will give the head and teachers the opportunity to establish new contact with other organisations, local authorities, councillors.

## WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM THE SCHOOL?

### Ask the Head to:

- Place information about the action or campaign on the school website.
- Give you access parent, student, teacher contact details.
- Raise awareness of the project at parent meetings, and encourage them to participate in elections and/or get engaged in the initiative.
- Encourage the Heads of other schools to join in the action, inform them about it.
- Provide parents and teachers with leaflets you want to send to the school.
- Recruit a teacher or parent as a

volunteer - to be responsible for the school campaign and implementation of individual actions.

- Organise an information meeting combined with, for example, voter registration (in the case of elections abroad). You may also wish to use this opportunity to diagnose the needs of the local community. Suggest that you will organise and lead the meeting. You can also seek to ensure that all information meetings are held at the same time in all schools in the community. This will make the action more visible and interesting to the media.

## ORGANISE AN INFORMATION MEETING AT SCHOOL

- Arrange the time and place with the Head.
- Find out which teachers, parents and/or students are able to help organise the event, reach out to other parents.

For detailed information on how to arrange a meeting, see “Organise a Meeting with the Locals.”



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## MEETING FOLLOW-UP. WHAT NEXT?

- Keep in touch with the school, inform the Head and teachers about the progress of your action (e.g. by sending an email update once a fortnight).
- Encourage teachers to inform you of any meetings or events they may wish to organise as part of the action, and try to have them documented with pictures. Offer to post such information and materials on Facebook and the website of your organisation.
- Offer substantive assistance, materials (leaflets, posters), commitment (available volunteers who can assist in meetings or help research the needs of the local community).
- Share your successes with event organisers. Send pictures, links, and a short summary - to be posted on the main page of the event.
- If you only have a limited amount of time - you can, with the Head's permission - simply come with your volunteers in the morning before classes start and hand out leaflets, talk to parents and

encourage them to participate in the elections and local issues.





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**Their ingenuity, commitment and expertise made this guide possible.**

The “You are at home, vote!” campaign was launched in 2013 by the School for Leaders Association in Poland, Forum Polonia in Ireland and the Polish City Club in the UK, in substantial cooperation with the “Your vote. Your choice” campaign.

We have been encouraging Poles living abroad to vote in the 2014 European parliamentary elections, and to stand as candidates or to vote in the local government elections.

The “Your vote, your choice!” campaign is politically neutral. We do not offer any particular political or candidate allegiance. We give information on how to vote in the elections to the European Parliament when living in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Italy, France or Hungary.

Among our coalition partners are a dozen or so Polish community organizations from across

the European Union, e. g. Vote-Głosuj! from the Northern Ireland, Emigration Project from Belgium, Polska Ludoteka Rodzinna from Italy, Polonia Nova from Hungary, CSR Polish Global Management from Spain, Les Polonaises from France and IDHEM from Holland.

We are open to cooperation and encourage Polish community organizations to join the coalition to help mobilize and encourage Poles to participate in the elections.

If you would like to cooperate with us to further the political and social engagement of Poles living outside of Poland, within the EU, please write to us at:

[stowarzyszenie@szkola-liderow.pl](mailto:stowarzyszenie@szkola-liderow.pl)



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