



OpenEU Festival:

The Open Canvas of Democracy

October 23rd-25th

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

What is the OpenEU Democracy Festival?

The OpenEU Democracy Festival is a three-day online festival exploring democracy not as an abstract ideal, but as a living, breathing, sometimes messy human practice. Organised by the OpenEU Student Council – bringing together ten European universities and thousands of students across the continent – this is a space to celebrate, challenge, and take democracy seriously.

Think the best TED talk you have ever seen, combined with the energy of a live talk show and the interactivity of a game show. Talks are short and punchy. Hosts challenge speakers. The audience votes, debates, breaks into small groups, and shapes what happens next. Nobody is just watching.

Inspiring Talks

Short, sharp sessions that make you see familiar things in a new way.

Live Interaction

Polls, breakouts, open dialogues – the audience shapes what happens.

Pan-European

Students and practitioners from 10 universities across Europe.

WHY VOLUNTEER

Why should you join the team?

Volunteering at the OpenEU Democracy Festival means being at the centre of something genuinely exciting – a student-led event that brings together researchers, practitioners, artists, and thinkers from across Europe to have the kinds of conversations that actually matter. You will be assigned real responsibilities before, during, and after the festival, working directly alongside the core organising team.

Real, hands-on experience in event production, communications, design, or tech

Work alongside students from 10 different European universities

Be part of a community that genuinely cares about democracy, inclusion, and doing things differently

Basic English proficiency required – our working language across the team

If you are ready to learn fast, work with people who are passionate, and be part of something that has never been done before – we want to hear from you.

Find your place in the team.

We currently have five open volunteer roles. Read through them carefully and apply for the one that excites you most. If you are genuinely torn between two, say so in your application — we will figure it out together.

The Tech Savvy

"If it crashes, you fix it."

You are the bridge between the organising team and the technical infrastructure of the festival. You coordinate with IT teams across the universities, manage the platforms and tools we use, and make sure that when the festival goes live, everything works. You are also our first point of contact when something — inevitably — does not.

Ideal for: Students in computer science, IT, or anyone who genuinely enjoys problem-solving under pressure.

The Chat DJ

"You are the voice of the audience."

While the MC is on screen, you are in the chat — reading the room, surfacing the best questions, dropping polls, posting links, and making sure no great idea gets lost in the scroll. You coordinate Q&As; with the MC in real time, moderate the conversation, and keep the energy high between sessions. Think of yourself as a live producer working just behind the curtain.

Ideal for: Fast typist, great instincts for conversation, comfortable working at speed in a live environment.

The Creative Mastermind

"You make it look like a festival."

You are responsible for everything visual: the poster, the social media graphics, the slides, the branded materials. You work closely with the OpenEU communications team and follow brand guidelines — but within that, you bring your own creative vision to make sure the festival looks as exciting as it feels.

Ideal for: Students with graphic design, visual communication, or digital arts experience.

The Circus Director

"You make it feel like a festival, not a webinar."

You are in charge of the entertainment: the music between sessions, the surprising moments, the humour, the breathing space – everything that makes people turn to their screen and smile. You coordinate the interactive elements, branded countdown slides, mood-setting transitions, and anything else that keeps the experience alive and unexpected.

Ideal for: Creative, playful, full of ideas. Experience in performance, theatre, or live events is a bonus.

The Clark Kent / Lois Lane

"You find the story and tell it."

Together with the Master Planner and the Creative Mastermind, you produce all the written materials for the festival: announcements, social media copy, speaker bios, programme descriptions, and anything else that needs words. You write in a way that is clear, engaging, and human – you know the best communication does not sound like a press release.

Ideal for: Students in communications, journalism, humanities, or anyone who genuinely loves to write.

Apply before April 30, 2026

Fill in the application form at the link below. Questions? Write to us and we will get back to you.

<https://forms.gle/AVeiwSMieKnqECLA8>

openeufestival@gmail.com

The OpenEU Democracy Festival is organised by the OpenEU Student Council – a student-led initiative bringing together universities across Europe committed to open, flexible, and inclusive higher education.