



## WRITE YOUR OWN OPEN LETTER

<b>Target group</b>	Adult learner
<b>Setting</b>	Group work
<b>Time</b>	60 minutes

An open letter is a published letter of protest or appeal usually addressed to an individual, but intended for the general public.

This exercise deals with the topics of:

- democratic participation
- open letters
- citizens in decision-making
- collective petitions

MATERIALS NEEDED	
MATERIAL	Y/N
Projector	N
Flipchart	N
Printed handout	Y
Other (please specify): PC / mobile device, internet	Y

### PREPARATION

All you need is to be curious about political activism, ready to take action, and have an internet connection to check our proposed case studies.

Lecture on the topic of collective initiatives and online open letters. The worksheet provided serves as additional support and inspiration, with specific case studies.





## WRITE YOUR OWN OPEN LETTER

### METHOD / PROCESS DESCRIPTION

How to establish collective open letters as a method for the promotion of political activism?

According to Merriam-Webster online dictionary definition , an open letter is “a published letter of protest or appeal usually addressed to an individual but intended for the general public”. Taken this definition to the next level, we note that often the recipients are public institutions, national governments, bodies of the European Union or other important stakeholders on a specific social issue.

Nowadays, open letters written by international movements, NGOs, inter or cross-sectoral networks – with the participation of individual citizens – continue to be used as tool for the promotion of political activism, as a proof of collaborative initiatives.

What is more, the role of new technologies and the Internet have increased their impact, thanks to wider promotion and publicity.

#### Tasks

At the worksheet provided, there are two tasks intended to familiarize you with the open online letters initiative, taken by international NGOs and other advocacy stakeholders.

More specifically, we will have a look at two interesting case studies:

- The “Write for Rights” campaign of Amnesty International &
- The “Open letter on behalf of the Cultural & Creative Sectors to the EC”.

