



KAIKKIEN VAALIT

KAIKKIEN VAALIT / OUR ELECTION: THE TEXT MATERIAL FOR THE ACTIVATION WORKSHOP

Thank you for spreading awareness on voting and ways to impact by using our material! You can find the format of the workshop below, as well as the questions and relevant information. Please use the pictures provided as a part of the workshop!

If your workshop is held in other language than Finnish, state the terms in **bold** in Finnish as well.

Meaning of the symbols explained:

	Materials: Display the assigned pictures for the attendees.
	Question: Let the attendees have time to answer the questions before giving out the answers.
	Answer/Info: Answer to the question, and further information to be told to the attendees.
	Discussion: Let the attendees discuss the themes of the given question. Be careful with the time management!

You can use the given material for the workshop according to the needs of your group. You can either use it fully, or just bits and pieces depending on the group's previous knowledge on the subject. Just make sure you'll use at least half of the duration of the workshop with sections marked with F, G and H, so your group is able to come up with questions for the candidates.

At the beginning of the workshop:

- Welcome the attendees to the workshop
- Introduce yourself if you're not familiar with the group of attendees
- Inform the attendees of the aim of #KaikkienVaalit campaign: to bring up the immigrant voices to the political discussion, for instance through election panels where's possible to directly interact with the candidates. The workshop is part of the Kaikkien Vaalit -campaign
- Explain the aim of the workshop: to spread awareness and information on the upcoming elections, participation and ways to impact

I. Elections and voting

A. Election year 2019 (Vaalivuosi 2019)

Year 2019 is the election year (**vaalivuosi**): there will be at least two elections held during the year possibly even three. Due to this, the political parties will be notably active during the year 2019: they will campaign (**kampanjoivat**) before the election day in order to gain popularity and votes.

	Display the pictures A1-3.
?	Which elections are held in Finland this year?
✓	A1: Parliament elections . In the parliament elections 200 members of parliament (kansanedustaja) will be selected. Eduskunta on Finnish parlamentti .
✓	A2: elections to the European parliament (Europarlamenttivaalit , also EP-vaalit, EUvaalit, eurovaalit). In the EU-elections the European Union citizens elect the members who represent Finland in the European parliament in Brussels.
✓	A3: Regional election (Maakuntavaalit) are newly established election in Finland (uudet vaalit) The regional election covers larger area than cities. Regional election is a local election just like municipality elections (kuntavaalit) in which local city representatives are elected.
?	When the election takes place?
✓	Parliament elections are held in 14.4.2019 . European parliament elections (EU-vaalit) are held in 26.5.2019 . Regional election might be held in the fall of 2019. This is not confirmed! The election will be held if the new regional act is ratified in the parliament.

B. Voting in elections (Äänestäminen vaaleissa)

Every Finnish citizen over the age of 18 are eligible to vote (**yleinen äänioikeus**). Everyone has one vote (**yksi ääni**). Voting is a right (**oikeus**), but it is not mandatory (**ei ole pakollista**). The right to vote is personal, so everyone decides by themselves who they are going to vote for. This decision is confidential (**salainen**): no one will know who others have really voted for, ballot confidentiality applies to everyone (**vaalisalaisuus**). Ihminen, joka saa äänestää kuntavaaleissa, ei voi välttämättä äänestää muissa vaaleissa. Miksi?

?	Who can vote in the 2019 elections?
✓	Parliament election: Finnish citizens over the age of 18 (Finnish passport)
✓	European union parliament elections: - Finnish citizens over the age of 18 (Finnish passport) - Citizens of other EU-countries who are over the age of 18, live in Finland and who are not voting in the EU-elections in their home country.
✓	Regional elections: People over the age of 18... - Finnish citizens (Finnish passport) - Citizens of other EU-countries, as well as Norway and Iceland who have residency in a Finnish municipality (and have reported Maistraatti) at least 51 days before the election. - Citizens of non-EU countries who have had Finnish residency at least 2 years prior to the election.
	Can you vote in the parliament election? EU-election? Regional election?

	Are you going to vote in the upcoming elections?
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II. Parliament, Members of the Parliament and the parliament election

C. The Parliament (Eduskunta)

There are 200 members in the Finnish parliament (**kansanedustaja**). The parliament is located in the Helsinki city center, next to the central railway station. Do you know what is the role of the parliament?

	Display the pictures C1-4.
?	What does the parliament do?
✓	C1: The parliament decides on the Finnish law (laki), which means the rights (oikeudet) and the responsibilities velvollisuudet eligible in Finland. Everyone who live in Finland have to follow the Finnish law.
✓	C2: The parliament decides on the state budget (talousarvioista), where to redistribute the tax income (verot).
✓	C3: The parliament elects and supervises the prime minister (pääministeri), as well as the ministers (hallitus) elected by the prime minister.
✓	C4: The parliament ratifies international agreements (kansainväliset sopimukset) and impacts on EU-related matters.

D. The work of the MPs (Kansanedustajan työ)

The members of the parliament represent the whole nation and decide and determine the Finnish law.

	Display the pictures D1-4.
?	What are the duties of the members of the parliament?
✓	D1: The most important task for the MPs is to prepare legal acts (valmistaa lakitekstiä), The legal initiatives are prepared in committees (valiokunta). Committee is a group of MPs who concentrate on one theme and prepare related legislation initiatives.
✓	D2: The member of the parliament is a policy maker (vaikuttaja) who can initiate legal acts, consult ministers and participate in the parliament plenary sessions (täysistunto).
✓	D3: Member of the parliament is a policy maker. MP represents their electoral district (vaalipiiriänsä). They ensure that the needs and concerns of their designated area are taken in account in the parliament's decisions.
✓	D4: The member of the parliament works also abroad. MPs represent Finland in different international organizations and oversee foreign elections.
	How many MPs do you know? How many of those have moved to Finland?

III. Finnish politics

E. Finnish parties (Suomen puolueet)

Finland has 19 different political parties. 10 of them are in the parliament. Do you know the political agendas of each party?

	Display the party logos on the table.
	What do you know from each political party? Mitkä asiat ovat jokaiselle puolueelle tärkeitä?
	Display the “left” and “right” signs to both ends of the table.
	What party is furthest on the left, or on the right? Organize parties on the axis.
	Display the “liberal” and “conservative” signs on the opposite sides of the table.
	Do you know what “liberal” and “conservative” mean?
	Notions of “Left” and “right” indicate mostly the economic (taloudellinen) inclination of the given party, but it can also suggest difference in values (arvot). Two parties with same economic stance, can have contrasting views in other matters. Liberals (liberaalit) appreciate change as conservatives (konservatiivit) cherish the traditions.
	Transfer the pics of political party logos towards “liberal” and “conservative” signs depending are they more conservative or liberal.
	Display the map of political parties.
	The map of the political parties is based on the answers of 1800 candidates on same questions. Every dot on the map represents a candidate. As you can see from the map, the candidates from the same party can have contrasting answers to the same questions! Therefore it is important to think through who would be the ideal candidate and from which party.
	Compare the results to the map. Are you surprised?

F. Current themes in Finland

	Display the pictures F1-12
	Choose three pictures which represent three most important theme for you, keep them in your mind!
	Can you guess which three themes are the most important for the Finnish public?
	During the parliament elections this year the three most important themes for the Finns are (1) Healthcare (1) terveydenhuolto , (2) employment and unemployment 2) työ ja työttömyys , (3) sustainable energy and environment (3) ilmasto, energia ja ympäristö .

IV. Politics and me?

G. What can you do if can't vote? (Mitä tehdä, jos ei voi äänestää?)

Political decision in Finland regard everyone, also individuals who are not eligible for voting! Therefore it is crucial to know how the political decisions are made in Finland and to learn how to impact even without voting.

	Display the pictures G1-7
	It's possible to get your voice heard, even though not being eligible to vote. With the given pictures brainstorm ways to impact!
✓	<p>Some examples of the ways to influence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Communicate with the candidates. During the campaigns the candidates are often available for a chat in front of their promotion tents. You can directly ask about their agendas and opinions. Simultaneously they'll learn what is important for you, your family and your community!- Take part in the election panels (vaalipaneeli)! The panel discussions enable you to compare the candidates' answers to same questions.- Send emails to the candidates that represent your electoral region. They represent you even though you would not have voted for them! You can message and chat with them on a social media platform as well.- >Participate in the public discussion by writing opinion pieces (mielipidekirjoituksia) and articles to your blog or to a local newspaper.- Join a political party (jäsen). As a member of a political party you are able to influence on what the party represents!- Became a candidate yourself (ehdokas)! You must be eligible to vote in the election to be a candidate in it.- Chat with others of what have you learnt and take them with to the Kaikkien Vaalit campaign for instance by writing in social media or having a conversation with your friends and family!

H. Impact now - ask from the candidates! (Vaikuta nyt - kysy ehdokailta!)

The best way to know what each of the parties think on different subjects is to ask their representatives. The panel discussions are the best opportunity to ask, as the candidates from various parties are answering the same questions. By asking questions you can bring up awareness about problems, concerns, themes that you feel haven't got enough exposure.

	Keep the pictures G on the table!
	Think about the themes most important to you. Why they are essential?
	What are you planning to do? Choose one way to influence and decide the subjects you want to talk about.

✓	<p>If you're in the Helsinki region, share info on the Kaikkien Vaalit panel discussion in Stoa on 30.3. at 13-15 (in Finnish, the questions can be asked in English) you can ask the question. Also the online panel in English is a great opportunity to ask your questions (more information coming up).Kaikkien vaalit –panels are election panels which gives the minority groups to bring up issues and themes close to them.</p> <p>You can also spread information on various ways to impact: other panel discussions (you'll find info on other panels Kaikkien Vaalit FB-page), promotion tents of the political parties, usually located on market squares (if the tour schedules are published).</p>
🗨️	<p>Decide with the group on 3-5 questions which you would like to ask from the candidates attending the Kaikkien Vaalit- panel discussion. Write down the questions.</p>
🗨️	<p>Does someone of your group want to ask these questions from the candidates? Settle with your group who will attend the panel discussion and ask the questions. See you at the event!</p>

The participants can ask questions m the candidates also online (Twitter, Facebook) or at the public promotion events if they're not able to attend the panel discussion event.

V. Final instructions

- Remember to take a group photo (**ryhmäkuva**)! Make sure that you have the consent of the attendees to take and share (Twitter, Facebook) the photos. Display the #KaikkieVaalit –camping logo and hashtag!
 - The group photo will replace an attendance sheet. Remember to send the photo to Moniheli!
 - Faces of the attendees do not necessarily have to visible in the photo, just make sure the #KaikkienVaalit logo is clearly shown.

- Thank the participants for attending the workshop and ask them how they are feeling. Were they interested in the workshop and did they obtain any new knowledge? Did the workshop lower the bar for the attendees to take part in political discussion and use their rights regarding voting?

- Collect all of the material and make sure you have the questions gathered.

- Fill out the billing form with the information of the workshop. Fill out the form as soon as possible after the workshop, ideally right away and send it to Moniheli.