



EXPECT_Art Summer School in Budapest

More about our project:
www.expectart.eu

"This project has received funding from the European Union's programme under grant agreement No. 101132662. The views and opinions expressed are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor REA can be held responsible for them."



Our summer school, held at the Central European University from July 6–11, 2026, brought together educators, university students and doctoral researchers for an intensive week of learning, exchange, and creative practice. The programme combined academic sessions with arts-based workshops to explore critical cultural literacy, decoloniality, and education through a multi-disciplinary perspectives.

Participating students came from several European countries, including Germany, Denmark, Poland, Serbia, and Ukraine, reflecting the project's international scope and its commitment to cross-cultural dialogue. Across lectures, group discussions, workshops, and reflection circles, the summer school created space for shared inquiry into how education can respond to inequality, representation, and exclusion.

The sessions addressed a wide range of themes. Some focused

on decolonial theory and decoloniality in educational contexts, asking how colonial legacies continue to shape knowledge, institutions, and classroom practices. Others examined critical cultural literacy and critical race perspectives, with attention to marginalization, hidden norms, and the ways educational environments can either reproduce or challenge inequality.

A distinctive feature of the programme was its arts-based approach. Workshops invited participants to engage in forum debate, body mapping, participatory theatre, and other embodied methods that translated theory into practice. These sessions emphasized expression, co-creation, reflection, and the role of the body in learning. Rather than treating art as a supplement to academic content, the summer school used artistic methods as a way to think critically, collaboratively, and differently.



One of the highlights of the week was a city walk in Budapest's 8th district, organized by the [UCCU Foundation](#). The walk offered participants an opportunity to discover the area's Roma heritage and to connect the summer school's themes to local histories and lived urban realities. This element of the programme underlined a central concern of EXPECT_Art:

that education and cultural literacy are practices shaped by place, memory, and social context. By bringing together scholarly reflection, artistic experimentation, and community-based learning, the EXPECT_Art Summer School created a lively environment for collective reflection on what critical, inclusive, and decolonial education can look like in practice.

Postcard from Koper, Slovenia

At the beginning of June, EXPECT_Art consortium visited lovely Koper to discuss the project's progress, exchange knowledge, and plan the next stages of the project. The meeting also included a rich cultural programme. Participants attended the [Isola Cinema International Film Festival](#), where they watched the Spanish film *Stories from the Good Valley*, took part in a workshop on knitting "ugly scarves", and visited the [Koper Youth Centre](#) to learn more about its diverse activities and community engagement.

