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# POSITION BAROMETER

## Objectives

- discuss current political topics
- formulate opinions
- get aware of the range of political opinions in a democracy

## Democracy skills addressed

- debating skills
- argumentation
- pluralism
- tolerance

### Possible time formats

- 10-30 minutes

### Age group

- any; depending on the topics addressed

### Necessary materials/software

- a cord/tape to mark a line on the floor
- paper/sign with „agree“ and „disagree“.
- for the online version: a tool like mentimeter, on which participants can mark their opinion on a scale



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## Description

1. Before the activity starts, the facilitator marks a line on the floor (with a cord or tape) and puts two signs saying „agree“ and „disagree“ at the ends.
2. During the activity, the facilitator formulates different statements, e.g. „The EU should prohibit plastic packaging“, „Young people should be allowed to vote in elections from the age of 16“ or „We should strive for the United States of Europe“. Participants are asked to position themselves on the line, depending on how much they agree/disagree.
3. When everybody has chosen a standpoint, the facilitator can ask certain participants to explain their opinion and possibly discuss these. After a few people have spoken, the facilitator formulates the next statement. Before or at the end of the activity, the facilitator explains that the position barometer shows that there are a variety of opinions and that there is not one single truth in a political discussion.

## REMARKS

The statements above are just examples; they can be adapted to the context and content of a workshop and the interests of the target group.



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