

## ***APPG on Political and Media Literacy Meeting***

Date: 11.03.25

Time: 12:00 - 13:00

Room U, Portcullis House

Meeting Chair: Kirsty Blackman MP

**Attended:** *Kirsty Blackman MP, Lord David Blunkett, Lord Chris Rennard, Sharon Hodgson MP, Claire Hazelgrove MP, Lord Jim Knight, Iqbal Mohamed MP, Matteo Bergamini (Shout Out UK), Amelia Fairney (Shout Out UK), Jillian Rolnick (Shout Out UK), Amy Turner (Shout Out UK), Jan-Philipp Wagner (ICCS), Bryony Hoskins (University of Roehampton), Natalia Lopez-Hornickel (University of Roehampton)*

*11 members of the APPG's Academic Advisory Council also joined the meeting online.*

**Apologies:** *Lord Iain McNicol, Damian Hinds MP, Allison Gardner MP, Baroness Beverley Hughes, Baroness Estelle Morris, Lord Bird, Darren Paffey MP, Ellie Chowns MP, Irene Campbell MP, Jess Asato MP, Jonathan Hinder MP, Julie Minns MP, Kirith Entwistle MP, Lord Andrew Lansley, Lord Bird, Maya Ellis MP, Monica Harding MP, Neil Duncan-Jordan MP, Phil Brickell MP, Ruth Jones MP, Uma Kumaran MP, Dave Robertson MP, John Slinger MP*

### **Meeting kick-off from Kirsty Blackman MP**

Kirsty thanked members for attending and everyone introduced themselves for the guests. Kirsty introduced the first guest speaker, Jan-Philipp Wagner. Jan-Philipp Wagner is an International Civic and Citizenship Education Study (ICCS) 2027 Study Coordinator. The ICCS reports on students' knowledge and understanding of concepts and issues related to civics and citizenship, as well as their beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors with respect to this domain. In addition, ICCS collects rich contextual data on the organization and content of civic and citizenship education in the curriculum, teacher qualifications and experiences, teaching practices, school environment and climate, and home and community support.

### **Presentation by Jan-Philipp Wagner, followed by discussion**

Jan-Philipp Wagner of ICCS presented "Monitoring CCE: Introducing the International Civic and Citizenship Education Study (ICCS)." He discussed the importance of civic education, provided background on the ICCS, including that it is the largest international Civic and Citizenship Education study and is commissioned by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). Jan explained that the ICCS's goal is to investigate the ways in which young people are prepared to undertake their roles as citizens in a range of countries and the different study instruments such as questionnaires and civic knowledge tests to provide reliable, comparative and actionable data and indicators. He also discussed the variance in education systems across countries and over time, emphasizing the study's non-longitudinal nature.

Wagner then thanked the attendees.

The presentation sparked discussion in the meeting. An online attendee asked a question about whether ICCS-2027 will continue in England. Jan responded that it most likely will not.

There was another question on the key takeaways from the findings of the last study. Jan responded that in more affluent countries, civic and citizenship education levels are typically better.

Claire Hazelgrove MP pointed out a case study for how Meta filed a lawsuit for whistleblowing and providing evidence for how certain platforms target young people's insecurities.

Amelia Fairney raises the link between financial and media literacy skills and how she believes a two-pronged approach would be the best solution, others in the room agree.

### **Professor Bryony Hoskins Presentation and Discussion**

Bryony began by highlighting how her research (called the G-EPIC project) was focused on girls empowerment through politics in classrooms and was granted 3 million Euros by EU Horizon and UKRI. The project included 6 European countries and began in February 2023.

Bryony provided an overview of the projects aims and objectives which was to: "Identify effective methods at increasing disadvantaged girls' (age 14) confidence in

undertaking party politics” through the creation of sustainable change by co-creating methods with teachers, students and civil society.

Bryony presented a graph illustrating a confidence gap between girls and boys in party politics, which was evident in all countries studied, including England. She then presented the project’s outputs, including a 5 Class Intervention consisting of a teacher handbook, student resource book and teacher power point and the solutions to changing classroom dynamics to empower young girls to speak about politics such as active listener stickers and smaller group discussions.

Bryony ended by providing the headline results from the pilot 5 Class Intervention, talking through the sample size, evaluation methodologies and results.

Amy asked a question about the variables that are being measured against the control group to measure success and Hoskins replied that it is a self-report questionnaire.

One other question was asked, but the meeting was interrupted by the next people that booked the room, who came in.

### **Closing**

Kirsty closed the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.