



PolyCIVIS Newsletter #December 2025

Dear PolyCIVIS community and friends,

Hello, bonjour, مرحبا, ciao, γεια σας!

Welcome to the final edition of this year's *PolyCIVIS News*!

As 2025 marks the beginning of the final year of the PolyCIVIS project, we find ourselves at a crossroads, one where significant achievements are already behind us and new ideas and initiatives are actively taking shape.

In this edition, we explore what lies ahead for PolyCIVIS. You can learn more about our final open call for policy briefs, listen to our podcasts, read a selection of articles - including reflections from a recent PolyCIVIS workshop in Sfax - and discover insights into how empowering voices from smaller countries requires policy changes on the EU and international levels.

In this winter edition, we turn the spotlight on:

1. Open call for Policy Briefs
2. PolyCIVIS Spotlight: 1st CIVIS Forum for Research and Education
3. The second PolyCIVIS Podcast Series is here
4. A Joint Master in the making
5. Exclusive Interview: Women's Political Participation In Small Societies: Insights from Cyprus
6. Students as designers of change: Reflections from the PolyCIVIS WP5 workshop
7. Polycrisis Talks webinar series continues in 2026
8. Pre-announcing the Polycrisis Handbook mini-surveys and recruiting volunteer respondents
9. Interesting reads
10. Why join our dynamic LinkedIn Group

The PolyCIVIS team

Open Call

For Policy Briefs



Abstract Submission:
15 January 2026



We are excited to announce the opening of our third and final round of Policy Briefs dedicated to understanding and addressing the complexities of the polycrisis. Submit a 250-word abstract by 15 January 2026.

[ACCESS THE FULL CALL HERE](#)

PolyCIVIS Spotlight

The upcoming CIVIS Forum will feature a PolyCIVIS panel reflecting on intercontinental collaboration, insights from African and European partners, and the project's work on understanding and addressing polycrisis. The discussion will also explore lessons learned, research outcomes, and strategies for long-term collaboration.

Discover more about
the Forum

A banner for the PolyCIVIS in Morocco project. The top part features a photograph of a traditional Moroccan building with intricate green and gold tilework and arched doorways. The text is overlaid on a white background with blue accents.

PolyCIVIS in Morocco

1st African-European CIVIS Forum for Research and Education

"From Joint Challenges to Joint Solutions"

MARCH 2026

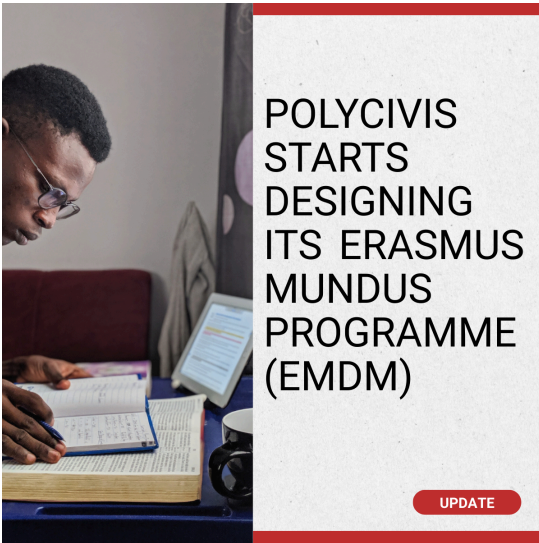


PolyCIVIS Podcasts

The second PolyCIVIS podcast series is here! Experts from across CIVIS and PolyCIVIS share fresh insights on innovative teaching, climate adaptation, and gender justice in a polycrisis era.

Recorded at UCAD Media Studio in Dakar, the series offers practical ideas for educators, policymakers, and young researchers alike.

[Listen to the podcasts](#)



POLYCIVIS STARTS DESIGNING ITS ERASMUS MUNDUS PROGRAMME (EMDM)

UPDATE

A Joint Master in the making

PolyCIVIS enters the Erasmus Mundus design phase to co-create an innovative joint master programme addressing today's interconnected crises.

[Read more about the process](#)

INTERVIEW



“
At the EU and international levels, empowering voices from smaller countries requires policy changes that move beyond formal representation toward meaningful influence.

ANDIA MAVROMMATI

Advisor of English and English teacher,
Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, Cyprus

[READ THE FULL INTERVIEW](#)

Using Cyprus as a small-country case, this interview with Andia Mavrimmati highlights how prolonged political crises shape national priorities, often at the expense of stronger societal reflexes.

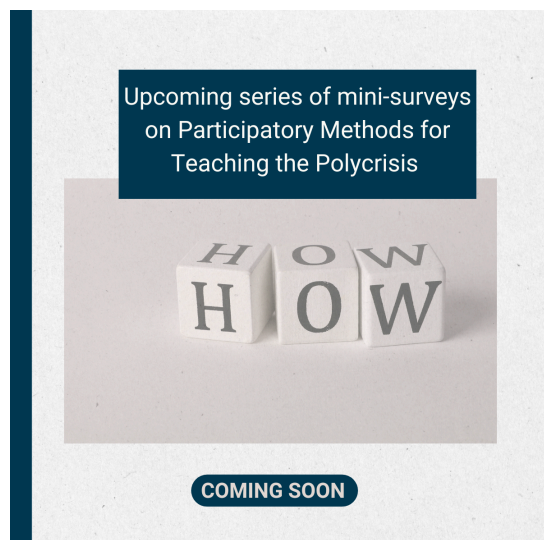
[Read the interview](#)

Students as designers of change: Reflections from the PolyCIVIS WP5 workshop

The second-year Marketing Research Master's class at IHEC Sfax, led by their teacher, reflected on their active participation in the PolyCIVIS workshop. They put their Design Thinking course techniques into practice, gaining hands-on experience in exploring and understanding polycrisis.



[Read the article](#)



Your voice matters!

Polycrisis Talks webinar series continues in 2026, interested to join us?

Let's shape the Participatory Methods for Teaching the polycrisis, together.

Take part

Read more

Join us



Top Recommendations from PolyCIVIS' Communication & Dissemination team

Shape a prosperous and sustainable future for Africa and Europe

EU and African Union leaders adopted a joint declaration at the 7th AU–EU Summit in Luanda, Angola, on 24–25 November 2025, with the intention to

Culture Compass: Europe for Culture, Culture for Europe

A new strategic vision for culture represents a step forward not only for the arts and cultural sectors, but also in its engagement with policy areas such as health, education, science, social cohesion, and citizen participation. The **Culture Compass: Europe for Culture, Culture for Europe** places culture at the heart of EU policymaking.

Enjoy your reading!

Join the [PolyCIVIS online community on LinkedIn!](#) This group is a space to stay connected and informed about the PolyCIVIS network, but also to connect, exchange ideas and share insights on polycrisis-related themes.

Welcome, we're excited to have you here.



Image: Jeanne Sadzot and Esther Malice ©2024

Thank you for reading!

We have a lot more to share over the project's lifetime including the latest news, opportunities, and events about PolyCIVIS!

Do you know someone who would enjoy reading this newsletter? You are welcome to share it!

Follow us on social media and visit our [website](#) for more updates and opportunities.

Please contact us at polycivis@ulb.be if you would like to receive further information.

[Learn more about PolyCIVIS](#)

CIVIS - Europe's Civic University Alliance



PolyCIVIS is a 3 year project, co-funded by the European Union.
Erasmus+ call: ERASMUS-JMO-2023-NETWORKS-HEI-NON-EU-AFRICA.

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