



## Open Call for New EU Code Week Challenges

Dear Code Week community members, supporters, and new stakeholders,

We are excited to invite you to contribute to the expansion of the EU Code Week platform by creating **new Code Week Challenges**! This is your opportunity to contribute to design engaging and innovative activities that inspire creativity and problem-solving and **gender equality** in digital education – with a special focus on Girls in Digital.

Currently, there are 33 [EU Code Week challenges](#) available on the platform, and we are looking to grow this collection with fresh ideas that encourage inclusive participation in coding activities.

**All submitted Challenges must be written in English.**

### What is an EU Code Week Challenge?

A [Code Week Challenge](#) combines creative and fun coding activities with problem-solving skills. They are designed for educators, students, families, and anyone curious about coding. These challenges aim to encourage learning through play, experimentation, and collaboration.

### Incorporating Gender Equality, Diversity, and Girls in Digital

We invite all contributors to consider ways to promote inclusivity in coding and digital education when designing their challenges. Below are some recommendations and good practices to help you create an engaging and welcoming experience. While it's not necessary to apply all of them, integrating even one or more can make a meaningful impact on diversity and inclusion in digital learning. When developing your Challenge, consider:

1. **Inclusive Language & Imagery:**
  - a. **Language:** Use gender-neutral and inclusive language in all communications. Avoid assumptions or stereotypes about who “belongs” in tech.
  - b. **Imagery:** Feature images of diverse individuals and role models—especially highlighting women and non-binary coders.
2. **Role Models & Mentorship:**
  - a. **Invite Speakers:** Bring in successful women, non-binary individuals, and people from diverse backgrounds in tech to share their journeys.
  - b. **Mentorship Programs:** Pair participants with mentors who can provide guidance, support, and serve as relatable role models.
3. **Diverse Team Formation:**
  - a. **Intentional Grouping:** Organize teams to ensure a mix of genders and backgrounds. This can encourage collaboration and help break down stereotypes.
  - b. **Ice-breaker Activities:** Start with activities that build trust and camaraderie among team members.
4. **Challenge Design:**

- a. **Real-World Impact:** Design challenges that solve problems relevant to diverse communities. This approach can resonate more deeply and inspire participants.
  - b. **Flexible & Open-Ended:** Allow for multiple creative approaches so participants can tailor their solutions based on their interests and strengths.
- 5. Safe & Supportive Environment:**
- a. **Clear Guidelines:** Establish and communicate a code of conduct that prohibits discrimination and harassment.
  - b. **Support Channels:** Offer confidential channels for participants to voice concerns or seek support if needed.
- 6. Accessible Resources:**
- a. **Tailored Learning Materials:** Provide tutorials, workshops, or starter kits catering to various skill levels, particularly for those who might be new to coding.
  - b. **Continuous Learning:** Offer follow-up sessions or additional resources to help sustain engagement and learning post-challenge.
- 7. Feedback & Continuous Improvement:**
- a. **Surveys & Discussions:** Gather feedback from participants, especially from underrepresented groups, to refine your approach for future challenges.
  - b. **Iterative Changes:** Use the feedback to make iterative improvements, ensuring your activities remain inclusive and effective.
- 8. Community Partnerships:**
- a. **Collaborate with Organizations:** Work with groups dedicated to promoting women and diversity in tech. Their expertise can help tailor your activities and extend your reach.
  - b. **Local Outreach:** Engage with local schools, community centers, or tech hubs that focus on empowering girls and diverse populations.

By integrating these tips, you create a coding challenge environment that not only welcomes everyone but actively supports and empowers girls and individuals from diverse backgrounds in the digital space.

## What We Are Looking For

We invite you to develop challenges that:

- Encourage inclusive participation in coding activities
- Integrate gender-equality perspectives in digital education
- Foster collaboration, creativity, and problem-solving
- Explore emerging digital technologies beyond coding, including Generative AI, Sensors, Robotics, and Drones

Each Challenge should follow a clear structure and include the following elements:

## Challenge Elements

1. Title – A short, engaging title that hints at the challenge theme.
2. Objective – What participants will learn or achieve by completing the challenge (per bullets, short sentences in Infinitive).
3. Target Audience - Who is the challenge intended for (e.g. primary school, secondary school, general public) and the age of the audience.
4. Experience level – Does it require prior knowledge? (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced).
5. Time Required – Estimated duration needed to complete the challenge.
6. Materials / Tools Needed – List of required resources (e.g., software, hardware, online tools).
7. Instructions - Step-by-step instructions to complete the challenge, ensuring clarity and accessibility.
8. Examples / Suggestions – Real-life applications or variations of the challenge.

9. Visuals – Screenshots, images, or diagrams that support understanding and engagement.

## Submission Guidelines

1. **Complete the Submission Form:** You will receive a template with all required fields, including the challenge title, objectives, materials needed, and instructions.
2. **Submission Deadline:** Challenges must be submitted by **March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**
3. **Evaluation:** Selected challenges will be reviewed by the Code Week team and published on the website.

## Why Participate?

- **Visibility** - Your challenge will be featured on the official EU Code Week website.
- Recognition – You will receive a **Certificate of Contribution as an** acknowledgment of your contribution to the EU Code Week community.

## How to Participate

1. Click [here](#) to access the submission form.
2. Submit your Challenge by **March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**.
3. We will notify selected contributors by **March 31<sup>th</sup> 2025**.

If you have any questions or need further guidance, please don't hesitate to reach out at [EUCodeWeek@profil-klett.hr](mailto:EUCodeWeek@profil-klett.hr).

Thank you for your dedication to making coding education more inclusive and impactful.