

Politics and Religion

Summary

The activity consists of group work about the links between religion and politics and how to define them.

Description of the activity

The activity is a debate among students. The teacher must introduce the topic of religion and politics with the students beforehand.

The teacher splits the class in several small groups of 3 or 4. Each group has to select a religion and a country in which that religion is dominant and has to do some research about the role of religion in the politics in that country with teacher-guided specific questions (i.e how many inhabitants share this religion? What is the political regime of the country? Do religious leaders intervene in politics? If so, in what way? Etc...)

After the preparation time, each group presents their research. Then, the other groups can ask questions and share their opinions. The aim is to have an ongoing discussion and for each group participate.

Activity structure

- **Preferred premises of the activity:** the activity should be held in class or in any room big enough to split the group in two.
- **Resources needed:** sheets of paper, pens.
- **Recommended number of people participating:** between 15 and 25 students
- **Previous knowledge of participants necessary:** some previous basic knowledge about politics and religion.
- **Activity duration:** The activity can be held as one time event during class.

Learning Objectives

The students will learn about the link between religion and politics and how they are linked or not, depending on the country.

Expected Outcomes

The activity will enable them to think about politics and religion, which is quite a complex topic. Also, the activity will train them to take part in a discussion and to present a specific point of view.

Target group

Students between 14 and 17 years of age.

Subject of the curriculum in which the activity could be implemented

History, Politics, Philosophy

