



## Edu4U – Debate in Iceland



### Introduction to the debate

The Oxford-Style debate format involves a debate on a predetermined topic. Two teams participate in it. They are called the **Proposition** and the **Opposition** and present arguments 'for' and 'against' the topic statement. Each team consists of 4 speakers. Each team should be prepared to present the topic from both the perspective: 4 speakers – arguments 'for' and the other four speakers – arguments against. For the debate the teams will be matched with teams from another country. The Audience will be the exchange participants (students and teachers) from the two countries who will not take part in a given debate.

### Debate Topics

1. We should use 100% renewable energy to power the world. (Czechia vs. Iceland)
2. Coal and oil burning and transportation are solely responsible for climate change. (Portugal vs. Poland)

### Guidelines for Debaters

- Research the topic using reliable sources.
- Prepare your arguments – collect facts, statistics, quotes to support your statement.
- Coordinate your statement with your teammates and practise delivering the speeches.
- During the debate DO NOT READ – you should memorize your part. You can use notes but remember debating is about speaking, not reading!

### Guidelines for Audience

- Before the debate, the Audience present their opinion on the topic by a quick vote for or against the statement by raising a hand.
- During the debate, the Audience listen carefully to all the arguments provided.
- After the debate, the Audience vote again on the debate topic using cards in two different colours meaning 'FOR' or 'AGAINST'. The votes are collected and counted.

### Debate winners

- The Audience votes are counted. The team that manages to change more Audience members' opinions becomes the winner.
- If the number of votes 'for' and 'against' is the same before and after the debate, a draw is announced.

### Debate Conduct

1. Greeting and introducing the debating teams by the Debate President
2. Voting on the topic by the Audience
3. Debating – teams take turns presenting their arguments; each debater speaks for 3 minutes. The first speaker of the Proposition team presents the topic to the Audience so he/she is given 2 extra minutes. The 4th speaker sums up the team's argumentations.
4. Final voting by the Audience
5. Counting votes
6. Announcing the debate result by the President
7. Closing the debate

