

The project « Our new European Union » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 "Town-Twinning"

Participation: The project involved 734 citizens, notably 600 participants from the city of Demandice (**Slovakia**), 45 participants from the city of Koprivnicki Ivanec (**Croatia**), 30 participants from the city of Demjen (**Hungary**), 39 participants from the city of Gdow (**Poland**) and 20 participants from NGO PZ Trojchotar (**Slovakia**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Demandice (**Slovakia**), from 28/09/2018 to 30/09/2018.

Short description:

The day of 28/09/2018 was dedicated to support interaction among citizens from all the countries and getting to know each other by presentation of cultural heritage (national dances and songs). National dishes and various costumes were presented, and citizens got enough time for non-formal discussions and dialogues.

The day of 29/09/2018 was dedicated to activities supporting the participation of citizens on European elections in 2019. Political parties active in EP were introduced and the tasks and responsibilities of parliament were introduced as well. In the following activity of the 2nd day we discussed with different generations about their perception of EU in decades (and how is EU changing in times) - the generation of parents and generation of teens were sharing their opinions on EU and its opportunities in traveling, and job opportunities and the quality of life. During the language activities dedicated to children we introduced various EU languages to children and shown them the diversity of EU countries. Children could learn some phrases in foreign languages and gain more information about EU countries. The second day of the event was closed by the presentations of national heritage - history, costumes and traditions. During the 1st day of the event as well as during the 2nd day the moods toward the future of the EU by survey were mapped. Survey asked EU citizens for their perception of being European (how much do you feel like European, challenges of current EU, future of EU). During the first 2 days of the event there was an exhibition of the photos made in different places of the partners' countries presenting national cultural heritage.

The day of 30/09/2018 was dedicated to the presentation of the results from the survey and discussions aimed on future of EU. Citizens could discuss about the results of the survey and then compare them with the results from several EU countries. The trends in EU countries were presented, challenges are formed. The event was closed by the official ceremony with the representatives of the towns where the outputs of the event were presented and ideas for the future cooperation were introduced.

The citizens becoming more familiar with EU topics, getting deeper knowledge, gain skills, or had opportunity to discuss their attitudes. By applying non-formal methods in activities such as presentations, discussions, workshops, sharing of opinions, experiential learning activities participants could better understand introduced topics and could see positive aspects of being members of EU family in a new context. Activities involved more than 700 citizens from 4 EU countries and influenced more than 1000 citizens indirectly.