

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

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "*Networks of Towns*"

Measure 2.3 "*Civil Society Projects*"

Strand 1 – "*European Remembrance*"

Eight events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1:

Participation: The event involved 53 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (2) AUSTRIA : Graz, Vienna
- (15) BELGIUM: Brussels, Liège, Namur, Leuven
- (2) BULGARIA : Sofia
- (9) FRANCE: Lille, Strasbourg, Paris, Rouen
- (3) GERMANY: Augsburg, Berlin
- (2) HUNGARY: Budapest
- (1) LUXEMBOURG: Luxembourg
- (10) ITALY: Pavia, Bologna, Torino
- (8) SPAIN: Valencia, Madrid
- (1) THE NETHERLANDS: Utrecht

Location / Dates: The event took place in Brussels, Belgium , from 9-11 November 2018.

Short description:

The first “We are Europe Academy” has been a training event for civil society activists organised by the Union of European Federalists (UEF) and the European Citizens Action Service (ECAS) with the aim of helping activists from civil society organisations to develop their practical skills – particularly on Citizens Advocacy and Citizens Engagement - to better prepare themselves to be active participants in the ongoing debate on the future of Europe, particularly in run up to the European elections.

The event consisted of 3 Awareness Raising Sessions where critical European issues were presented and discussed with a format contrasting opposing opinions; 3 rounds of Workshops on practical matters (on subjects related to political communication, citizens engagement and grass-root campaigning); practical Projects in small groups to develop and execute a plan applying the learnings from the event to different types of activities for different type of civil society organisations.

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 68 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (10) AUSTRIA: Vienna, Zams, Bad Blumau, Kleinroetz, Boheimkirchen, Tull, Villach, Oberaula, Rum, Jois
- (7) BELGIUM: Brussels, Louvain La Neuve, Hasselt, Rixensart
- (1) BULGARIA: Sofia
- (1) CZECH REPUBLIC: Prague
- (2) DENMARK: Copenhagen, Aarhus
- (7) FRANCE: Chalezeule, Schiltigheim, Rix-Trébief, Cognac, Lille, La Madeleine, Strasbourg,
- (10) GERMANY: Tübingen, Berlin, Amberg, Nurnberg, Dusseldorf, Eschwege, Restatt, Essen, Bonn, Munich
- (1) HUNGARY: Budapest
- (2) IRELAND: Dublin, Portlaoise
- (8) ITALY: Bologna, Pistoia, Pavia, Milano, Roma, Vespolate, Palestrina
- (1) LITHUANIA: Vilnius
- (3) LUXEMBOURG: Munsbach, Uebersyren, Schifflange
- (1)MALTA: Gzira
- (1) ROMANIA: Timisoara
- (5) SPAIN: Cervera, Madrid, Barcelona, A Coruna, Alcalá de Henares
- (2) SWEDEN: Lund, Uppsala
- (3) SWITZERLAND: Zurich, Basel, Lugano
- (2) THE NETHERLANDS: Amsterdam, Maastricht
- (1) UK: Cambridge

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vienna, Austria, on 23 November 2018.

Short description:

The We are Europe Meet-Up in Vienna has been a participatory policy-oriented event conceived to provide civil society activists and members with a space to share main concerns on the current state of Europe, forge a common view on the main challenges facing civil society in Europe and build long-term solid partnerships with like-minded stakeholders.

The programme of the We are Europe Civil Society Meet-Up included:

- The roots, rise and trends of national populisms in Europe and their impact on European integration
- Voices from the grassroots: “Testimonies from pro-European civil society actors operating in politically hostile environments in different countries – sharing best practices”
- Debate focusing on the challenges faced by the civil society in the context of growing populism in Europe : “Countering nationalism by building united Europe, challenges and opportunities”
- A Public debate “Sovereign again trough Europe” Particular focus will be put on how to foster civil society role as an active player in the run up to the European Parliament elections in May 2019 and in the debate on the Future of Europe – countering the nationalist and populist policies.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 72 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (4) AUSTRIA: Graz, Klosterneuburg, Frohnleiten, Vienna
- (5) BELGIUM: Brussels
- (1) CZECH REPUBLIC: Prague
- (1) FINLAND: Rovaniemi
- (3) FRANCE: Rennes, Paris, Mons
- (9) GERMANY: Mainz, Bonn, Dusseldorf, Schwelm, Marburg, Nuremberg, Lueneburg, Hagen
- (35) HUNGARY: Budapest, Budaors, Ertuka
- (10) ITALY: L’Aquila, Cuneo, Roma, Salerno
- (1) POLAND: Wroclaw
- (2) SPAIN: Madrid
- (1) UK: Colchester

Location / Dates: The event took place in Budapest, Hungary from 22 to 23 February 2019.

Short description:

The first We are Europe Citizens' Agora involved civil society actors and political representatives from EU member states in two rounds of public debates with Hungarian political and civil society representatives about the future of Europe in the context of raising populism in Europe, where civil society actors operate in hostile political environments and democracy and rule of law are endangered, especially in member states such as Hungary, followed by a day of workshops with experts to deepen the discussions on the topics .

In addition to debates and seminars, the Agora included a flashmob in a public square in Budapest showing support for a democratic and European future for Hungary

Event 4

Participation: The event involved 107 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (5) BELGIUM: Brussels
- (1) BULGARIA : Sofia
- (4) FRANCE: Lille, Paris, Rix-Trébief
- (1) FINLAND : Espoo
- (4) GERMANY: Friedberg, Iserlohn, Stuttgart, Mainz
- (2) HUNGARY: Budapest
- (2) LUXEMBOURG: Luxembourg
- (4) ITALY: Torino, Pistoia, Cesenatico, Bologna
- (1) MALTA: Gzira

- (79) SPAIN: Madrid, Barcelona, Esplugues, Granollers, Sevilla, Badalona, Sant Cugat, Santa Coloma
- (1) SWITZERLAND: Lugano
- (2) THE NEDERLANDS: Maasland
- (1) UK: Cambridge

Location / Dates: The event took place in Barcelona, Spain on 26 April 2019.

Short description:

The second We are Europe Citizen's Agora took place at ESCI-UPF School of International Studies.

The Agora consisted in two rounds of citizens debates with political, academic and civil society representatives on crucial European topics such as future challenges for democracy in Europe and national and European perspective on the future of Europe debate. Building on a strong coalition of civil society organisation, citizens and network of political stakeholders and regional authorities the Citizens' Agora aimed at encouraging and strengthening European-oriented citizen participation to the European Parliament Elections 2019.

Event 5

Participation: The event involved 184 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (46) BELGIUM: Brussels, Liège, Haaltert, Louvain La Neuve, Antwerpen, Schiltigheim
- (39) FRANCE: Lille, Strasbourg, Lamballe, Lyon, Banneville, Limonest, Behleheim, Scherwiler, Tramoyes, Paris, Nully Sur Seine, Orgenval, Coetmieux, La Madeleine, Rouen, Baziers, Garges, Lavallois, Mignaloux, Rix-Trebief,
- (4) GERMANY: Mannheim, Saarbrücken, Heidelberg, Borsfleth
- (2) LUXEMBOURG: Munsbach, Luxembourg
- (81) ITALY: Pavia, Arzignano, Verona, Zevio, Bassano del Grappa, Bologna, Roma, Firenze, Pistoia, Milano.
- (1) POLAND: Lodz
- (1) SLOVENIA: Ljubljana
- (4) SPAIN: Madrid, Barcelona
- (3) SWITZERLAND: Biersfelden, Zurich, Suhr
- (3) THE NEDERLANDS: Maastricht, Utrecht

Location / Dates: The event took place in Strasbourg, on 1-2 July 2019.

Short description: On the occasion of the opening session of the newly elected European Parliament, the project gathered activists from civil society organisations and citizens to express their expectations to the new Members of the European Parliament. The two days event included:

- We are Europe - Citizens' Agora: at the European Youth Centre, debates and workshops on civil society expectations from the new European Parliament for European relaunch
- 19:00 - 21:00: "A new Parliament for new Europe": New MEPs meet-up at the European Parliamentary Association with activists from civil society organisations and Strasbourg citizens to discuss with ca 25 newly elected MEPs citizens priorities for the new term of the European Parliament.
- Citizens gathering for the new European Parliament

Event 6

Participation: The event involved 58 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (1) AUSTRIA : Aberdeen
- (39) BELGIUM: Brussels, Liege, Namur, Leuve, Genval
- (1) BULGARIA : Sofia
- (5) FRANCE: Lille, Rix-Trebief, Strasbourg, Paris, Blois
- (3) GERMANY: Augburg, Berlin
- (2) HUNGARY: Nagycenk, Budapest
- (1) LUXEMBOURG: Luxembourg
- (2) ITALY: Jerago, Casalgrande
- (2) SPAIN: Cevrea, Madrid
- (1) THE NETHERLANDS: Wassenaar
- (1) UK: Cambridge, London

Location / Dates: The event took place in Brussels, Belgium , from 13 to 14 September 2019.

Short description:

The second “We are Europe Academy” has been a training event for civil society activists) with the aim of helping activists from civil society organisations to develop their practical skills – particularly on Citizens Advocacy and Citizens Engagement - to better prepare themselves to be active participants in the ongoing debate on the future of Europe, particularly in aftermath of the European elections.

The event consisted of two half days. One on the challenges facing the new European Parliament and the new European Commission and the policy expectations of citizens and civil society. One on practical skills for Citizens Advocacy and Citizens Engagement, addressing topics related to citizens' influence on national and European decision-makers.

Event 7

Participation: The event involved 89 citizens, including including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (1) AUSTRIA : Zams
- (11) BELGIUM: Brussels
- (8) BULGARIA : Sofia, Burgas
- (1) DENMARK : Koberhavn
- (1) ESTONIA : Tartu
- (2) FRANCE: Lille, Blois
- (2) GERMANY: Leipzig, Tübingen
- (1) HUNGARY: Budapest
- (4) LATVIA: Riga
- (48) LITHUANIA: Vilnius
- (4) ITALY: Milan, Venafro, Roma, Torino
- (3) SPAIN: Madrid, Valencia
- (1) SWEDEN: Uppsala
- (1) THE NETHERLANDS: Utrecht

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 4-5 October 2019.

Short description:

In this week-end seminar in Vilnius we discussed from various angles the deep connection between advancing European integration and fighting climate change at European and global level. Fighting global warming and climate change is a key challenge for the European Union.

An increasing number of Europeans are deeply concerned about the impacts of climate change and the lack of political consensus to take an action. Green parties in various countries celebrated big gains in European elections amid growing voter concerns over climate change. Nevertheless, the competences, powers and resources of the European Union to act and make a radical change in

Europe and in the world in this field are limited. Building a united, democratic and sovereign Europe and saving the planet are more and more two faces of the same coin, a common challenge and a common mission.

Event 8

Participation: The event involved 45 citizens, including participants from the following cities from the following countries:

- (2) BELGIUM: Brussels
- (34) BULGARIA : Sofia, Gyurov
- (1) GERMANY : Berlin
- (2) FRANCE: Paris
- (1) ITALY: Rome
- (2) POLAND: Poznan
- (2) SPAIN: Barcelona
- North-Macedonia (2)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 8 November 2019.

Short description:

The Citizens Agora in Sofia “Reshaping the Future of Europe” has been a participatory and citizens-oriented public event promoting civil society and citizens engagement within the debate on the Future of Europe and in the context of Western Balkan region. It allowed participants to address crucial topics such as future, challenges of democracy in Europe and in the particular region tackling questions such as what reforms are needed to overcome the democratic deficit and make the European project attractive to citizens again? will Europe be a territory of security and sustainable development for today and future generations?how to increase the EU's moral authority and political weight to take on more global responsibility what are the expectations from the conference on the Future of Europe

