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| Europe for Citizens |  |
| **The project «Practice Solidarityand Shape 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 "C*ivil Society Projects*"  Strand 1 – "*European Rememberance*" | |
| **Seven events have been carried out within this project:**  **Event 1**  **Participation:** The event involved 16 citizens, including 3 participants from HU, 4 from BE, 1 from AT, 1 from CZ, 1 from DE, 1 from DK, 1 from FR, 1 from IT, 1 from RO, 1 from SK, 1 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Brussels, Belgium, from 25/10/2017 to 26/10/2017 **Short description:** The aim of the event was to discuss the various project activities and finalise the project timtable. All project partners were present at the preparatory event where they have fixed the project timetable and discussed the concept of and methodology to be used at the events. Project partners have also met François Theron (Citizenship Unit, DG HOME), Vladimir Sestovic (European Civic Forum), Carlotta Besozzi (Civil Society Europe) and Kristina Toth (European Economic and Social Committee).  **Event 2**  **Participation:** The event involved 133 citizens, including 101 participants from HU, 13 from AT, 1 from CZ, 1 from DE, 1 from DK, 1 from FR, 1 from IT, 1 from RO, 8 from SK, 5 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Budapest, Hungary, from 11/12/2017 to 12/12/2017 **Short description:** The aim of the event “A new opening: the European Solidarity Corps” was to inform local citizens how to get involved in the the European Solidarity Corps programme. The event was divided into a plenary session and later working groups on (1)  solidarity and (2) volunteering both on local and European levels. Participants put everything in action as they were  visiting and volunteering at the Santa Claus Factory, a well-known solidarity project.  **Event 3 Participation:** The event involved 79 citizens, including 3 participants from HU, 4 from AT, 1 from CZ, 1 from DE, 1 from DK, 6 from FR, 54 from IT, 4 from RO, 3 from SK, 2 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Rome, Italy, from 15/02/2018 to 16/02/2018 **Short description:** The aim of the event “More than a declaration: the Commission’s White Paper on the future of Europe” was to discuss the European Commmission’s White Paper on the future of Europe. The background document of the event was the White Paper and its proposed 5 scenarios for the future of Europe. The lively debate went well beyond the paper and focused on how rising populism shape the future of the EU. The plenary session included inputs from Marco Piantini (Councilor for European Affairs of the Italian Prime Minister) and Roberto Santaniello (Representation of the European Commission in Italy). The debate continued in three workinggroups: (WG1) How would you put European values such as solidarity, democracy and human dignity into practice? (WG2) How would you reduce the gap between citizens and the EU institutions? (WG3) How would you increaseparticipation at the upcoming European Parliament 2019 elections? Participants also voted on the 5 scenarios.  **Event 4 Participation:** The event involved 78 citizens, including 2 participants from HU, 4 from AT, 53 from CZ, 2 from DE, 1 from DK, 2 from FR, 1 from IT, 2 from RO, 10 from SK, 1 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Prague, Czech Republic, from 16/05/2018 to 17/05/2018 **Short description:** The aim of the event “An aim and a tool: civil dialogue. A round-table with messages to policy-makers” was to focus on the importance of civil dialogue in the local/regional decision making processes. A good example was presented by Petra Pecková, Mayor of Mnichovice on how the city’s budget can be planned with participatory involvement of local citizens. Participants also expressed the view that Europe and European issues are not easy to discuss in the CZ. The roundtable was moderated by an expert thus involving participants to the discussion.  **Event 5 Participation:** The event involved 75 citizens, including 12 participants from HU, 2 from AT, 10 from CZ, 2 from DE, 1 from DK, 1 from FR, 1 from IT, 2 from RO, 42 from SK, 2 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Bratislava, Slovakia, from 20/09/2018 to 21/09/2018 **Short description:** The aim of the event “It should not be a lost case: the EU institutional reform” was to focus on the current situation after the State of the Union speech of President Juncker. It was overwhelmingly recognized that the EU decision-making process is not easy to understand and follow for an “ordinary citizen”. The work of the Commission and the EP is considered to be much more transparent than that of the Council. The world café method provided plenty of opportunity for participants to put forward proposals  **Event 6 Participation:** The event involved 62 citizens, including 8 participants from HU, 35 from AT, 1 from LT, 2 from CZ, 2 from DE, 1 from DK, 3 from FR, 2 from IT, 2 from RO, 4 from SK, 2 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Vienna, Austria, from 20/11/2018 to 22/11/2018 **Short description:** The aim of the event “A useful instrument: the 2017 EU Citizenship Report” was to show how the EU is influencing concretely our daily lives. The 3 working groups focused on 3 important fields of the report: (a) common values; (b) participation in the democratic life of the EU and (c) simplifying the daily life of citizens. It was not a surprise to learn that the 2017 EU Citizenship Report is an unknown document to citizens even if its various points have direct reference to and impact on their everyday situation. Our event proved to be an extremely useful exercise in this regard.  **Event 7 Participation:** The event involved 78 citizens, including 2 participants from HU, 4 from AT, 2 from CZ, 61 from DE, 1 from DK, 2 from FR, 2 from IT, 1 LT, 2 from RO, 1 from SK, 1 from RS.  **Location / Dates:** The event took place in Berlin, Germany, from 24/01/2019 to 25/01/2019 **Short description:** The aim of the event “The 2019 European Parliamentary elections: a test case for democracy” was to focus on the EP elections giving tips and tricks how to run a campaign. The debate showed that methods to be used capital cities and the countryside should be different. Campaigns in FR, DE on European topics is easier than in DK, CZ, SK or HU. The training also showed tactics how to link local and European topics. The discussion revealed to what extent the European idea could be present and incorporated in a positive manner into the daily activities of a CSO. The pro-European process can greatly be enhanced if the organisation belongs to a European network. | |