

**The project « LYCEUM Local Youngsters Creating European Unique Movements» 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"**

**6 events have been carried out within this project:**

### **Event 1**

**Participation:** The event involved 55 citizens, including 6 participants from the city of Tisno (**Croatia**), 20 participants from the city of Naestved (**Denmark**) 4 participants from the city of Polva (**Estonia**), 2 participants from the city of Kannus (**Finnland**), 3 participants from the city of Hepstedt (**Germany**), 1 participant from the city of Nagycenk (**Hungary**), 4 participants from the city of Kandava (**Latvia**), 4 participants from the city of Zagare (**Lithuania**), 2 participants from the city of Strzyzow (**Poland**), 4 participants from the city of Ibanesti (**Romania**) 4 participants from the city of Medzev (**Slovakia**), 1 participant from the city of Ocklebo (**Sweden**).

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in **Naestved, Denmark**, from 25/04/2019 to 28/04/2019.

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to focus on understanding and combatting the stigmatisation of migrants and minority groups, to learn how to integrate refugees into society; and to promote the citizenship and integration in the EU through discussions, excursions. The main question was how we can all live together and how to turn this situation into an advantage by learning from each other. Thanks to informal learning methods the participants were able to expand their knowledge about the EU and its countries and different cultural and linguistic diversities.

As the title of the event "SOCIAL INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION – The insight of the immigrants' life with the local guide in Denmark" shows, the highlights of the meeting were a knowledge exchange activities - Tours in Naestved guided by immigrants and roundtable with a debate on how to handle lot of "new-comers" in a small society. Talking with immigrants, listening to their stories, spending time with them brought the delegates a real life experience and made them understand each other better and helped to promote solidarity. The aim of the lecture in the school specialised for the students with special needs was to understand all kinds of diversity better.

Through different activities the participants learned about the EU AID Volunteers programme and the Solidarity Corps, expended their knowledge about volunteering in the EU. The presentation about The 2019 European Parliament election helped to emphasize the importance of the European elections and to encourage young people to make their voice heard in rural communities. They had a discussion about rebranding of the European day as Youngsters European Day.

A survey was taken to ask the participants' opinion about the future of Europe and video interviews were made for the Visions of EUtopia.

The Culture Café activity gave an opportunity the delegates to learn about the Danish lifestyle, Danish habits, local legends and gastronomy.

## **Event 2**

**Participation:** The event involved 126 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Lasse (Austria), 4 participants from the city of Bievre (Belgium), 6 participants from the city of Tisno (Croatia), 4 participants from the city of Lefkara (Cyprus), 4 participants from the city of Sary Poddvorov (Czechia), 5 participants from the city of Naestved (Denmark), 30 participants from the city of Polva (Estonia), 3 participants from the city of Kannus (Finland), 4 participants from the city of Cissé (France), 4 participants from the city of Hepstedt (Germany), 5 participants from the city of Nagycenk (Hungary), 4 participants from the city of Cashel (Ireland), 4 participants from the city of Bucine (Italy), 4 participants from the city of Kandava (Latvia), 4 participants from the city of Zagare (Lithuania), 4 participants from the city of Troisvierges (Luxembourg), 4 participants from the city of Nadur (Malta), 4 participants from the city of Strzyzow (Poland), 1 participant from the city of Samuel (Portugal), 4 participants from the city of Ibanesti (Romania), 4 participants from the city of Medzev (Slovakia), 4 participants from the city of Bienvenida (Spain), 5 participants from the city of Ocklebo (Sweden), 4 participants from the city of Esch (The Netherlands), 3 participants from the city of Desborough (UK).

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Polva, Estonia, from 18/07/2019 to 22/07/2019.

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to offer European youngsters a new type of experience of intercultural learning and enable them to see the European Union as an integral part of their own historical, social, cultural and political environment by organising a series of different activities and exchange of experiences about BREXIT. The title was "POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY - Changing borders = Shaping future of EU in Estonia". Through different kinds of activities - such as an online Kahoot game (game-based learning platform) about EU geography or the geography interactive game - The youngsters were empowered to deal with the topic more easily to participate in European debates, to increase intercultural dialogue and to have fun in intercultural environment. They had confrontation exercise to discuss Brexit issues.

In the creative session the delegates designed the logo for LYCEUM project.

We held a Culinary Evening where each country brought their national food and drink specialities and participants could taste delicacies of all the countries. Each municipality presented the cultural identity of their country through their national cuisine as an intercultural dialog.

Participants had a digital orienteering activity in Taevaskoja to find all the hidden treasures in the national park, this activity helped strengthen team cohesion and to deepen the partnership between the participants.

During the 4-days-long event the participants learned basics of Estonian language in the Language Café to foster the importance of European language diversity and enhance the intercultural dialogue.

The youngsters got to know the Estonian lifestyle by staying with host families, taking part in the Open-air Accordion Festival and visiting Tartu and the Estonian National Museum.

All the participants Filled out the survey on Euroscepticism at the rural level and video interviews were taken for the Visions of EUtopia.

### **Event 3**

**Participation:** The event involved 55 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Lasseo (**Austria**), 1 participant from the city of Tisno (**Croatia**), 2 participants from the city of Lefkara (**Cyprus**), 4 participants from the city of Stary Poddvorov (**Czechia**), 5 participants from the city of Naestved (**Denmark**), 1 participant from the city of Cissé (**France**), 20 participants from the city of Hepstedt (**Germany**), 1 participant from the city of Nagycenk (**Hungary**), 4 participants from the city of Bucine (**Italy**), 3 participants from the city of Troisvierges (**Luxembourg**), 4 participants from the city of Nadur (**Malta**), 6 participants from the city of Esch (**The Netherlands**).

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in **Hepstedt, Germany**, from 26/09/2019 to 29/09/2019.

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to identify the main roots of Euroscepticism, learn and debate on the achievements and benefits of the EU.

The title was "REPETITION OF TOMORROWS HISTORY - Tackling the Euroscepticism at local level in small rural communities in Germany".

During the workshop the sources of Euroscepticism were described and the participants discussed the current situation in rural communities. Together in teams they identified tools and mechanisms that could change the point of view and could decrease the level of Euroscepticism at rural level. The participants collected the best practices that could be implemented at a local level in smaller teams to help promote the achievements of the EU.

Immigrants living in the area also took part in the event which led to a real intercultural dialog and helped in challenging the Euroscepticism.

Discussion about the immigration and moving between the EU countries was a good platform to exchange knowledge and practices about the topic.

Participants got a chance to get familiar with the highlights of German language during the interactive lessons with the locals.

The participants stayed with host families instead of hotels so they got a real insight of the German lifestyle, that kind of interaction enabled young Europeans to meet, get to know and respect each other and each other's ways of living better.

Participating in the local Harvest Festival and Parade was an excellent way to deepen their knowledge about the culture and customs of other nations. The trolley tour around the area of Hepstedt was a great outdoor activity combining teambuilding and having fun.

Survey about Euroscepticism at the local level was filled out by all the participants, data of which served as a good basis for the analysis of the current level of the Euroscepticism in local rural communities combined with the data of the other databases, e.g. EUROBAROMETER database.

Visions of EUtopia – How do you imagine the EU in 2050? delegates gave video interviews for the final movie.

Local newspaper visited the event and a press conference was held.

#### **Event 4**

**Participation:** The event involved 57 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Bievre (**Belgium**), 5 participants from the city of Tisno (**Croatia**), 4 participants from the city of Cissé (**France**), 1 participant from the city of Hepstedt (**Germany**), 2 participants from the city of Kolindros (**Greece**), 5 participants from the city of Nagycenk (**Hungary**), 20 participants from the city of Cashel (**Ireland**), 4 participants from the city of Troisvierges (**Luxembourg**), 4 participants from the city of Nadur (**Malta**), 4 participants from the city of Bienvenida (**Spain**), 4 participants from the city of Ocklebo (**Sweden**).

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in **Cashel, Ireland**, from 28/04/2022 to 01/05/2022

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to encourage democratic and civic participation at EU level and increase the level of consciousness about citizens' civic and democratic participations.

The title of this meeting was "Rural Citizenship = Increasing of civic participation in public activities".

The presentation of Public Participation Network which is a citizen-centered solution to under-representation of reduced public representation in Irish Municipalities was awaking activity for the participants to get familiar with the topic.

"I am an active rural citizen!" was the subject of the discussion when the youngsters shared their local problems and possible solutions using exchange of good practices method. Participants learned how to communicate in a multinational environment, active citizenship was promoted in real scenarios, and knowledge exchange and mutual understanding among partners were facilitated.

Through different outdoor activities the youngsters learned about Cashel, the Zero Waste community, they visited the Cashel Recycling Centre, the Cashel playground which is a civic initiation project and most famous landmark – The Rock of Cashel. They explored the city by an interactive treasure hunt game divided into small groups and with the help of the local volunteers they learned more about Ireland's national sport - hurling.

All these outdoor activities were encouraging for the youngsters and good examples of active civic participation and volunteering in local bottom-up initiatives at the local level.

An organised EU Market was the perfect spot where all the delegates presented their countries, municipalities with food and small brochures.

Through the event the delegates got the chance to learn how to play traditional Irish drum and dance traditional Irish dance. Those cultural programmes were real moments of celebrating the cultural diversity and learning more about the Irish heritage.

All the participants filled out the survey on Euroscepticism at the rural level and civic participation and video interviews were taken for the Visions of EUtopia documentary.

## **Event 5**

**Participation:** The event involved 140 citizens, including 4 participants from the city of Lasse (Austria), 4 participants from the city of Bievre (Belgium), 6 participants from the city of Tisno (Croatia), 4 participants from the city of Stary Poddvorov (Czechia), 4 participants from the city of Naestved (Denmark), 4 participants from the city of Polva (Estonia), 4 participants from the city of Cissé (France), 5 participants from the city of Hepstedt (Germany), 5 participants from the city of Nagycenk (Hungary), 4 participants from the city of Cashel (Ireland), 4 participants from the city of Bucine (Italy), 5 participants from the city of Kandava (Latvia), 4 participants from the city of Zagare (Lithuania), 4 participants from the city of Troisvierges (Luxembourg), 4 participants from the city of Nadur (Malta), 6 participants from the city of Strzyzow (Poland), 4 participants from the city of Samuel (Portugal), 4 participants from the city of Ibanesti (Romania), 50 participants from the city of Bienvenida (Spain), 4 participants from the city of Ocklebo (Sweden), 5 participants from the city of Esch (The Netherlands), 2 participants from the city of Desborough (UK).

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Bienvenida, Spain, from 14/07/2022 to 18/07/2022

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to debate on the future of Europe, challenge Euroscepticism and offer European youngsters a new type of intercultural experience and a positive vision on the Future of Europe through different kind of arts.

The title for this event was “INTERACTIVE MODERN ARTS - Creative approach in problems solving – Various aspects and visions of Future in Europe”.

All the countries took part in the “Visions of Future EU through Arts” mini project, an exhibition of artworks and a poetry night were organized in Bienvenida. Through the exhibited drawings, paintings, poems from all over Europe youngsters were able to realize how art is multi-faceted and how it is unique to the individual artists’ style and yet transcends all cultural boundaries in space and time and is truly bonding multicultural language.

During different types of activities (training, interactive workshops, volunteering action) the youngsters learned about teamwork and were forced to overcome their communication barriers and strengthen the tolerance and mutual understanding.

Tell Me Your Story – Are we in danger of immigrants? was the main question during the group discussion and they learned how to reduce stigmatization, prejudice.

The reconstruction of the old European Welcome Park was a great inspiring volunteer action where the youngsters created something long lasting together.

During the Culinary Evening all the participants were able to discover Europe by tasting, each country brought their national food and drink specialities and presented the cultural identity of their country through their national cuisine. How do you imagine the EU in 2050? was the topic of an interactive workshop, the participants were filmed for the Visions of EUtopia documentary.

Survey about Euroscepticism at the local level was filled out by all the participants.

## Event 6

**Participation:** The event involved 70 citizens, including 2 participants from the city of Lasee (**Austria**), 4 participants from the city of Tisno (**Croatia**), 2 participants from the city of Stary Poddvorov (**Czechia**), 2 participants from the city of Naestved (**Denmark**), 2 participants from the city of Polva (**Estonia**), 2 participants from the city of Cissé (**France**), 3 participants from the city of Hepstedt (**Germany**), 4 participants from the city of Nagycenk (**Hungary**), 2 participants from the city of Cashel (**Ireland**), 2 participants from the city of Bucine (**Italy**), 3 participants from the city of Kandava (**Latvia**), 2 participants from the city of Zagare (**Lithuania**), 2 participants from the city of Troisvierges (**Luxembourg**), 2 participants from the city of Nadur (**Malta**), 2 participants from the city of Strzyzow (**Poland**), 2 participants from the city of Samuel (**Portugal**), 2 participants from the city of Ibanesti (**Romania**), 2 participants from the city of Medzev (**Slovakia**), 3 participants from the city of Bienvenida (**Spain**), 21 participants from the city of Ocklebo (**Sweden**), 4 participants from the city of Esch (**The Netherlands**), 2 participants from the city of Desborough (**UK**).

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in **Ockelbo, Sweden** from 25/08/2022 to 28/08/2022

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to define all the results gathered during the project and to summarize all the events and good practices. The title was "LOCAL STATISTICS & EUROPEAN MATHEMATICS - Assessing and evaluating the achievements at local and European level".

To foster intercultural dialog and mutual understanding a round table was held to discuss the Future of Europe in rural area in different aspects: How the technology / immigration / climate change will influence the life in rural Europe in 30 years now?

Visions of EUtopia documentary premiere was held in Ockelbo but also on social media

(<https://fb.watch/qF8SxmGDO5/>), this short movie perfectly summarizes the whole project and shows a beautiful picture about our local youngsters' visions on the Future of Europe.

Through various local activities participants learned how to think outside of the box preparing themselves for the future challenges. They took part in a Puzzle Problem solving Guided Tour - explored Ockelbo and its surroundings. They discussed environmental topics in a relaxed Scandinavian venue during the Environmental Café and played together with the children from the local school and tried to teach them mathematics in empiric and fun way.

The results of the surveys held during the past meetings in the last 4 years were presented.

All together 451 answer sheets from rural youngsters and rural citizens were collected and the answers were analysed and categorised in various fields.

Time Capsule was buried in Ockelbo containing all the project results from the 4-year period. All the participants had a chance to write something for the future Europeans and place a small item representing their country in the time capsule. "Visions of EUtopia" capsule will be opened in 2050. It was a great activity to challenge the participants how to present today's culture, economy, music etc. to the future generations.

Shaping the EU - during an interactive game the participants made a human map of the EU, beautiful drone photos were taken.

Those involved in the project ended up being very positive and open-minded on the EU topics. Together with the already existing umbrella association and the established network, EU values will continue to be promoted and good practices that were mentioned will serve as a positive example to all communities dealing with Euroscepticism. These results were presented in front of the delegates of almost all project partners and locals.

Conclusions and guidelines were formed for the final brochure of the project.

All information regarding the project and Its results can be found at:

<https://www.lyceumproject.eu>

<https://www.facebook.com/CharterofEuropeanRuralCommunities>