

The project « Spoločne sme silnejší = spojenie EU a občanov » 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 980 citizens, notably 800 participants from the town of Dunajský Klátov (**Slovakia**), 45 participants from the town of Csikvánd (**Hungary**), 45 participants from the town of Monorierdő (**Hungary**), 45 participants from the town of Vardarac (**Croatia**), 45 participants from the town of Dobré Pole (**Czech Republic**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Dunajský Klátov (**Slovakia**), from 04/05/2018 to 06/05/2018

Short description:

The day of 04/05/2018 was dedicated to the themes: @BEGINNING, @SOLIDARITY, @WAR, and @THE CLUB. These topics formed the programme blocks of the first day and within them, the participants had the opportunity to meet each other and gain interesting suggestions. In the framework of the @BEGINNING block activities the event was solemnly opened. The project programme was introduced as well as the Europe for Citizens Programme, through which this project was supported. This was followed by the @SOLIDARITY block activities. It was devoted to seniors, as well as the relations between the present nations. Seniors from the partner municipalities and organizations could mutually exchange the experience and knowledge. At the same time within the debate, the representatives of the partners discussed how their countries are addressing the elderly. The block of activities @WAR was dedicated to commemoration of the horrors of the first and second world wars. This project followed a commemoration of the centenary of the WWI termination. An act of piety took place in front of the monument and young people discussed the war and memories with the elderly. Seniors who did not experience the war told stories they had heard from their parents. Evening block of activities @THE CLUB served to convey familiarity between the participants, which was successful.

The day of 05/05/2018 was dedicated to the themes: @NATURE, @EUROPE, @VOLUNTEERING, and @CULTURE. The activities within the block @NATURE focused on the connection of people with nature and environmental protection. The participants get to know the beautiful nature around the arm of the river Small Danube. They visited a traditional floating mill and learned about the symbiosis between men and nature at the local level. In the framework of the activities children met local hunters and learned about the work of volunteer hunters, and about the ways they can contribute to the protection of nature. Activities within the block @EUROPE were devoted to the themes of the European Union. There was also held a lecture about the EU, a quiz, and promotional materials about the EU were also available. These activities helped to spread information about the EU among ordinary citizens. Thanks to them, the citizens of all countries became European citizens in the full meaning of the word. The activities were contracted by the Europe Direct agency. The afternoon was devoted to the theme of @VOLUNTEERING. Volunteering was introduced as activities carried out by volunteers to help others. The young participants familiarized themselves with their options for active involvement and they also got to know the European initiative the European Solidarity Corps. This way they gained the impetus for their own volunteering in the future. The present citizens were also presented local nonprofit organizations dedicated to voluntary activities. Activities of the block @CULTURE were aimed at cultural presentations. The representatives of modern culture presented themselves. These were the performances of singers and musical groups. The evening discoparty was another opportunity for mutual familiarization.

The day of 06/05/2018 was dedicated to the themes: @MIGRATION, @TRADITIONS, @FUTURE, and @THE END. The morning activities brought about the current topic of migration. Within the block of @MIGRATION there was discussed the current phenomenon of migration. Together, the participants searched for solutions to help migrants fleeing from war conflicts. A photo exhibition on the migration crisis of 2015-2018 was a great reminder. This way the project involved in the search for solutions to the current problems. The activities in the block @TRADITIONS focused on handicrafts and culture. The present nations introduced their intangible as well as tangible treasures. These were presented to other nations as well as to younger generations. Thus, folk customs will not be forsaken. The activities under the block @FUTURE OF EUROPE brought not only a discussion with an MEP, but also the effort of partners to ensure that ordinary citizens are more involved in public affairs. The task was to create a debate about the need for citizens to manage self-governments. The success of the debate will turn out in the coming months in different municipalities across the partnership. Last activities summarized in the block @THE END served to evaluate the event. The representatives of the partners took stock of the entire project, underlined the financial assistance from the European Union and officially ended the project.