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Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 *"Networks of Towns"*
Measure 2.3 "C*ivil Society Projects***"**
Strand 1 – "*European Rememberance***"**

Preparatory activitiy: rEUnite progress meeting

Participation: The activity involved representatives of all of the partner entities, **11 participants** in total including:
- 1 participant from the city of Madrid (**Spain),**
- 1 participant from the city of London **(UK),**
- 1 participant from the city of Florence (**Italy**),
- 2 participants from the city of Serres (**Greece**),
- 1 participant from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**),
- 2 participants from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria)**
- 3 participants from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**

Location / Dates: The meeting took place in **Berlin, Germany** from **03/12/2021** to **04/12/2021.**
Short description:
The aim of the preparatory activity was to gather representatives of all partners to have a progress evaluation of the project and the situation (due to the pandemic), exchange ideas and propose improvements for further events. During the first part of the meeting the coordinator presented a midterm report and assessment of the events developed at the moment. The partners discussed about new ideas and proposals to include in further events, this way, the next dates and programmes for the international events were agreed and drafted. Also the tasks of each partner were reviewed, as well as the evaluation, communication and dissemination plans. The second day the partners had the chance to visit the Bundestag to commemorate the anniversary of the German reunification. At the end of the meeting, all partners had clear their tasks and next steps of the project, and improvements were included to reach the objectives and develop the events successfully.

6 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1: "Civil society and civic participation under totalitarian regimes"

Participation: The event involved **55 citizens**, including:
- 41 participants from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**)
- 3 participants from the city of Florence (**Italy**)
- 2 participants from the city of Serres (**Greece**)
- 1 participant from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**
- 3 participants from the city of Madrid (**Spain**)
- 2 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)
- 2 participants from the city of Bucarest (**Romania**)
- 1 participant from the city of Oslo (**Norway)**

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria**, from **24/06/2021** to **25/06/2021**
Short description:
The aim of the event was to join international participants with the local researchers and youth group in Veliko Tarnovo to discuss the "closed" and "open society" funding and the role of the civic actors and agents during the totalitarian regimes. The event started with a historical and cultural visit to the Oblast Government Hall (which was the Oblast Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party), and a history rally hunt focused on discovering places linked to totalitarianism in the country. In the afternoon, a plenary debate and workshops sessions on the topic took place. On the second day, participants went to town of Kilifarevo and visited a Museum of socialist equipment.

Afterwards, participants went to Arbanassi and visited the District Residence of the communist leader Todor Zhivkov and an UNESCO heritage site – the Nativity church. During all the visits and travel, the participants had story telling sessions, based on memories from the totalitarian period. At the end of the event, partners agreed on the fact that EU brought people to democracy and a democratic way of living and citizenship participation.

Event 2: "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on safeguarding Fundamental Rights – constraints and adjustments for the protection of Fundamental Rights"

Participation: The event involved **31 citizens**, including:
- 3 participants from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**)
- 3 participants from the city of Florence (**Italy**)
- 18 participants from the city of Serres (**Greece**)
- 2 participants from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**
- 3 participants from the city of Madrid (**Spain**)
- 1 participant from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)
- 1 participant from the city of London (**UK**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Serres, Greece**, from **15/09/2021** to **16/09/2021**

Short description:

The aim of the event was to celebrate the founding values of the Union that politically formed the European Charter and get knowledge on the historical steps that brought the birth of the EU Charter of Fundamental rights. In this occasion, the topic was adapted to the pandemic situation we were living. The participants were welcome by local and institutional representatives, and some lectures about Active European Citizens and The Right to Work in the European Union. Host partners introduced the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union: Historical background and content in the opening of the round of presentations. Each group of partners contextualised the given topic in their own countries and reflected about the possible conflicts and situations regarding Human Rights during the pandemic. A roundtable group discussion was celebrated in order to stimulate the collective thinking and share views from different European environments. From this point, touristic and cultural visits were made to relevant spots of the city. The second day, two speeches were given regarding fundamental rights with children from minority groups and refugees during the Covid-19 outbreak, and a cultural visit to Monastery of Timios Prodromos took place. During this event, partners were able to share experiences, information, and common problems or good practices through the perspective of Fundamental Rights.

Event 3: Anti-Semitism, Anti-Gypsyism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance: drawing the lessons for today"

Participation: The event involved **86 citizens**, including:
- 52 participants from the city of London (**UK**)
- 10 participants from the city of Madrid (**Spain**)
- 2 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**)
- 3 participants from the city of Nicosia (**Cyprus**)
- 1 participant from the city of Sofia (**Bulgaria**)
- 1 participant from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**)
- 2 participants from the city of Florence (**Italy**)
- 1 participant from the city of Banul (**Gambia**)
- 1 participant from the city of Berlin (**Germany)**
- 1 participant from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**
- 4 participants from the city of Vilna (**Lithuania**)
- 1 participant from the city of Ramallah (**Palestina**)
- 1 participant from the city of Johannesburgo (**Southafrica**)
- 1 participant from the city of Boston (**USA)**
- 1 participant from the city of Mumbai (**India**)
- 1 participant from the city of Nairobiindi (**Kenya**)
- 1 participant from the city of Istambul (**Turkey**)
- 1 participant from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)
- 1 participant from the city of Serres (**Greece**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in **London, UK**, the **24/01/2022** and **05/06/2022**
Short description:
The aim of the event was to share findings about the new challenges to diversity and cohesion in Europe, and discuss the recent attitudes towards the integration of immigrants and refugees, of Roma and minorities. There were addressed issues of European policy as well as hate incidents and group violence at a local level, and there were several workshops related to the topic with the participation of experts. In the "Hate, bias & intolerance: Steps to reunite" workshop, the participants discussed how social media changed the way people communicate and have allowed user to create their own content becoming prosumers. The way some platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok, serve as a media to promote racism and hate was analysed. In "The Spectrum of hate: A positive prevention strategy" workshop the application of restorative justice with hate crime remains was discussed, and in "A voice, a choice, a chance for change" workshop the participants focused on community mediation and hate incidents. The second day participants from the 7 counties partner discussed about the conclusions about the panels from the first day and shared findings about the new challenges to diversity and cohesion in Europe. A panel of Introduction to Restorative Justice & complex cases including hate crime was presented by the director of the entity, and there was a local project panel to get to know some local projects (Interactive Restorative Justice Hub) and discuss about activities of community cohesion. It was a great opportunity for the partners to reflect together on the existing politics of diversity in Europe and how they influence the citizens and minorities in a practical way.

Event 4: **"Treaty of Rome and the beginning of European Economic Community"**

Participation: The event involved **26 citizens**, including:
- 4 participants from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**)
- 12 participants from the city of Florence (**Italy**)
- 3 participants from the city of Serres (**Greece**)
- 1 participant from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**
- 2 participants from the city of Madrid (**Spain**)
- 2 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)
- 2 participants from the city of London (**UK**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Florence, Italy**, from **25/03/2022** to **26/03/2022**
Short description:
The event concerns the beginning of the EU integration process, and aims to achieve a better understanding of the EU and its values, and appreciate its history and cultural diversity. It started with a presentation of the participants and warm-up activities to know each other and start creating boundaries. There was a workshop of "The origin of the European Union, what we can learn", and the participants shared their knowledge about the European Union and its origin. On the second day of the event, international and local participants took part in the workshop "Reshape the European Map", using cartograhy to explore European values and its current status. The youngsters also went to a cultural visit around the city focused in the most important Florentine women along the History. At the end of the event, partners agreed on the fact that EU brought people values and rights such equality, freedom, human dignity, democracy, and the rule of Law, but still, governments and citizens have to work on them to ensure their guarantee in the whole EU.

Event 5: **"The Founding Scheme of the European Integration – the Declaration of Robert Schuman"**

Participation: The event involved **30 citizens**, including:
- 18 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)
- 2 participants from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**)
- 2 participants from the city of Florence (**Italy**)
- 2 participants from the city of Serres (**Greece**)
- 2 participants from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**
- 2 participants from the city of Madrid (**Spain**)
- 2 participants from the city of London (**UK**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Warsaw, Poland**, from **6/05/2022** to **7/05/2022**
Short description:
The aim of the event was to commemorate the first steps of European integration, specially identifying the Robert Schuman Declaration as a remarkable milestone for the EU. The participants of the event took part in the Polish Robert Schuman - Celebration of the Day of Europe in the centre of Warsaw, with other youngsters and associations of the city. Some games and educational activities concerning European integration were developed,

and the national teams of each country had the opportunity to present how the Schuman Declaration was perceived in their countries, thus the participants could exchange experiences and history of their countries. Also, an interactive activity called "All roads lead to… Brussels" were the participants "took a trip" around the EU Member States was developed. They were presented with questions about countries and small tasks that involved discovering as much as they could about EU policies. At the end of the event the participants managed to discover a lot of information about the countries belonging to the EU and European institutions.

Event 6: "«Democratic transition and accession to the European Union "Where does Europe end""

Participation: The event involved **27 citizens**, including:
- 13 participants from the city of Madrid (**Spain**)
- 4 participants from the city of Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**)
- 2 participants from the city of Florence (**Italy**)
- 2 participants from the city of Serres (**Greece**)
- 2 participants from the city of Suhl (**Germany)**
- 1 participant from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)
- 1 participant from the city of London (**UK**)
- 1 participant from the city of Bogotá (**Colombia**)
- 1 participant from the city of Kiev (**Ukrania**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Madrid, Spain**, from **15/09/2022** to **16/09/2022**
Short description:
The aim of the event was to debate specific aspects of the EU enlargement, its effects on the EU & non EU citizens in their everyday life, personal & community development. The event had several activities planned both to work on the topic and to generate a good working environment and promote cultural and knowledge exchange. The first day there was a "What do you know about EU?" Kahoot test as introduction, and presentations of the different partners on how the entrance in the EU influenced each country. The second day the participants shared concerns on some common issues regarding the EU, rights and new crisis. There was a lecture about the new challenges in the EU including environment, human rights and migration, and youth, and the participants were involved in different activities to discuss on futures steps and proposals for change. Some interesting topics and conclusions arose during these activities. At the end of the event there was a tour in groups though Madrid with different tasks for the participants to solve and learn about the city. As the last event of the project, it was a very emotional and productive event. There was a very good atmosphere and some interesting and inspiring conclusions and proposals were collected to be sent to the European institutions.