

The project « Y4EU - Youth For Europe » 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 310 citizens, notably 117 participants from the Municipality of Messini 39 participants from the St. Julian's Local Council and the city of St. Julian's (Malta), 37 participants from the city of Sorano (Italy), 40 participants from the Lighthouse Languages Association (Italy), 41 participants from the city of Panevėžys (Lithuania), 36 participants from the city of Felsőzsolca (Hungary).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Messini (Greece), from 12/05/2022 to 16/05/2022

Short description:

The Multilateral Meeting focused on the discussion and the sharing of best practices about the Social Engagement of Youth. The meeting started on 12th of May 2022: the first day was dedicated to the arrivals of delegations in Messini (EL), and to the selection of best practices and relevant projects from local social and solidal associations, SE, youth workers, public administrations. Then, the participants proceeded with the registration to the Meeting.

On the second day, the 13th of May 2022, the delegates were welcomed by the Mayor of Messini George Athanasopoulos, and to the presentation and the description of each Partner Organization: the partners explained the territorial features, the social and urban characteristics of each area of interest. This activity, led by the Project Leader, was useful to the team-building purpose since it permitted to the partners to know each other. Then, the Multilateral Meeting program was presented. At the end of the second day, the delegates had the possibility to visit the city of Messini. Later, a cultural guided visit of Ancient Messini followed, with the explanation of the history and ancient architecture of the territory.

The day 14/05/22 was dedicated to the first seminar, with the following themes: the Europe for Citizens Programme, and the new CERV Programme and its strands and the EU Youth Strategy. Then, the delegates shared their best practices during the conference on the social involvement of youth and a debate on EU policies perceived at local level followed. After the conclusion of the conference, the delegations had the possibility to discover some local traditions: firstly, the coordination group involved the delegates in a local pottery workshop, during which the delegates had the possibility to make their own pieces, and then an intercultural lunch followed, in which delegates brought a traditional dish from each country involved. In the afternoon, the delegates visited the local museum and a traditional dinner followed.

On the 15th of May 2022, there was a debate on the possible future actions on Social Youth engagement by each delegation: every country explained the problems they face in this field, and all the participants contributed to find new solutions, the delegates had the possibility to get in touch with the representatives of the local associations. The sharing of results and the Signature of the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement followed. Then, the delegations had the possibility to enjoy a typical lunch, with the explanation of typical products of the region. In the afternoon, the delegations had the chance to visit the beaches and discovered the natural features of the land.

On the 16 of May 2022, the Mayor greeted the delegates, with a speech on the Official Conclusion of the meeting. Then, the delegations departed from Messini.