

The project « You Are Not Alone In 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 980 citizens, notably 800 participants from the city of Letovice (**Czech Republic**), 50 participants from the city of Veľké Vozokany (**Slovakia**), 30 participants from the city of Kirchlinteln (**Germany**), 50 participants from the city of Chelmno (**Poland**), 50 participants from the city of Kőbánya (**Hungary**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Letovice (**Czech Republic**), from 09/11/2017 to 11/11/2017

Short description:

The day of 09/11/2017 was dedicated to mutual familiarisation. The Column of Partnership became the symbol of connection. The column represented the connection of the partner towns through its symbols and became a reminder of the partnership for the future. The production of the column symbolically linked the participants and the towns represented by them. This was preceded by cognitive activities. Upon arrival, the foreign guests set off to get to know the home town and its surroundings. They visited the castle, cultural monuments, walked through the streets of the town, gaining a better overview of the home town and the life in it. In the afternoon, young and senior participants and volunteers got to know each other. First, young people joined the topic. Within the framework of the activity Volunteering and Solidarity they got to know these two pillars of civil society. They got to know what it is like to be a volunteer, and how they can become volunteers themselves. At the same time, the new European Union initiative - the European Solidarity Corps was introduced to young people. Volunteering was also the focus of the joint discussion of senior citizens and elderly people. This was a talk about volunteer activities for seniors. Within the activity, the seniors got to know each other and exchanged experiences. At 4 p.m. the official opening ceremony of the project took place. In the frame of the opening, the program and the financial support from the European Commission was presented. At the same time, welcome was made in the five languages of the partnership. It was followed by the above mentioned creation of the partnership pillar. In the evening, a concert of brass bands from the twin towns and free program followed. Here there was an opportunity to familiarise and form new friendships among the participants.

The day of 10/11/2017 was dedicated to the issue of the European Union of yesterday and today. In the morning, participants recalled a milestone in the history of the EU - 60 years of the EU / EEC. This milestone was the subject of a lecture where participants learned about the history of the EU in a nutshell. Recalling this important milestone meant for many participants learning about new things that they have not yet known. Another activity was the discussion with young people about young people in Europe. It was basically an offer of opportunities provided by the European Union to study or work abroad, to travel, to explore countries. Another interesting activity was the presentation of the movie about migrants entitled "Fugitive". The young author, Tomáš Kratochvíl, travelled with migrants from Turkey to the EU voluntarily and made a documentary film on the way. Mr. Kratochvíl came to present to young people during the project personally. The purpose was to make them understand that migration is not just what is said on TV and written on social networks. In the afternoon, artists from 5 partner towns met and jointly formed and practiced a program for the final day's performance. This was an unusual form of connection of the participants. At the same time, social activities for all generations took place. The evening was devoted to music and singers from the partner municipalities. Again, here was an opportunity for a better acquaintance.

The day of 11/11/2017 was dedicated to the colours of Europe. It was a symbolic reference to Europe's multiculturalism, the multi-genre character of the presented music and culture, but that of the views, too. In the morning, young participants from Poland visited local old and handicapped citizens and presented them with their culture. This was followed by a meeting at the Town Hall. Representatives of the towns and several active citizens debated further cooperation, opportunities for involving artists, youngsters, athletes in a closer partnership. The conclusions of the talks have become the basis for further debates between the partners. The afternoon was devoted to culture. All the singers and musical ensembles present performed. Through joint performances, they successfully completed the project. In the frame of the final activities, memorial items and leaflets with basic phrases in the languages of the partners were distributed.