

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

⚠ Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	Municipality of Ňárad - Ňárad
PIC number:	920409042
Project name and acronym:	Shaping the EU Future Together – Ňárad 2024, Ňárad 2024

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	101143286		
Event name:	Shaping the EU Future Together – Ňárad 2024, Ňárad 2024		
Type:	Opening ceremony, Official meeting for mayors and representatives of partner cities, presentations, debates, discussions, question & answer sessions stand of volunteers, survey, social and cultural activities, final conference		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Slovakia, Ňárad		
Date(s):	18/07/2024 – 21/07/2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://obecnarad.sk/?lang=sk		
Participants			
Female:	264		
Male:	241		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Hungary]:	200		
From country 2 [Serbia]:	45		
From country 3 [Romania]:	30		
From country 3 [Slovakia]:	230		
Total number of participants:	505	From total number of countries:	4
Description			
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.			
Project "Shaping the EU Future Together – Ňárad 2024" represented a continuation of cooperation between municipalities in order to build a long tradition in jointly addressing topical issues of the EU. This year our project had been focused on the promotion of solidarity between citizens of different			

countries, cultures, backgrounds; promotion of active engagement of the EU citizens in the EU policy-making process; developing opportunities for mutual understanding, intercultural learning, solidarity, societal engagement and volunteering at EU level. Through various activities the participants had been actively involved into discussions about the Europe they want, the future of the EU integration. We mainly focused on current problems such as climate change, migration, trade policy, democratic values. We looked for the ways how to foster a sense of belonging to Europe, to understand the benefits of the EU, to reinforce the EU's social and political cohesion. Through the project we wanted to express the need for intercultural dialogue and solidarity within the society, to introduce European Solidarity Corps as an expression of conscious and active EU citizenship among young people. Through the project implementation we could create the space for discussions about volunteering, solidarity, opinions on migrants and the active task of young people. We also touched on the topic of war in Ukraine, refugees, emigrants, the need of solidarity with the Ukraine and the need of cohesion between the Member States. Notable time had been devoted to dissimilar campaigns of politicians which are attacking fundamental principles of solidarity, unity and democracy in EU. We emphasized pro-European values and strengthen active perception Union Membership at the general public. Citizens of EU had been encouraged in active participation on EU affairs by strengthening the principles of democracy, openness and active cooperation with the local authorities, to promote solidarity, cohesiveness, respect based on different cultural principles. The main goal was to foster European citizenship, to encourage democratic participation of citizens at EU level, to support their participation in the EU policy-making process, developing opportunities for mutual understanding, intercultural learning, solidarity, societal engagement and volunteering at EU level.

For participants were prepared interesting, educational, inspiring and entertainment activities.

On 18/07/2024 was prepared below mentioned programme:

11:00 The official opening of the event - mayors, representatives of partners and citizens had been welcomed. The program of the event was presented. The history of cooperation, project and its aims had been introduced.

13:00 Official meeting for mayors and representatives of partner cities on the theme: "Financial Management of European Resources". This activity was prepared for mayors and representatives of partner cities and included presentation of methodological approaches to the EU revenue management - defining needs, types of projects, financing options, timing, personal security. Gaining financial resources, sharing good practice examples such as managing finances and EU resources so that the financial stability of municipalities was preserved and resources was used to max. efficiency.

15:00 Cultural afternoon:

Presentation of national cultures - habits, traditions, views on current position in the EU and ideas about the future position in the EU. Presentation by partners' folklore groups, a performance by the dance and singing groups - a thematic performance by each partner - presentation of customs, traditions, formal and informal discussions involving all age groups to active participation on the program, presentation of cultural heritage. This activity was focused on fostering a sense of unity and promoting the idea that EU membership is about more than just politics and economics as well as raising awareness of the positives of EU membership.

On 19/07/2024 could participants join:

- communal breakfast,
- evaluation of Thursday's programme,
- all day trip which include:

- visiting Hungarian town Komárom - visiting Csillag fortress with professional guide;
- communal lunch next to fortress;
- visiting Slovak town Komárno - visiting the fortress on the Slovak side with professional guide;
- visiting the European Court in Komárno;
- visiting the Water Mill and the unique "Bridge in Europe" in municipality of Kolárovo

Through these activities could participants gain raising acknowledge about common European roots, cultures, traditions and customs of the peoples living in the EU, indicating the importance of respecting the diversity of the peoples living in the same Union, enhancing mutual understanding between European citizens, fostering intercultural dialogue, value of cultural heritage for society, its economic contribution (to the quality of life, social cohesion and intercultural dialogue), its role in European cultural diplomacy, the importance of its preservation for next generation.

19:00 Presentation by a former MEP Jozef Nagy and Pál Csáky on the theme: "The need of solidarity and cohesion especially in the time of crises" connected with Discussion: "How to improve existing solidarity channels". The importance of this activity consisted in promoting cooperation, mutual support and shared responsibility among member states and citizens. Participants got knowledge and realised that the EU member states face common challenges such as climate change, migration, economic and financial crises, security threats and solidarity mechanisms help to address these challenges collectively, rather than each country having to face them alone. Solidarity mechanisms help to ensure that the benefits and risks of interconnection of the EU member states are shared fairly

and that all member states can benefit from the EU's internal market and other policies. Solidarity mechanisms help to support the development of regions that are lagging behind and to ensure that all citizens can benefit from EU policies and programs. Solidarity between EU member states help to foster a sense of common identity and purpose among citizens, based on shared values such as democracy, rule of law, and respect for human rights. This helps to promote a sense of belonging and attachment to the EU, which is important for the sustainability and legitimacy of the European project.

On 20/07/2024 took place:

- communal breakfast
- visiting the local craft market in Nárad,
- **in the afternoon:**
 - the series of debates, discussions, question & answer sessions on the theme: „**A Vision for the EU's Future**„, focused on the presentations the opinions, views, ideas, suggestion how should the EU future develop – the key issues that are likely to shape the future of the EU: climate change, migration, trade policy, democratic values,
 - traditional performance of folklore associations, lecture on the traditions of our area,
 - lecture by Tamás Frei - the world and the EU,
 - communal dinner
 - evaluation of the previous day results

These activities had been focused on developing a stronger sense of ownership of the European project, to build a momentum for their active democratic participation. Participants had been encouraged to actively participate in the democratic life at the EU level and foster a sense of ownership for how the Union develops, how their visions of the EU future could come true.

On 21/07/2024 was for participants prepared:

- communal breakfast,
- 10:00 Saint mass
- 13:00 Final conference** associated with recovery of event, survey results', presentation and understanding of addressed issues.

All day activities:

Information stand on the theme:

- „Volunteering“ as one of the solidarity mechanism inside the EU - presentation of an active form of volunteering at local level, community development, discussion of positive aspects of volunteering (skills, experiences, including language skills, opportunities to engage in volunteering at local level as well as at European level
- "European Corps of Solidarity" as a one of the tools how to put the core EU value of solidarity into practice.

Young participants got knowledge of positive aspects, benefits, experiences and possibilities of voluntarism, to increase the interest in volunteering especially in younger generation. They got a different view on volunteering activities: the tool for raising level of competencies related to the labour market and the way of development of the communities.

Activity included a list of actions (such as cleaning public areas, delivering lunches to the disabled, homeless, etc.) for new volunteers.

Survey focused on finding out the attitudes of the participants on the theme: What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?". The survey maps opinions, attitudes of participants. It will be possible to compare the results of member states and associated countries (participants choose country)

The survey will also help to find out what problems EU citizens consider the most serious and, based on that, to determine the topic of the future project. We will also have the opportunity to compare the change in the perception of the given issue compared to the results of the survey conducted by the European Barometer in 2023.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).