

The project « Europska unia – miesto, kde zijeme » 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 1 578 citizens, notably 1 400 participants from the city of Dolny Stal (**Slovakia**), 75 participants from the city of Biatorbágy (**Hungary**), 38 participants from the city of Šupljak (**Serbia**), 35 participants from the city of Csíkpálfalva (**Romania**) and 30 representatives of NGO Drustvo Mladih Doborvnik (**Slovenia**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Dolny Stal, Slovakia, from 27/07/2018 to 29/07/2018

Short description:

The day of 27/07/2018 was dedicated to national cultural heritage, its forms and to the practical activities, where participants could get experience with typical national crafts of participating countries. The topic of cultural heritage was opened by workshops presenting tangible heritage of partner countries, and know-how of the manufacturing. At the same time detailed information about the history of production was presented. During the following activity the representatives of participating countries gained experience, information and motivation on how to support the locals in business – crafts manufacturing, agriculture, tourism and promote the local cultural heritage. Later on we presented the mix of cultures and its heritage by dances, songs and presentation of traditions. In non-formal atmosphere participants could talk and discuss about differences and common issues as well and getting knew each other better. During this first day of the event we started with the collection of short reports (survey) from the event mapping the opinions of the participants on the future of the EU and their fairs related to the upcoming years. During the whole day there was a panel presentation focusing on the milestones of the EU history and its relevance to the participating countries. Panels represented big "steps" in EU history and forecast of the future of EU.

The day of 28/07/2018 was dedicated to the future of the European Union, reflecting the history and its important moments from the EU history that are the foundation. The second day was kicked off by an activity dedicated to the small Europeans when they were discovering European Union by national fairy tales introducing national customs, culture and behaviors, thus the audience got in touch and got first interaction with different nations. The program continued by discussion with the political scientist László Öllös about the presence and the future of the EU. This part was supported by presentation of the opinions of citizens collected during the first day of the event – where they shared their opinions about the fairs and positives of the EU future. Following activity supported an active participation of the citizens on local life, how local life can be changed by the project and initiatives of citizens, and how the environment and the local life development can be changed. The program of the second day was ended by presentation of the national cultural heritage – where the different cultures are presented at the one event.

The day of 29/07/2018 was dedicated to planning of the future cooperation of the participating towns and to the non-formal discussions about the past event and about the volunteering activities supported by EU e.g. European Solidarity Corps. During the day representatives of the partners were discussing on how to strengthen the cooperation, what ideas could be developed in the projects of common cooperation. During the "Cultural Café" activity, citizens had opportunity to share experience about volunteering, information about European Solidarity Corps. The whole event was ended by official ceremony with the representatives of the towns and citizens.