

The project «A New Narrative for Europe: Bringing more Union into the European Union» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

**Applicable to the Strand 2
Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"**

6 events have been carried out within this project, in addition to the preparatory activity as follows:

Event 0 (Preparatory Activity)

Participation: There were 6 participants in this event: 2 representatives of the Romanian Center for European Policies (**Romania**), 1 representative of the National University for Political Studies and Public Administration (**Romania**), 1 representative of the Institute for European Politics (**Germany**), 1 representative of Risk Monitor (**Bulgaria**) and 1 representative of Inter Alia (**Greece**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in **Athens, Greece**, on 15/10/2018.

Short description: The purpose of the Preparatory Activity was to ensure that all partners involved share a good understanding of the project goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline. The event provided the consortium members with the opportunity to raise any questions and to make all necessary clarifications and it was also an opportunity to help members identify any current and potential problems.

More specifically, this preparatory activity included the following:

- A detailed presentation of the project partners and of their roles and level of involvement in the activities of the project;
- A presentation of each activity of the project with inputs from partners related to: discussions concerning the activities and their implementation, deliverables, timetable, division of tasks and responsibilities, methodological plan, coordination and research;
- A presentation and discussion related to administrative and financial issues: narrative and financial reporting, supporting documents, budget etc.

In addition, the project partners took the opportunity to outline a clear communication and dissemination plan, based on a proposed timeline, and also to provide potential solutions to any hindrance that may occur during the implementation of the project.

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 173 citizens, including 162 participants from **Romania** and 11 foreign citizens, as follows: 1 participant from **Lithuania**, 4 participants from **Germany**, 1 participant from **Bulgaria**, 1 participant from **Poland**, 1 participant from **Hungary**, 1 participant from **Czech Republic**, 1 participant from **Greece** and 1 participant from **Austria**.

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Bucharest, Romania**, on 23/11/2018.

Short description: The event "Democratic Challenges in the European Union and the Role of Civic

Engagement” aimed at understanding the ways in which the recent civic movements happening across the continent can re-launch and support a wider participation in the European elections of May 2019 and contribute to the scenarios concerning the future of the European Union.

The event brought together representatives of the civic groups, NGOs, students, youth activists, diplomats and journalists. They took the opportunity to discuss about solutions to the challenges faced by the EU, how democracy and EU values can and must be defended through civic actions, protests, disclosures, press inquiries and so on. The event included two key panels – one on the democratic challenges in a post European elections and a second panel on the pro EU civic movements in Romania and the role of these movements in supporting the European values.

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 111 citizens, including 101 participants from **Romania** and 10 foreign citizens, as follows: 1 participant from **Belgium**, 2 participants from **Poland**, 1 participant from **Germany**, 2 participants from **Hungary**, 1 participant from **France**, 2 participants from **Austria** and 1 participant from the **UK**.

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Bucharest, Romania**, on 12/04/2019.

Short description: The event entitled “Can civic engagement shape the outcome of the European elections?” focused on debating the way in which civic actions, street protests or civil society initiatives could positively influence the turnout during the European elections of May 2019. The event was organized in an Agora format bringing together EP candidates from all Romanian political parties, together with representatives of newly emerged parties from Hungary or Poland. Together with activists and representatives of civic movements from CEE countries, students, civic activists, journalists, representatives of NGOs and academia, they debated what are the expectations of the young generations from the political parties, what is their view on the future of the European Union and why have younger people become more reluctant in joining traditional forms of political participation and choose to join civic movements.

The event was organized in the framework of EUROSAT forum, the largest forum on European affairs in Romania.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 92 citizens, including 85 participants from **Bulgaria** and 7 foreign citizens, as follows: 1 participant from **Poland**, 1 participant from **Spain**, 1 participant from **Italy**, 1 participant from **France** and 3 participants from **Greece**.

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Sofia, Bulgaria** at the **New Bulgarian University**, on 27/03/2019.

Short description: The event entitled “Europe to Parliamentary Elections: Perspectives, Risks, Russian Propaganda” aimed at debating the future of Europe and some of the most pressing challenges faced by the Union before the elections: populism, the rise of extremist movements or Russian propaganda.

These topics were discussed in three separate panels in the framework of the event: i) Prospects and risks for the EU; ii) Euroscepticism: Information and disinformation in the European Union; iii) Europe of nation-states in global context. The event was attended by a high number of students, NGOs, academia, diplomats, researchers or civic activists.

Event 4

Participation: The event involved 48 citizens, including 36 participants from **Germany** and also 12 foreign citizens as follows: 1 participant from **Romania**, 1 participant from **Denmark**, 1 participant from **Finland**, 1 participant from **Italy**, 1 participant from **Bulgaria**, 1 participant from **UK**, 1 participant from **Poland**, 1 participant from **Greece** and 4 participants from **Belgium**.

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Berlin, Germany**, on 12/09/2019.

Short description: The event entitled “The End of the EU as We Know It? Street Protests and European Politics” aimed at discussing the impact and role of civic activism during the May 2019 elections, coupled with the expectations of these movements for the future of the EU. Social movements are on a constant change, becoming more and more informal and, with the help of social media, can attract large crowds of people with same interests that are able to create momentum and become actors of change.

The discussions also underlined the fact that civic movements (such as Fridays for Future) have an important potential to mobilize people, especially young Europeans, not only in Germany, but across the continent, becoming transnational movements. This will also impact the relation between the civic movements and the political spectrum and, as we have seen recently, pro environmental movements were able to capitalize support in most of EU countries.

Event 5

Participation: The event involved 103 citizens, including 72 participants from **Greece** and 31 foreign citizens, as follows: 10 participants from the city of Palermo (**Italy**), 3 participants from the city of Sofia (**Bulgaria**), 5 participants from the city of Paris (**France**), 2 participants from the city of Leipzig (**Germany**), 1 participant from the city of Bucharest (**Romania**), 5 participants from various cities from the **UK**, and 5 participants from the city of Valencia (**Spain**). Along with the participants from EU countries, the event was open to the migrant communities in Athens, involving participants from: Albania, Sudan, Afghanistan, Tanzania, Pakistan, Kenya, Ghana, Georgia, Egypt, Senegal, India, Somalia, Moldova, Zambia, Nigeria, Syria and the USA.

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Athens, Greece**, from 17/09/2019 to 28/09/2019.

Short description: The event entitled “Right to vote – perspectives and responsibilities” aimed to review together the protest movements of the recent past in Greece and the EU and to look forward on what would be the requests of the civic movements in the future. The event raised awareness on the various means of protest and civic activism – what is the role and what impact do local NGOs, academia or civil society fighting for the rights of migrants are having.

The event brought the views on the future of Europe also from the perspective of third country nationals that are directly impacted by the decisions taken at EU level. The event put forward ideas and recommendations that were supported and drafted by the representatives of the migrant communities in Greece who focused on a better access in the social-economical-political life, but also facilitating their access to the electoral process and having a constant dialogue with the relevant national and European stakeholders.

Event 6

Participation: The event involved 78 citizens, including 68 participants from **Romania** and 10 foreigners as follows: 3 participants from **Germany**, 1 participant from **Greece**, 2 participants from **Italy**, 2 participants from **Bulgaria**, 1 participant from **Belgium**, and 1 participant from **the Netherlands**.

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Bucharest, Romania**, from 04/10/2019 to 05/10/2019.

Short description: “Bringing more union into the European Union – the cost of non EU” was a cross-country event on street protests and civic mobilization. The aim of the event was to bring together Romanian and foreign experts and representatives of the civil society in order to discuss about the most recent trends and various forms of civic mobilization, as well as their impact on the future of Europe. The event addressed mainly the recent civic unrest in Europe, analyzing the roots and bringing together the most active citizens and civic groups involved in the recent movements.

The overall aim of the event was to demonstrate that the European project can move forward and respond to Euroscepticism and other challenges in an effective manner. The event engaged young activists from different EU countries together with representatives of the civic groups, NGOs, students and experts in a democratic exchange of ideas.