

The project «TEIN4citizens – Engaging civil society in cross-border regions for the future of Europe » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

**Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "*Networks of Towns*"
Measure 2.3 "*Civil Society Projects*"
Strand 1 – "*European Remembrance*"**

5 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 96 citizens, including 59 participants from Northern Ireland (United Kingdom), 25 participants from the Republic of Ireland, 8 participants from Austria, 1 participant each from France, Czech Republic and Germany.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Belfast (United Kingdom), on the 11/03/2019

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss what it means to be an EU citizen. Against the background of the Brexit negotiations, that were ongoing at the time of the conference, the focus was on the role of European institutions as guarantors for the protection of human and civic rights, which have underpinned European values and peacebuilding in Ireland and other European conflict regions.

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 231 citizens, including 120 participants from Austria, 90 participants from Slovenia, 4 participants from Italy, 1 each Germany, Croatia, Estonia, Romania, France, Ireland, Serbia and Slovakia as well as 2 participants from Hungary, 2 participants from Russia and 5 participants from other non-European countries.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Klagenfurt (Austria) and Ljubljana (Slovenia), on the 03/10/2019

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss the integration of old and new minorities in Europe. The question was how the claims and needs of 'old' minorities (i.e. the Slovene-speaking minority in Carinthia) and 'new' minority groupings (i.e. immigrants and refugees) can be reconciled in the context of maintaining European unity in diversity. In this respect, the relevance of identities for border regions in today's European Union played an important role in the debates.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 105 citizens, including 84 participants from Poland, 8 participants from Czech Republic, 3 participants from Spain, 2 participants from France, 2 participants from Germany, 1 participant each from the United Kingdom, Portugal, Albania, Kosovo, Hungary and Ukraine.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Cieszyn/Český Těšín a twin city at the border between Poland and the Czech Republic on the 05/03/2020.

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss the engagement of the civil society in twin cities. Aspects like cross-border identity and the opportunities that cross-border regions and twin cities have to offer played an important role. In the debate on the ideas for the future civic engagement in the EU, challenges associated with cross-border cooperation projects involving civil society were also considered.

Event 4

This event was held online in the form of three webinars dedicated to different aspects of multilingualism and identity in 21st century Europe.

Participation: Altogether, the event involved 110 citizens, including 84 participants from Spain, 12 participants from France, 2 participants from Andorra, 3 participants from Austria, 3 participants from the United Kingdom, as well as 1 participant each from the Netherlands, Italy and China.

Location / Dates: Organised by the University of Girona (Spain), the event took place online on the 9th, 11th and 18th of March 2021.

Short description: The aim of the event was to reflect on identities in 21st century Europe and the role of languages and multilingualism in shaping these identities. The debates focused on the question how the linguistic diversity as well as linguistic and cultural rights can be protected and fostered in the future in Europe.

Event 5

This event was held online in the form of 8 webinars and an online round table discussion dedicated to borders in Europe, especially concerning mobility, environment, culture and multilingualism.

Participation: Overall, the event involved 136 citizens, including 54 participants from France, 42 participants from Germany, 8 participants from Austria, 4 participants from Poland, 3 participants from Bulgaria, 3 participants from Belgium, 2 participants from the United Kingdom, and 1 participant each from Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain and Ukraine as well as 12 participants from non-European countries.

Location / Dates: Organised by the Euro-Institut (Kehl, Germany) and the Sciences PO de Strasbourg (France), the event took place online from the 13/04/2021 to 16/04/2021 and on the 22/04/2021.

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss with citizens from the German-French and other cross-border regions the ideas they have for the future of Europe and cross-border cooperation. The focus was on mobility, identity, culture, multilingualism and environment.

In addition, 2 student projects were conducted.

During a digital story-telling project, 58 students captured and discussed views and voices of citizens and non-citizens on borders as well as (re)bordering processes in Europe.

Another group of 28 students worked on current EU topics such as EU environmental policy, the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on the mobility and regional identities.

Finally, 5 online surveys were elaborated:

The from the events resulting ideas and recommendations were shared with citizens all across Europe by means of online surveys which allowed even more citizens to express their opinions and wishes for future policy making at regional, national and European level. 772 citizens from 25 European countries answered the online surveys in order to express their views on the topics:

- Human and civic rights in Europe
- Integration of 'old' and 'new' minorities
- Engagement of civil society in twin cities
- Multilingualism and identity in 21st century Europe
- Borders in Europe

In order to prepare these events, student projects and online surveys, **4 preparatory activities** were organised.

Preparatory activity 1:

Participation: The preparatory meeting involved 12 representatives from the project partner institutions, including 5 persons from Germany, 2 persons from France and 1 person each from Spain, Slovenia, Poland, Northern Ireland and Austria.

Location/Date: 20.03.2019 / Kehl (Germany)

Short description: The meeting allowed the project partners to debrief the first TEIN4citizens event that had taken place on 11.03.2019, clarify the financial management of the project and elaborate a basis for the conference reports and online surveys.

Preparatory activity 2:

Participation: The preparatory meeting involved 8 representatives from the project partner institutions, including 2 persons from Germany and 1 person each from Spain, Slovenia, Poland, Northern Ireland, Austria and Czech Republic.

Location/Date: 13.11.2019 / online

Short description: During this online meeting, the project partners debriefed the second TEIN4citizens event which had taken place in Klagenfurt and Ljubljana. They also discussed the first online survey as well as the project communication and dissemination of the first project reports.

Preparatory activity 3:

Participation: The preparatory meeting involved 9 representatives from the project partner institutions, including 2 persons from Spain and 2 persons from Slovenia as well as 1 person each from Germany, Poland, Northern Ireland, Austria and France.

Location/Date: 26.11.2020 / online

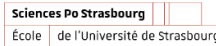
Short description: In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the main focus of this online meeting was on the continuation of the project. The project partners discussed how the last two project events should be organised.

Preparatory activity 4:

Participation: The preparatory meeting involved 7 representatives from the project partner institutions, including 2 persons from Germany and 2 persons from Slovenia as well as 1 person each from France, Spain and Poland.

Location/Date: 18.05.2021 / online

Short description: During the final preparatory meeting, the project partners gave some feedback on the last two TEIN4citizens events that had taken place in the months before. They prepared the final communication on the online surveys and project reports and discussed how to disseminate the project results as widely as possible through their networks at the different borders and at EU level.



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