

The project “EU United we stand” 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"**

Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"

Preparatory activities the activity involved 5 participants.

Participation: The event involved 5 **participants**, including 1 from Berlin (**Germany**), 1 participants from the city of Angouleme (**France**), 1 participants from Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**), 1 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**), 1 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)

Location / Dates: Berlin, 11.-12.09.2020

Short description: this activity consisted of a 2-days meeting to agree on the details of project implementation, set rules for internal communication, review the time schedule, content of activities, methodology, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and dissemination plan.

Day 1: opening, presentations of partners, review and elaborate the action plan, agreements on methodology, evaluation and reporting;

Day 2: setting the rules of communication, coordination and monitoring; task division and next steps.

Events:

Five events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 75 citizens, including 65 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**), 2 participants from Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**), 3 participants from the city of Angouleme (**France**), 3 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**), 2 participants from the city of Berlin (**Germany**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Budapest (**Hungary**), from 23/09/2021 to 24/09/2021

Short description: The aim of the event was to reflect the impact of German unification on politics of memory, especially the memory of the Holocaust in Hungary.

As the politics of memory regarding the Holocaust played a significant normative role in the accession process of the post-communist countries, and the memory of the Holocaust is an especially salient issue in Budapest, we decided to organize our event around these issues: a critical lecture on the post-1989 politics of memory and contributions from fellow historians and memory activists, followed by a discussion with the audience.

In the frames of the event on 23 September we organized a workshop for the delegates about the activities on the history of the Holocaust in Hungary and its memory. After the workshop we visited the Jewish local history collection of Elizabethtown with a guided tour in the permanent exhibition. This museum offers an insight to the daily lives of the Jewish residents of Budapest and especially of this district, and we could see there different reconstructions of living and working spaces from the late nineteenth century to the troubled year of 1944. It was followed by the visit of the Dohány Street Synagogue and later by a lecture, roundtable and public discussion on Holocaust memory and EU accession. Sociologist Máté Zombory's lecture on 'Holocaust memory and political integration' gave us an overview of the recent scholarly criticisms of three decades of memory politics. It focused

on the case of EU integration policy which is based on a specific memory construction of the Holocaust. What role did memory politics play, if any, in the successive failures of EU integration policy such as, among others, the rise of right wing populism, the "migration crisis" or the Brexit? These questions were answered in the roundtable by our discussants. We closed the day

with a dinner in a restaurant of the Jewish quartier where the participants could taste the typical Hungarian dishes. On 24 September the transnational event continued with a walking tour among the 'Yellow-star houses' which was followed by a visit of the Rumbach Street Synagogue. The program of the afternoon was the screening of a Hungarian-British documentary 'Granny Project'. The film follows three grandsons who embark with their grannies on an anarchic journey into the past – a complex road movie about intergenerational dialogue in Great Britain, Germany and Hungary. It's a coming of age story of three young men and a 'coming out of age' tale of their grandmothers, an experiment to form a language which the forthcoming generations could use to keep the values, generated in the 20th century, alive. The film is a seven-year-long investigation of three young men coming to terms with their traumatic heritage through the extraordinary lives of their grandmothers: an English spy, a dancer from Nazi Germany and a Hungarian communist Holocaust survivor. This movie was perfectly fitted into the frames of the project due to created connection between the young and old generations and helped them to share their memories. After the dinner the participants closed the day with an evening walking tour guided by historian Róbert Takács who showed them the memorial of the German occupation in 1944, which has caused a lot of controversy about Hungary's role in World War II.

The project's final result, the video 'Tears, fears, joy?' was screened with Hungarian subtitles at a public event (07 June 2022), followed by a discussion with one of the participating students and the president of the Hungarian Europe Society. We organized a second screening of the film "Granny's project" (with Hungarian subtitles) with the contribution of the film's director, who gave an expert introduction and answered the visitors questions (15 June 2022).

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 79 citizens, including 67 participants from the city Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**), 3 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**), 3 participants from the city of Angouleme (**France**), 3 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**), 3 participants from the city of Berlin (**Germany**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in (**Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria**), from 20/10/2021 to 23/10/2021

Short description: The topic of the international event was "European Reunification Process and its Aftermath in the Context of the Future of Europe". The international event took place in Veliko Tarnovo and included different formal and informal activities. On the first day, at the beginning of the event the participants had a history rally hunt – visiting places related with the totalitarian past of the country. The afternoon of the first day was for plenary debate and workshops sessions. The event started with a small change, which had not impact on the event content and implementation. Due to the COVID measures introduced on Oct 19 and entering into force on Oct 21, the visit to the District plenary hall of the Communist party had to be cancelled. So, the story telling session planned to take place in the hall, happened during the history rally. On the second day of the event, international and local participants went to town of Kilifarevo and visited a Museum of socialist equipment. Then they went to Arbanassi and visited the District Residence of the communist leader Todor Zhivkov (now 5* hotel) and an UNESCO heritage site – the Nativity church. During all the visits and travel, the participants had a story telling sessions, with memories from the totalitarian time.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 57 citizens, including 45 participants from the city of Angouleme (**France**), 2 participants from the city Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**), 3 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**), 3 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**), 4 participants from the city of Berlin (**Germany**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in (**Angouleme, France**), from 10/11/2021 to 12/11/2021

Short description: The aim of the event was to explore the influence of political resistance in young Europeans' perception on European integration? How has our national history influenced our experience of European

nationality? For the implementation of this project, TERA-MDE works in partnership with the high school SILLAC. It is a vocational high school and students are not fluent in English. Therefore, the students involved in the project made a lot of English language actions with their teacher or/and with TERAMDE. They prepared an exhibition about Anne Franck, about Europe and about the wars which they presented and discussed with their European peers during the meeting in Angoulême. November 11th is a holiday in France because of the remembrance of the end of the first world war, armistice of 1918 and to honor the memory of those who died for France. To understand the 2nd world war and the resistance in France, the group visited the Espace mémoriel de la Résistance et de la Déportation. Then the group could attend the official ceremony of remembrance. As every year, the armistice of November 11, 1918 was celebrated in Angoulême with two consecutive events: Wreath laying at the Beaulieu monument in the presence of civil and military authorities and Taking up arms on the Champ de Mars square with detachments from the Angoulême defense base and the national gendarmerie. The visit was followed by a meeting with a history teacher who spent time to answer questions about the colonial empire of France, the second world war, the collaborators of the Vichy regime, the war in Algeria and the hosting of Spaniards during the war. Afterwards a visit to the national comic museum was scheduled including an exhibition about Picasso, a famous Spanish refugee to France. November 12th was dedicated to workshops at the high school. It is an old building from 1885 which was a vocational school. In 1941 the school became a hospital and again a school at the end of the war. That very day a monument to remember the life of several students who died in World War I and World War II was in the courtyard. The French students had prepared a ceremony to remember the past of the school with a wider audience. Ten former students of SILLAC who are retirees now agreed to be interviewed on their personal memories about the fall of the iron curtain and integration of Europe. In the afternoon, the group could attend a lecture from a PhD professor Kocher-Marboeuf from the university of Poitiers about the history of France from the revolution and the creation of the republic until the European Union. Then every partner presented the movement of the resistance in his own country followed by a moderated discussion about the values of the EU.

Event 4.

Participation: The event involved 65 citizens, including 54 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**), 3 participants from the city of Angoulême (**France**), 3 participants from the city Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**), 3 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**), 2 participants from the city Berlin, (**Germany**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Warsaw, Poland** from 31/03/2022 to 03/04/2022

Short description: The aim of the event was to reflect the European idea of solidarity. Before arriving in Warsaw, the participants, as well as the group from Poland, were asked to prepare short presentations in which they would address the issue of European solidarity on the example of their countries, specific activities or projects. Presentations included youth exchange projects between schools in Poland and Germany, community animation projects organised by volunteers in France and Bulgaria, an analysis of the situation in Hungary (in the context of the upcoming parliamentary elections), and activities to support refugees from Ukraine organised by European Clubs in Warsaw. The meeting with Waldemar Kuczyński - an opposition activist of the 1960s and 1970s, minister in T. Mazowiecki's government, was an opportunity to discuss the recent history of Europe after 1989 from the perspective of an experienced participant in those events. We talked, among other things, about the politics of remembrance, democratization processes in Central and Eastern Europe, or Polish-German relations after 1990, as well as those with Russia, also in the context of current international events. As part of a workshop at the History Meeting House, participants were able to learn about events in Poland's recent history (including the Round Table Talks), as well as familiarize themselves with the Oral History Archive, which is a collection of interviews, recordings with participants/witnesses of events that have marked the recent history of Poland and Central and Eastern Europe. During a guided walk, participants could learn about history through specific places and the architecture of Warsaw, referring in particular to the period after 1945

Event 5.

Participation: The event involved 78 citizens, including 65 participants from the city of Berlin (**Germany**), 4 participants from the city of Angoulême (**France**), 3 participants from the city Veliko Tarnovo (**Bulgaria**), 3 participants from the city of Budapest (**Hungary**), 3 participants from the city of Warsaw (**Poland**)

Location / Dates: The event took place in **Berlin, Germany**, from 11/04/2022 to 14/04/2022

Short description: The aim of the event was to reflect Germany's role in Europe after unification. 30 years ago, German unity was a catalyst for European integration. The increase in Germany's de facto position of power in Europe is in fierce contradiction to the guiding idea, developed more and more after the Second World War, that it is not a German Europe but a European Germany that is to be brought about. The meeting started with short presentations of each partner. Participants had reviewed national media asking which picture of Germany is drawn in their respective countries. Comparison and discussion of different media have shown a demanding and skeptical view on Germany's influence on European integration. The meeting agenda then comprised different national German narratives (such as minorities, the Berlin wall, Western Allies) and explored their influence on German society at large. Experts' inputs on these topics led to wider discussions within the group and reflected on blind spots in national narratives such as racism and its influence on societies' perceptions towards common European values. The third day of the meeting was dedicated to developing advertising trailers for the upcoming video documentation "Tears, fears, joy!?" which is the result of the various interviews participants conducted throughout the project. Five different trailers were produced and used to promote the video on Social Media. In a public screening, in a Berlin cinema, extracts of the interviews were presented in the 45-minute video. Participants discussed their own expectations of the EU and Germany's role in Europe with leading politicians of the time the iron curtain fell.