



Project “Easy Towns 2.0 – European Accessible Sustainable Young Towns II”

Programme: Europe for citizens

Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns" Democratic engagement and civic participation

The project "Easy Towns 2.0 - European Accessible Sustainable Young Towns II" is a project built in joint cooperation with partners from 12 cities from 11 European countries and deals with youth, intercultural dialogue, inclusion, integration and cultural heritage. The main aim of the project is to gather good practices and explore how citizens through art and cultural heritage can be agents of local change, encourage dialogue and contribute to the policy-making process.

The goal of the project partners is to create a good example of how city residents, through their active participation, can significantly influence changes in local politics and shape what happens in cities.

Through this project, young people want to support cities in involving a greater number of citizens in bringing about change, mainly using art and culture as a means to achieve the goals. All the partner cities are well known for their local cultural heritage (UNESCO sites, EU Capitals of Culture - past and future) and this is an important element of pride for their citizens, something they know well and which appeals to them. For this reason, cultural heritage is placed at the center of the project to show citizens how diversity is behind every form of culture and art and contributes to their beauty. The local material, nonmaterial and natural heritage is revisited by the youth to become a channel through which the EU values of peace, respect and cooperation between different cultures are transmitted.

Partners in the project "Easy Cities 2.0 - European Accessible Sustainable Young Cities II" are: the city of Heist-op-den-Berg (Belgium) - lead organization, the city of La Valletta (Gozo, Malta), Municipality of Knezha (Bulgaria), Municipality of L' alfas del pi (Spain), the city of Rijeka (Croatia), the city of Centur (Slovenia), the city of Arad (Romania), the city of Napolomice (Poland), the city of Vicenza (Italy), the city of Banska Bystrica (Slovakia), the city of Pforzheim (Germany), the city of Pula (Croatia).

Within the framework of the project, a total of 5 international events were organized in the following project partner countries:

- ✓ Event 1 - In the city of La Valletta, Malta - from 27/11/2018 to 30/11/2018



✓ Event 2 - In the city of Rijeka, Croatia - from 05/02/2019 to 05/05/2019



✓ **Event 3 - In the city of Vicenza, Italy - from 24/10/2019 to 26/10/2019**



✓ **Event 4 – In the city of Niepolomice, Poland - from 27/04/2022 to 29/04/2022**



✓ **Event 5 – In the city of Heist-op-den-Berg, Belgium - from 25/09/2022 to 28/09/2022**



In connection with the implementation of the Project "Easy Cities 2.0 - European Accessible Sustainable Young Cities II" under the Europe for Citizens Program, Stand 2: Democratic Engagement and Civic Participation, in August 2022, the exhibition „From the hand of Trevnenska“ was opened in the Municipal History Museum. The exhibition presents the artistic crafts of wood carving, icon painting, architecture, which make up the oldest art school in our country, which arose in the second half of the 17th century. The attendees were presented with information about the "Easy Cities 2.0 - European Accessible Sustainable Young Cities II" project Europe for Citizens program, which aims to promote the participation of young people and the presentation of cultural heritage. The main idea was to focus on involving a wider range of the community at the local level. To present the cultural heritage of the Trqvná region in order to contribute to the inclusion of youth in cultural events. Youth had the opportunity to interact with the community through art and culture.

