

The project « My Revolution - Reflections of 1990 for youth rights and participation today » 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"

Preparatory activities: National Workshops

The 13 workshops involved a total of 227 participants.

Location / Dates:

- 3 workshops in Italy, 60 participants living in Italy (11., 16., and 18.11.21 in Bologna)
- 4 workshops Slovenia, 43 participants living in Slovenia (10.2.22, Maribor; 12.2.22 Ljubljana, 15.2.22 Postojna, 18.2.22 online)
- 3 workshops in Poland, 68 participants living in Poland (28.10.21 Katowice, 22.11.21 and 14.12.21 Kraków)
- 3 workshops in Austria, 56 participants living in Austria (online, youths from Graz on 3.2.22, Linz on 17.2.22, Vienna on 2.2.22)

Short description:

These activities consisted of 13 workshops with youth groups (227 participants, countries of origin listed above) on national level. The workshops started with inputs and discussions on transitional developments of the 90s (end of the Cold War/Reunification Germany 1990/91, the UN Rio Conference on Environment and Development 1992 and the developments in South Africa towards the end of the Apartheid regime 1994), using creative tools like video and photography. Finally, the young participants formulated their common political requests using the "world café" method.

Events:

5 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1: National Conferences

Participation: The event involved 93 citizens, including 32 participants from Linz, Vienna and Graz (Austria), 24 participants from Maribor, Ljubljana and Postojna (Slovenia), 16 participants from Katowice and Kraków and surrounding towns (Poland), 21 participants from Bologna and surrounding towns (Italy).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vienna (Austria) and Ljubljana/online (Slovenia) on 11.03.22 as well as in Krakow (Poland) and Bologna/online (Italy).

Short description: The aim of the event was that young people met on national level to discuss their political demands. The methodology used were inputs, panel discussions and smaller group exchanges, and the "world café" method. In a second part, youth from two partner countries connected in a video conference and exchanged their demands.

Event 2: First Transnational Conference

Participation: The event involved 82 citizens from Austria (19) (Linz, Graz, Vienna), Poland (19) (Katowice, Krakow and surrounding areas, Katowice), Slovenia (24) (Ljubljana, Maribor, Postojna) and Italy (20) (Bologna and surrounding areas).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia from 24.-26.03.2022.

Short description: The focus of the first conference was on creative workshops, where young people learned to express their political demands through artistic and creative means (dance, photography, video, theatre of the oppressed and memes). The results of the workshops were presented and disseminated through social media channels. Further, the youth participated in the International Climate Strike that took place on 25.03.2022. Also, an "revolutionary" city walk took place in Ljubljana.

Event 3: Second Transnational Conference

Participation: The event involved 78 citizens from Poland (21), Italy (19), Slovenia (19) and Austria (19) from the above-mentioned cities/towns.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vienna from 22.-24.4.2022.

Short description: The aim of the second conference was to discuss youth demands transnationally and to develop a common Central European Youth Manifesto out of it. The young people could further strengthen their learnings from the Ljubljana conference regarding the use of creative/artistic means of expressing political demands. During a city walk, cultural, political and historical meanings of the places were discussed in the context of social movements. Further, the young participants learned about the Fundamental Rights Agency and Charta. They also received an input on sustainable fashion and could discuss the issue, as it was the annual remembrance week of the Rana Plaza accident.

Event 4: European Advocacy Seminar

The European advocacy seminar was split into two parts. The first part took place in Vienna on 24.4.2022, with 35 participants (21 from Poland and 14 from Austria), the second part in Brussels on 15.06.2022 with 31 participants (8 from Austria, 8 from Italy, 7 from Slovenia, 8 from Poland). The young people got an insight into the functioning, history and institutions of the EU. Advocacy strategies were discussed and the participants tried out how to present their demands in front of EU politicians in role plays and rehearsals.

Event 5: European Roundtable in Brussels

The roundtable at the EU parliament took place on 16.06.2022 with 31 youths (8 from Austria, 8 from Italy, 7 from Slovenia, 8 from Poland). Youth representatives presented their most important demands and the Manifesto to EU representatives (MEPs, MEP assistants and the EU Youth Coordinator). During the stay from 14. - 16.06.2022, youth got to know Brussels, with two city tours, one through Molenbeek with focus on multicultural Brussels, and one through the city centre.