

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT RESULTS

Project "The potential and strength of the European Union is in the values of solidarity, integration and dialogue" was implemented from 2nd to 5th August, 2019 in Tuchów. It was attended by 164 people, including 104 people from 5 partner cities: Martfű (Hungary), Tautii Magheraus (Romania), Mikulova (Czech Republic), Illingen (Germany), Detvy (Slovakia) and 60 people from Tuchów - the project leader. The event was attended by spectators and observers from the commune of Tuchów and the Lesser Poland region in the number of over 3,500 people. Town residents, representatives of non-profit organizations, associations, cultural institutions, youth and local government representatives took part in the project.

The project we have carried out allowed for a European dialogue in the spirit of integration, solidarity and tolerance; we pointed to the values and ideological authorities of the EU, civic and interstate solidarity. We emphasized the EU values and the importance of European solidarity and the sense of responsibility of Europeans for the EU and its building in new social circumstances, euroscepticism and alienation. Project participants and residents of small towns promoted freedom, democracy, solidarity and integration between citizens and countries. The project included the following events: 2 international debates, 1 conference, 2 methodological seminars, 1 international non-profit festival, 1 international festival of regional products, 1 exhibition promoting the EU, 1 film show, 1 music concert. All of these activities promoted solidarity, integration, tolerance and respecting rights in the EU. Also, a reference was made to the value of the ideological and programmatic heritage of the EU in the cultural context, strengthening the ties of citizens and nations, and using this potential in creating the future of the EU. Cultural traditions of local communities in a generational context were presented, EU achievements as well as investment, social and cultural projects implemented in the EU were shown. Bottom-up activities in non-profit organizations were indicated, intercultural dialogue was conducted, and its importance for forming partnership was emphasized.

During the organized events, residents from small EU towns developed forms and methods to strengthen civil and social ties in Europe. The debates, methodological seminars and the conference concerned the ideological and program values of the EU. The role of international integration, solidarity, understanding, equality and tolerance was emphasised, which is so much needed in the modern world. Issues related to euroscepticism and stigmatization as well as new social phenomena and crisis threats in the EU were discussed. Implementation of the project has contributed to the international activation of citizens of small European towns and the release of social development potential.

Thanks to the implementation of the project, citizens of twin towns have been stimulated to even better cooperation, building relationships and intercultural relations on many levels, international integration, strengthening social and cultural solidarity, strengthening international tolerance and bonds as well as social cohesion, international dialogue based on cultural tolerance, mutual respect and understanding. It will definitely contribute to development of a formula for active cooperation, and thus using the potential and strength of the EU in the future. The implementation of the project is undoubtedly an inspiration to act and work for a stronger EU. It points to the beauty of interculturalism, the importance of generational tradition and the power of freedom and democracy, the ideological authorities of the EU and the need to strengthen awareness of solidarity and tolerance between residents of European towns and EU countries.