

The project « UNITED 2020 » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 "Town-Twinning"

Participation: The project involved 352 citizens, notably 250 participants from the city of Este (Italy), 14 participants from the city of Tapolca (Hungary), 26 participants from the city of Pertuis (France), 7 participants from the city of Bad Windsheim (Germany), 13 participants from the city of Rijeka (Croatia), 42 participants from the city of Leek (United Kingdom)

Location/ Dates: The event took place in ESTE (Italy), from 29/09/2022 to 03/10/2022.

Short description:

The day of 29/09/2022 was dedicated to the arrival of the delegations and the workshop dedicated to the European footprint on youth and environment. The dialogue was attended by the young people of the delegations arrived from Hungary, Italy and Croatia, who presented their own works and the high school students of Este.

The day of 30/09/2022 was dedicated to the primary schools with environmental workshops for the schoolkids facilitated by the twinning committee and SESA which offered environmental lessons at the citizens along with Legambiente Este Chapter which also organized a cleaning round of the central parking lot.

The delegations were given a tour of the St Tecla Cathedral by Irea Foundation and one of the National Museum by the director herself.

The official welcome ceremony for the twinned cities and the citizens took place at 6 p.m. at the central square with speeches, flag raising and the execution of the national anthems. Next, the youth convened at the St. Francis Cloister, the high school where they networked until dinner where with local food tastings was served to all the members of the delegation. The evening ended with a performance of the dancing schools of Este.

The day of 01/10/2022 was dedicated to the project conference "Next Re-generACTION" with keynote speakers from the university and the Federalist Movement to animate the sessions. The event displayed the Europe for Citizens and the European Year of Youth logos. Students from Este high schools and from the invited countries attended the seminars with contributions about green economies from two young members of the Leek delegation and from the City of Pertuis. The programme also included the artist performance focused on the effects of nature on the harmony between the elements of the earth and the performance "Quante Storie". The performer Alessandro Alfonsi entertained the public with music and abstracts from Italo Calvino's Marcovaldo centred on the environmental issues.

The day of 02/10/2022 was dedicated to the European Ecological Walk in cooperation with the jogging club Corri Este. Other sport organizations entertained the participants with archery and shooting demos.

At the Expo, delegations and associations presented themselves to the citizens. In the afternoon the delegations gathered at the City Hall where they exchanged gifts and the MoU, and attended the music workshop at the local parish hall. The European festival ended at 6.30 p.m. with the flag-lowering ceremony.

The day of 03/10/2022 was dedicated to the departure of the delegations.