



**Successful Completion of the project CivAct**

**Newsletter May 2019**



**The project «Building the skills and capacity of migrants, refugees and the EU citizenship to actively and democratically participate in the civic domain of EU » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"**

CARDET is proud to announce the completion of the project CIVACT that was implemented in the Cyprus by the organization CARDET, in Italy by the organizations COPE and FELCOS, in Spain by the municipality of Extramedura (AEXCID), in Grenoble, France by the organization Culture et Developpment, in Athens, Greece by the organization IRTEA, and finally in Lisbon, Portugal by the organization IMVF.

Project CivAct achieved its overall objective to contribute to fostering a European inclusive citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at union level by engaging European Citizens across Europe in discussions relating to the main discourse of the day: migration and refugees and how participation in the EU democratic processes can open the road to an intercultural society based on the ideal of universal human rights.

Within the framework of the project the partnership “united in diversity” collectively achieved its specific objectives and results. The promotion of intercultural engagement was achieved through an EU survey and focus group that peered into the views of EU citizens and led to the creation of a volunteer project in order to build sustainable multipliers and agents of change in our local and EU contexts (R1/O1). This was also achieved through the early promotion of the European Solidarity Corps in preparation for its final launch at the end of the project. The partnership also promoted the EU functions and policies in relation to the project themes (R2/O2) and it created and discussed a number of contra narratives, ranging from humanitarian response and economic equality -as a reason to xenophobic attitudes- to the impact of automation and low fertility as proving the point of economic necessity of migrants, to foster intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding as well as to combat stigmatization of immigrants (R3/O3) . The promotion of understanding of the EU policies, and how they practically impact every part of each other’s lives and the way ordinary citizens can constructively engage in it were at the heart of the project. This was very pertinent as the project completion coincided with the European elections’ month and for the call for more participation of EU citizens, and especially European youth, to this process.



Within the framework of the Activity 1 Exploring youth and citizenship approach we created a survey and the focus groups we scoped the views of European Citizens vis-à-vis the narratives that we know about migrants and about the EU.

Within the implementation of Activities 2 and 3 we focused on introducing volunteers, refugees and citizens to each other within the framework of the EU family and values and the way that citizens can organize and be heard within the democratic organizations of the EU, especially focusing on the European Solidarity Corps and in adopting the guidelines developed by IRTEA. These first three activities helped towards achieving result 1 (promotion of Intercultural engagement and a European citizenship) and result 2 (promotion of the EU function and policies) and led seamlessly to the implementation of Activity 4 and 5 and the completion of the target for result 3 (creation of contra-narratives to foster intercultural dialogue). These big actions were organized in all territories and reached a considerable number of people, way above the target outlined in the proposal.

5 events have been carried out within this project:

#### **Exploring youth and citizenship approach - Event 1**

Participation: The event involved 87 citizens, including 9 participants from the city of Nicosia (Cyprus), 15 participants from the city of Foligno (Italy), 6 participants from the city of Lisbon (Portugal), 9 participants from the city of Merida (Spain), 10 participants from the city of Catania (Italy), 10 participants from the city of Grenoble (France), and 28 participants from the city of Athens (Greece).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Nicosia, Cyprus on 07/02/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Foligno, Italy on 19/12/2017  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Lisbon, Portugal on 15/12/2017  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Merida, Spain on 12/12/2017 and 20/12/2017  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Catania, Italy, on 11/12/2017  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Athens, Greece on 30/11/2017  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Grenoble on 23/01/2018

Short description: The aim of the event exploring youth and citizenship approach we created a survey (122 responses) and the focus groups we scoped the views of European Citizens vis-à-vis the narratives that we know about migrants and about the EU.

### **Volunteer Programme - Event 2**

Participation: The event involved 78 citizens, including 3 participants from the city of Nicosia (Cyprus), 17 participants from the city of Foligno (Italy), 7 participants from the city of Athens, (Greece), 32 participants from the city of Lisbon (Portugal), 2 participants from the city of Merida (Spain), 13 participants from the city of Catania (Italy), 4 participants from the city of Grenoble (France)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Nicosia, Cyprus on 11/05/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Foligno, Italy on 14/06/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Lisbon, Portugal, on 26/04/2018\*  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Merida, Spain on 20/09/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Catania, Italy on 17/05/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in (Grenoble, France), on 23/1/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to train a number of volunteers that would act as multipliers and promote the EU knowledge in as wide a context as possible.

\*6 preparation meetings/training were held in total

### **Structural Dialogues and Workshops - Event 3**

Participation: The event involved 261 citizens, including 32 participants from the city of Nicosia (Cyprus), 28 participants from the city of Foligno (Italy), 78 participants from the city of Lisbon (Portugal), 52 participants from the city of Merida (Spain), 24 participants from the city of Catania (Italy), 40 participants from the city of Athens (Greece) and 18 participants from the city of Grenoble (France)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Nicosia, Cyprus on 11/01/2019 to 11/01/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Foligno, Italy on 22/12/2018 to 22/12/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Lisbon, Portugal, on 09/11/2018 to 09/11/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Merida, Spain on 25/07/2018 and 26/07/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Catania, Italy, on 15/12/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Athens, Greece on 03/04/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Grenoble, France on 27/05/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to create the comprehensive context (structural dialogue/workshop) for the critical discussion through knowledge transfer on the migration and refugee challenges in the EU context and to break stereotypes about this issue while comprehending the underpinnings of the European union and our way to become EU citizens through participation in the democratic processes of the EU.

### **National Conferences - Event 4**

Participation: The event involved 309 citizens, including 16 participants from the city of Nicosia (Cyprus), 52 participants from the city of Foligno (Italy), 86 participants from the city of Lisbon (Portugal), 117 participants from the city of Merida (Spain), 24 participants from the city of Catania (Italy), 30 participants from the city of Athens (Greece) and 27 participants from the city of Grenoble (France).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Nicosia, Cyprus, from 19/04/2019 to 19/04/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Foligno, Italy, from 09/02/2019 to 09/02/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Lisbon, Portugal, on 11/01/2019 to 13/01/2019 and 16/03/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Merida, Spain on 26/10/2018  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Catania, Italy on 02/02/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Athens, Greece on 29/03/2019  
Location / Dates: The event took place in Grenoble, France on 13/11/2018

Short description: The aim of this awareness event was to bring together European policy makers, young people, EU citizens and migrants/refugees to learn and interact on the issue of the migration crisis in Europe and the rhetoric of xenophobia that has swept a number of EU countries and the EU and national responses that should be based upon the EU ideals of solidarity and Human Rights.

#### International Seminar - Event 5

Participation: The event involved 267 citizens, including 267 participants from the city of Perugia (Italy).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Perugia, Italy, from 05/04/2019 to 06/04/2019

Short description: The aim of the event was to create a large awareness event that would bring together young people and policy

#### Partners in our Project

Cyprus

Spain

Italy – Umbria

Italy – Sicily

Portugal

France

Greece



#### Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"



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