

The project « GEMINAE CITIZENS' MEETING - From 15 years of town-twinning to the forward-looking cultural, social and economic partnership » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Action 1, Measure 1.1

"Town Twinning Citizens' Meetings"

Participation: The project involved 562 citizens, notably 104 participants from the city of Markt-Hirschaid (Germany), 458 participants from the city of Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia), from 23/05/2014 to 25/05/2014

Short description:

The day of 22/05/2014 was dedicated to Arrival of the delegation from Hirschaid and Welcome and Opening Ceremony

The day of 23/05/2014 was dedicated to Several workshops, panel on various fields of cooperation between the two communities and Solemnity on the Day of Municipality of Ivančna Gorica and Celebration of the 15 years of Official Partnership between Municipalities of Markt Hirschaid and Ivančna Gorica

The day of 24/05/2014 was dedicated to Divine Service at the Church of Saint Joseph and Solemn Opening of the street named 'Cesta občine Hirschaid' in Ivančna Gorica

Applicable to the Action 1 – Measure 1.2 "Networks of Twinned Towns"
Action 2 – Measure 2.3 "Support projects initiated by civil society organisations"
Action 4 – "Active European Remembrance"

3 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 460 citizens, including 104 participants from the city of Markt-Hirschaid (Germany), 356 participants from the city of Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Muljava (Ivančna Gorica, Slovenia), from 23/05/2014 to 23/05/2014

Short description:

6:00 - 17:00 Arrival of the delegation from Markt-Hirschaid and accommodation

18:30 - 19:40 Welcome and Opening Ceremony with the Mayors from Markt-Hirschaid and Ivančna Gorica emphasizing the importance of the event on the European Level. All participants were welcomed at the Josip Jurčič Homestead (Skansen Museum) in Muljava. Both Mayors held speeches on how important are partnerships between two Municipalities, two nations on European level, especially partnerships so vivid and active as the one between Hirschaid and Ivančna Gorica.

19:40 - 20:00 Short Culture Entertainment Programme with Performers from Germany and Slovenia. Programme was comprised of two performances. One by the Elementary School Stična Theatre Group from Muljava that presented how schools looked like in the 19th century and the second by the Men's Octet of the Cultural Society Stična that sang slovenian and german folk songs. The programme continued with the performance by the group 'Regnitzauer Spitzbuam' from Hirschaid.

20:00 - 21:00 Dinner for all participants

21:00 - 23:30 Informal Meeting and Socializing. Dinner was an opportunity to interact with old and new friends and to make welcoming speeches.

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 562 citizens, including 104 participants from the city of Markt-Hirschaid (Germany), 458 participants from the city Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia), from 24/05/2014 to 24/05/2014.

Short description:

9:00 – 10:00: Workshop I: How Local Authorities can encourage and foster an Active Participation of European Citizens in the democratic life of the EU, and their equal opportunities in political life.

Workshop II: Basics in Slovenian Language for German Participants.

10:00 - 10:30: Presentation of the main achievements during the over 30 years of Friendship and 15 years of Town-Twinning in the fields of voluntary service activities, culture and economy and its future contribution to European Integration at local and individual levels.

10.30 – 12:00: Open Debate on so far existing experiences with above stated issues led by Panel of Representatives from Culture Associations, Firefighters Associations, Youth Organisations, Persons with disabilities Society and University for the third period of life, including speakers from both countries. Panelists were covering all important fields of cooperation between municipalities - Integration under the patronage of the Cistercian Monastery Stična; Integration between Firefighters' Societies; Cultural Integration; Integration in the Field of Education; Integration under Guidance of both Municipal Administrations.

12:00 – 14:00: Lunch for all participants.

14:00 – 18:00: Excursion on the tourist loop path 'Comfortably at Home' Ivančna Gorica and Thematic Market Place in Ivančna Gorica.

18:00 – 23:00: Solemnity on the Day of Municipality of Ivančna Gorica and Celebration of the 15 years of Official Partnership between Municipalities of Markt Hirschaid and Ivančna Gorica. Culture-Entertainment Music Programme with Performers from Cultural and Artistic Associations and granting of the Title of Honourable Citizen of the Municipality Ivančna Gorica to the former Mayor of Markt-Hirschaid, Mr. Andreas Schlund and former Mayor of Ivančna Gorica, Mr. Jernej Lampret.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 520 citizens, including 104 participants from the city of Markt-Hirschaid (Germany), 416 participants from the city Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Ivančna Gorica (Slovenia), from 25/05/2014 to 25/05/2014.

Short description:

Celebrating religious diversity and pluralism. Strengthened future commitment to the partnership between both towns - plan of future activities accepted. This events symbolized the future commitment to the EU as well, simply because of the sheer importance of the local level of European Integration.

