Europe for Citizens

Participatory spaces for Europe’s citizens

Success stories from beneficiaries of the operating grants framework 2014 - 2017
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FOREWORD

Dimitris Avramopoulos
Commissioner
Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship,
European Commission

Rising like a phoenix from the ashes of the Second World War, the European Project was built on the premise of peace, unity and stability. More than sixty years later, it may sometimes seem difficult but it remains more important than ever to remember, uphold and defend those values and achievements.

In today’s rapidly changing world, it may even seem easier to believe that there are no values but the values of one’s own small community. History teaches us that the greatest mistake we can make is to think that we must make a choice between one’s own small community or one’s origins and Europe.

Europe is a place where - despite all odds – democracy, rule of law, respect of human rights, solidarity and humanity have extended across linguistic, religious and national frontiers. These are the fundamentals of our common European house, what keeps us united and strong: we are united in our diversity. We can be both patriotic and European.

It is in this spirit that the European Commission has been supporting citizens’ activities for many years through the Europe for Citizens programme. The projects in this brochure show how Europe can inspire,
lead and contribute to the never ending struggle for more tolerance, understanding, participation and dignity. In other words that it can carry the values we share together forwards in these turbulent times.

The organisations and their activities presented in this brochure attest also to the importance of bringing our citizens closer to the EU, giving them the opportunity to participate, be actively engaged and be part of it. This is what the “Europe for Citizens” programme intends to achieve: to bring together citizens, civil society organisations and local representatives in different Member State and to support them in their striving for an idea of Europe “for the citizens, by the citizens and with the citizens”.

Our citizens are the driving force of social and political changes. Because the centre of change and of power is not in some remote place – it is with the European citizens. And only together can we make a difference.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the organisations and for the people who carry the Europe for Citizens programme forward. I believe that they will not only make an interesting read but will also inspire others to follow in their footsteps.
EUROPE FOR CITIZENS PROGRAMME

The European Union is made of its citizens and for its citizens. Encouraging and facilitating their involvement and active participation in the construction of a stronger Union, as well as enabling them to understand the Union’s history and the values it is built upon, is of high importance. European citizenship is an inherent element in strengthening and safeguarding the process of European integration.

The **Europe for Citizens Programme** managed by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) is a key instrument in this context. It aims to contribute to citizens’ understanding of the Union, its history and diversity, to foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for enjoying the rights and privileges of being a European citizen.

With its **Operating Grants**, the Europe for Citizens Programme supports the permanent, usual and regular activities of non-profit organisations with European outreach, both for organisations contributing to raising awareness of European remembrance (Strand 1) and for those encouraging democratic and civic participation (Strand 2). In the period 2014-2017, 27 mio € were awarded, which accounts for 6,7 mio € annually.

• The following types of organisations participated in the programme: Civil society organisations for European remembrance, European public policy research organisations (Think Tanks), platforms of pan-European organisations, civil society organisations working at the European level.

• Organisations play an active role in the field of European citizenship, provide transnational activity links to several countries, and reach out to a local and regional audiences.

• Organisations reflect on the causes of totalitarian regimes in Europe’s modern history as well as on other defining moments and reference points in recent European history under Strand 1.

• Organisations work on citizens’ participation in the democratic life of the EU, ranging from local democracy to the empowerment of citizens to play a full part in EU policy under Strand 2.

• Organisations from third/associated countries are involved in the Operating Grants.

This document provides an overview of the results achieved by the beneficiaries of Operating Grants in 2014-2017 under the Europe for Citizens Programme. It highlights the results and outcomes which organisations were able to achieve thanks to the grant, and describes the activities that they implemented within the Europe for Citizens Programme.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this document was submitted by the beneficiaries of Operating Grants within the Europe for Citizens Programme.
KEY DATA (2014–2017)

- More than 14 million citizens involved
- 37 organisations supported
- Activities in 28 member states
- 4,000 events supported
- €27 million awarded
- 4,000 events supported
- 37 organisations supported
- Activities in 28 member states
- €27 million awarded
STRAND 1
EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE
EUROPEAN PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS (THINK TANKS)
ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

During the four year partnership the support of the Europe for Citizens programme has been crucial for the creation, consolidation and enlargement of the European Observatory on Memories (EUROM). This network, of 45 partners from over 20 countries, is an agora where activists, scholars, politicians and citizens analyse, reflect on and debate recent European history and remembrance policies.

The Operating Grant has enabled the proper development of EUROM activities, such as conferences; travelling seminars (through which different actors learn and analyse memories of different regions in Europe); dissemination tools (a website, social media, a book or an online magazine); and participatory activities (seminars, cine-forums or guided walks).

Thanks to the Operating Grant, EUROM has developed a total of 38 activities and contributed to over 15 other organizations’ meetings and conferences.

Testimonial

“To understand memory as a civic tool, as well as an essential part of European policies, it is fundamental to face the complex crisis experienced nowadays by the continent. Common values of education and understanding of the present are found in the processes of representation and past recovery, the dignity of the victims, and the sites of remembrance. These are the necessary practices in the memorial exchange of the 21st century: to compare, analyse, observe, interact, create, learn, disclose, act, question. Local becomes global if it is transnational, intertwined with different experiences from different places.”

Jordi Guixé, EUROM director.

MORE INFORMATION

www.europeanmemories.net
@europeanobservatoryonmemories
@euromemories
@EuropeanObservatoryonMemories
Channel:
EUROM - European Observatory on Memories
KEY FIGURES

Participants: 123,719 in 4 years
Network: Hungary, Germany, Slovakia, Romania, Slovenia, Poland and Austria

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Our activities concentrated on WWI. We helped participants to see the Great War in its entirety, as a common European history. We connected the national and international level, and linked the experience of the frontlines to that of the hinterlands. We published stories from everyday life, whose multiple viewpoints promoted the reconciliation of national narratives. During the four years, we held numerous events – almost one per week – to discuss historical and social question in various formats (conferences, roundtable talks, political debates, film clubs). We also held two artistic exhibitions a year. Some of our activities (like competitions, calls and summer university) directly reached students, while our publications should be useful in education later on. Many of our activities and materials will remain available on Youtube, on our webpages and also in online media archives.

Furthermore, we created a webpage and a blog that offered daily stories from 1914-1918 based on newspaper articles. These stories covered all aspects of WWI and all European countries. We aimed to go beyond the national and traditional narratives on war: by placing equal emphasis on the war experiences of the hinterland as on those of the frontlines, and by presenting the war as a common European experience through everyday stories.

Testimonial

“I have followed the programs of several organisations relating the Great War; the program of the Institute of Political History exceeded the others with ascribing equal importance to new results of research on the Great War and its era, and the presence of war in public memory, and also its relevance in remembrance politics; furthermore the abundance and continuity of its program made it possible that all those interested could ‘live together’ with the Great War for four years. The materials of the webpage Frontlines and Hinterland will most probably remain the best online selection regarding the topic.”

Archivist, Budapest.

MORE INFORMATION

🌐 www.polhist.hu
🌐 www.elsovh.hu
🌐 @elsovh.hu
 рай Channel: Politikatörténeti Alapítvány és Intézet
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS FOR EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE
ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

In the last four years of the Efc programme, AJM welcomed more than 30,000 EU citizens at the Jean Monnet House, one of the most relevant historical heritage site of Europe. Through more than 800 events (conferences, trainings, meetings with MEPs or other politicians and experts), mostly hosted in the House of the “Father of Europe”, aimed at youth, teachers and the general public, and financed thanks to the Efc grant, AJM delivered knowledge on the history of the European construction, and promoted democratic values.

Awareness raising events on current European issues are a way to foster public debates for “regular” citizens who are generally lacking of information on Europe or are faced with fake news. Thanks to the Efc programme our organisation was able to broaden considerably the scope of its activities, increase the number of attendees to our events and bring closer to the public the lasting impact of Jean Monnet’s work in today’s Europe. Jean Monnet’s outstanding political vision and legacy both for the present and the future, was the backbone of our activities targeted in the framework of the Efc programme.

The Efc programme and operating grant enabled us to make Jean Monnet’s adage come true: “we are not making coalitions of States, we are uniting peoples.”

Testimonials

"Un lieu historique dans un cadre magnifique, des interventions pertinentes, une visite à recommander pour comprendre la naissance de l’Union européenne.”

A participant to a conference on the history of European construction.

“J’ai beaucoup aimé la discussion avec le député européen, car dans un an ce sera à mon tour de voter.”

High school student after a dialogue session with an elected Member of the European Parliament.
CERS
Centre Européen Robert Schuman

KEY FIGURES
Participants: 81,495
EU grant: 800,000 € (2014 - 2017)

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

D’une manière générale, l’action éducative européenne et interculturelle du CERS a favorisé la participation à la démocratie représentative active ou l’apprentissage de la participation pour les plus jeunes, aussi ceux issus de milieux défavorisés.


Les animations européennes et interculturelles proposées par le CERS relevaient de l’éducation non formelle. Elles étaient organisées par des professionnels et par des volontaires, notamment européens, et elles contribuaient au développement de la citoyenneté européenne active et démocratique des participants.

Testimonial
“L’Europe est une chance, donc. Mais l’Europe va mal, elle est en danger. Nous sommes assis sur un volcan et partout en Europe émergent les sirènes nationaliste et la tentation du repli. La colère de nos concitoyens est compréhensible mais c’est à tort que l’Europe est désignée comme bouc émissaire. Procès inépce car elle est la solution, bien plus que le problème. Jean Monnet a écrit que « rien n’est possible sans les hommes, rien n’est durable sans les institutions ». Il est donc important que les institutions s’appuient sur des Citoyens et des Citoyennes de qualité. Par ses formations, le CERS y contribue grandement.”

Un participant à un stage de formation d’enseignants

Les jeunes et les réseaux sociaux : comment encourager la participation aux élections européennes ? Si les réseaux sociaux favorisent le refus d’une unification de la pensée et encouragent la liberté de parole, ce n’est fréquemment qu’un militantisme de situation qui n’est pas source d’une nouvelle forme d’engagement politique. En outre, l’anonymat qui est propre aux mobilisations par internet n’induit souvent qu’un engagement éphémère. Constat d’un atelier de conception d’outils didactiques d’engagement et de participation.

MORE INFORMATION

www.centre-robert-schuman.org
@CentreRobertSchuman
@stock.richard
KEY FIGURES

Participants: 18,819
EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

The Operating Grant has allowed EUROCLIO to foster innovative and responsible history education in all EU countries, partner countries, including, the direct EU Neighbourhood and countries notably from Northeast Asia and Central Asia.

Thousands of history educators of all school levels cooperated on initiatives such as ‘Historiana’, an online portal enabling transnational and multiperspective history learning. This flagship initiative was developed through co-creation with teachers as users, as well as with cultural institutes cooperating under the ‘Europeana’ umbrella.

EUROCLIO has thrived in initiating, developing and implementing over 50 projects, which in turn mobilise teachers, students and citizens to work together across borders on issues, such as ensuring history teaching is used as a tool for reconciliation in (post)conflict setting, and fostering inclusion.

Thanks to the Operating Grant, EUROCLIO has supported over 300 teacher training events, nearly 40 of them cross-border. A large annual professional development event was organised involving over 200 educators from over 35 countries.

Testimonials

“Thanks for organising yet another engaging and inspiring session. Lots of ideas to take away and think about.”

History teacher.

“I recommend this summer school because useful, information obtained is applicable, allows sharing of knowledge and experience in the field of history teaching.”

History teacher.

“It’s always nice to get together with history teachers from all over Europe because it reminds you that your country is not the only one with problems in the history education and each teacher is doing an effort to tackle them, which is why EUROCLIO should continue doing its great job and support history teachers and initiatives.”

History teacher after the San Sebastian conference.

MORE INFORMATION

www.euroclio.eu
@EUROCLIO.Association
@EUROCLIO
in @EUROCLIO - European Association of History Educators
Channel:
EUROCLIO - European Association of History Educators
MEMORIAL DE LA SHOAH
Musée, Centre de documentation

KEY FIGURES

Participants: about 1M people over 4 years
EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: France, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Italy, the Netherlands, Greece, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Poland, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, etc

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Thanks to the Europe for Citizens Operating grant, the Mémorial de la Shoah has evolved into a truly European reference network on the Holocaust and other genocides, a European identity which it continues to develop. Its networks have grown to involve several dozen institutions across Europe.

The grant helped to develop all the Memorial’s activities. In 2017, the Memorial received the largest number of visitors (257,000), welcoming close to 60,000 students and training close to 10,000 teachers and policemen. Pedagogical workshops have been organised directly in schools, to ensure all students have access, regardless of whether they are able to travel to Paris. Two to three temporary exhibitions were organised per year over the grant period. Citizenship workshops for people convicted of racist or antisemitic acts have been developed since 2015. The documentation centre is receiving researchers from across Europe, offering them access to its fund which contains over 40 million archives.

Now more than ever the Memorial is engaged in the battle against racism, antisemitism, intolerance and hatred through the arms it knows best: education and history.

Testimonials

“Memorial of remembrance and hope. Thank you.”
“A powerful reminder of our history.”
“Indispensable place of memory. Thank you.”
“Of great pedagogical utility. Outstanding and deeply moving!”
“Deeply moving, instructive, pedagogical, indispensable.”

Participants of Memorial de la Shoah events.

The “Holocaust and Comics” exhibition (Jan 2017 – Jan 2018) presented a historical and artistic journey through the art of graphic novels, which questioned visual sources representing the Holocaust, their relevance, their reach and their limits. This exhibition welcomed over 73,000 visitors and was accompanied by a cycle of events, conferences and film screenings.

MORE INFORMATION

www.memorialdelashoah.org
@MemorialShoah
@shoah_memorial
@Mémorial de la Shoah
Channel: Mémorial de la Shoah
EUROPEAN PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS (THINK TANKS)
ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

The CEPR established its Economic Science and European Citizenship (ESEC) initiative thanks to support from the Europe for Citizens programme. This has helped the CEPR to foster closer relations between CEPR researchers, policymakers and European citizens and it allows European economists to play a more active role in policy debates in the public sphere.

Three parts of the CEPR work programme have helped to foster the integration of economic research into European society:

- VoxEU, the Centre’s on-line policy portal, through both its columns and audiovisual content (over 2800 columns)
- eBooks, published to inform relevant debates and decisions as policy-makers attempted to respond to crises (50+ eBooks).
- Press and media engagements to disseminate our activities and findings to a wider audience (3 high-profile events per year).


This public forum focused on the post crisis ‘socio-economic policy’ identity of the European Union in the post-crisis period, a topic covered by an eBook of the same title. The emphasis was on where the EU appears to be going, in which direction it should be heading and the difficulties this might imply for the success of the EU and its major policy domains.

Key presenters representing history, political science and economics gave in-depth explanations of the political science and political economy sides of ‘Quo Vadis’, summarising the range of current research in the EU, European identity; and general economics findings and the role of social scientists in shaping the future of the Union.

CEPTs Facebook audience has been increasing steadily since 2016. This is partly due to targeting of content to the appropriate audience.

Facebook advertising allows CEPR to promote research to a specifically-targeted audience in a timely and cost effective way. For instance, a recent VoxEU article on refugees that CEPR posted on its Facebook page began to gain traction, which was then boosted with paid advertising (from CEPR’s own funds). This enabled CEPR to select where the advert (article post) would appear, and so target readers’ newsfeeds so they could view the article easily. Selecting the audience is a sophisticated undertaking that CEPR has been able to hone during this project.

MORE INFORMATION

- www.cepr.org
- @cepr.org
- @cepr_org
- @Centre for Economic Policy Research
- Channel: VideoVox
Speed-debating was a dialogue session that aimed to collect the thoughts and ideas of young people on five crucial issues for the future of the European Union: the impact of the economic crisis; the refugee crisis; the rise of populism and its growing presence in European politics; terrorism and security; and European identity.

The Speed-debating aimed to be a meeting point for initiatives, groups and organizations that had reflected on the different crises that threatened the future of the European project.

Speed-debating’s video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6oxHsZz39U&feature=youtube

**Testimonials**

“**It’s a great initiative that allows you to talk to a lot of people in a very short time and collect many ideas in a very agile and interesting format**”

Berta BARBET, Politikon.

“All participants have been able to talk about all the issues that mattered to them in this informal environment and where everyone has highlighted, precisely, the need to talk about European issues without established procedures of large conferences, large events with experts, but also at the level of citizens and, especially, of young people.”

Pol MORILLAS, CIDOB.

**MORE INFORMATION**

- www.cidob.org
- @CidobBarcelona
- @CidobBarcelona
- @CIDOB Barcelona
- @CIDOB
- Channel: CIDOB Barcelona

**Organisation Results and Outcomes**

The Europe for Citizens Operating grant has helped CIDOB consolidate its position as the main reference point for European affairs in Barcelona. CIDOB has become a meeting point for citizens looking to understand and debate about European policies and politics, and to share their ideas about the future of the European project. CIDOB has given voice to the citizens of Barcelona and other cities in the territory, linking them with policy-makers at all administrative levels. CIDOB has organized activities, seminars and workshops in partnership with other think tanks that have allowed us to extend the collaboration beyond the Europe for Citizens programme. CIDOB has also given visibility to the work of the European institutions by informing citizens about the European Commission’s policies, working on the European Parliament elections and helping to inform citizens about the Spitzenkandidaten process in 2014. CIDOB has brought the European Union and its institutions closer to citizens of all ages, inviting young people to debate about Europe, while elderly people have also come to offer their point of view and actively participate in the construction of the European common project.
ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Thanks to the support of the Europe for Citizens programme, the EPC continued to provide a platform for stakeholders and citizens to engage in the debate about the future of Europe, by organising 651 events and producing 264 publications.

In response to the growing discontent with the European project, the EPC created a new Social Europe and Well-Being programme to look at how the European Union can strengthen its social dimension. Through the FutureLab Europe project, the EPC has been empowering dozens of young people to become drivers for change in shaping the EU they want.

With the support of foundations and think tank partners, the EPC spearheaded 120 national and transnational debates across Europe about what citizens expect from the EU. In November 2017, the New Pact for Europe report called on European leaders to re-energise the European project with concrete proposals for reform.

"Before attending FutureLab Europe Annual Forum in January, I was very sceptical about the idea of a group of youngsters being listened and taken seriously, but contrary to this, thanks to FLE and EPC, now I strongly believe in youth influence, participation, strong and great ideas and, above all, in our determination and tenacity to change what needs to be improved or implemented. The dynamism and energy of such a group of diverse young people creates a strong and assorted voice that, on behalf of the rest of European citizens, can return the population, at least in a local level, the hope that cooperation, democracy and power could still work." (FutureLab participant).

Testimonial

"I would like to thank the European Policy Centre for putting the social dimension of the EU at the centre of its activities... Your work helps to enrich the debate on the future of Europe. And so, I warmly welcome the EPC Report on Youth Unemployment, as an important input to this debate."

Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility.
KEY FIGURES

Participants: 15,000 direct - 2,000,000 indirect
EU grant: €1,120,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: EU Member States

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

In 2017, the Foundation’s weekly newsletter reached a readership of 100,000 and the Foundation’s website received almost 400,000 visitors every month. There have been almost 2,000 downloads of its mobile application, and it has 13,000 followers on Twitter and 8,300 on Facebook.

The app is constantly updated with daily news from the EU institutions and the Member States, which makes it a key tool for informing European citizens.

The website is also updated with news every day and gives access to a wide range of research materials on EU policies. Indeed, in 2017 the Robert Schuman Foundation published 43 “European issues” (policy papers) and 12 “European Elections Monitors” along with the Robert Schuman Report on the State of the Union (11th edition) and the EU Atlas (3rd edition).

Finally, the Foundation has increased its visibility thanks to the 60 conferences supported directly or indirectly, and its 1000 mentions in the media in 2017.

The Foundation organised a special event in Paris with the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker. He engaged in a dialogue on EU Issues. More than 600 people attended the conference. A video is available for those who were not able to join the event.

Testimonial

“The Robert Schuman Foundation is of great help for me in my studies and researches thanks to all the expertise provided on the website. I often base my research for essays on the so-called “European Issues” which offer a neutral and complete explanation of European policies as well as critical assets on a wide range of topics, and ideas of reforms.”

A Sciences Po Student.

MORE INFORMATION

www.robert-schuman.eu
@Fondationschuman
@robert_schuman
@SchumanBxl
@Fondation Robert Schuman
Channel:
Fondation Robert Schuman
IEP
Institut für Europäische Politik

KEY FIGURES
Participants: 5,400,000 (on- and offline)

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
IEP furthers the understanding of EU policy-making by involving citizens in public debates, workshops, seminars, conferences and trainings, as well as through publications and a multimedia-based online dissemination of research and discussion results. Citizens have opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement in bilateral and multilateral fora with academics, NGOs, MPs, MEPs and national or EU officials, which allows for debate and reflection on European integration. The conditions for civic and democratic participation are fostered through widely distributed and easily understandable information and explanation of EU integration with regard to institutions, decision-making and policies in publications of IEP, and through public events with interactive debates on citizenship and EU democracy together with MEPs or MPs and representatives from national and European institutions.

IEP organises “Public Debates” on European politics. It invites distinguished speakers and other experts from the member states and EU institutions to talk about issues of European integration. These issues are discussed in a forum where people from academia, politics, media, pressure groups, embassies and non-governmental organisations, and who are interested in the development of European integration, can meet. Through its Public Debates, IEP promotes the discourse on EU topics and encourages exchange between policy-makers, academics, journalists and citizens.

Testimonial
“IEP public debates always offer a great forum for exchange between academia, politics and the wider public on current European issues that affect all of us.”
Participant IEP public debate.

MORE INFORMATION
www.iep-berlin.de
@IEP.Berlin
@iep_berlin
@Institut für Europäische Politik e.V.
KEY FIGURES

Participants: > 12,000
EU grant: €480,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Czech Republic and Belgium

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Thanks to the support from the Europe for Citizens Programme, EUROPEUM was able to provide deep and varied opportunities for citizens seeking to engage with the EU. EUROPEUM regularly provided objective information about current EU issues (in both Czech and English, in Prague and outside) with relevant speakers and stakeholders, and advanced fact-based knowledge and discussions about the EU, together with EU agencies and politicians. In addition, this support has also allowed EUROPEUM to increase its relevance in media discussions (at home and abroad) and to continue its advocacy work towards official stakeholders in the country. Finally, the grant has enabled the expansion of the scope of our work in Brussels, which has proved to be immensely useful as a two-way conveyor belt between Prague and the European capital, efficiently bringing Czech debates to EU stakeholders and vice-versa.

Café Evropa is a very successful format of public debates held in Prague and the Czech regions, which enables EUROPEUM and its partners to increase their reach across the country to a larger number of citizens. The whole concept contributes to an informal environment where the audience has space to interact with interesting speakers and debate the future of Europe and the position of the Czech Republic within it.

Testimonials

"Thank you for regularly organizing these discussions which I look forward to every month. The variety of topics really fits the interests of the public and I feel like they could be organized even more often."

"I am glad that this organization, which teaches people to think critically, exists"

Tomáš Zdechovský, MEP.

MORE INFORMATION

www.europeum.org
@EUROPEUMPrague
@EUROPEUMPrague
@Europeum Institute for European Policy
@EUROPEUMPrague
Channel:
Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM
ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

The Jacques Delors Institute has set out, from the start, to engage with citizens, as its Founding President intended. The European project can face indifference and distrust from citizens so it is essential to foster dialogue to ensure its legitimacy. This is what the Jacques Delors Institute strives to achieve by organising public ‘citizens’ dialogue’ events across France and Europe, and also online, aiming to reach increasingly diverse audiences. The events are often followed by syntheses or audio-visual publications to maximise impact.

The Jacques Delors Institute works to analyse and deepen the democratic aspect of the European Union based on three main research areas: representative democracy (functioning of the European Parliament, European political parties and the role of national parliaments, etc.), participative democracy (European elections, national elections and referenda, citizen deliberations, etc.) and the European public sphere (monitoring of European public opinion in particular).

Over the past three years, we have increased our pedagogic efforts.

In 2017, the Jacques Delors Institute launched the Académie Notre Europe, a project that offers the opportunity to youth and journalists to meet and exchange with European personalities, experts and practitioners of the European construction in order to become more informed, active and engaged citizens.
PROVIDUS
Centre for Public Policy

KEY FIGURES
- Participants: 5,923
- Network: Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany, Belgium, Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, Portugal and Finland

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
With the help of the Europe for Citizens grant, the PROVIDUS Centre for Public Policy was able to organise many high-profile events on EU-related issues throughout 2014-2017. We are particularly proud of the work achieved prior to the 2014 European Parliament elections in creating voting advice applications, informing voters about the most important votes in the previous term of the parliament, and creating networks of civic society organisations and media that collaborate on EU-related issues. PROVIDUS is now also able to provide an annual policy conference on topical issues that are being discussed at EU-level, such as the future of political parties or the competition for talent in the EU.

The Public Policy Forum “Migration Policies: Competing for Talent” was held in December 2017, focusing on migration as an opportunity and drawing on the positive policy experiences of other European countries. With an innovative mix of experts, civil servants, businesspeople and professionals amongst the speakers and participants, the forum sparked a lively debate, exchange of practical ideas and challenged prevailing views of migration as a problem.

Testimonial
“The aim of the annual Public policy forum ‘Migration Policies: Competing for Talent’ in 2017 was to raise awareness of migration’s possible contributions to country’s economy, competitiveness, and innovation development in order to promote more positive attitudes towards immigration and a more strategic policy making process regarding attracting of talents in Latvia. Ideas gained in the forum from various European backgrounds will be used for fostering evidence-based policy making in the area of migration in Latvia via developing policy briefs and organizing discussions with policy makers.”

Agnese Lāce, senior policy researcher, PROVIDUS

MORE INFORMATION
- www.providus.lv
- @providuslv
- @providus
- @Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS
- Channel: providuslv
KEY FIGURES

Participants: Number of direct participants - over 37,000 people for the whole period
EU grant: €289,046.8 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Republic of Bulgaria

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

In its Strategic Development Plan 2015-2018 and Multiannual Action Plan 2015-2017, the National Roma Centrum (NRC) identified four priorities: (1) Roma housing, (2) Health promotion and protection, (3) Provision of legal aid and (4) Capacity building. In order to develop a comprehensive approach to working for Roma rights, the NRC established an informal coalition, with six partner organisations and three entity partners. In 2016 this became the Social Inclusion Network.

1. 1570 cases with administrative, legal aid, advocacy and legal representation in housing cases. Submissions were made to the government resulting in amendments to legislation.
2. 200 Roma women and girls with sexual and reproductive health discussions, and access to preventative health care.
3. 3000 peoples with legal aid; over 150 cases solved with pro bono legal aid.
4. 1500 citizens who used the CRC Platform to share personal opinions, concerns and recommendations on how to improve the participation of ethnic communities; 511 Roma citizens were involved in socio economic research and 180 trained in civil rights.

Testimonial

“In terms of advocacy, NRC is well established and positioned among the various stakeholders for its high-quality standards and capabilities. The organization is considered as flexible and resilient to the changes in the government policies and legislation, and at the same time vital and responsive to the needs of the community. NRC staff is very responsive in providing answers, documents, facts and numbers in short time and within deadlines; they can organize a public campaign in just 15 days.”

From advocacy capacity assessment report.

MORE INFORMATION

www.nationalromacentrum.org
@NationalRomaCentrum
@National Roma Centrum
Channel: National Roma Centrum
PLATFORMS OF PAN-EUROPEAN ORGANISATIONS
KEY FIGURES
Participants: 3,300
EU grant: €1,400,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Spain and United Kingdom

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
Over the 4 years partnership, the European Movement has successfully fulfilled several objectives and continues to produce added-value for EU citizens. The policy content we develop and the associated communication, whether in printing or on social media, has grown throughout the partnership, allowing us to attract new audiences and, across Europe and to improve citizens’ understanding of the EU. Through events we have organised in Brussels, and at local level, we are bridging the gap between the EU and its citizens. These events have reached directly and indirectly around 4,000,000 people. Our communication and our online presence enable us to deliver our pro-European message to many citizens, civil society organisations and other stakeholders.

The 9th of May, Europe Day, sees celebrations of different kinds, of the Schuman declaration, organised by the European Movement International in several member states and candidate countries.

Testimonial
“Pretty stimulating and inclusive event which gave the opportunity to a great number of young and promising Europeans to come together, network and exchange ideas and, most important, experiences from their various domestic backgrounds so as to shape or pave the way for shaping, to a certain extent, a potential modern narrative supportive of the European Project.”

Participant at an EMI event.

MORE INFORMATION
www.europeanmovement.eu
@european.movement
@EMInternational
@European Movement International
Channel: European Movement International
KEY FIGURES

Participants: over 10,000
EU grant: €2,400,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Social Platform is a network of 48 European civil society organisations working in the field of social justice and participatory democracy in Europe. Combined, our members’ national networks are present in all EU Member States.

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Social Platform works with civil society organisations to give voice to citizens’ opinions and their experiences in EU decision- and policy-making. We do this through the active involvement of our 48 members, representing grassroots organisations working in the social sector in all EU Member States. Our activities aim to improve people’s understanding of the EU, foster EU citizenship and promote participatory democracy.

One key result of the work we carried out thanks to the financial support received from the Europe for Citizens programme was to ensure European Heads of State and Government are informed about what citizens expect the EU to do in order to regain trust and safeguard our democracies. Vice-versa, through the extensive work of our members around the event, people throughout Europe were informed about the EU priorities set by their governments collectively, which aim to positively affect their daily lives.

Each year Social Platform and a delegation of members conduct field visits to a European Member State. In 2016 a delegation of Social Platform members visited southern Sweden to meet and engage with organisations actively working to promote the cultural, social and economic inclusion of migrants and refugees.

Testimonial

“Our strength in numbers is a testament to our shared belief that our work really can – and does – bring positive change to the lives of people in the EU. Social Platform is in a unique position to build the bridge between the European Institutions, thousands of civil society organizations at EU, national, regional and local level and millions of citizens, while at the same time providing members a forum for policy coordination, joint action, peer learning and capacity-building.”

Patricia Scherer, Public Affairs Deputy Director at Nexem (national member of Social Platform member EASPD) & Social Platform board member.

MORE INFORMATION

www.socialplatform.org
@socialplatform
@social_platform
@Social Platform
Channel: SocialPlatformEU
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS WORKING AT EUROPEAN LEVEL
ALDA
Association of Local Democracy Agencies

KEY FIGURES
Participants: 2,140,000
EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: 800 among members and partners from the 28 EU Member States and the Enlarged Europe (i.e. MED, SEE and EaP)

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
Europe for Citizens is a direct phone line accessible to all Europeans which aims to build a better Union, making us appreciate our diversity while feeling we belong together. In times of decreasing social cohesion and trust, this tool gives a voice to European citizens.

From 2014 to 2017 ALDA was awarded an operating grant to support their structure and activities to boost citizen participation all over the European Union, and to share our values, and the feeling of belonging together.

By promoting exchange and dialogue, Europe for Citizens gives a voice to each of the over 500 million Europeans. Through actions, such as its “One programme, 500 million voices!” campaign ALDA reinforces and empowers this.

“Employment, Culture, Participation: Re-shape European cities and communities for the effective inclusion of migrants” was the subject of a seminar organised by ALDA as part of this campaign, and of its activities to remind EU citizens and institutions of the importance of dialogue and exchange in the process of policy-making at EU level.

Testimonial
“Globalization poses new opportunities and challenges for public authorities, and Vejle believes it is important to work with international institutions and organisations to share its experiences, and learn from colleagues abroad. International cooperation strengthens intercultural understanding in the municipality, both among citizens and employees. As such, the Municipality of Vejle is honoured and happy to be a member and a partner of ALDA, which over the years, has provided us access to its large network of local democracy institutions and cooperated in many of its projects.”

Mayor of Danish municipality.

The event brought together three Europe for Citizens funded projects, with findings on employment, intercultural dialogue and participation. It was a unique occasion to create synergies among beneficiaries of the programme and reflect on its added value for the European integration process by putting citizens at the centre.

The two-day event at the European Parliament was supported by MEP Gimenez Barbat and Mr Gilles Pelayo, Head of Unit for the Europe for Citizens Programme. They were joined by over 40 participants, representatives of local authorities and civil society associations, who had the opportunity to exchange ideas and opinions.

MORE INFORMATION
www.alda-europe.eu
@ALDA.Europe
@ALDAeurope
@ALDA European Association for Local Democracy
@aldaeurope
Channel: ALDA - European Association for Local Democracy
AEDH
Association Européenne pour la Défense des Droits de l’Homme

KEY FIGURES
Participants: 29 organisations

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
L’AEDH est un réseau européen de 29 organisations membres et d’adhérents individuels dont la mission est de défendre et promouvoir une Europe démocratique qui garantisse les libertés et les droits de chacune et chacun sans discrimination. Généraliste, elle agit pour tous les droits, civils, politiques, ainsi que pour les droits économiques et sociaux. Elle défend l’universalité, l’indivisibilité, l’applicabilité et l’inaliénabilité de tous les droits. ‘Europe pour les Citoyens’ a permis à l’AEDH de déployer son expertise au travers d’activités de plaidoyer, de veille politique et juridique, d’information et de sensibilisation et de formation. Fédératrice, elle est indispensable à la coordination des missions et des prises de positions de ses organisations membres et leur donne une voix auprès des institutions européennes. Le résultat en est une synergie entre ce qui est adopté au niveau européen et ce qui est développé en retour par ses associations membres dans leur pays.
Partant du constat qu’avec le Brexit l’incertitude demeure quant au devenir des citoyens européens non britanniques résident et travaillent au Royaume-Uni et des britanniques encore citoyens européens résident et travaillent sur le territoire d’un autre Etat membre, l’AEDH s’est associée avec New Europeans, organisation britannique de défense des droits civiques, pour organiser un cycle de conférences sur le Brexit et les droits des citoyens. Fiscalité, emploi, protection sociale, retraite, droit de circulation, d’installation, droit social, résidence, impôts : l’espace des dangers est vaste et demande à être étudié.
Informier et sensibiliser les citoyens sur les négociations en cours, en particulier en ce qui concerne leurs droits, partager les initiatives mises en place, donner la parole aux citoyens, qu’ils soient travailleurs salariés, indépendants, personnes avec handicap, etc., et collecter leurs interrogations, expériences et point de vue pour ensuite les incorporer dans nos positions et faire le lien entre la société civile et les institutions européennes, tels sont les objectifs principaux du cycle de conférence.
Le cycle de conférences a été inauguré à Bruxelles le 17 novembre 2017 à Bruxelles en partenariat avec ELSA-Brussels et a rassemblé chercheurs, représentants des institutions européennes, juristes, organisations de la société civile, étudiants et citoyens autour du Brexit et ses conséquences sur les institutions, la liberté de circulation, les politiques d’asile et migration et son impact social au sein de l’UE et au Royaume-Uni. Le cycle de conférence s’est poursuivi en 2018 avec une journée de tables-rondes à Londres le 16 mars 2018 sur l’impact du Brexit sur les personnes avec handicap, l’égalité, la famille, la protection des données, l’accès à la justice. Une troisième conférence est en cours de préparation pour 2018.

Testimonial
“Depuis sa création, l’AEDH se mobilise à Bruxelles et en Europe par l’intermédiaire de ses organisations membres pour une harmonisation européenne des droits sociaux. Cette mobilisation s’est concrétisée par l’organisation d’événements, un travail continu de plaidoyer, l’animation de groupes de travail ou encore le partage d’informations via la newsletter de l’association. Même si elle n’est pas contraignante, la déclaration sur le Socle européen des droits sociaux signée lors du Sommet européen de Göteborg est une première victoire. Sans le soutien du programme ‘Europe pour les Citoyens’, une telle mobilisation de l’AEDH au quotidien n’aurait pu être possible.”
Dominique Guibert, Président de l’AEDH.

MORE INFORMATION
- www.aedh.eu
- @AEDH.EU
- @AEDH_EU
- @Agir Ensemble pour les Droits de l’Homme (AEDH)
- Channel: AEDH (Agir Ensemble pour les Droits de l’Homme)
KEY FIGURES

Participants: Number of direct participants. We have 250,000 unique visitors each month, and around 1983 direct participants each year.

EU grant: €200,000 per year which is a total of €800,000 (2014 - 2017).


ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Thanks to the Europe for Citizens grant, Cafébabel has been able to develop innovative ways of interesting citizens in Europe. Cafébabel is today recognised as a model of integration, and an example of multiculturalism and defence of democracy and active citizenship around the world. We are recognized as a media for multiculturalism and cultural diversity in Europe. The multilingual aspect of the magazine is one of our pillars and allows thousands of Europeans to maintain or strengthen their language skills by translating or reading in several languages. The pedagogical strength of our project is that it does not only talk about Europe but makes Europe real to its participants and readers. We are gradually building a network of civil society actors and participatory projects from 13 European countries.

In 2015, we focused on the development of volunteer coaching through training young leaders of groups responsible for the Cafébabel local teams throughout Europe. We organized a four-day training in Brussels on European project management, online communication and new recruitment techniques for volunteers. It brought together 44 young network leaders from youth workers’ and citizen media organizations from 13 different countries.

Testimonials

“Great atmosphere - open people, happy to learn from one another and to have a good time together. Fantastic collaborations.”

“As it was for me a first general meeting with the other teams, I feel really satisfied about concretely getting involved, joining the network. I also feel satisfied about the outcome of TAC, because there is one.”

“I really love to work with cafébabel’s people.”

Young Europeans participating to our TAC (Talking about Cooperation) project in Budapest.

MORE INFORMATION

www.cafebabel.com
@cafebabelmagazine
@cafebabel_ENG
@cafébabel
Channel: Cafébabel European Magazine
KEY FIGURES

Participants: Project directly involved at least 1000 CSOs from Serbia and the Western Balkans Region, including 30,000 citizens (directly and indirectly)


Network: Project activities were implemented in: Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Estonia, FYROM, Montenegro, Albania, Croatia, Belgium...

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Project positively influenced two components of the EU integration in the WB region:

1) citizens’ participation and transparency/accountability of government work – creating policy frameworks and enabling citizens to change their role from passive actors to active partners in democratic processes triggered by the EU integration,

2) direct engagement of citizens in societal transformation related to improvement of youth employability, bridging education and labor market needs, support youth in finding decent work opportunities through internships and employment arrangements.

BOS implemented:
- More than 130 different activities;
- Involved more than 30,000 citizens in Serbia, across the Western Balkan region and the EU (directly and indirectly);
- More than 1000 directly involved CSOs;
- Produced 3 regional policy studies, at least 20 policy documents, brochures and info-leaflets and publications.

The main BOS platforms recorded more than 1,300,000 visits: “Let’s Speak about Negotiations”, BOS Transformer, Mingl, BOS Career, BOS official website, and the Europe in Your Pocket Android Application.

Testimonial

“I think it is very important that we as citizens are informed how exactly the EU integration will change our communities, especially when it comes to things related to our everyday life. I see that it is not only up to CSOs and others to inform us, we have to be proactive and educate ourselves on this as well.”

Participant at the 3rd International Move, Link & Engage Conference.

MORE INFORMATION

www.bos.rs
@bos.rs
@boskola
Channel: belgrade.ope,.school
KEY FIGURES

Participants: 2,000
Network: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Latvia, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

The “Helping Hands – Hope for Europe” conference in 2015 revisited some of the key statements from EYV 2011 and considered those commitments, promises and aspirations alongside some examples of varying developments in volunteering policy and practice across Europe in the subsequent five years. It was agreed that considerable work remained to be done in order to realise a fitting EYV 2011 legacy and that the required policy agenda for volunteering should focus on the 5 ‘Rs’: Recognition, Real Value, Regulatory framework, Resources, Refugees.

Testimonials

“Participation in the European Volunteering Capital Competition has enabled us to achieve even greater outreach to our local organisations and involve some individual volunteers and their organisations in European level activities for the first time.”

“Membership of CEV and knowing the other members, meeting them in events, strengthens our daily work and gives a great framework for increased cross-border volunteer exchanges.”

“CEV members like us can take the work of CEV and adapt it and use it locally/nationally, translating it into our own languages etc.”

“Being a member supported our advocacy achievements. CEV has inspired the development of the volunteering infrastructure in eastern countries and helped the transfer of good practices from west to east.”

“CEV is very important for the national level, bringing multi-sector cooperation.”

“In bringing the European perspective to our discussion, debate and reflection about integration of refugees and the role of volunteering, CEV has been invaluable.”

“At the Sligo Volunteer Centre it was fantastic to be hosting the European Volunteering Capital in 2017. We saw a 13.5% increase in volunteers registering and a 20% increase in Volunteer Opportunities.”

“CEV is a source of new insights, developments of vision, building up experiences and good practices. We can gather ideas, experiences and opportunities to join European Projects.”

Participants to CEV’s events.

MORE INFORMATION

www.europeanvolunteercentre.org
@CEV.volunteer
@VolunteeringCEV
@European Volunteer Centre - CEV
Channel: Volunteer Voice
CCRE / CEMR
Council of European Municipalities and Regions

KEY FIGURES
Participants: +/- 8,000
EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: National associations of Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYROM, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Romania, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
We gathered representatives of EU institutions and local and regional governments to discuss initiatives to improve European legislation and policies at subnational levels. This helped to improve communication about EU affairs at local and regional levels and raise awareness among citizens, thus contributing in turn to the more active participation of citizens and local/regional government in the EU decision-making process.

We have also managed to strengthen citizens’ understanding of the Union and foster civic engagement. Our way of working with expert groups, preparing position papers, meetings, conferences, workshops and seminars in the period 2014-2017, has helped to strengthen a culture of subsidiarity and multilevel governance in the fields of citizenship, economic, social and territorial cohesion, environment and climate change, public services management, gender equality, etc.

Our twinning work has also contributed to a greater awareness of remembrance, our common history and values, as well as to stimulating debate, reflection and development.

Testimonial
“Europe programme funds hundreds of bottom-up projects of twinned towns and networks of towns and provides structural support to European organisations supporting our common European values. In times of doubt about the European project and rise of nationalism, the operating grant has been really helpful to get citizens more involved, bring local and regional governments closer to the EU, enhance participation and improve legislation and implementation of EU policies.”
Frederic Vallier, CEMR Secretary General.

MORE INFORMATION
- www.cemr.eu
- @CCRECEMR
- @Council of European Municipalities and Regions
- Channel: CEMR CCRE
**EAB**
Europäische Akademie Berlin

**KEY FIGURES**
- **Participants**: Number of direct participants: 7,149
- **EU grant**: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
- **Network**: all EU-countries

**ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES**
Thanks to its Europe for Citizens grant, the European Academy Berlin reached over 7,000 citizens directly and over 255,000 indirectly, in Germany and Europe-wide. Throughout the funding period, the EAB concentrated on five spheres of activity: “Europe in the classroom and for schools”; “Capacity building and empowerment”; “European politics in daily life”; “Europe in Berlin” and “International encounters”.

The funding enabled the EAB to realise the aims of the EFC-programme. 132 activities, organised in cooperation with over 100 partner organisations, have facilitated the exchange of ideas and knowledge/experience sharing. Outcomes included cross-cultural dialogue and the enhancement of non-formal learning. In addition, conveying a more comprehensive understanding of the Union, its values and accomplishments along with pro-European individual experiences were rendered possible. Citizens were empowered to get constructively involved in European affairs and to counter anti-Europeanism.

The Danube Salon was a transnational gathering of representatives of governments from the Danube countries’ and the macro region’s civil society, culture and tourism organisations. On the occasion of ITB Berlin, and in cooperation with the Slovenian Embassy and Baden-Württemberg, the activity has focused on ‘Sustainability in tourism’. The activity assembled several hundred participants promoting intercultural exchange and a common awareness of a unique European region.

**Testimonials**
- “Empowerment and Exchange: This is the best way to bring people and countries together!”
  change – exchange – transformation: competence enhancing and skill development for young European disseminators, July/August 2014
- “Thank you for your involvement in the development and education of young generation, especially in the context of EU values!”

**MORE INFORMATION**
- www.eab-berlin.eu
- @EABBerlin
- @europaeische_akademie_berlin
- Channel: Europäische Akademie Berlin

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European Alternatives Limited

KEY FIGURES

Participants: 30,000
EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and UK

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

European Alternatives is an innovative democratic transnational organisation which involves citizens from across the continent in jointly planning and carrying out its activities. Major results of this active citizenship include:

- a connected citizenry: extending a network of local clubs and citizen-volunteers across the continent, regularly discussing European politics and social issues
- training over 1000 people, often from marginalised groups, in citizens’ rights, migrants’ rights, combatting hate speech, online activism, promoting EU democracy and other topics.
- TransEuropa Festival every two years as a unique festival of European citizenship, happening across the continent and mixing culture, arts, new media and politics in exciting ways.
- campaigns on free movement, migrants’ rights, precarity, transparency, achieving improvements through the European Ombudsman, Parliament, and Commission.
- dialogue between citizens and institutions: major conferences involving MEPs, national governments, and notable intellectuals,
- artists and citizens
- online videos, documentaries, talk shows and the new media platform politicalcritique.org bringing fresh information and ideas on European citizenship to thousands of readers/viewers every day.

TransEuropa Festival 2017: events across the continent on the theme ‘Converging Spaces’. Over 50 events in Madrid, including workshops, exhibitions and tours, involving citizens from across Europe, refugees, politicians, journalists and others. Each day participants could receive training in new forms of politics, produce new culture with refugees, debate nationalism, and join the European Commons Assembly.

Testimonial

“Taking part in European Alternatives has allowed me to live my European citizenship everyday: I am in contact with people from across Europe, and volunteer with citizens from every background to work together to make our continent better. Because of its transnational nature, wherever I go in Europe I am part of the same organisation. I have learnt so much about my rights, our history, cultures and politics and how to be an active citizen. The innovative methods of European Alternatives mixing new media, art, discussion, debate, video, culture and politics are really exciting, and makes Europe seem like an adventure.”

Young citizen from Sibiu

MORE INFORMATION

- www.euroalter.com
- @euroalter
- @EuroAlter
- @European Alternatives
- @european_alternatives
- Channel: euroalter
EAVI
European Association for Viewers Interests

KEY FIGURES
Participants: + 10,000
EU grant: €384,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: All EU 28 and beyond Europe

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
Thanks to its Europe for Citizens grant, EAVI has established itself as a leader in media literacy for citizenship at the European level. In order to improve communication welfare, EAVI promoted media literacy and full citizenship within its fields of activities, in Europe and beyond. We have worked in the field of media literacy longer than almost any other organisation in Europe.

EAVI participated to high-level fora and Experts groups of international bodies such as the EC, CoE and EAO. We have organised international conferences, produced cartoons in twenty languages, fed our blogs and social media, compiled guides, set up training and workshops, informed policy making, built networks and so forth.

Achievements are many and include authoring EU-wide research, producing popular cartoons and infographics on fake news, informing networks and getting media literacy back in EU legislation (AVMSD).

EAVI is now recognised as an established player in the EU policy for media and citizenship.

EAVI organized his successful workshop Beyond Fake News, the 26th of September 2017. It was attended by 20 professionals from various international organisations, local and national governments and NGOs. The number of interested participants exceeded the number of places. The feedback received on the event allowed EAVI to continue to develop ways to teach media literacy-related issues.

Testimonials
“The presentation was extremely interesting and informative. The importance of making individuals media literate has never been so clear,”
Brussels Fake News Workshop, Brussels, Belgium.

“I love EAVI on twitter. It keeps me up to date on what’s happening in the world of media literacy. The blog posts are very good they are very interesting. This is such a key time in politics and the media plays such a big part of that. It seems that media literacy has never been more important.”
EAVI twitter follower, Greece.

MORE INFORMATION
www.eavi.eu
@eavi.eu
@_eavi
@EAVI Media Literacy for Citizenship
Channel:
EAVI - Media Literacy for Active Citizenship
ECAS
European Citizen Action Service

KEY FIGURES
Participants: Number of direct participants: 83,000
EU grant: €737,544.64 (2014 - 2017)
Network: All EU Member States with the exception of Luxembourg

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
Thanks to the grant, ECAS has developed its Digital Democracy Focus Area to explore the democratic potential of Information and Communication Technology in reducing the gap between political elites and citizens.

ECAS’ publication ‘Towards a Crowdsourcing Pilot at the EU level: Taking Decisions with Citizens and Not for Them’ set the scene for new e-participation methods at EU level that should be introduced to enhance citizens’ engagement in policy-making.

Through the ECI Support Centre, ECAS, Democracy International, and the Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe provided legal and campaigning advice, and broadcasting support, to organisers of various European Citizens’ Initiatives.

The EU Rights Clinic, supported by the grant, has provided solutions to difficult cases for about 640 EU migrants and 4 NGOs and has advocated for the implementation of concrete and sufficient measures at EU level and in Member States to overcome visible and hidden barriers to European citizenship.

More than 110 citizens took part in ECAS’ annual Digital Democracy Day in 2016 – ‘Will E-Participation Bring Citizens Back to the EU?’ Participants explored the future of e-participation and crowdsourcing, engaging ‘digital natives’ in policy-making, and connecting citizens to politicians. The event outlined the need to develop a new participatory model of policy-making to bring political engagement in line with advances in digital technology in order to overcome democratic disengagement and low levels of participation amongst young people.

Testimonial
“We started an ECI without necessarily realising the complexity of the task and what it entailed. Fortunately, the support that we received from ECAS helped us address a number of challenges and we were provided with very valuable advice on strategies to set up our ECI, develop our campaign and avoid mistakes that others had already made. The fact that it was also possible to promote the ECI via ECAS’ newsletter and other communication means was also very helpful.”

Marc Soignet, Communications Manager at the Humanist Federation.

MORE INFORMATION
- www.ecas.org
- @ecas.eu
- @ecas_europe
- @ECAS - European Citizen Action Service
- @ECASBrussels
- Channel: ECASBrussels
EUNET
European Network for Education and Training

KEY FIGURES
- Participants: 80,000
- EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
- Network: BiH, CZ, CY, DK, D, GR, E, F, HR, I, L, HU, M, N, NL, A, P, PL, RO, SK, SL, S, TR, UA and UK

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
Together with our members we have been able to narrow the gap between the European Union and its citizens. With roughly 800 activities every year we improved the knowledge and the understanding of citizens regarding European integration, the way the European Union works, and the impact of European laws and regulations on their daily life. We helped citizens understand that Europe is not a top down process, that it belongs to the citizens and not to institutions, and encouraged citizens to get actively involved in the process of a Europe built by and for its citizens. We encouraged citizens to participate more actively in the development of a society built on the common values that the majority of Europeans still share, and to stand up against populism and xenophobia.

With all that, we managed to bring Europe closer to its citizens. Bringing together people from many European countries, of all ages and from different social backgrounds, to discuss European issues from different perspective and to develop the future together is a priceless experience.

Testimonial
“Before taking part in this seminar I had no idea on how much influence the European Union has on my life.”

Participant to seminar

MORE INFORMATION
- www.european-net.org
- @EUNETeV
- @EUNETeV
- @EUNET E.V.
KEY FIGURES

Participants: ca. 10,000 (physical presence) + 35,000 online voters for the Awards
EU grant: €800,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands (the), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Serbia, United Kingdom and FYROM

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

The period 2014-2017 was a very peculiar situation when it comes to Democracy in Europe. As NGOs were particularly targeted in some countries where the ECF has many member organisations, the new activities that we launched in this period proved to be very timely, aimed at giving visibility to civic actors (the European Citizenship Awards, Activizenship Magazine) and exploring new paths for collaboration with other stakeholders (the European Civic Academy). Thus, the ECF has developed a new way of recognising the work of ordinary citizens, who stand for European fundamental values and giving them the visibility they deserve.

Across three editions of the European Citizenship Awards, more than 20,000 citizens voted for various initiatives. The ECF also observed a stronger commitment of the civil society sector and of the institutions to put Article 11 TEU into practice.

The European Civic Days are a unique space for decision-makers, civic actors and citizens to share ideas and experiences, to take stock of political, institutional and social challenges facing Europe today and envision ways forward.

Testimonial

“The programme is not only about presenting the added value of the European Union, it is about involving people, communities into concrete processes where co-decision is key: it shows them how European democracy works and stimulates their engagement to do more.”

President of the European Civic Forum, Jean-Marc Roirant, during the opening speech of the European Civic Days 2017.

MORE INFORMATION

www.civic-forum.eu
@EuropeanCivicForum
@ForCivicEu
Channel: European Civic Forum
ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

The Europe for Citizens programme has sustainably enriched the activities of the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (hbs). Since 2014, the hbs has carried out 93 individual activities in 29 countries, reaching about 2.8 million EU citizens.

Our main focus was to develop a specific European awareness among the target groups and particularly young EU citizens concerning issues of democracy and environmental policies. By fostering discourses, activities were aimed at deepening a common European identity, demonstrating the EU’s relevance for active civic participation, and promoting the potential for a European socio-ecological transformation.

Using our European networks, the hbs has managed to create a common space for in-depth debates about the EU, especially concerning the challenges of populism, asylum policies and European energy transition. The projects have led to an empowerment effect among participants, motivating them to actively engage in EU processes, critical discourses about EU scepticism and a solidary European Union.

The fourth Europe Congress for European Social and Solidarity Economy on 9-11 June 2017 in Athens, brought together grassroots movements, politics, academia and civil society to support knowhow-transfer, the exchange of good practices and European networks. With 637 participants from 22 countries, 2,700 real and online visitors, 950 Facebook fans and 3,000 printed flyers, the event has reached a high visibility among the general public.

Testimonial

“At present, there is no human rights reporting in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). With the support of the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung (hbs), we have been able to continuously observe and report about the human rights situation in the country [for the past years]. The hbs contribution therefore helps to bring citizens of BiH closer to the EU-citizens. We value our cooperation with the hbs since it allows us to develop and put into practice new ideas in the interest of the common good.”

Sarajewo Open Center, BiH.
**KEY FIGURES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>2,300</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EU grant</td>
<td>468,000 € (2014 - 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network</td>
<td>Allemagne, Belgique, Bulgarie, Espagne, France, Grande-Bretagne, Irlande, Italie, Luxembourg, Pays-Bas, Pologne et Roumanie</td>
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**ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES**

Grâce au programme L’Europe pour les citoyens, ATD Quart Monde a pu progresser dans la lutte contre la discrimination pour raison de pauvreté, renforcer la citoyenneté et la mise en œuvre des droits fondamentaux, par un travail commun entre personnes vivant l’extrême pauvreté et citoyens de tous milieux.

ATD Quart Monde a pu ainsi coordonner des actions, des rencontres, ainsi qu’une Campagne Stop Pauvreté afin d’engager citoyens et pouvoirs publics à ne laisser personne de côté.

Les résultats concrets sont des engagements de personnes aux côtés des plus pauvres, une avancée européenne sur la Garantie Jeunesse et sa mise en œuvre dans les Etats-membres, de nouvelles initiatives sur le plan économique.

« Manifestement, la société veut agir. Il faut maintenant que les politiques bougent et s’emparent de la lutte contre les causes de la pauvreté » a déclaré Claire Hédon, présidente du Mouvement ATD Quart Monde en France, au « Village des initiatives pour une société autrement » qui s’est tenu Place de la République à Paris, les 14 et 15 Octobre 2017.

**Testimonial**

"ATD Quart Monde espère que le Socle contribuera à reconnecter l’Union européenne avec les citoyens et que l’ambition de ne laisser personne de côté restera au cœur de sa mise en œuvre. (...) ATD Quart Monde appelle à prendre les moyens pour atteindre les personnes qui connaissent les plus grandes difficultés. Le Socle des droits sociaux doit bénéficier à tout le monde, y compris les personnes qui sont sans statut clair, sans papiers d’identité ou sans domicile reconnu, des personnes sans logement, des jeunes qui ont grandi en dehors de leur famille, des personnes en chômage de longue durée. Ainsi le Socle pourra devenir un nouvel instrument puissant de lutte contre la pauvreté."

Participant à un événement.

**MORE INFORMATION**

- www.atd-quartmonde.org
- @atdfourthworldinternational
- @atd4thworld
- @ATD Fourth World
- Channel: ATD Quart Monde International
Polska Fundacja im. Roberta Schumana

KEY FIGURES
Participants: 69,600
Network: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Portugal, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES
Thanks to the Europe for Citizens Programme Schuman Foundation in 2014-17:
Promoted European and democratic values. We organised several of educational street events and pro-European manifestations or mass events in the public space.
Lead Civic and European education for young people. We organised above 50 workshops and meetings where young people could change their knowledge and views or develop their personal skills. We supported the network of approx. 300 European Clubs in several EU member states, including creation the new Clubs. We taught local leaders who lead European and civic education locally.
Discussed with the public about the future of the EU. We published several reports which were widely discussed both in the media and at meetings with experts, politicians and journalists. The Foundation organised a series of above 100 civic workshops and seminars during which residents of different countries could talk to each other about their expectations regarding the European Union.
Supported international volunteers. The Foundation coordinated the work of foreign volunteers in civic organisations across the EU. During this experience young people learned new skills while the recipients of their activities had a chance to meet citizens from other countries and get to know their culture and language.
Presented European issues in the media by simple way. Including mass media and social media.

Testimonial
“We want Europe to be: SAFE. Being able to independently face external threats. SUPPORTIVE. Offering support for people in need. INNOVATIVE. Being a global leader in the development of economy, science, protecting environment. PRO-SOCIAL. Ensuring highest standards of public services, creating conditions for fair employment, supporting the development of family-run businesses. DEMOCRATIC and LAWFUL. Decisions are made by the majority with respecting the needs of minorities, the authorities act pursuant to the law. OPEN. Providing the freedom of movement. CONFIDENT. Being proud of its values, history and culture.”
Leader of European Club, Warsaw.

MORE INFORMATION
🌐 www.schuman.pl
facebook: @FundacjaSchumana
 twitter: @Schuman_pl
 Youtube: Fundacja Schumana

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS WORKING AT EUROPEAN LEVEL
PARTICIPATORY SPACES FOR EUROPE’S CITIZENS
KEY FIGURES

Participants: 300
EU grant: €400,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: CZ, PL, AT, DE, HU and BG

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Thanks to the Europe for Citizens grant we were able to upscale the European dimension of our projects to a significantly higher level, as part of the Time to Talk Association comprising 12 debate houses from several European countries. The grant enabled us to establish new opportunities for networking between the Roma community and local schools. We began working with the unique Central European Museum of Roma Culture, a programme of musical education in partnership with El Sistema Europe, and an ongoing partnership with the Dr. Ambedkar School in Miskolc (related to the CEF).

We were able both to inspire each other, and provide each other with practical help. We hope that the partnerships established will make use of this potential in the future.

Annual public fora held around the anniversary of the Velvet revolution were inspired by the public debates in theatres that were the beginning of the fall of the old regime in Czechoslovakia in 1989. What we seek is not just the exchange of ideas and experience, but the formulation of common questions and common discourse. Throughout the grant period, with the support of the European Commission, this aspiration transformed into a high profile debating festival with a fringe program - theatre performances, film screenings and exhibitions with discussions with their creators – all related to the main theme of each annual edition. Central European Forum debates take place in the centre of Bratislava, in theatres, but also in the central Old Market Hall building, and in other towns in Slovakia.

Testimonial

“I heard here is Slovakia that some people say there is no place for islam in this society. I am convinced that this Forum will, in the years to come, prove, that there are many brilliant intellectuals coming from countries that are predominantly muslim. Central European Forum - this is the place where ideals of human rights defence tradition of East and Central Europe are resured and alive, where the spirit of the Velvet Revolution is not a distant past, but inspiration, because Europe is a verb, it is action, it is an active process and we cannot stop participating in this process.”

A quote of the Dutch writer and civic activist Chris Keulemans, founder of DeBalie, one of our partner associations.

MORE INFORMATION

@ceeforum
Channel: Stredoeurópske Fórum

www.ceeforum.eu
Volunteering Matters

KEY FIGURES

Participants: 13,302
EU grant: €620,000 (2014 - 2017)
Network: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey and United Kingdom

ORGANISATION RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Thanks to the operating grant from the Europe for Citizens Programme, Volonteurope mobilised over 13,000 active citizens throughout Europe, many of them previously unexposed to the workings of the European Union. We engaged them in policy and advocacy activities, research, campaigns, seminars and conferences, as well as innovative and participatory platforms for promoting social justice and best practices in volunteering and active citizenship in Europe.

Our campaigns and working groups delivered thoroughly-researched reports with sets of policy recommendations aimed at EU and Member State level decision-makers, civil society organisations and social partners in some of the following areas: combating rural isolation of citizens in Europe; promoting youth activism and youth rights in the EU; effectively measuring the social impact of volunteering; and strengthening levels of active citizenship and civic engagement.

The European for Citizens operating grant enabled us and the European Civic Forum to celebrate, annually, the outstanding achievements of volunteers, NGOs, social enterprises and media campaigns in promoting social justice, through the European Citizenship Awards.

Testimonial

“As I sat on the plane home that evening I was able to fully appreciate and reflect on my experiences. Not only had I been able to develop my communication skills and confidence by talking to a vast array of influential people from a multitude of backgrounds, but was also able to build upon myself as a person. Being in such an environment allowed me to hone down on my own personal beliefs and what I felt held an importance to me; the report and the people who surrounded me enforced the notion that my voice deserves to be heard just as much as anyone else’s and I became even more passionate about issues that face young Europeans. Most importantly, I realised how important the role of young people is to Europe and our society.”

Participant in Volonteurope’s 25th annual conference Apathy or Action: Young Europeans Take a Stand, held in Nantes in October 2016.

“How big is your active citizenship footprint? Active Citizens: from the local to the global level.” This event was held in Brussels on the 19th February 2018, and launched the Active Citizenship Footprint, a self-assessment tool measuring active citizenship and fostering engagement. Two European activists Marta Lempart, initiator of the Polish Women’s strike, and Daisy Kendrick, founder of the Ocean Generation, shared their experiences as active citizens in Europe and discussed how to increase the impact of a campaign – taking it from the local to the global level.

MORE INFORMATION

www.volonteurope.eu
@Volonteurope
@Volonteurope
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Channel: Volonteurope
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Europe for Citizens
Participatory spaces for Europe’s citizens
Success stories from beneficiaries of the operating grants framework 2014 - 2017

Europe for Citizens is the European Commission’s framework programme for supporting organisations active in the field of European citizenship for the period 2014-2017.

In this publication you will find information on the 34 pan-European organisations supported by Europe for Citizens. Individual factsheets demonstrate how these organisations help European citizens understand the EU’s history and diversity, and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at EU level.

Contact us

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu
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