

**The project «Twinning of European values, common future and creativity» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"**

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

**Participation:**

The project involved 880 citizens, notably 60 participants from the city of Oroszlany Varos Onkormanyzata (**Hungary**), 60 participants from the city of Konskie - Miejsko-Gminny Dom Kultury (**Poland**), 60 participants from the city of Mesto Telc (**Czech Republic**), and 700 participants from the city of Sala - Fotoklub Sala (**Slovakia**).

**Location/ Dates:**

The event took place in **Sala, Slovakia**, from 24/06/2016 to 26/06/2016.

**Short description:**

We held joint public discussion forums together with the Europe Direct organization on 24/06/2016, in various European topics. The facts, provided by the accession, were mentioned but the current actual topic of Brexit hadn't been left out either (as the official results hadn't arrived by the activity). The participants could receive information about some further education and scholarship programs offered by the EU, as well as, information was provided about civilian attitude, direct participation in the democratic process (Citizens' Initiatives, transparency register). They became richer with further accurate information by the information materials.

We visited the village together with our partners, during which, inquirers attended the announced photo workshop. We opened our exhibition at 15.00, which shows the EU funds implemented developments in the region. Thus the citizens met the outcomes of the accession from a new aspect. We hosted our partners as well, who then entertained the audience with a cultural program. Thus the linguistic and cultural diversity was also given a key role in our event. During the evening dinner and musical program, new acquaintances, personal and professional relationships had also been developed, plans were made for the further creative collaboration.

On 25/06/2016 indoor and outdoor activities were provided for children and adults. The children could meet the Union symbols, flags of the member countries by the creative workshops (common drawing, coloring books), outdoor there was opportunity for such family and group games that needed no lights and internet access. The children were involved in an interactive fairy play by the local theatre circle, in which they become an active part of the story as well. Here Union leaflets were provided as well, which were thumbed with interest by the parents and the children as well.

In the rest of the day the culture had the main role, folk traditional and modern productions provided cultural experience. The diversity was represented by folk costumes, dances, songs, melodies, which were refreshing in the heat. The discussions of cooperation were continued, which affected not only the area of culture, but the partners also found a number of other connecting points. Even then, a second-degree heat alert was ordered, so we made a responsible decision and cancelled one of the Sunday activities. It was communicated through our FB profile and also by phone in person: the visit of the nearby farm by bike is transferred to a later date when there is less health risk.

26/06/2016:

Our partners spent the morning with rest and free program, because the weather did not allow joint activity. In the afternoon our planned programs were continued, so we become richer with exciting experiences again. Laszlo Jakubecz - actor and radio presenter conveyed the passion and poetic world of Ady to the audience at 16:00 PM. The period music was provided by violinist Istvan Reiter, so during the one-hour program we could live the atmosphere, which was characterized by the age of Ady. The great, clean performance faithfully interprets the message of the poems, by which, we can experience the flare and Weltschmerz of the rebellious poet.

Later on, the civilian and voluntary options were discussed with the representatives of non-profit organizations operating in the region. Their activities till now were presented during the more than 2 hours of conversation the problems and worries that annoy almost every organization emerged by the informal conversations: the low level of mutual support and cooperation, as well as the slight involvement of citizens in voluntary actions, moreover the low information level about their activities at all. Those were present, formulated concrete plans for assist which will be implemented in cooperation with the city in the near future.