

**The project «STEP UP - Involving Citizens of Europe» 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 enabled a meeting of 40 citizens, of whom:

- 10 came from the city of Rzeszów / Poland
- 5 came from the city of Satu Mare / Romania
- 5 came from the city of Pula / Croatia
- 5 came from the city of Nyireghaza / Hungary
- 5 came from the city of Stropkov / Slovakia
- 5 came from the city of Svidnik / Sowacja
- 5 came from the city of Presov / Slovakia

**Location/ Dates:** the meeting took place in Rzeszów / Poland from 13/09/2017 to 16/09/2017.

**Short description:**

"STEP UP - Involving Citizens of Europe" is a project implemented with the support of the "Europe for Citizens" program developed by the City of Rzeszów as a leader in the partnership with European hubs; Nyíregyháza, Satu Mare, Pula, Stropkov, Svidník, Prešov.

The main objective of the project was to exchange experiences and good practices in the field of participatory democracy and to present tools used by local governments of partner cities in order to give all citizens the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the decision-making process. The exchange of experiences and the opportunity to talk about a wide range of different social integration tools will facilitate its implementation in the future to each partner and will allow you to avoid unnecessary difficulties and costs. In addition, the implementation of the project was an opportunity to strengthen cooperation between cities at the regional level.

Thanks to the large diversity of groups participating in the project, participants could get to know different points of view and collect more opinions on the solutions used, as well as outline various perspectives related to the topic. During the session, the participants worked on the difficulties in implementing participatory democracy tools, methods of encouraging people to play an active role in local community life, advantages and disadvantages of each tool and much, much more.

DAY 13/11/2017 was devoted to the meeting and mutual familiarization during the integration session held in the Rzeszów Cultural Incubator and the preliminary presentation of the project and all partners.

DAY 14/11/2017 was devoted to the official project opening conference with a lecture and discussion panel on "Social participation in city management and workshop sessions during which participants worked on the implementation of the main product of the project, i.e. "Road Map of Social Participation."

DAY 15/11/2017 there was also a session of presentation of the created documents and a discussion panel devoted to the possibilities of continuing cooperation between partners in subsequent projects implemented under the Europe for Citizens program.

The day of November 16, 2017 was devoted to the departure of project participants

**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"**

**1 event have been carried out within this project:**

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**Short description:** The meeting was devoted to the exchange of experience and good practices in the field of participatory democracy and the presentation of tools used by local governments of partner cities to provide all citizens with the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the decision-making process. Participants could learn different points of view and collect more opinions on the solutions used, as well as outline various perspectives related to the topic. During the session, the participants worked on the difficulties in implementing the participatory democracy tools, methods of encouraging people to play an active role in the local community life, advantages and disadvantages of each tool.