

The project "Integrated partnership between different cultural and ethnic backgrounds as a key to solidarity in the EU" was funded with the support of the European Union under the Europe for Citizens programme"

Application to component 2 – Action 2.1 "Town twinning"

Participation: The project involved 133 citizens, in particular 75 participants from the city of Iwkowa (Poland), 9 participants from City Walincourt-Selvigny (France), 9 participants from the city of Öcsöd (Hungary), 40 participants from the city selm (Germany)..

Place/Date: The event took place in Iwkowa (Poland), from 30.06.2022 to 04.07.2022

Summary:

As part of the "Europe for Citizens" project, from 30 June to 4 July, the municipality of Iwkowa hosted a delegation from Germany, France and Hungary. The purpose of the visit was to conduct talks and exchange experiences on the economic and social development of countries, as well as to present a vision of further cooperation.

During their stay in Poland, the delegates watched the performance of the Iwkowski Song and Dance Ensemble, the Iwkowska Wind Orchestra, as well as visited the Regional Chamber in Wojakowa, the traditional fruit dryer in Dobrociesz, the observation tower and the Hermitage of St. Urban in Iwkowa. The delegates got acquainted with the investment of building the Iwkowski Activity Center, a pedestrian and bicycle path, saw how the sewage treatment plant in Kały works, the Water Treatment Station in Wojakowa and the Volunteer Fire Brigade in Wojakowa.

Our guests also had the opportunity to take part in a multimedia show entitled "History and development of partner municipalities in the European Union", in workshops on the design of common European cultural events, methods of organizing cultural events and artistic activation of young people and seniors, increasing access to culture of residents and ethnic minorities. After the Sunday mass in the "Wooden Church", representatives of Germany, Hungary and France went to the Public Primary School in Iwkowa for a debate on the future of the youth of partner municipalities in the European Union, integration with the European Union, the development of international cooperation and ultranationalism. In the afternoon, the delegation took part in the Małopolska Family Bicycle Rally combined with the Summer Greeting at the IVY Iwkowa stadium. The visit of foreign delegations ended with a press conference summarizing the "Europe for Citizens" project.

These intense 4 days shed new light on many of the activities of the municipality as a local government unit and a community of people living in a given region. The acquired knowledge and experience will certainly be used to improve the functioning of our municipality.

10 events were carried out as part of this project:

Events:

Place / Date Iwkowa 30.06.2022 to 04.07.2022

Summary:

1. Workshops in the field of:

- designing joint cultural events of European scope and solidarity promotion of ethnic minority culture
- methods of artistic activation of young people and seniors and methods of organizing cultural events with the participation of cultural minorities

2. During the discussion series we will discuss:

- increasing access to culture for residents and ethnic minorities
- we will consider why Eurosceptics deny integration with the EU
- we will discuss the growing problem of hate speech (present in particular in the Polish media)

3. Face-to-face meetings, including debates:

- with ethnic minorities dealing with methods of increasing their access to culture
- with young people discussing the future of the youth of our municipalities in the EU
- with Eurosceptics discussing the development of international cooperation and integration with the EU or ultranationalism and national closure
- with entrepreneurs in a company producing elements of clothing for members of folk bands discussing discrimination in the workplace

4. Conferences:

- "Cultural treasures in our municipalities – our heritage" – the theme of the conference will be a solidarity-based approach to the protection and sharing of cultural goods

5. Integration activities:

- participation in the event "Cultural Treasures of Małopolska" - presentations of artists, craftsmen, culinary culture, competitions

6. Lecture:

- People's Cultural Treasures of the Iwkow Region – lecture by the curator of the Regional Chamber

7. Sightseeing:

- fruit dryer - in order to get acquainted with the drying process of "Iwkowski susorek" entered on the Polish list of traditional products

8. Artistic performances:

- folklore and traditional performances

9. Photo exhibition:

- the history of the development of our municipalities in the EU

10. Multimedia show:

- development of our municipalities thanks to EU funds

Participation in the Event

Citizens, including 75 participants from city Iwkowa (Poland), 9 participants from City Walincourt-Selvigny (France), 9 participants from city Ócsöd (Hungary), 40 participants from city Selm (Germany).