

The project «Aktív és kezdeményező partnerséggel az erősebb Európáért!» 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 579 citizens, notably 60 participants from the city of Valea lui Mihai (**Romania**), 30 participants from the city of Lžkovce (**Slovakia**), 40 participants from the city of Marghita (**Romania**), 4 participants from the city of Brechen (**Germany**), 40 participants from the city of Cristuru Secuiesc (**Romania**), 5 participants from the city of Lendava (**Slovenia**), 400 participants from the city of Nyírábrány (**Hungary**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in **Nyírábrány, Hungary**, from 13/09/2019 to 15/09/2019.

Short description:

The program of the meeting began on Friday afternoon. The groups of the foreign guests arrived and we were awaited with a full lunch after a longer or shorter trip. After that, we invited them to a joint walk until the official start of the program to get to know Nyírábrány better. They visited the community house, the newly renovated kindergarten and the area around the local castle. They went to the accommodation then, where they could change clothes. The opening ceremony of the event began at 5:00 pm, during which Béla Nyíri, the mayor of the town, explained the circumstances and main aims of the competition. This was accompanied by a speech by László Tasó, member of Parliament who also emphasized the importance of the international cooperation. Zsuzsa Komódi representative of the Europe Direct was given the floor here, who introduced the office network across Europe and then presented the most current opportunities (4 for Europe competition, information on the citizens' initiative). The introduction of the foreign partners happened in a new, interesting way: we asked them in advance to produce material that describes the development of their settlement over the last 30 years. These presentations, short films, photos were supplemented with their own words, giving the partners a complex picture of each other. Then came the tasting of the wines from the region Ier, accompanied by a mood violins and joint singing. The programs took place mainly on the stage next to the castle on Saturday. The program was aimed at children and young people in the morning: the performance of the Kisberek Folk Dance Ensemble, followed by the Ákom-Bákom Puppet Group. However, both adults and seniors had fun with the Dobrossy Family's magic show, which involved children as well. There was also the opportunity to try out a number of recreational sports and the visitors could meet interesting products and creations on the displayed stands. The range also included local handicrafts (jams, chilli sauce), fine arts (paintings, embroidery) and other specialties such as: shod eggs. It was possible to travel to the nearby ranger station by stagecoaches and several interested people looked around from the local prospecting dome. Many also visited the nature trail and searched the elderly sycamore in the forest, which was barely clasped by 4-5 people. We offered blood donation in the school building. Culture was highlighted in the afternoon. The majorette and folk dance group of our Romanian partner performed as well, while our Slovakian guests enriched the program with a singer-music production. We reviewed the most important information about the project in between each of the performances. The live concert of the group Republic and later Miklós Fenyő attracted the greatest interest, during which our domestic citizens and foreign guests had a great time as well. We went on a trip together to Tokaj-Hegyalja on Sunday, where we first took a walk in the town and then visited a local winemaker. We got a taste of its wines, so our guests got to know this wine region as well. There was a partnership program after the joint lunch - our partners signed a cooperation agreement with settlement Nyírábrány. This was followed by the EU program - we placed a box at the beginning of the event into which citizens could throw their opinions on the EU and some of its phenomena. The topics concerned the Schengen area, the euro, Serbia's accession and the future of the EU. After processing the collected opinions, a spontaneous discussion emerged on these topics, in which anyone could give his/her comment. The program was closed by a cruise, so we could admire the world heritage landscape from the Tisza as well. After returning to Nyírábrány there was gift-giving, farewell and return home.