



Europe for
Citizens

The project "The Voice of European Villages" was funded by the European Union under the Europe for Citizens Program

Applicable to Strand 2 Measure 2.1 'Town Twinning'

Participation: The project has brought together 1000 citizens, including 56 from Malé Dvorniky (SLOVAKIA)

Venue / Date: The meeting took place in Laviano (ITALY) from 11 September 2017 to 14 September 2017

Succinct description:

Fifty-six citizens from Malé Dvorniky were hosted in Laviano for three days to talk about the European Union, its history and its future.

The day of September 11, 2017 was dedicated to the presentation of the project, its aims and the welcome. Guests, arriving around 6.30 pm, were welcomed into the Municipality hall by the Mayor and the citizen.

The day of 12 September 2017 was devoted to the debate on the future of Europe. After the registration of the participants, the Professor of the University of Salerno Feola has outlined the fundamental stages of the history of the Union and the rights deriving from European citizenship; The workshop, organized by Euro-project Consulting through its representatives Mario De Vita and Maurizio Esposito, showed the functioning of the website www.debatingeurope.eu. At the end, the participants completed a questionnaire.

Then we made the Official Ceremony of Twinning: the twinning agreement by the mayors, with the oath; the symbolic exchange of the keys of the two cities; the inauguration of a table to be affixed to the entrances of the city "LAVIANO, MUNICIPALITY OF EUROPE, TWINNED WITH MALE 'DVORNIKY (SLOVAKIA)"; exchange of gifts.

The day of September 13 was devoted to cultural exchange. The inhabitants of Laviano have accompanied the Slovak participants to visit the natural beauties of the places. The evening was dedicated to the folklore street festival. The two communities shared dances and songs alternating with popular Italian and Slovak music. The outdoor dining was organized in the same way: alternating typical Italian and Slovak meals.

In the morning of September 14, 2017, guests departed after a goodbye.

As regards the organizational and procedural methods, the offices of the two municipalities worked together, through a continuous exchange of emails and Whatsapp messages, to best define the accommodation of participants from Malé Dvorniky, to hasten knowledge between the two communities, to manage practices and activities and to find solutions to any problems.

As regards to technical methods, ie the methods and techniques used to organize the conference and the workshop, we have collected and interpreted the needs and peculiarities of the participants to analyze and elaborate materials and ways to make them more efficient. Given the heterogeneity of the participants, intentionally wanted, we agreed that the frontal, immediate, simple, essential and participative explanation could be the only method and technique possible. In fact, the results of the test of satisfaction, compiled by the participants, highlighted and praised this type of approach.

Even the choice to translate all the activities in English, Slovak and Hungarian was successful and produced the desired results. In fact, thanks to live streaming videos, Hungarian minorities present in Malé Dvorniky and in the south of the Slovak Republic were able to benefit from the project's outcome.