

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

| PROJECT | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Project name and acronym: | InclusEU: Volunteer Action as a social response for an inclusive Europe. |
| Participant: | ASOCIATIA CENTRUL DE EDUCATIE FORMARE PROFESIONALA SI SINDICALA USLIP IASI (Romania) |
| PIC number: | 890958193 |

| EVENT DESCRIPTION | |
|----------------------|---|
| Event number: | 5 |
| Event name: | WP5. EUROPEAN POLICIES TO SUPPORT YOUTH VOLUNTEERISM |
| Type: | Conference, debate and workshop |
| In situ/online: | <i>In situ - online</i> |
| Location: | Iasi, Romania |
| Date(s): | 1/02/2024 – 4/02/2024 |
| Website(s) (if any): | https://includeseu.es/european-policies-to-suport-voluntarism-romania/ |
| Participants | |
| Female: | 35 |
| Male: | 41 |
| Non-binary: | 0 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|---|
| From country 1 [Spain]: | 7 | | |
| From country 2 [Italy]: | 2 | | |
| From country 3 [The Netherlands]: | 4 | | |
| From country 4 [Romania]: | 54 | | |
| From country 5 [Poland]: | 3 | | |
| From country 6 [Ireland]: | 2 | | |
| From country 7 [Portugal]: | 2 | | |
| From country 8 [Hungary]: | 2 | | |
| Total number of participants: | 76 | From total number of countries: | 8 |

Description
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

Official Minutes of the Event: WP5. EUROPEAN POLICIES TO SUPPORT YOUTH VOLUNTEERISM

Event **Number:** **5**
Event Name: WP5. EUROPEAN POLICIES TO SUPPORT YOUTH VOLUNTEERISM
Location: Iasi, Romania
Date(s): 1/02/2024 - 4/02/2024

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS ATTENDING THE MEETING:

- Rafelbunyol City Council (Spain)
- Szubjektív Értékek Alapítvány (SVF) - Subjective Values Foundation (Hungary)
- Fingal City Council (Ireland)
- Associação Juvenil de Deão – AJD (Portugal)
- Asociatia Centrul de Educatie Formare Profesionala si Sindicala

- (USLIP) (Romania)
 6. Rzeszowska Agencja Rozwoju Regionalnego Spolka Akcyjna (Poland)
 7. Associazione Inco (Italy)
 8. Heerlen City Council (Netherlands)

INTRODUCTION:

The fifth event of the InclusEU project, titled "Work Package 5: European Policies to Support Youth Voluntarism" took place in Iasi, Romania, from February 1st to 4th, 2024. This gathering brought together partner organizations from various European countries to engage in deep analysis and discussions on diversity and inclusion within the framework of solidarity. The objectives of this event were to raise awareness among schools, public institutions, and stakeholders about the positive effects of volunteerism in response to COVID-19, and to promote the inclusion of social groups with fewer opportunities.

Hosted by the Asociatia Centrul de Educatie Formare Profesionala si Sindicala (USLIP), the event featured a series of workshops, presentations, and interactive sessions aimed at fostering a more inclusive and diverse Europe. Participants explored different perspectives on diversity and inclusion, shared best practices, and developed strategies to enhance the impact of volunteerism on marginalized communities.

All individuals appearing in the event photos provided signed consent forms, ensuring compliance with privacy and ethical standards.

This document provides a detailed account of the activities conducted, discussions held, and outcomes achieved during the event, serving as a formal record for presentation to the European Commission.

OBJECTIVES

- To promote awareness about the opportunities that the European Commission offers in the field of volunteerism (Erasmus +, Solidarity Corps, etc).
- To approach the principal implications and functionalities from European institutions to participants and youth
- To reinforce the reliance with the European Institutions and policies.

Implementation of Gender Perspective:

The promotion and empowering underrepresented groups, particularly women and gender minorities have been accomplished during this event . By including diverse voices in decision-making processes, we ensured that the interventions were inclusive and responsive to the varied experiences of all participants. This was accomplished by the number of the event, specially in the diversification of speakers and audience regarding: gender, age or background. It's also remarkable the effort of the organization being a trade union with a huge number of male teachers to be in charge of a power position as women.

Implementing gender-sensitive data collection methods, ensuring that the perspectives of both men and women were equally represented in the project's

findings. This allowed us to track and assess the impacts of the actions from a gendered lens, and adjust strategies when necessary to avoid reinforcing existing inequalities. Around 46,05% of the participants were women and 53,95% men. There was a high representation of women in power positions, leading organizations and movements during conferences, workshops and talks. The outcome of these efforts resulted in a more equitable distribution of resources, opportunities, and support for all gender groups involved in the project.

All the presentations, and speakers have to have a gender balance, this helps us allow more public space for actions and projects led by women.

Ethical Considerations in Implementation:

For the event it established a robust framework for ethical decision-making, ensuring that all actions taken aligned with the highest standards of integrity, respect, and transparency. We provided clear communication about the project's goals to all the participants, methods, and expected outcomes to foster trust and promote informed consent at all stages. The Youth groups involved were free to enter and leave the project, although were informed of their rights and duties.

In addition, we took proactive measures to ensure that the project did not inadvertently perpetuate discrimination or harm any of the stakeholders, particularly those from vulnerable or groups that suffer more discrimination. We conducted regular ethical reviews and risk assessments to identify potential areas of concern, which allowed us to adjust our approach when necessary. Furthermore, safeguarding mechanisms were put in place to protect participants' privacy and confidentiality, and all data was handled responsibly in accordance with ethical standards.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES

The event focused on exploring opportunities offered by the European Commission, such as Erasmus+ funding programs, Euroscola, the Solidarity Corps, and the Norwegian Funds. Participants were provided with comprehensive information about initiatives available within the European Union in the field of solidarity actions and volunteering.

Daily Agenda and Activities:

1/02/2024

- **Arrival and Reception:**

- Participants were picked up at the airport and transferred to their hotels in Iasi.
- Reception by the President of USLIP, Mr. Laviniu Lacusta, and the President of VTC USLIP, Mrs. Angela Casariu.
- Welcome dinner at the Grand Hotel, providing an opportunity for initial networking and introductions.

2/02/2024

- **Opening Session:**

- Welcome message from the organizers and participants, featuring the presentation of the film "InclusEU."
- Opening speech by the President of USLIP, followed by an introduction from the vice-mayor of the Municipality of Iasi, Daniel Juravle.



Activity: Seminar: “The Main Opportunities of the European Commission in the Field of Volunteerism”(T5.1)

Methodology:

- **Expert Presentations (ppt, canva)** – Speakers from Europe Direct, USLIP, EuroEd, and Bethany delivered structured presentations,

each providing in-depth knowledge on different aspects of European-funded volunteerism initiatives.

- **Case Studies & Best Practices** – Real-world examples of successful Erasmus+ projects and NGO-led volunteer initiatives demonstrated practical applications of European Commission resources.
- **Interactive Q&A Sessions** – Following each presentation, participants engaged in dynamic discussions, posing questions and exploring opportunities for collaboration and project implementation.
- **Speakers:** Ioana Pruteanu, Representative of Europe Direct, Representatives from USLIP, EuroEd, Bethany.

This seminar aimed to inform and educate participants about the various funding programs, digital tools, types, and fields of European projects that support volunteerism. The seminar provided an in-depth look at the resources offered by the European Commission and how these can be leveraged to enhance volunteer activities and promote social inclusion.

Presentations Included:

1. **Ioana Pruteanu, Representative of Europe Direct:** Ioana Pruteanu provided an overview of the European programs and activities managed by Europe Direct Iasi. Her presentation highlighted the broad spectrum of opportunities available through the European Commission, focusing on how these initiatives facilitate volunteerism and community engagement. Pruteanu discussed specific programs such as Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps, emphasizing their roles in fostering cross-border collaboration and cultural exchange. She also demonstrated the use of digital tools provided by Europe Direct to streamline volunteer projects and enhance communication among stakeholders.



2. **USLIP's Erasmus+ Projects:** Representatives from USLIP presented several Erasmus+ projects that have successfully utilized European funding to support volunteerism. The projects discussed included:
 - **Skills 4future:** A project aimed at equipping young people with essential skills for the future through volunteerism and community

service.

- **TeSTED:** A project focused on training educators and volunteers to support disadvantaged groups, enhancing their social inclusion and employability.
- **ROSE (Project of the Partner School Colegiul Gheorghe Asachi):** This project highlighted how digital tools and innovative teaching methods are used to engage students in volunteer activities, promoting social cohesion and personal development. The presentations showcased the impact of these projects on local communities and provided practical examples of how other organizations can replicate these initiatives.



3. **NGO Best Practices:** Presentations by local NGOs EuroEd and Bethany illustrated successful volunteer projects and their outcomes. These NGOs shared their experiences in mobilizing volunteers, managing projects, and achieving significant social impact. Key points included:
 - **EuroEd:** Highlighted their community-based projects that address educational needs and social inclusion. They discussed their strategies for engaging volunteers, including training programs and community outreach initiatives.
 - **Bethany:** Focused on their work in supporting vulnerable groups such as children, elderly, and refugees. They provided examples of how volunteerism has been a vital component in delivering services and fostering a sense of community among beneficiaries. These presentations served as inspiration for participants, demonstrating the tangible benefits of volunteerism and offering models that can be adapted to different contexts.



Coffee Break:

An opportunity for informal discussions and networking among participants.

Lunch at the Grand Hotel

Activity: Debate: “The Future is Present” (T5.2)

A comprehensive questionnaire was created and completed by workshop participants from all eight countries. This questionnaire was designed to gather participants' opinions on social inclusion and community integration from an European Union approach. The responses were analyzed, and four key themes emerged, which were the focus of the debate. The debate was enriched by the participation of foreign volunteers from Asyris and students from Iasi schools (College Vasile Adamachi, College Gheorghe Asachi).

Debate Themes:

Each question needed to be analyzed in light of both the actions taken by the EU and our local government, as well as the potential steps that could be taken.

1. Support and Opportunities for Youth:

How can the EU best support and create opportunities for learning and sustainable development for young Europeans from rural areas and small urban communities?

2. Balancing Wildlife Preservation and Human Security:

Is human life worth more than an animal's life? Can we find a balance between wildlife preservation and human security?

3. Impact of Advanced Technology on Social Life:

With advanced technology, including AI, playing an increasingly significant role, what chances do we have for maintaining a real social life?

4. Government Measures and Climate Change:

In 20 years, it is predicted that climate change will be irreversible. Should governments impose measures to stop global warming even if it limits citizens' rights?

The debate facilitated a robust exchange of ideas and perspectives, engaging both local students and international volunteers. The interactive format allowed participants to explore these critical issues deeply and collaboratively.





Visit to the Iasi Town Hall and the Prefecture Iasi



Dinner, traditional dances



3/02/2024

Morning Activities:

Transfer to Pascani:

Participants were picked up from their hotel and transferred to Pascani, specifically to the National College Mihail Sadoveanu Pascani. The goal of the activities was to demonstrate how schools can serve as hubs for volunteerism.

Opening Speeches and Local Authorities engagement:

The activities commenced with opening speeches by the Mayor of Pascani Municipality, Marius Pintilie, and the Director of the Mihail Sadoveanu Pascani National College, Radu Ardeleanu. They emphasized the importance of volunteerism and the role of educational institutions in fostering a culture of community service and inclusion.

Activity: Seminar: "Volunteer Incubator" (T.5.1)

Speakers: Students from the Student Council at National College Mihail Sadoveanu Pascani

Methodology and description of activities:

- **Interactive Film Presentation & Discussion**

The seminar utilized a film presentation as the primary method to engage participants in a meaningful discussion on volunteerism, European projects, and crisis response. The methodology was structured into three key phases:

- **Film Screening** – Students from Student Council at National College Mihail Sadoveanu Pascani presented a documentary-style film titled "Coronavirus Pandemic, European Projects, and Communication." The film combined real-life testimonials, statistical data, and visual storytelling to illustrate the pandemic's impact on their community and how European initiatives

supported communication and resilience. The film illustrated the impact of the pandemic on their community and how European projects facilitated effective communication and support during the crisis.

- **Guided Reflection & Group Discussion** – Following the screening, the audience participated in a moderated discussion led by the Student Council representatives. Attendees were encouraged to reflect on the film's themes, share personal experiences, and analyze the role of volunteerism in crisis response.
- **Case Studies & Best Practices Workshop** – The final part of the seminar highlighted successful volunteer initiatives, represented from both local and European contexts. Participants engaged in a collaborative brainstorming session, where they proposed new volunteer strategies inspired by the examples presented.
The seminar showcased examples of best practices in volunteerism that can be adopted by other communities. These examples aimed to strengthen the sense of cohesion and inclusion among young people and to propose new initiatives to combat social exclusion. Programs highlighted included Euroscola, Youth Hub-Ambassador Schools, and Eustory, each demonstrating innovative approaches to engaging youth in meaningful volunteer activities.





During the coffee break, the participants had the opportunity to view the works of the students from the Mihail Sadoveanu National College about the COVID-19 Pandemic and to talk with the students present at extracurricular activities at school.

***Projects of NGOs from Pascani in collaboration with local school students
Sansa 2010, Gipsy Eye, Impact***





Volunteers from the association Apprentis d'Auteuil, from France, also participated in this activity, being partners of Gipsy Eye in a volunteer project.

Activity: Creative Lab “Ideas for a Better Europe” (T5.3)

Methodology: Design thinking, collaborative learning

The participants developed new project proposals focused on social support, inclusion, and volunteering, starting from the 4 priority themes, identified from the questionnaire completed by the participants:

- opportunities for young people from disadvantaged areas
- human rights
- digitization, Artificial Intelligence, and personal security
- environment protection

Dissemination

The event has been published across all partner channels in the eight participating countries. It has also been shared on the project's website and Instagram account, Includ EU.

We have successfully disseminated the project across all entities and communities. Likewise, as with all events, we have promoted the live broadcast of activities whenever possible to maximize its impact. This ensures that the learnings reach not only the participants but also a wider audience, especially young people from the pilot groups in each country, as well as social workers, youth workers, inclusion department staff, and others.

Website: <https://includ.eu/es/european-policies-to-support-voluntarism-romania/>

Official instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/includ.eu>

Some other posts and articles:

| Platform, Media, Type | Subject of the post | Link / Offline reference | Target Group |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Facebook | post - fifth meeting (Romania) | https://www.facebook.com/ | 1800 Followers |

| | | | |
|-----------|--|---|----------------|
| | | assocjuvenildeaoposts/pfbid02XiCiHNSwz87hFBKAXDYoyLYFkRCMXQcTJVWusbYHbUsNkywWW2trbUN9eNk86r2zl | |
| Instagram | post - fifth meeting (Romania) | https://www.instagram.com/p/C2-g0znqXu1/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== | 713 Followers |
| Instagram | post of Romania project event concludes | https://www.instagram.com/p/C3AM-iPomEi/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== | 4582 followers |
| Instagram | First day of the Event celebrated in Romania | https://www.instagram.com/p/C226qY8twUD/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== | 310 followers |
| Instagram | Summary of the experience in Romania | https://www.instagram.com/reel/C3ApwBDt-Po/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== | 310 followers |
| Facebook | post of Romania project event concludes | https://www.facebook.com/ajuntamentrafelbunyo/posts/pfbid02yy2JuCWfW1pgv8jjBnxSfgmgNMYSjaNKPkVXCyJ9CSm5xuTYv6dSndgV5ksPeJiwl?locale=es_ES | 6164 followers |


Evaluation and Coordination meeting:


We held a coordination meeting to follow up on the project. During the meeting, we conducted a live evaluation of the event's activities and carried out qualitative interviews about the event. Some of these interviews will be featured in the final video.


A Google Forms questionnaire was also created to evaluate both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the event, including the formal and informal activities, as well as logistical aspects.

Some of the participants' feedback included discovering new European programs they had never heard of before. Additionally, they shared ideas for replication in future actions. As a constructive criticism, due to the limited time over the two days of the event, they acknowledged that more time could have been allocated for

project development in the Creative Lab, as well as working in smaller teams.

Ajuntament
de **Rafelbunyol**






Funded by the
European Union

Sección 1 de 5


Evaluation form INCLUS EU CERV

VTC USLIP, Romania

B *I* U  

The project **INCLUS EU** from the CERV call of the European Comission aims to learn about volunteerism and participation of the Youth as a tool for a more include Europe. The main activities of the project will be workshops and debates in 8 international events.

Creative Lab_NCMS Pascari.mp4



00:12 00:05

100% Search

-1°C Partly sunny 7:48 AM 3/10/2024



Group picture from National College Mihail Sadoveanu Pascani



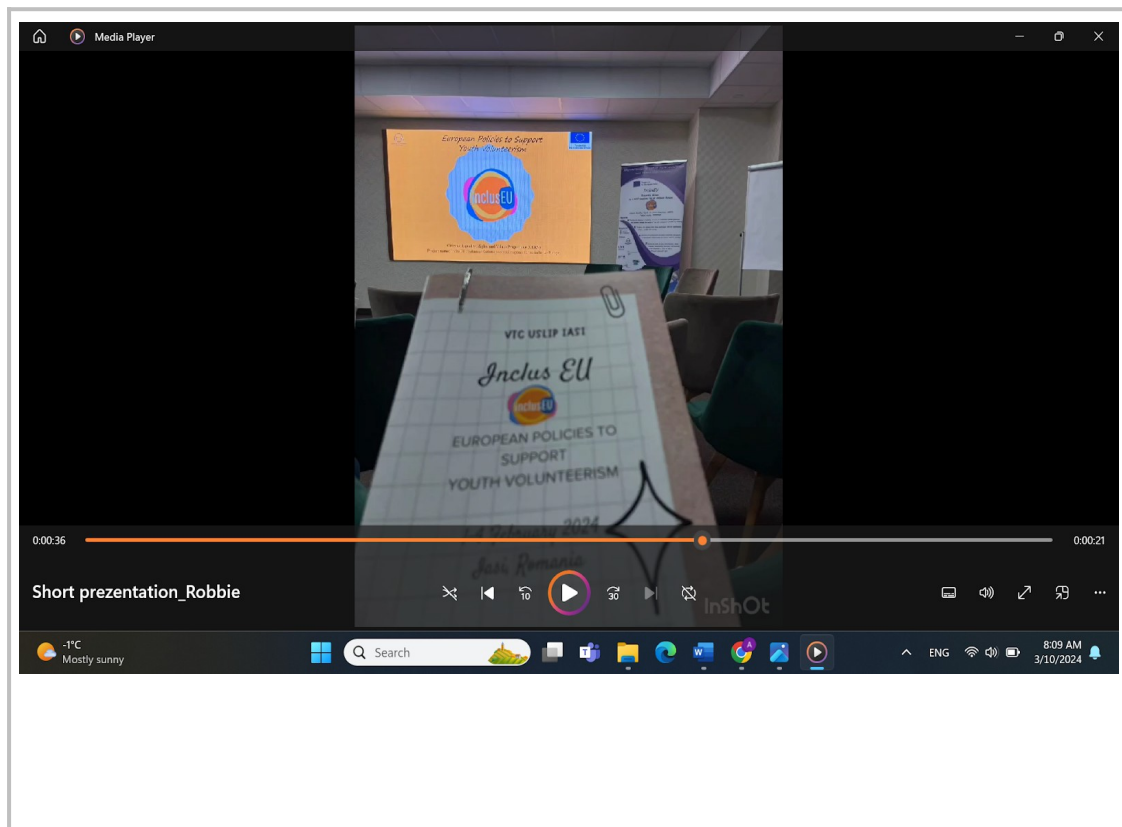
Guided tour to Cotnari Winery



4/02/2024

The participants returned to their countries after these fantastic days.





| HISTORY OF CHANGES | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| VERSION | PUBLICATION DATE | CHANGE |
| 1.0 | 01.04.2022 | Initial version (new MFF). |
| 2.0 | 05. 11.2024 | Amendment |
| | | |