



Results 2019



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Europe for citizens

Report 2019



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FOREWORD

Photo: Didier REYNDERS, Commissioner
Justice © Justice Cabinet



L'année 2019 aura été une année particulièrement riche pour la vie démocratique de l'Union européenne.

Je me réjouis que le programme Europe pour les citoyens ait pu à cette occasion démontrer tout son potentiel de soutien aux organisations de la société civile et aux collectivités territoriales qui s'engagent pour faire vivre notre démocratie européenne et y promouvoir les valeurs fondamentales de l'Union.

Si les dernières élections européennes ont montré un regain de participation de nos concitoyens, c'est en effet en grande partie grâce à l'engagement de cette société civile si vivace, comme de nombre d'élus locaux. À cette occasion le programme Europe pour les citoyens a joué pleinement son rôle d'appui aux initiatives très nombreuses qui ont contribué au succès de ce moment très important pour nos institutions et pour notre vivre-ensemble à l'échelle du continent.

Les élections n'étaient pas le seul domaine d'action de ce beau programme qui donne la parole aux citoyens. Comme ce rapport d'exécution sur 2019 l'illustre éloquentement, les thématiques couvertes par les projets soutenus sont très variées: de la jeunesse à la lutte contre les discours de haine en ligne, de l'intégration des demandeurs d'asiles à l'insertion sociale, de la solidarité au changement climatique, sans oublier l'histoire européenne.

La dimension mémorielle du programme a également été à l'honneur en 2019. La commémoration de la chute du mur de Berlin

—événement pivot dans l'histoire de notre continent de ces dernières décennies— a été l'occasion pour beaucoup des projets de mesurer le chemin parcouru, 30 ans après, et le chemin qu'il reste à parcourir, quant à la situation de la démocratie et de l'État de droit sur notre continent.

Les projets soutenus par ce programme regardent le passé pour construire l'avenir: le futur de l'Europe est également au centre des intérêts de nos concitoyennes et concitoyens, à en juger par les thématiques retenues par les projets mis en œuvre. C'est à travers la réalisation de ces projets que nous parvenons à récolter les messages clés de nos concitoyens qui reflètent leurs aspirations, leurs craintes mais avant tout leur engagement profond pour le projet commun qui est l'Europe.

À cet égard ce programme et les projets qui seront mis en œuvre dans les mois qui viennent vont avoir un rôle crucial à jouer dans la réflexion sur le futur de l'Europe. Au-delà du dialogue entre institutions, c'est en effet bien le dialogue entre citoyens sur l'Union et ses politiques qu'il importe de favoriser.

Et c'est précisément ce que le programme Europe pour les citoyens a fort bien réussi à faire depuis ses débuts en 2014 et ce que nous continuerons à faire dans le futur avec un nouveau programme, le programme Citoyens, Égalité, Droits et Valeurs, proposé par la Commission et actuellement en discussion au niveau européen.

Didier REYNDERS,
Membre de la Commission européenne, en charge de la justice



ACRONYMS

CSP	Civil Society Projects
DG	Directorate-General
DG HOME	Directorate-General Migration and Home Affairs
EACEA	Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency
EB	Eurobarometer
ECPs	Europe for Citizens Contact Points
EFC	Europe for Citizens
EP	European Parliament
NT	Network of Towns
OG	Operating Grants
REM	European Remembrance
TT	Town Twinning

2019 AT A GLANCE

1583 applications were submitted within the EFC programme.

1554 applications were submitted within action and operating grants (REM, TT, NT, CSP)

404 applications selected (of which 374 for action grants REM, TT, NT, CSP and operating grants)

Average success rate of 27 % (26 % within action grants for REM, TT, NT, CSP)

Beneficiary organisations are established in all EU Member States

Partner organisations are established in all EU Member States

IT, HU, SK, PL, DE and RO are the countries that submitted the highest number of applications (56 % in total)

IT, SK, HU, DE, FR and PL are the countries with the highest number of applications selected (59 % in total)

IT, SK, HU and DE have the highest success rate per country (ratio submitted / selected per country for action grant) among Member States

2285 partner organisations directly involved in the EFC projects selected in 2019

An average of 5.3 partners per project in TT and 8 partners in all other actions (more than 12 partners for NT)

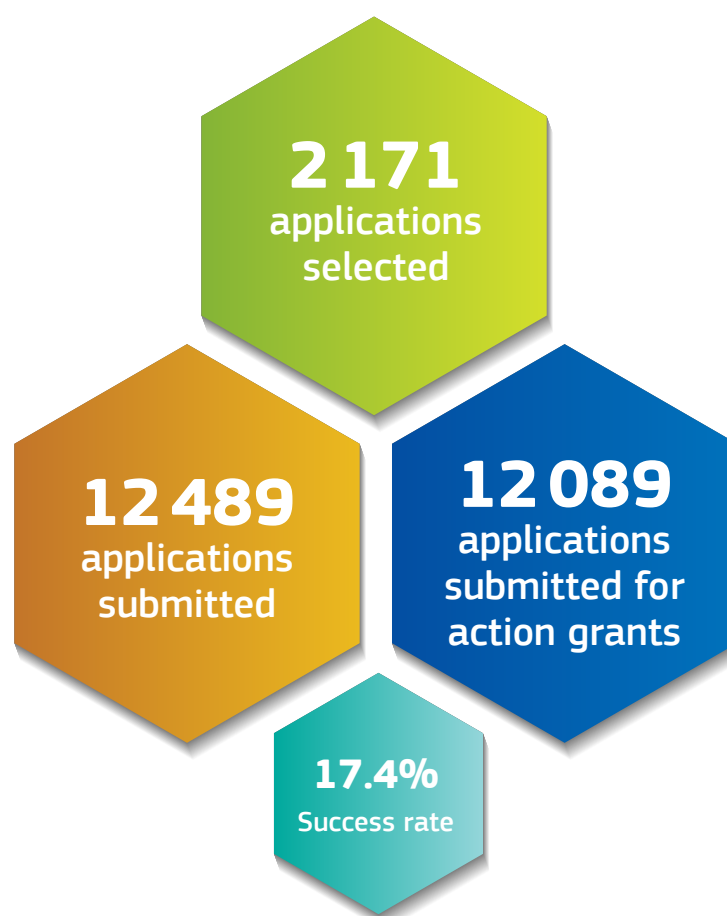
<i>Average grant per project</i>				
OG	NT	CIV	REM	TT
€ 226.671	€ 139.520	€ 131.165	€ 80.803	€ 17.356

The majority of proposals addressed the priority on 'Debating the future of Europe and challenging Euroscepticism', followed by the priority on 'Fostering intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding and combatting the stigmatisation of migrants and minority groups'

LU, ES, DE, FI, LT, MT, PL are PT are the countries where the feeling of being a European citizen is above 80 %

FR, BG, IT, UK and EL are the countries where the feeling of being European citizens is below 60 %

2014-2019 AT A GLANCE



Beneficiary organisations are established in all EU member States

IT, HU, SK, PL and are the countries that submit the highest number of applications (55 % in total)

HU, IT, SK, DE, FR and PL are the countries with the highest number of applications selected (61 % in total)

AT, LT, ME and ES have the highest success rate per country (ratio submitted / selected by country) within Member States

12.329 partner organisations directly involved in EFC projects selected in 2014 - 2019 (including beneficiaries)

An average of 5 partners per project in TT and 8 partners in all other actions

<i>Average grant per project</i>				
OG	NT	CIV	REM	TT
€ 201.823	€ 131.570	€ 128.557	€ 89.521	€ 16.833

Total grants awarded according to the Decisions taken so far amount to 140Mio€.

Project mainly focused on:

Debating the future of Europe and challenging Euroscepticism and on fostering intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding and combatting the stigmatisation of migrants and minority groups

PART A

RESULTS 2019

STRAND 1: EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE

European Remembrance Projects

The project selection in 2019 gave evidence of the richness and capacity of the European Remembrance projects to mobilize civil society organizations and public institutions in building the future of Europe.

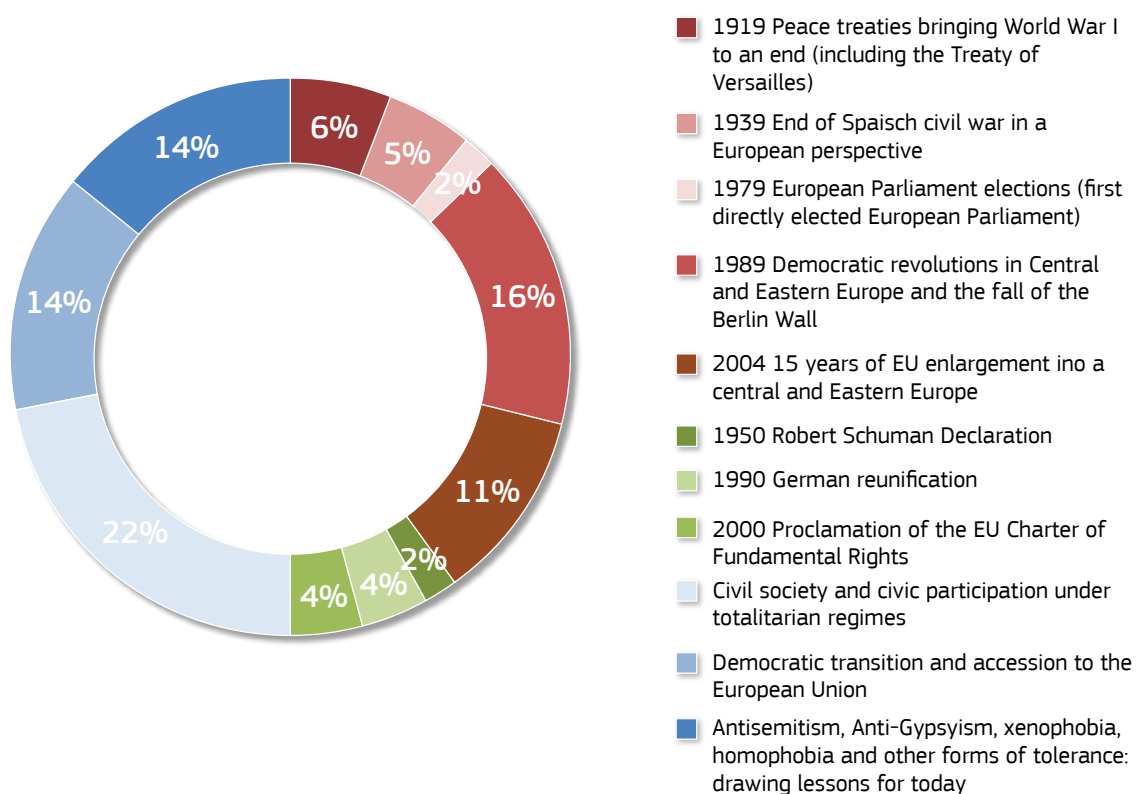
Projects covered a range of different activities: development of networks involving different stakeholders from different Programme countries, awareness on the recent European history, researches, events commemorating victims of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes in Europe's modern history (exhibitions, walking tours) and conferences and debates building intercultural dialogue.

As in previous year the 2019 selection was characterized by a strong competition based on the overall solid quality of projects submitted, resulting in a high threshold (80,5/100) and 49 grants awarded. Strong asset was the **European dimension** reached by the projects through the reflection on EU common values and on the European cultural diversity.

Thanks to the higher budget available than in previous years and the lower number of applications submitted, the **success rate** (success rate is the ratio of successful versus submitted applications) for this measure has increased in comparison with 2018 (18% in 2019 compared to 10% in 2018). However it is worth to note that not all valuable proposals could be granted because of the limited budget. Overall, the decrease in the number of applications submitted concerned most of the eligible countries, so that the submission rate by country remained rather stable in comparison to 2018.

The important widening of the geographical coverage within the selected projects (29 Programme countries compared to 23 Programme countries in 2018) mirrored rightly the great interest in this measure at application stage (33 out of 34 Programme countries represented as applicant in 2019). Selected projects build on a solid partnership with five partners on average per project; therefore, given the 49 selected projects, around 245 partners are involved. Also qualitative, the selected projects focus on multi-sectorial partnerships (Civil Society Organizations, Survivors' Association, Cultural/Youth/Educational/Research organizations; public authorities etc.).

Newcomers - organizations **not yet funded** within the European Remembrance strand in the previous years 2014-2018 - represent more than 70% of projects selected. This figure confirms similar positive results of the Remembrance selection in 2018, well in line with the capacity of the Programme to be innovative and to reach out to a new public. The strong thematic focus of the selected projects covers effectively all multi-annual priorities for 2019-2020, their ratio being broadly in line with the priorities treated among all applications submitted:



As in previous years, around half of the projects couple the commemoration of major historical turning points with the other three more general multi-annual priorities. This approach shows a certain enthusiasm towards the commemoration of major historical turning points as well as demonstrates the complexity of such projects: aiming to link past and present and combine the specific commemoration with a reflection on the values on which the European Union is built.

In particular in 2019, the Europe for Citizens **Programme commemorated the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall through an inter-institutional conference** to foster further opportunities for a debate and reflection on this European historical turning point beyond national perspectives. This conference gathered colleagues from different EU services and several of the programme beneficiaries involved in transmitting the memory of the Berlin Wall to younger generations and in analysing its democratic implications for Europe today.

Mr Leo SCHMIDT represented the *Berlin Wall Foundation*, the main institution dealing with the Wall's cultural heritage; he addressed the challenges faced nowadays, notably in catering to an increasing number of visitors, to preserve the authenticity of the sites and to succeed in transmitting the spirit of the event to an increasingly diverse public.

Mr Oriol LOPEZ, from the *European Observatory of Memories* (EUROM) in Spain, insisted on the crucial role of mobilizing young people in the remembrance process. To do so, EUROM relies on a multidisciplinary and transnational network to contribute to the construction of public and collective memory that helps citizens use and interpret memorial heritage.

Mr Dominik KWIATKOWSKI, representing the *Lech Walesa Foundation* in Poland, explained how the foundation seeks to promote the values of democracy and peace, in times of conflicting approaches towards the Iron Curtain period and its aftermath in Europe.

Mr André BOSSUROY from *MEDIEL* in Belgium, noticed the low level of awareness among young Europeans concerning the Cold War. MEDIEL tries to propose remedies by offering them a different learning experience: becoming a reporter and collecting testimonies on the fall of the Berlin Wall. This was translated into a documentary film "1948-2018: réveil de la Guerre froide?" which was previewed during the conference ([www.mediel.app: in the menu, look for Web TV](#)).

[This meeting offered a unique opportunity to unveil the crucial role of projects financed by the European Commission to help European citizens better understand the EU, its history and its values.](#)



In addition, in 2019 the Agency monitored the impact and results of the European Remembrance projects selected in 2017 (27 out of 39 projects closed in 2019) and in 2018 (6 out of 37 projects closed in 2019).

Similar to previous years more than half of these projects covered commemorations of major historical turning points, mostly in combination or overlapping with the other more general multi-annual priorities ("Civil society and civic participation under totalitarian regimes", "Democratic transition and accession to the European Union" and "Ostracism and loss of citizenship under totalitarian regimes: drawing the lessons for today").

The European Remembrance projects carried out in 2019 successfully contributed to the **critical reflection on Europe's historical memory**. These projects actively engaged citizens to develop a better insight into European fundamental values: how respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy and the respect of human rights were shaped in the past and on how they need to be reinforced in present times. The projects results show that by looking into the recent European history, citizens are empowered to enter in the public discourse as well as in dialogue with political Institutions at local, national and European level (e.g. youth roundtables, impulse papers).

The monitored projects covered a wide range of activities (e.g. conferences, debates, educational tools, role and theatre plays, exhibition or online museums) and mainly focus on:

Analysis and debates on European history

These projects approach the past from multiple perspectives and aim at developing citizens' reflection beyond the national perspective on topics having a strong importance also in present times.

Beneficiary: Palais Des Beaux Arts (BE)

Project Title: *Remembering 1918: European dream of becoming modern*

Partner countries: CZ, BE

Project implementation: 01-08-2017 – 31-01-2019

Grant awarded: 100.000 €

The project **"Remembering 1918: European dream of becoming modern"** carried out by "Bozar" contributed to a deeper understanding of the meaning of the political, social and cultural transformations across Central Europe after the events of 1917 and 1918. The yearlong cultural program sought to enrich citizens' knowledge of this episode of European history and raise their awareness of the multifaceted nature of this change. Different national viewpoints were presented, thus familiarized citizens with the richness of European political and cultural landscape, while uncovering the transnational connections that shaped the inter-war Europe which can help further strengthening the Union today. A series of conference and debates on the inter-war history of Central Europe in BE, CZ, HU, FI engaged citizens in critical reflection on this important chapter in European transnational history and the meaning of 1918 past and present.



Inclusive historical approach

These projects reflect on a specific target group that was persecuted, discriminated against or antagonized, or by focusing on specific themes such as art or music in a transnational or European perspective. This type of projects acknowledge the complexity of European history, incorporating remembrance on topics, which are underrepresented in the common public European Remembrance discourse.

Beneficiary: Network Europeo Per La Ricerca E La Formazione In Psichiatria Psicodinamica (IT)

Project Title: *Memory Against Inhumanity: people with mental disorders under totalitarian regimes in Europe*

Partner countries: EL, SI, RO

Project implementation: 01-09-2017 – 28-02-2019

Grant awarded: 99.750 €

The project "Memory against Inhumanity: people with mental disorders under totalitarian regimes in Europe" led by the Italian organization "Network Europeo per la Ricerca e la Formazione in Psichiatria" gave recognition to victims with mental illness during totalitarian regimes in Europe.

Taking as a starting point the travelling exhibition “Registered, persecuted, annihilated: the sick and disabled under National Socialism”, the partnership implemented additional educational workshops, international video contest and final symposium to strengthen the historical knowledge on the persecution of the mentally ill and disabled in Europe. The partnership successfully promoted an intercultural reflection on the topic of “inhumanity” through linking past and present. “Remembrance serves not only to cry over past crimes but to recognize and reject present dangers.”

“The project is amazing and we hope it will help to change something in our lives. We hope for a world without discrimination, where everybody respects the other person”.

Testimonies from participants in GR and RO



Citizens engagement

This type of projects adopts a strong participatory approach by involving the target group (e.g. young people) in the set-up of the projects activities such as research, guided tours as well as organisation of webinars and debates.

Beneficiary: Fundacion Altius Francisco De Vitoria (ES)

Project Title: European Decades

Partner countries: PL, RS, DE, EL, BG

Project implementation: 13-09-2017 – 12-03-2019

Grant awarded: 100.000 €

The project “European decades” implemented by the Spanish organisation “Fundacion Altius Francisco de Vitoria” gathered citizens from different backgrounds in debates directly linked to European historical events. Citizens played an important role in the local historical exploration (conducting interviews, visit museums, library archives) on specific chosen historical turning points in their own local communities: 1917 social and political revolutions and the fall of empires (BG), Beginning of WWII 1938/1939 (RS), 1968 Protest and civil rights movements (PL), 1957 The Treaty of Rome (EL), 1989 Democratic revolutions in Central and Eastern Europe and the fall of the Berlin Wall (DE).

“To be able to live together we need to learn other “points of view”, be open for discussion with other people and for the fact, that their arguments might be different from ours. It is great that the EU provides us with the possibility to meet in an international group and discuss our history.”

Testimony from the International Seminar in Poland



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Venues of projects monitored in 2019



STRAND 2: DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Town Twinning

The Town Twinning Selections 2019

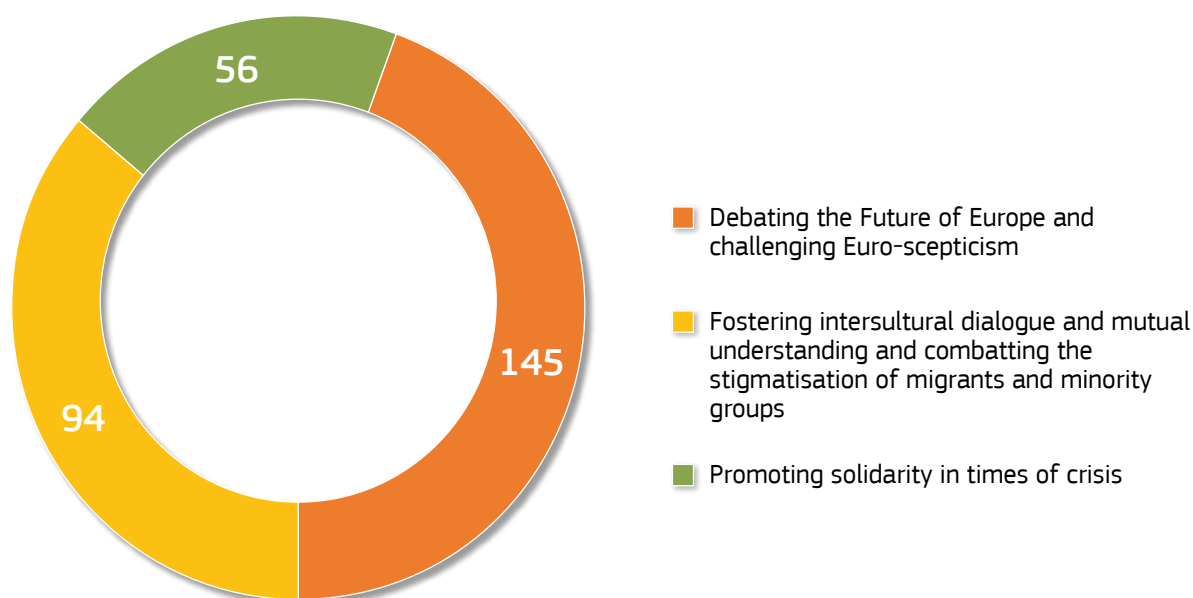
588 Town Twinning applications were received in 2019. Following the trend of previous years, the majority of applications continue to come from Eastern Europe, in particular Slovakia and Hungary who together represent 39% of the total number of submitted applications, followed by Italy (15%), Germany (8%) and Poland (8%). The wide geographical distribution is shown by the fact that **26 countries** participated **as applicants** in the Town Twinning selections run in 2019. In terms of geographical spread including partners, it is worth underlying that **all programme countries** (34) participated in 2019 selections. An overall 13% decrease in applications is noted, mainly due to the lower participation of Slovakia and Hungary. This, however, contributed to a better geographical distribution at submission level, as well as to a better action success rate (44% in 2019 compared to 38% in 2018).

The **260 TT** projects selected in 2019 brought around **1370 organisations** together, representing a wide diversity of partnerships (municipalities, NGOs, twinning committees, foundations, associations etc.) The geographical spread of the selected projects shows that 25 countries are represented as beneficiaries, involving organisations from **32 programme countries**.

The total amount awarded in 2019 under the Town Twinning action was **€ 4.512.450**. The average grant awarded per TT project was **€ 17 355**. Although, there is a constant increase in the average value of grant per TT project (i.e. in 2018 the average value of grant per TT project was € 16.936), it is important to note that the action continues to support projects with a small budget. Grants of between **€ 5 000 and € 10 000 were awarded to 31% of the selected projects**.

The selected initiatives will not only reach, but also **actively involve** citizens at both local and the EU level, by engaging them in discussions about hotly debated topics of today.

Priorities addressed by TT beneficiaries selected in 2019
(Number of selected projects tackling programme priorities)



Project beneficiaries managed to **combine different programme priorities** looking for synergies and concrete outputs. The programme priority **“Debating the Future of Europe and challenging Euroscepticism”** remained at the centre of attention, as it was addressed by the highest number of beneficiaries, followed by the priority of **“Fostering intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding and combatting the stigmatization of migrants and minority groups”**. It was also positively noted that the **remembrance and cultural heritage** components continue to be present within the themes addressed by the applicants, thus contributing to citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity and further promoting active citizenship, tolerance and EU values.

Town Twinning projects implementation 2019

Overall, **234 Town Twinning projects** were completed in 2019.

These projects involved more than **300 towns and cities** across **29 different EU countries**.

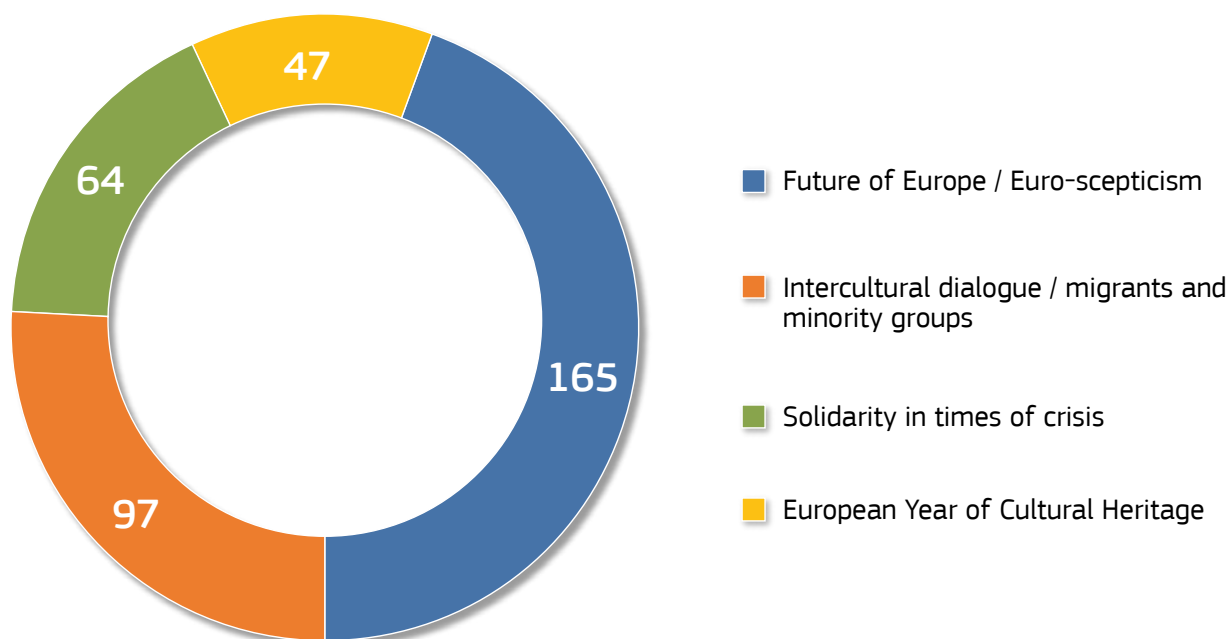
Towns and cities, which hosted Town Twinning events in 2019

It is positive to note that approximately **1.300 organisations** participated in Town Twinning activities with an average of **6** organisations per project. The implemented activities managed to mobilize more than **100.000 citizens** all over Europe who directly participated in EU discussions focusing on the “Europe for Citizens” programme priorities. According to the figures, the number of citizens reached indirectly is even more impressive and exceeding **5.000.000** (i.e. through the dissemination/follow-up actions and online via communication channels such as Twitter, Facebook, project website etc.)

It is significant to highlight that **all age groups** actively participated in Town Twinning project activities, thus indicating equal access to the programme and fostering intergenerational dialogues. The programme continues to give an importance in supporting **the participation of youngsters**: the projects implemented in 2019 involved 38% of citizens aged below 30.

The projects implemented in 2019 under Town Twinning action particularly focused their activities on the following **programme priorities/topics**:

Priorities addressed by TT beneficiaries in 2019
(Number of selected projects tackling programme priorities)



Town Twinning flagship initiatives

Among the projects implemented and monitored in 2019, the following TT flagship initiatives are of particular note:

Project title: *Multicultural Youth Educate the European Union*

Organisation: *Onga Varos Onkormanyzata (HU)*

Partners: *Hungary, Portugal, Italy, Cyprus, Greece, Latvia, Romania, Sweden*

Date of project event: *17/06/2019 – 23/06/2019*

Grant awarded *25.000€*



A 7 day-long event coordinated by the municipality of Onga (HU) has brought 10 partner organizations from 8 countries together with the aim to promote work opportunities for youth, foster solidarity, intercultural dialogue, active participation and volunteering. The audience consisted of 320 direct and over 50 000 estimated indirect participants. Citizens from **diverse groups and backgrounds were involved**, including young people, minorities, eurosceptics, volunteers and disadvantaged people. It was significant to keep the balance between practical and theoretical activities as well as to support an active involvement of all people. The **enhancement of solidarity, social inclusion and intercultural dialogue** was stimulated. Throughout the event, participants were engaged in interactive debates, conferences, workshops, team building and role-playing activities. By exchanging best practices, the **projects contributed to social and youth work** aiming to **face unemployment** and **favour integration** of disadvantaged people. Implemented activities resulted in cooperation, mutual understanding and sharing among participants.

Testimonies from participants

“Our Municipality strongly believed in this project, because it was a great chance for us to meet other citizens of Europe and exchange methodologies, practices, ideas, and needs, finding common solutions and creating a new sense of belonging to the European Union. I want our community to be an example for other municipalities to strengthen the cohesion and the cooperation among Countries, through the strong development we are experiencing” (Town Twinning project participant).

“Our small community has a strong need to take part in actions at European level because otherwise there is a great risk that the feeling of marginalisation and distance turnout into opposition to the idea of Europe. For this reason I was very glad to take part in this meeting and to bring with me a wide representation of young people” (Town Twinning project participant from IT).



Project title: FOR A UNITED AND MULTICOLOUR EUROPE: The 10th, Jubilee European Picnic

Organisation: Comuna Vadu Crisului (RO)

Partners: Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Italy, Czech Republic, Germany, Romania

Date of project event: 23/08/2019 – 25/08/2019

Grant awarded 25.000€



The project “For a United and Multicolour Europe” took place in the municipality of Vadu Crisului as the 10th edition of European Picnic. It brought together 16 partners from 8 countries with the aim to foster international dialogue, promote unity and diversity of Europe as well as commemorate the 30th anniversary of democratic revolutions in Central and Eastern Europe. The high number of direct (996) and indirect participants (100 000) demonstrates the strong impact of the project. The programme went on in two parallel flows of topics **in order to keep balance between culture and politics**. Citizens took part in interactive lectures, discussions, a political quiz as well as a unique multi-language poetry performance. Throughout the event, participants agreed that the ‘multicolour’ character makes Europe stronger. Multicultural activities mixed into the political programme **brought participants closer** to each other, **raised knowledge** about the European past, present and future as well as **reinforced the unity** of the EU.

Testimonies from participants

"It was a very good combination of hot European issues with spectacular multicultural events!"
(Town Twinning participant from CZ).

Key message

"Europe is us... future of Europe is as we shape it."



Project title: Eurofest 19

Organisation: Comune di Este (IT)

Partners: France, Germany, Croatia, United Kingdom, Italy

Date of project event: 27/09/2019 – 01/10/2019

Grant awarded 16.630€



A 5-day long project “Eurofest 19” organized by Comune di Este brought together 5 countries with the aim to focus on the **issue of disability and social inclusion**. It involved more than 410 participants directly as well as 10 000 indirectly. Twinned towns exchanged and compared the best practices and set up a plan for **identifying new funds** for organizations helping disabled people. The main impact was to **raise awareness about disability** in sport, cultural and social field and improve the quality of life for the disabled. Participants had an opportunity to engage in various inclusive activities. Photo exhibition, music performance, conference regarding the European Disability Strategy as well as logo contest among disabled participants were organized to foster citizens’ participation.

Testimonies from participants

"Bellissima ed emozionante esperienza. L'alzabandiera resta il momento più toccante del progetto e la festa Europea Este è una bellissima occasione per vivere l'Europa" (Town Twinning project participant from IT).

"Dobbiamo spingere di più per portare l'Unione Europea a casa di tutti i cittadini. Dobbiamo parlare con le scuole, i giovani, trasmettere loro lo stesso entusiasmo che proviamo noi per l'Europa" (Town Twinning project participant from IT).

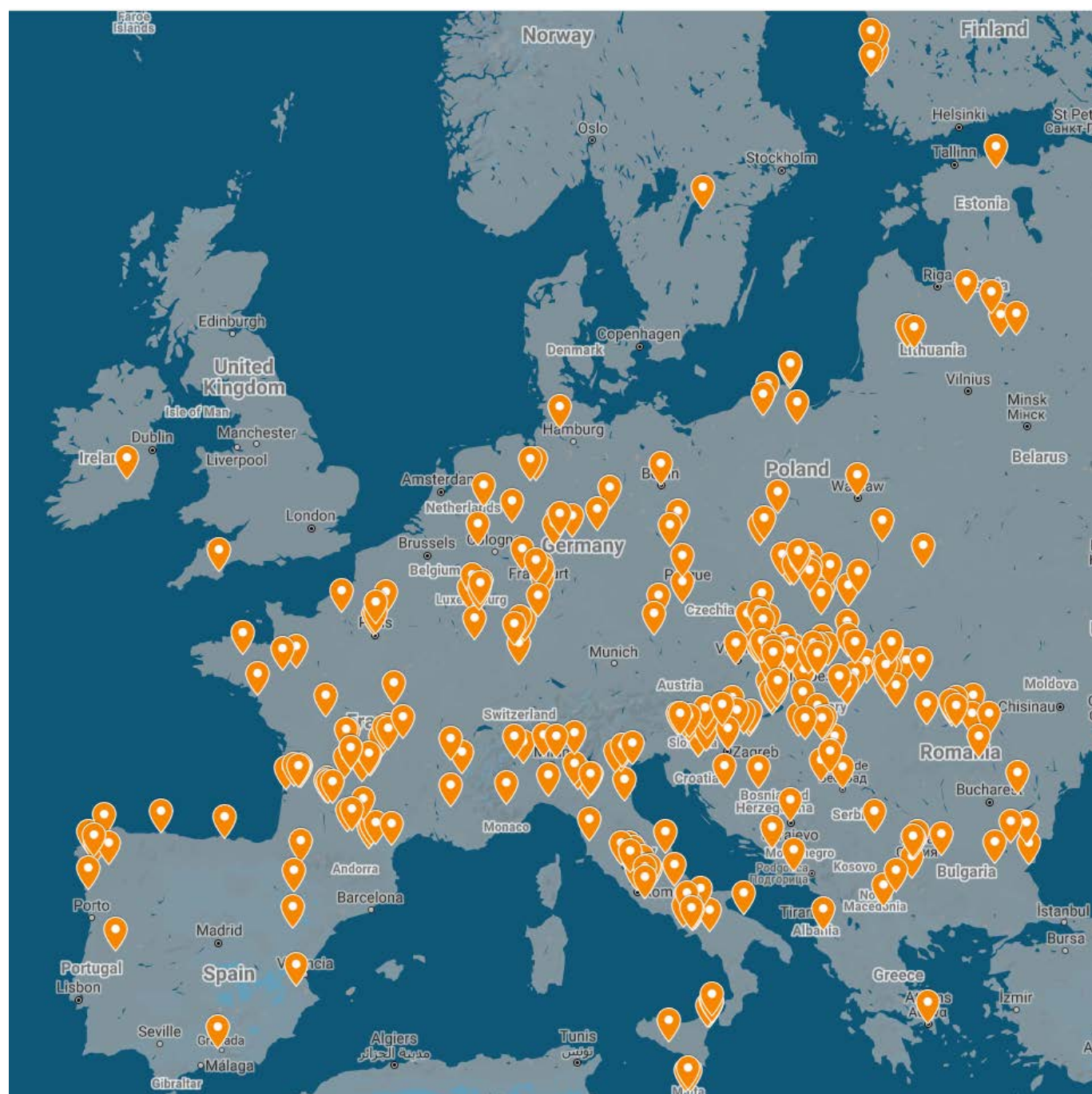


Key messages CLOUD

The citizens shared their opinions and personal experiences about the projects they took part in. This key message cloud is based on testimonies and statements from our participants, which were collected in the Final Reports of the Town Twinning projects implemented in 2019.



Venues of projects monitored in 2019



Network of Towns

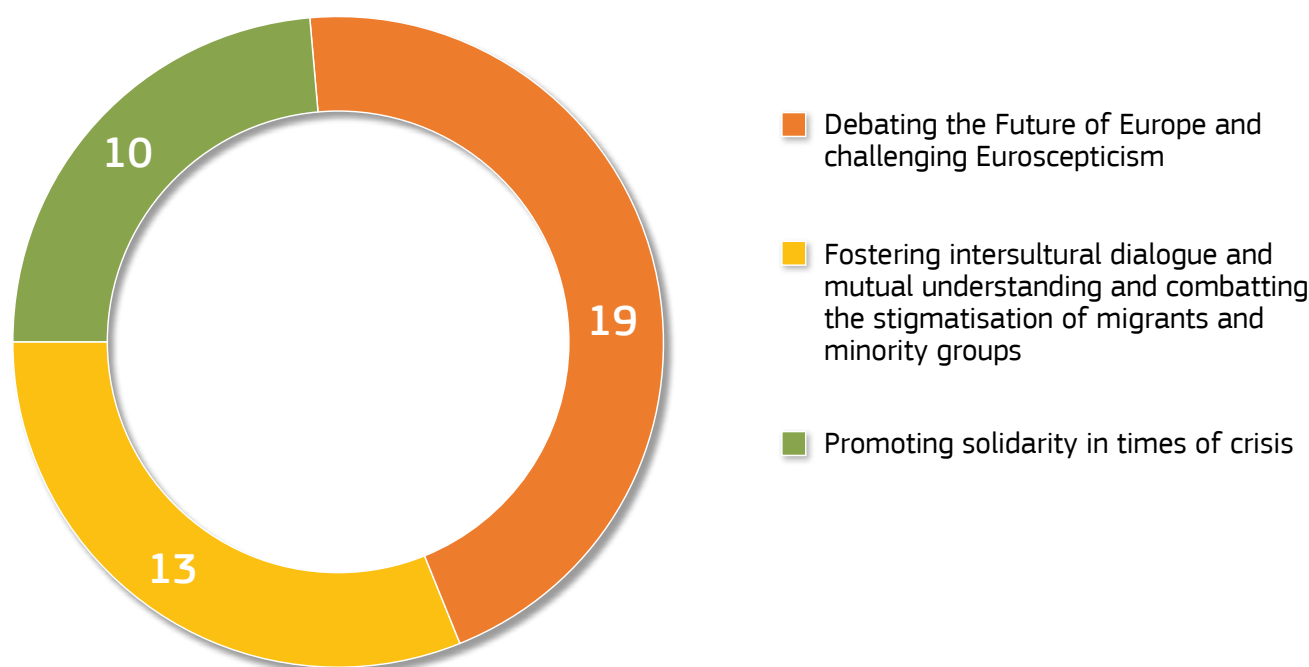
Networks of Towns Selection 2019

259 Networks of Towns applications were received in 2019. Following the trends of previous years, Italy demonstrated the highest interest in this action, representing around 29% of the submitted applications, followed by Spain (8%) and Hungary (8%). It is positive to outline that **almost all eligible programme countries (33 out of 34)** took part in the NT 2019 selections **as applicants**. In terms of geographical spread including partners, it is worth underlining that **all eligible countries (34)** were represented in 2019 Networks of Towns selections.

Under this action **36 projects** were selected for funding in 2019 involving **21 programme countries as beneficiaries**. The geographical spread of selected projects is even more impressive if we look at the **organisations involved in the project partnerships**, which represent **all eligible programme countries (34)**. The selected projects intend to involve **434 partner organizations** and are characterised by large, diversified and strong partnerships (i.e. in average **12 partner organizations** per selected project).

A total amount awarded in 2019 under Network of Towns action was **€ 5.022.720**. The average grant awarded per NT project was **€ 139.520**.

Priorities addressed by NT beneficiaries selected in 2019
(Number of selected projects tackling programme priorities)



As TT beneficiaries, projects selected under the NT action also managed to **combine different programme priorities** looking for synergies and concrete outputs. The programme priority **“Debating the Future of Europe and challenging Euroscepticism”** was addressed by the highest number of beneficiaries. Debates related to the **migration crisis, stigmatisation of migrants and minority groups, and solidarity** also remained at the centre of the selected projects.

It is important to note that the **remembrance and cultural heritage** components continue to be present within the themes addressed by the Networks of Towns applicants and beneficiaries, thus contributing to citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity and further promoting active citizenship, tolerance and EU values.

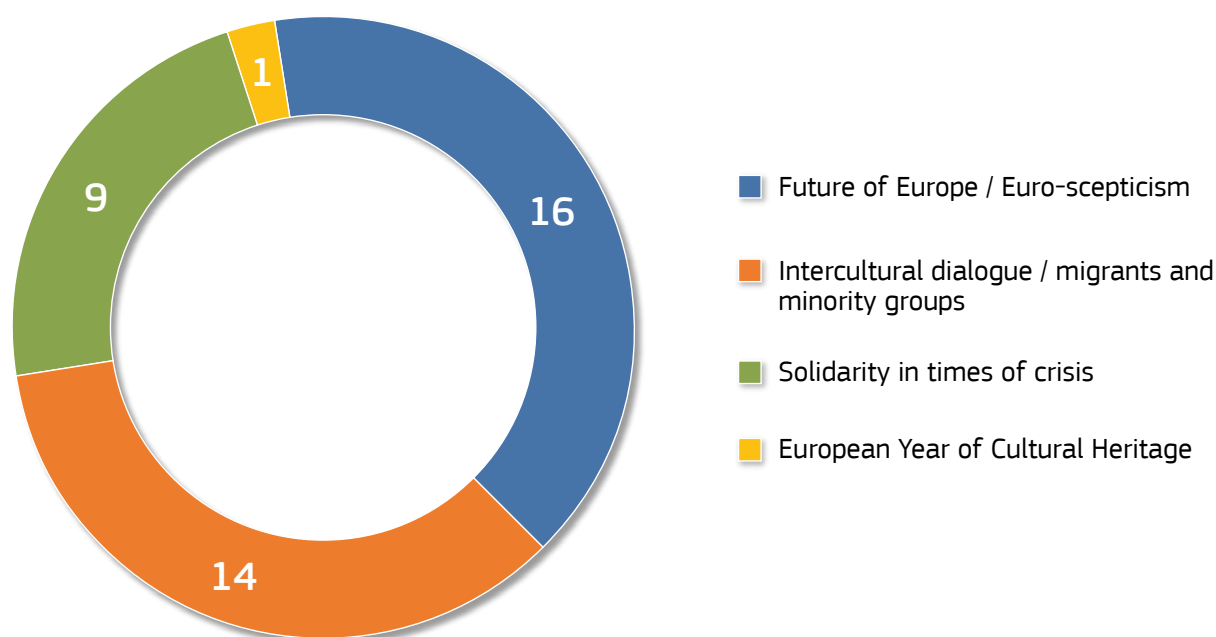
Networks of Towns projects implementation 2018

In total, **30 NT projects** selected in 2016, 2017 and 2018 were finalised in 2019. These projects implemented **more than 190 events**, taking place in **161 towns and cities** across **29 different EU countries**. The highest number of events were carried out in Italy (31), followed by Greece (17), Romania (12) and Spain (12).

Overall, NT projects involved **326 organizations** with an average of 11 organisations per project, bringing together a variety of actors (i.e. NGOs, regions, municipalities, villages, civil society organizations, experts, volunteers, etc.) The projects mobilized more than **26.000 direct participants** who engaged in diverse meetings and conferences organized across Europe. Including dissemination of project results and follow-ups, it is important to note that more than **2.000.000** citizens were reached indirectly. It is worth to stress that, as it was the case for Town Twinning action, **all age groups** actively participated in Networks of Towns project activities, thus indicating equal access to the programme and fostering intergenerational dialogues. The programme continues to give an importance to supporting **the participation of youngsters**: 45% of the citizens involved in NT projects finalised in 2019 were under the age of 30.

The implemented activities tackled the challenges faced both in big urban centres and small localities in rural areas. The themes and priorities addressed by NT beneficiaries were the following:

Priorities addressed by NT beneficiaries selected in 2019 (Number of selected projects tackling programme priorities)



Most of the networks tackled issues related to the **Future of Europe** and debated on challenges that the EU is facing nowadays. The events highlighted the significance of EU integration and emphasized the role of young generation in establishing constructive dialogue with the EU institutions. The priority related to **fostering intercultural dialogue and combatting the stigmatization of migrants and minority groups** was also addressed by many NT projects finalised in 2019. The NT beneficiaries presented concrete policies implemented locally and regionally concerning the integration of migrants in the labour market and society. Tackling the priority related to **solidarity**, NT beneficiaries put an emphasis on **solidarity** mechanisms and exchange of good practices, such as EU solidarity models for sustainability or volunteering promotion. Besides, the debates involved issues such as humanism, common EU values approaching solidarity, cultural heritage and tolerance as tools to fight against populism and extremism.

Networks of Towns flagship initiatives

Among the projects **finalised in 2019**, NT flagship initiatives worthy of note are the following:

Project title: Heart of Europe

Organisation: DRUSTVO ZA NARAVNO UCENJE Z DOZIVLJANJEM UMETNOSTI IN NARAVE GLEDALISCE KOLENC (SI)

Partners: SI, SE, AL, EL, ES, BG, FR, IT

Project duration: 01/01/2018 – 01/06/2019

Grant awarded 150.000€



The project “Heart of Europe-network of towns promoting heart culture, solidarity and integration” brought together 14 partner organizations from 8 countries. The project involved more than 830 direct participants during 6 international events and over 2000 indirect participants during the whole duration of the project. The event addressed the problems of youth unemployment, globalization, immigration, European citizenship, Euroscepticism, stigmatization of migrants. **The innovative perspective of implementing activities via art and culture** facilitated comprehension of the debated topics. Through discussions, guided workshops, and presentations possible strategies were identified to **cope with youth unemployment and** to promote active volunteering and art. It also demonstrated strong contribution to the spirit of the European Year of Cultural Heritage by using culture as a tool to **promote intercultural dialogue and active civic involvement**. The most important achievement was the **creation of eight permanent and sustainable international cultural heart points**. In each participating country, creative centers (“heart points”) were established in which cultural events are planned, created and performed. To promote the project’s objectives, partners of the network explored different approaches of artistic expressions with the goal to **contribute to common European identity and promote EU values** as acceptance of diversity and mutual understanding.

Testimonies from participants

“This is a project (the project of the Heart of Europe, HE-ART), which, from diversity, from the various identities that exist among us, creates knowledge, connections, friendships and cooperation. This is a project dedicated to young people and our future generations. This project takes advantage of the opportunity Europe offers and builds Peace; a major project building cooperation between European countries; a project that works against misunderstanding, injustice, and dishonesty. It comes from the needs of young people and works for young people and later generations. This is a project that is against all the arguments that could defend the war in Europe; it is the invitation that the people in all diversity will begin and always work together; this is a project that calls for a new European culture, in which the differences will be our power and beauty - not the dividing line.” (Network of Towns project participant from IT).

Key message

"We are delighted and grateful that through the project Heart of Europe, HE-ART, we have been able to establish HEART POINTS that will be creative centers in which, through cultural tourism and promoting each of our cultural heritage, we will sustainably contribute to the acceptance of the extremely valuable European diversity, mutually acceptance and cooperation, heartfelt friendship and friendly European citizenship" (Network of Towns project participant).



Project title: Street Participation for Active Citizenship in Europe (SPACE)

Organization: Comune di Tiggiano (IT)

Partners: IT, EE, RS, RO, AT, BA, EL, SI, HR, FR

Project duration: 01/11/2017 – 31/10/2019

Grant awarded 145.000€



The project “SPACE” created a specific network between partners coming from 10 different European countries. During 2 years, the event allowed more than 500 direct participants to contribute to the construction of the Future of Europe and almost 80.000 citizens were reached indirectly. The main objective was to **create space for expression, debate and exchange about the future of Europe** and promote the European Tools of Citizens Participation. Giving the youth an opportunity to mediate between, almost 30 young people from 14 public and private partners were trained as **“Street Facilitators”**. To ensure the effectiveness of implemented activities, 35 street debates were organized in 10 countries by applying inclusive “Street Interaction” methodology. The role of young people was to meet common citizens in public spaces and to **collect their suggestions and attitude towards the EU**. The discussions revolved around following questions: How important is Europe for you? What would you change in Europe? As citizen, how can I change Europe? The project helped thousands of European citizens to **express their views, share opinions, propose ideas about Europe**, and, even more, to **discover the diversity of thought of the Citizen’s Voice and the wealth of the democratic participation**. Citizens’ opinions are collected in the **“White Book for the Future of Europe”** as an expression of the diversity of opinions, containing recommendations that belong only to the citizen that personally expressed it.

Testimonies from participants

“To me, Europe means, first of all, home and that is why I believe in its importance. I am a European citizen, so I am a part of Europe. Europe is the key for citizens to grow, to educate themselves, to communicate and, in the end, to get to know the rest of the world better and to reciprocate it” (Network of Towns project participant).

“I see EU as something that I cannot imagine my everyday life without. I think that when we eliminated country borders, we also eliminated borders in our heads. It is important that we are active citizens of our Europe” (Network of Towns project participant).

Key message

“Europe goes beyond geography, it’s a state of mind, a set of values, respect and diversity” (Network of Towns project participant).



Venues of projects monitored in 2019



Civil Society Projects

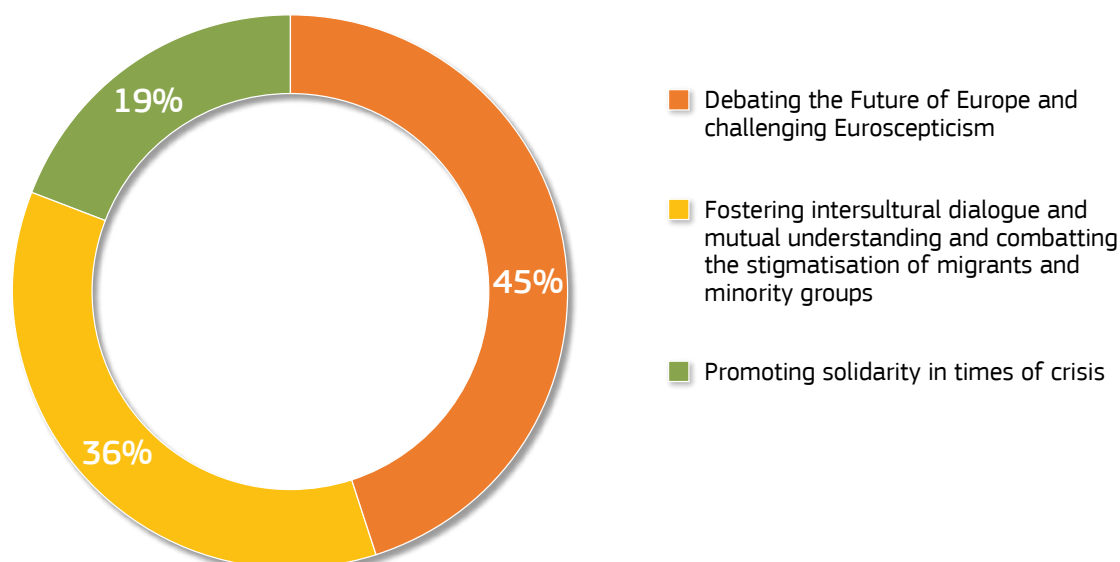
In 2019 the Agency managed a portfolio of around 90 open Civil Society projects, involving more than 600 partners from almost all Member States. This monitoring once again showed Civil Society Organisations' firm engagement with EU citizens: through an analysis of the final results, the ongoing monitoring and the selection of new projects, the Agency noted that the organisations address citizens' concerns and interests, as these evolve through the years.

This year was marked by the attention given by the organisations to the **European Elections 2019**. Civil Society organisations (CSOs) financed by the Europe for Citizens programme worked hard to encourage citizens' democratic participation. They informed citizens on the functioning of the European Union, explained how the European elections work (voting process, parties and programmes), took stock of past and current legislatures, organised debates, put forward concrete proposals for the candidates and for the future of the EU, reflected on populism and fake news, and advocated for more transparency. These efforts, combined with other initiatives, including the [#thistimeimvoting](#) campaign, led to a record turnout, driven by a surge in participation by young people.



As in previous years, the **projects selected in 2019** showed CSOs substantial engagement with the priority "Debating the future of Europe and challenging Euroscepticism". The future of Europe is tackled through general discussions on European values and the functioning of the EU, or specific work on the White paper on the Future of Europe and on the Conference on the Future of Europe. The future relationship with candidate countries and the Western Balkan countries is also explored. Intercultural dialogue is expressed mainly by focusing on migrants, be it at policy level, awareness raising on migrant groups or providing better services to migrants. Solidarity is largely present this year too across priorities and through the promotion of volunteering.

Priorities addressed by Civil Society projects beneficiaries in 2019
(Number of selected projects tackling programme priorities)



It is worth noting how the projects granted to civil society organisations in 2019 mirror 5 of the 6 **priorities established by the President von der Leyen for the period 2019-2024**. They will address a green Europe and climate change, solidarity and social inclusion, the use of digital tools to enhance democratic engagement (interactive communities and connected cities) the spreading of European values and, through all projects, a stronger democratic participation.

Civil Society Organisations are capable to give voice to the citizens of the Union and the Commission translates their prime concerns in political commitment: such interconnection and dialogue makes the success of this action and – in general – of the Programme.

The 2019 threshold for funding remains high: 82.5/100. This reflects the high quality of the applications submitted. It also means that the selection rate is very low for this action, and that many more projects would deserve to receive grants, were more budgetary resources available.

The **29** projects that received grants represent a remarkable **geographical coverage** (21 out of 34 countries represented, 32 at partner level); they are well structured, with large partnerships (around **200 partners** are involved) and cover all the thematic priorities highlighted in the initial call for proposals.

Project title: AUGmented Europe

Organisation : Meet Digital Communication srl Impresa Sociale (IT)

Partner countries : Italy, Latvia, Germany, Greece

Dates of project implementation : 01/03/2020 – 31/07/2021

Grant awarded 148.680 €

The project will explore the use of digital technologies to foster the active participation of youths to the political debate on the future of EU. It will investigate possible models to impact directly the EU political agenda.

The project will put into place 'augmented spaces' through traditional media content, social networking, and interactive community. This will allow young people to gather, share ideas and co-create joint scenarios, reaching a renewed sense of European belonging. 4 Social Media Hackathons will involve young people from all participating countries (onsite and online). Selected youngsters will be trained to facilitate remote participations. The events will focus on European challenges (immigration and social inclusion, climate change, the growing of nationalisms and poverty) and will aim at releasing creative policy recommendations to tackle these challenges.

A final co-creation event will put the project's results on stage. The event will be co-created by artists and will take place simultaneously in public spaces in 4 cities (Milan, Riga, Berlin, and Thessaloniki). It will involve the urban population, young people, citizens and policy makers. Cities will be inter-connected through media facades and screens showing real-time videos of what is happening the other cities.

Project title: Message tor Europeans 3.0

Organisation : European University College Association (BE)

Partner countries : Italy, Hungary, Slovenia

Dates of project implementation : 01/09/2017 - 28/02/2019

Grant awarded 145.000 €

The Message tor Europeans 3.0 project used the momentum of the **European Elections 2019** to reinforce civic debate and engagement among citizens. The project explored new, innovative methodologies

to engage young people in the public discourse on the future of Europe: debates, simulations, pecha kuchas, role plays and mock trials involved young people from 12 countries and covered themes such as the rise of populism, economic inequality, voters disengagement and the migration crisis. The events were led by a core group of student leaders. The project widely spread its declaration "Message to Europeans 3.0" through online and in-person civic initiatives. The Declaration presents citizens' opinions and recommendations for the relaunch of the European integration. The project took more than 400 participants in a journey of reinforced civic engagement and democratic engagement.



Testimonies from participants

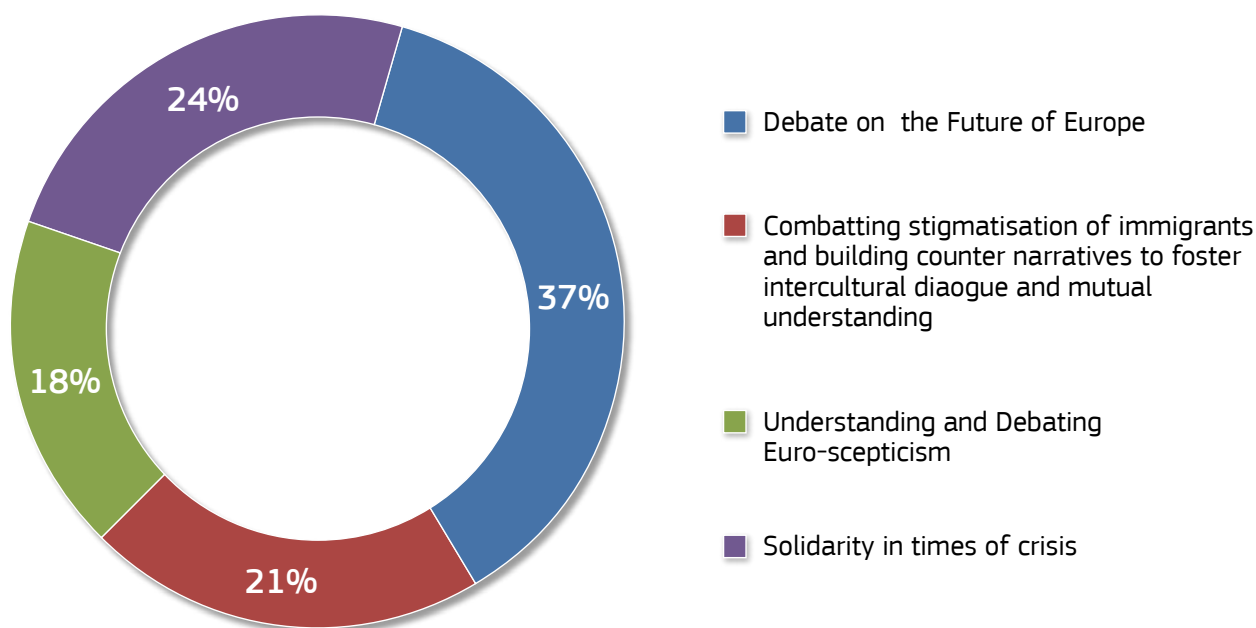
"I met incredible people from all over Europe, I challenged myself with something I had never done before (like debating in politics) and I took part in a flash mob in front of the European Parliament."

"In terms of critical thinking, I believe to have learned how to express my position better, and furthermore how to understand the argument and position of others. By joining groups of different nationalities, I was able to think critically about Europe and my understanding of its future."

The projects finalised in 2019, showed how, thanks to the support of the Europe for Citizens programme, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and their partners were able to carry out their engagement activities and reach citizens.

The projects finalised in 2019 covered the priorities as follows. In most cases, projects addressed more than one priority; this approach reflects the complexity of such projects that aim to engage citizens in active participation.

Priorities addressed by CSP finalised in 2019



Many projects finalised in 2019 tended to concentrate on youth engagement and volunteering.

They addressed democratic engagement through reflections on what the EU meant for participants, what their fears and hopes were about the EU. EU values were at the centre of the events: volunteering, strengthening solidarity, tolerance and inter-cultural diversity. Projects helped building a positive narrative on EU achievements and share information on the functioning of the EU.

Projects organised events such as debates, conferences, seminars, festivals, campaigns and workshops. They worked at grass root level which allowed them to include people who were less involved in discussions about the EU. Activities took place in main cities, but also in smaller towns across Europe. Organisations set-up online platforms through which they organised debates and which enabled participants to share testimonies, while increasing the projects' outreach. The use of social media too allowed gathering participants across borders. Projects conducted studies, for example to understand better migration and EU policies in the field of migration.

In terms of outcomes, projects developed tool-kits and guidebooks, allowing for a future use of their project results, which they sent to policy-makers.

Finally, we noted CSOs' strong will to concentrate on capacity-building activities, networking and sharing of good practices.

In conclusion, one can say that projects achieved impressive results in engaging citizens at EU level. Organisations showed their commitment to achieving long-term results and their creativity in their ways of reaching out to citizens.

Project title: 'RESPONSIBILITY. Freedom of Expression'

Organisation : THE WORLD OF NGOS (AT)

Partner countries : Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia

Dates of project implementation : 01/09/2018 – 21/06/2019

Grant awarded 57.960 €



The project 'RESPONSIBILITY. Freedom of Expression' aimed at identifying and promoting strategic approaches that civil society can use in order to tackle hate speech, fake news, harassment and intimidation, while maintaining a democratic environment and respecting the freedom of speech. The project gathered NGOs and research institutions from Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, and Romania and brought together researchers, experts and citizens. It conducted research, organised a series of events and developed a **toolkit 'Counter-strategies towards hate and disinformation'**. The toolkit serves as a practical guide, and highlights Europeans' existing engagement and commitment in the field (like for example the European Commission's "Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online"). The project involved European Solidarity Corps.

This project has mapped out all relevant networks, organizations, institutions, tools and methods that currently exist in the field of hate speech and disinformation. It provides the user with a great deal of information on the topic itself, as well as numerous solutions on how to suppress hate speech and disinformation, where to seek help, with whom to cooperate, how to empower victims, about the legal frameworks and social context.

Extract of the testimony from the Croatian partner, a women's advocacy organization

Project title: *While Innovating and Strengthening Europe - WISE*

Organisation : *Association des Agences de la Démocratie Locale*

Partner countries : *France, Italy, Slovenia, Montenegro, Albania, Portugal, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Netherlands, Spain, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Greece, Czech Republic, Romania*

Dates of project implementation : *01/12/2017 – 31/05/2019*

Grant awarded *€150.000*



Using bottom-up approach and participatory methods, the WISE project focused on promoting democratic engagement and active citizenship in local and union policy-making. In times of crisis, many people find themselves in unfavorable economic or social situation, and radicalized movements are appearing, with a huge wave of Euroscepticism is raising all over the Europe – as confirmed by the referendum in the United Kingdom on the leave from Europe Union, commonly known as Brexit. It was urgent to reassess where we are heading to. The occasion of remembrance of the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome in 2017 was a good starting point to reflect on and learn from the past of European Union. Most of the people that took part in the projects felt the need for a transformation in their own societies. The challenge was that they were usually not aware of how to improve the situation. Reflection on the past was the first step, throughout the implementation at the local level of the “EU LEARNING” path from all the partners. In this phase it has been useful and necessary to understand the causes of current problems and accessible means by which the desirable changes can be achieved, the participants have been setting together the priorities (i.e. Euroscepticism, climate change, EU citizenship perception, migration, elections, etc.) of the reflection ongoing under the guide and mentoring of the project partners. Citizens, coming from different countries and different social background, have been engaged in a reflection on what direction EU is heading to, and how they can drive a positive change. A specific attention was paid to the role and responsibilities of the organized civil society in catalyzing citizens’ needs and priorities, mobilizing the communities, sensitizing about the EU values, promoting a critical mass, as well as encouraging the EU citizens to take active initiative on a local, regional, national or even European Union’s level: CSOs are fundamental nowadays to actively participate in EU.

“Thanks to this conference I finally have a clearer understanding of the European Union, its way of working, the institution and the common history that is under it. I am more aware of our history and values, and since I am approaching now to be eighteen, and so I will have the opportunity to take an active part in the upcoming EU elections, it was really important to me to understand and know more about the Europe Union, in order to vote more consciously and have my say in shaping our common future”

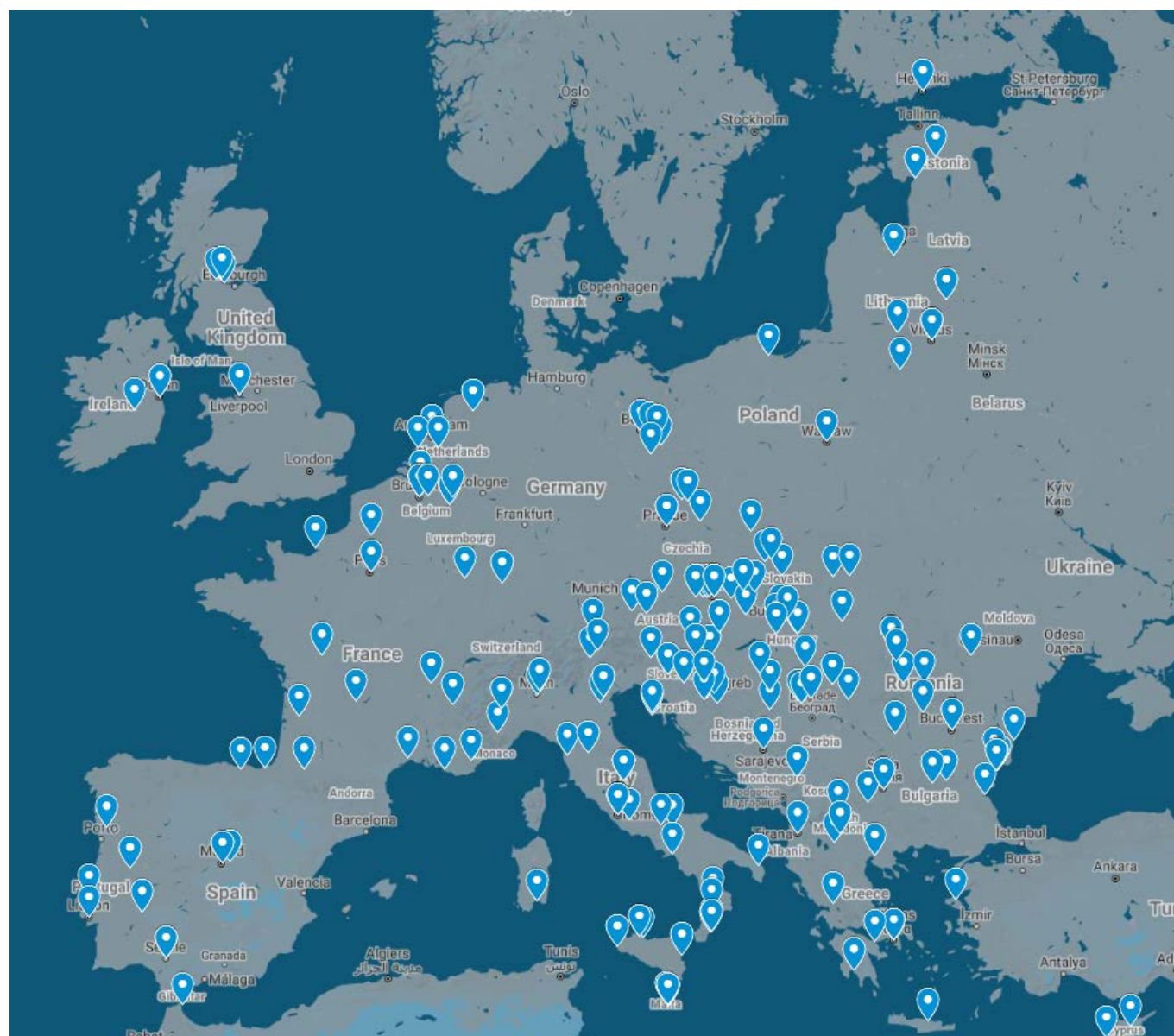
Young European lady from high school in Civitavecchia (Province of Rome, Italy) attending the launching event in Rome.

Key messages CLOUD

The citizens shared their opinions and personal experiences about the projects they took part in. This key message cloud is based on testimonies and statements from our participants, which were collected in the Final Reports of the Civil Society projects implemented in 2019.



The map below shows the venues of the projects monitored in 2019.



OPERATING GRANTS

With its Operating Grants, the Europe for Citizens Programme supports the regular activities of non-profit organisations with European outreach, for those contributing to raising awareness of European remembrance (Strand 1) and for those encouraging democratic and civic participation (Strand 2). In 2019, 6.8 million € was awarded.

Beneficiaries of operating grants are civil society organisations for European remembrance, European public policy research organisations (Think Tanks), platforms of pan-European organisations and civil society organisations working at the European level.

Indirectly they represent over 3000 organisations in Europe.

In 2019:

- Activities were organised in 28 Member States
- More than 1000 events were supported
- 6.8 million euro were awarded

2019 was the second year of the three-year Framework Partnership (Framework Partnerships are cooperation mechanisms established between a particular organisation and the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency) (2018-2020) of the Operating Grants awarded to 30 organisations. In 2019 the Agency has analysed the reports for activities implemented in 2018 and monitored the 2019 work programmes.

As 2019 was the year of the **European elections**, many beneficiaries organised awareness-raising activities to inform citizens and encourage critical thinking and democratic skills. The rise of populism and nationalism in Europe was predicted to be a major factor in the elections. That is why a particular emphasis was put on continuous fight against those phenomena. Many organisations organised workshops, trainings and campaigns with an aim to actively engage citizens and provide necessary knowledge to help in making informed choices. It demonstrated that the organisations participating in the Europe for Citizens programme stay very close to the citizens' concerns, and evolve with the European agenda.

Organisation: *Jeunes Européens Fédéralistes*

Grant awarded: € 200 000



Jeunes Européens Fédéralistes (JEF) is a supranational, politically pluralist youth NGO with about 30,000 members in over 35 countries. The goal of JEF is the creation of a democratic European federation as a guarantee for peace and more free, just and democratic society.

JEF initiated "I choose Europe" campaign with intention to call citizens who believe in the European unity to come out and vote, choose Europe against the European project of the nationalists, to speak up for the Europe they want for the future. The project encouraged expression of choice by voting for a Stronger, Democratic, Social and Federal Europe. It also intended to call candidates and policy makers across Europe to rally around a road-map of reforms leading to such a Strong, Democratic Social and Federal Europe that can inspire the trust of the citizens and deliver on their expectations.

Organisation: *Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM*

Grant awarded: € 250 000

Institut pro evropskou politiku EUROPEUM is a non-profit, non-partisan, and independent think-tank



focusing on European integration and cohesion. EUROPEUM contributes to democracy, security, stability, freedom, and solidarity across Europe as well as to active engagement of the Czech Republic in the European Union. EUROPEUM undertakes original research, organizes public events and educational activities, and formulates new ideas and recommendations to improve European and Czech policy making.

EUROPEUM organised a series of workshops entitled Save the European Elections. It focused on students who were first-time voters in the 2019 European elections. Through active participation students learnt about the way the European elections work and discussed themes concerning election participation, democracy, European values and political representation.

‘We were happy to welcome the project “Save the European elections” at our high school. Our students have broadened their knowledge about the European Union and most importantly, they got to know a lot of new information concerning the upcoming European elections and their political representation in the EU. I believe that many of these first-time voters are going to know why their participation at elections is important and what to do in the voting room.’ said a participant.

Organisations supported under the ‘European Remembrance’ strand specifically dealt with preventing and countering extremism and anti-Semitism through history education.

Organisation: Mémorial de la Shoah

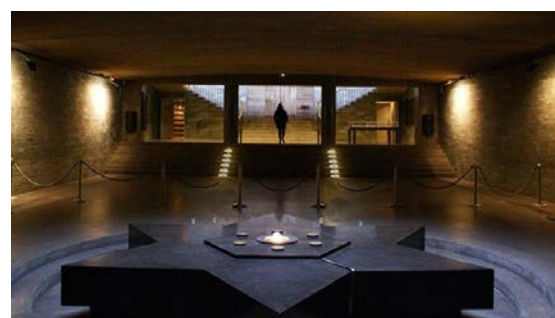
Grant awarded: € 250 000

The Mémorial de la Shoah partly thanks to the support of the Union - became a European reference network on the Holocaust and other genocides and on European identity. First founded as an archive collecting evidence of Anti-Jewish persecution in 1943, the Mémorial is an institution deeply linked to the history of the Holocaust and WWII. Today the Mémorial serves as a point of reference on the Shoah at European level.

For several years, the Memorial has been a key player in raising awareness of anti-Semitism and hatred. Activities such as school and teacher trainings, conferences and seminars, question the process behind antisemitism and other forms of exclusions, with a strong focus on the role of hate speech, fake news and propaganda.

In 2019 the Memorial continued to deconstruct cognitive biases through interactive and interdisciplinary pedagogical workshops, guided tours of the Memorial, inter-museums visits, film screenings and debates. The Memorial was also offering ‘citizenship workshops’ for people convicted of anti-Semitic or racist acts or speeches.

In recent years the Memorial has developed a unique program: pedagogical workshops are organised directly in schools, to ensure all students have access regardless whether they are able to travel to Paris.



One flagship commemoration in 2019 was **30 anniversary of the 1989 Democratic revolutions in Central and Eastern Europe and the fall of the Berlin wall**. These were pivotal events in European history, which marked the end of the Iron Curtain. Commemorations took place across the EU in many forms: concerts, exhibition and artistic performances.

Organisation: Fundació Solidaritat UB

Grant awarded: € 291 100

Fundació Solidaritat de la Universitat de Barcelona leads a transnational network of institutions and organizations committed to the analysis and promotion of public policies in the field of memories called – European Observatory of Memories (EUROM). It aims to reflect on the recent history of the struggle for democracy and freedom in Europe, advocating for a plurality of memories.

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, EUROM in cooperation with the Berlin Wall Foundation and a group of local artists promoted a multimedia performance entitled All along the watchtower.

All along the watchtower was a memorial show in between the concert, the recital, and the artistic performance. Taking as its starting point the song All along the watchtower, the show reviewed the hymns of resistance and struggle, declared the poems of hope, survival and of disappointment. Using direct and suggestive images of the walls as a global concept, it became a song of desire for freedom.

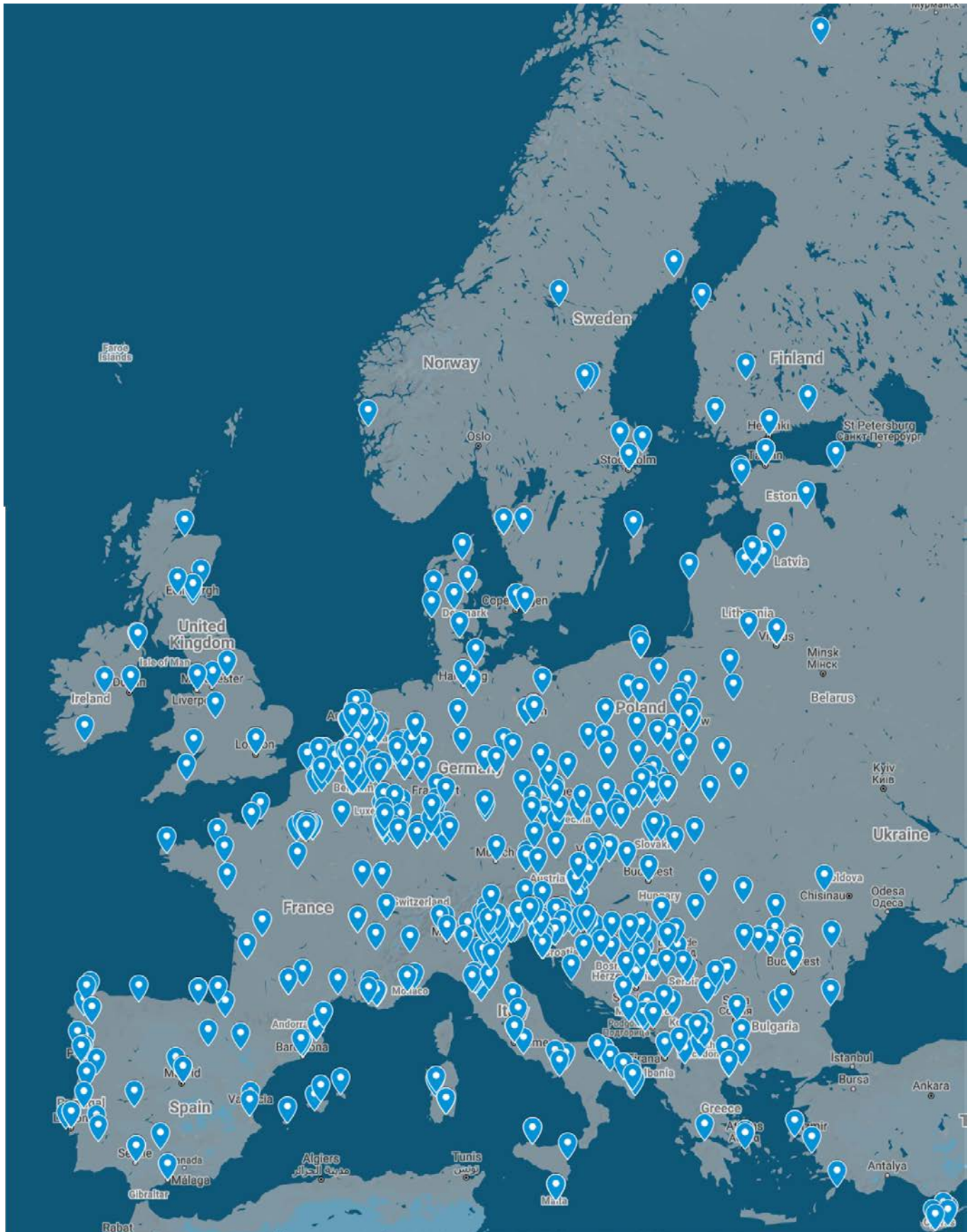
The show was conceived and produced by a multidisciplinary group of artists based in Berlin, all of them born and raised in the former German Democratic Republic (GDR).

The event was one of the acts of the Festivalwoche “30 Jahre Friedliche Revolution – Mauerfall and was presented on November 8 at 8 pm in Zionskirche Berlin. In Barcelona, it was part of the programme Paradigma Mur. Berlín-Barcelona 1989-2019/ 1961-2021 at El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria.



A large word cloud shaped like a map of Europe, featuring words related to social, political, and cultural themes. The most prominent words are 'European', 'Citizen', 'Policy', 'Work', 'Future', 'Act', 'Learn', 'Need', 'More', 'Use', 'Event', 'Young', 'Issue', 'Common', 'Country', 'Develop', 'Very', 'Value', 'State', 'Media', 'Project', 'Active', 'Social', 'Memory', 'Message', 'Key', 'Involve', 'People', 'Debate', 'Important', 'Discuss', 'New', 'Participant', 'Such', 'Always', 'Study', 'Open', 'Local', 'Anti', 'Learn', 'Order', 'Point', 'Member', 'Act', 'Future', 'Politics', 'Idea', 'Work', 'Policy', 'Citizen', 'European'. Other visible words include 'Social', 'Memory', 'Message', 'Key', 'Involve', 'People', 'Debate', 'Important', 'Discuss', 'New', 'Participant', 'Such', 'Always', 'Study', 'Open', 'Local', 'Anti', 'Learn', 'Order', 'Point', 'Member', 'Act', 'Future', 'Politics', 'Idea', 'Work', 'Policy', 'Citizen', 'European', 'Young', 'Issue', 'Common', 'Country', 'Develop', 'Very', 'Value', 'State', 'Media', 'Project', 'Active', 'Social', 'Memory', 'Message', 'Key', 'Involve', 'People', 'Debate', 'Important', 'Discuss', 'New', 'Participant', 'Such', 'Always', 'Study', 'Open', 'Local', 'Anti', 'Learn', 'Order', 'Point', 'Member', 'Act', 'Future', 'Politics', 'Idea', 'Work', 'Policy', 'Citizen', 'European'.

Venues of activities monitored in 2019





PART B

Quantitative information

Europe for citizens programme: follow up selection and contracts (2019)

Europe for citizens programme follow up selection and contracts (2019)												
Index	Actions and sub-actions	Budget	Number of grants / contracts	Call	Deadline	Number of applications received	Number of ineligible application	Number of selected application	Success rate	Decision date	Amount of Decision (euros)	Amount committed
Strand 1 - European remembrance and European citizenship												
1.1.	Remembrance projects	3.960.000	44	EACEA-51/2018	1/02/2019	262*	0	49**	18%	8/07/2018	3.959.360 and reserve list 437.760	4.334.840
1.2.	Structural support think tanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	1.291.900	6	EACEA 33/2017 Invitation EACEA	17/12/2018	6	0	6	100%	13/03/2018	1.291.900	1.291.900
Strand 2 - Democratic engagement and civic participation												
2.1.	Town twinning citizens meetings - phase 1	4.837.736	277	EACEA 51/2018	1/02/2019	301	0	133***	44%	17/06/2019	2.239.190	4.512.450
2.1.	Town twinning citizens meetings - phase 2				2/09/2019	287	0	127	44%	17/12/2019	2.273.260	
2.2.	Networks of twinned towns - phase 1	4.662.105	35	EACEA-51/2018	1/03/2019	131	1	18	14%	22/07/2019	2.539.080	5.022.720****
2.2.	Networks of twinned towns - phase 2				2/09/2019	128	0	18	14%	13/12/2018	2.483.640	
2.3.	Civil society projects	3.728.676	28	EACEA-51/2018	2/09/2019	415*	4	29	7%	17/12/2018	3.769.270	3.803.795*****
2.4.	Structural support for think tanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	5.518.503	24	EACEA - 33/2017 Invitation EACEA 43/2018	17/12/2018	24	0	24	100%	13/03/2019	5.508.244	5.508.244
Strand 3 - Valorisation												
3.2.	Information structures in Member States and participating countries	900.000	36	EACEA 40/2018	29/11/2018	29	0	29	100%	21/12/2018	782.840	782.840
4.1.	Support to project selection	200.000			n/a						0	0
	TOTAL WP 2019	25.098.920	450			1583	5	433	27%		25.320.544	25.256.789

* 3 Remembrance and 4 Civil Society applications withdrawn

** Within the Selections Remembrance 2019, 45 projects were granted in July and 5 were put in the Reserve List. In November 2019, 4 out of 5 projects in the Reserve List could be granted thanks to the budget availability.

*** A beneficiary withdrew (14.615 EUR). Amending Decision was signed on 27/09/2019, the final number of selected projects is 133 for the total amount of 2.239.190 €

**** The amount is higher than that which is specified in EFC Annual work programme 2019: the difference of 360.615 euros is made possible thanks to:

a) a transfer from the Measure 2.1 Town Twinning of EUR 325.286 (in compliance with Article 3 'Flexibility clause' of the EFC Annual Work Programme 2019);

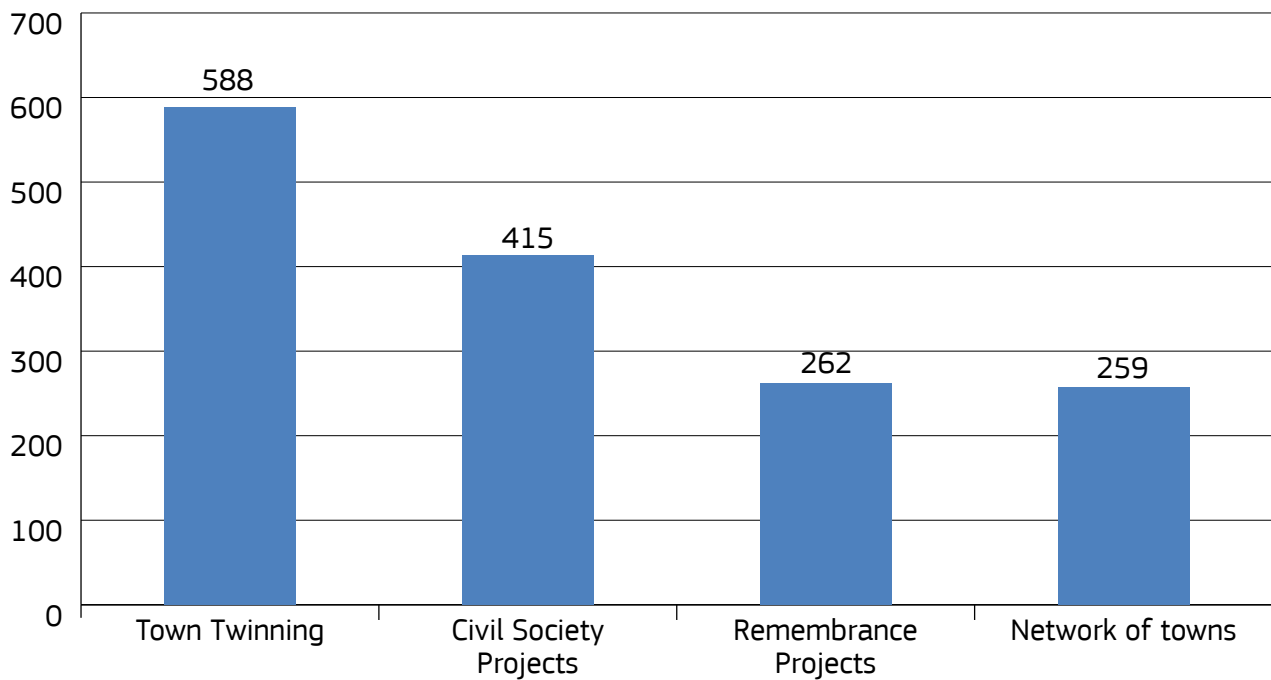
b) the use of remaining credits available under C4 budget line: BGUE-B2019-18.040101-C4-EACE

***** Amount of the global Commitment

Applications submitted in 2019

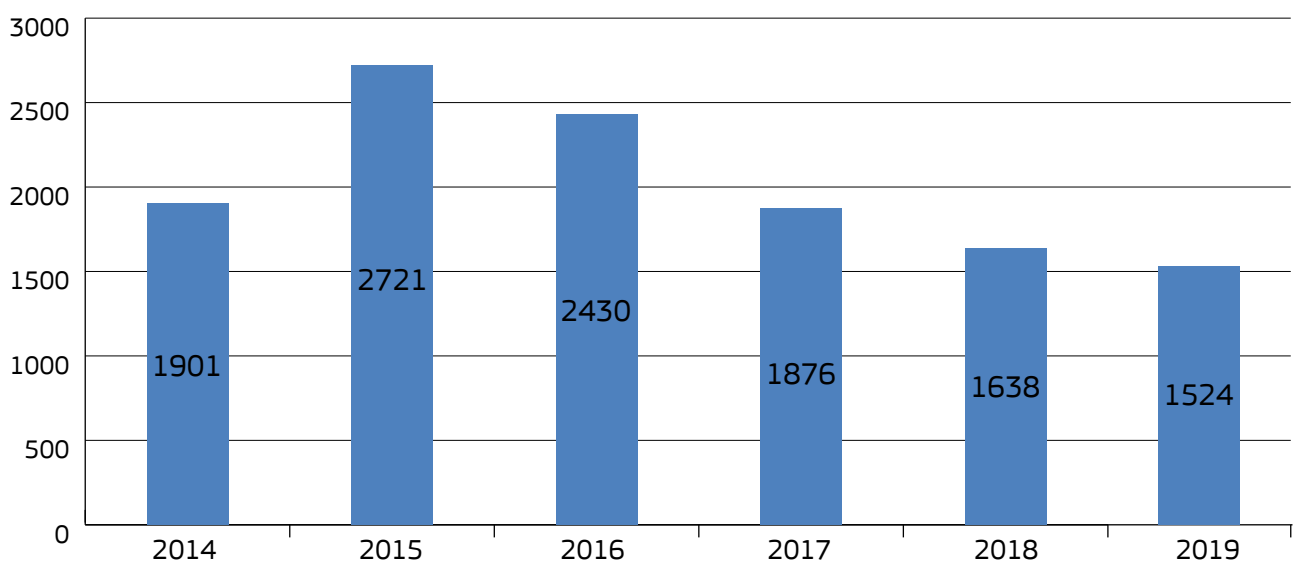
In total, 1583 applications were submitted in 2019, of which 1524 applications for action grants, 30 Operating Grants applications and 29 applications for the Europe for Citizens Contact points.

- **Overview per action (action grants)**



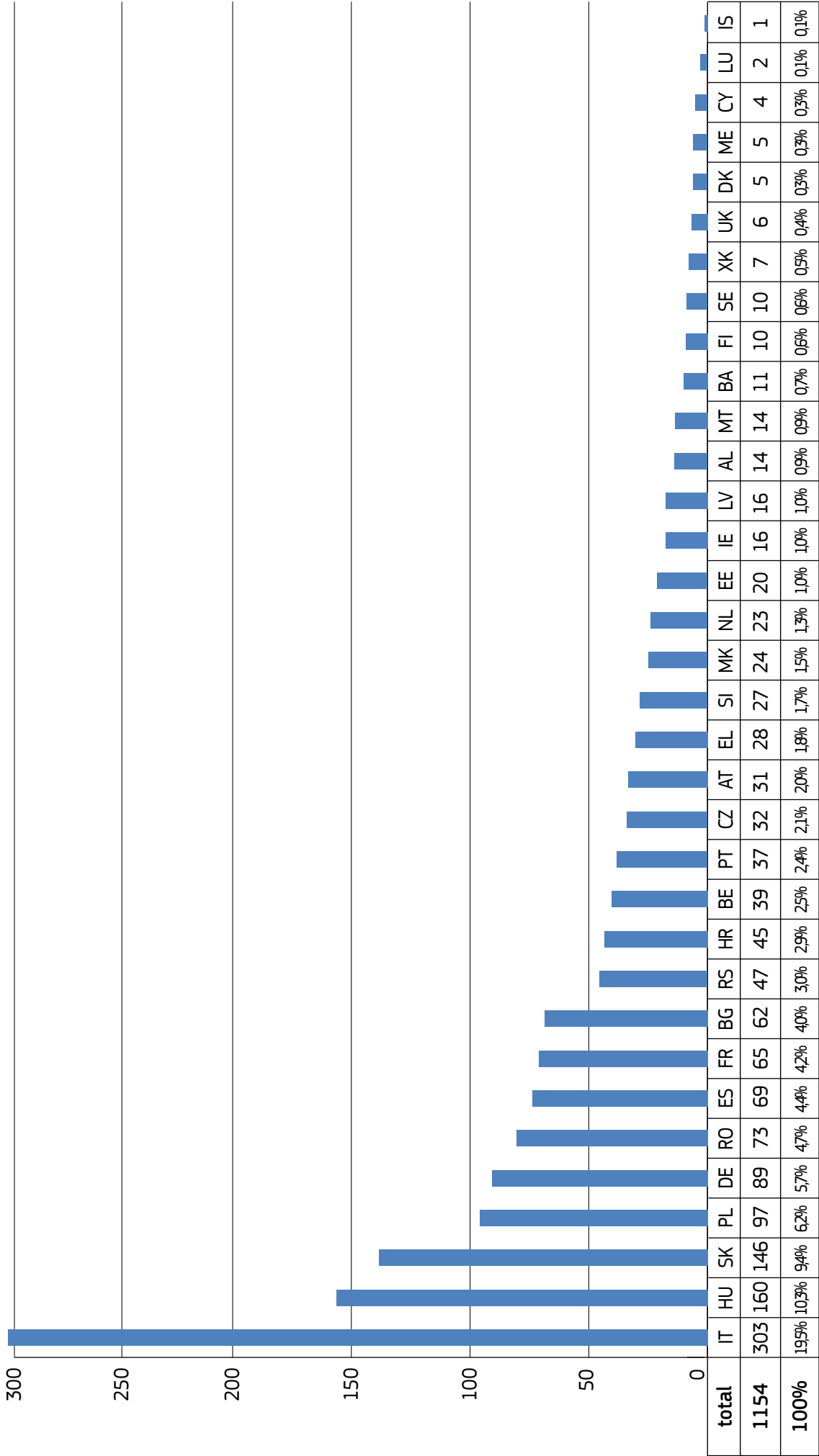
- **Applications received 2014-2019 (action grants)**

The decrease in number of applications submitted for action grants has a slightly positive impact on the success rate.



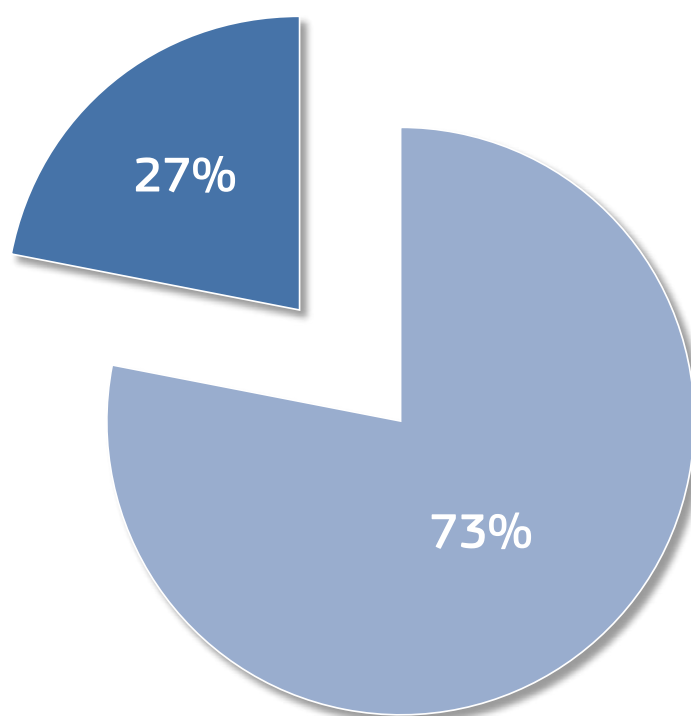
- Overview per country of applications submitted – actions and operating grants**

Organisations from all Member States and participating countries are represented as applicants. Italy was the Member State submitting the greatest number of proposals (303 or 19.5%), followed by Hungary (160 or 10.3%), Slovakia (146 or 9.4%) and Poland (97 or 6.2%).

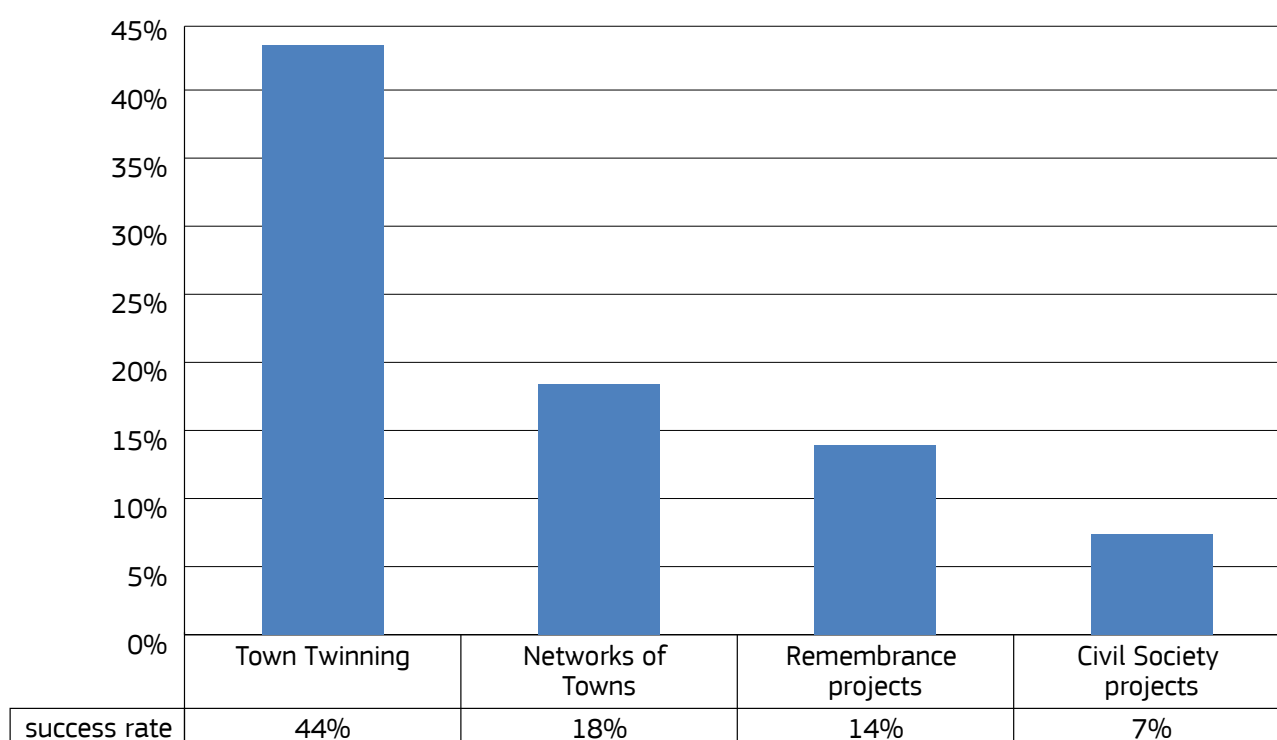


Applications selected in 2019

- Programme success rate

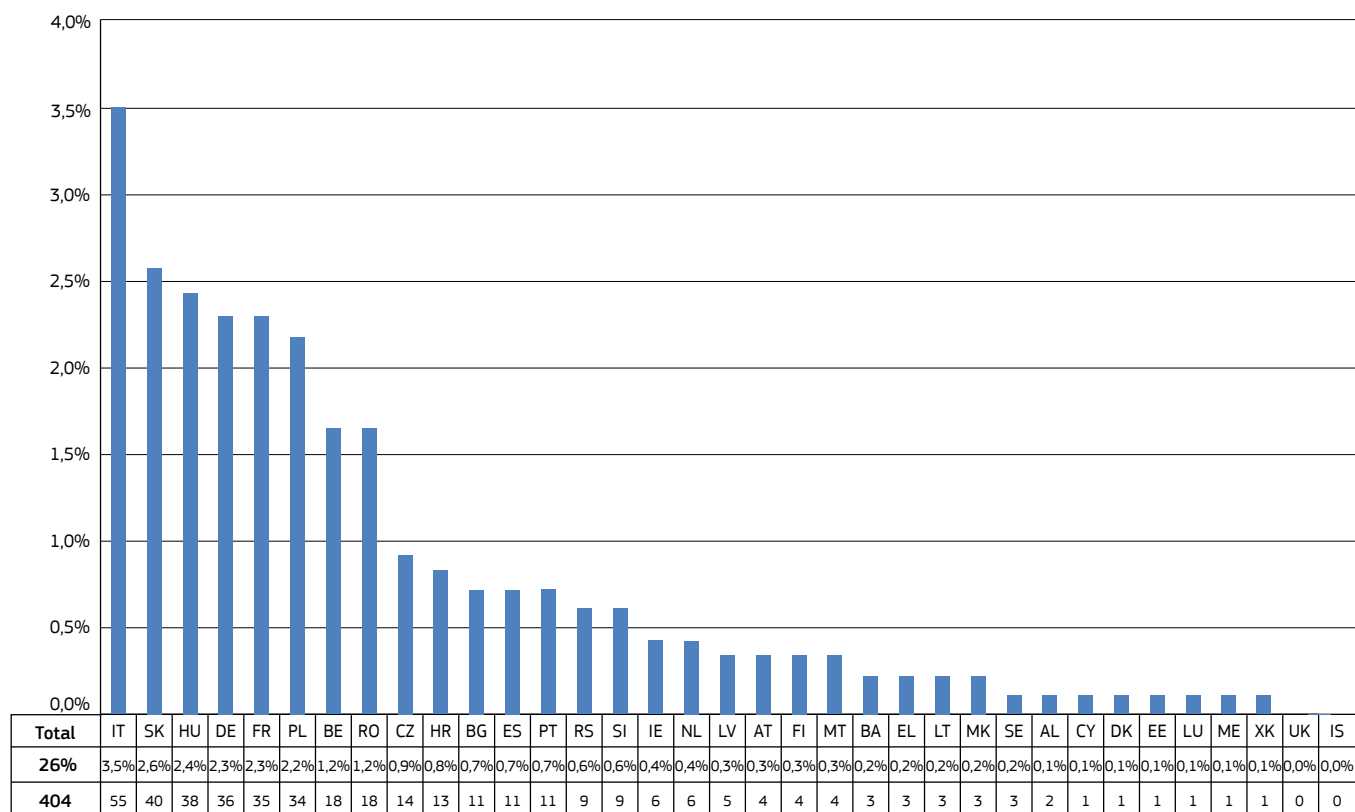


- Success rate for action grants by activity/measure

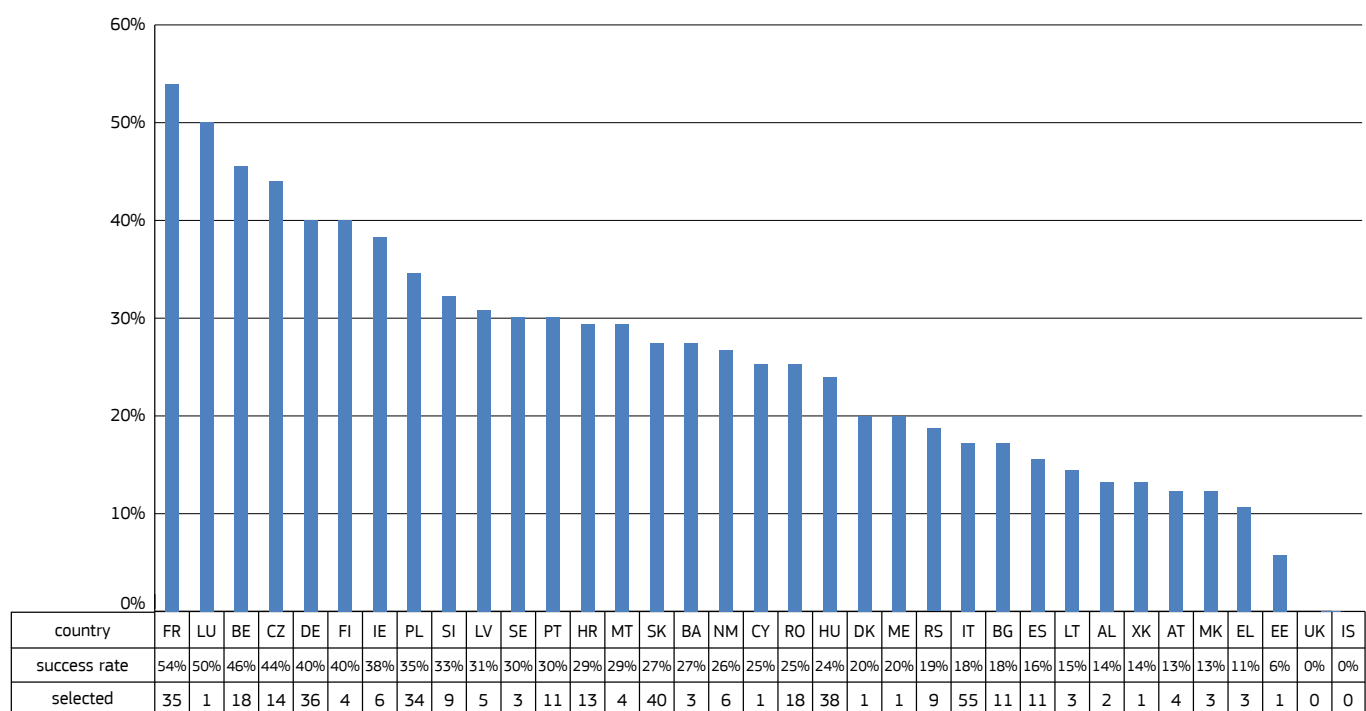


• Success rate per country

Success rate per country in relation to the 1554 applications submitted (European Remembrance, Town Twinning, Networks of Towns and Civil Society action grants and operating grants)



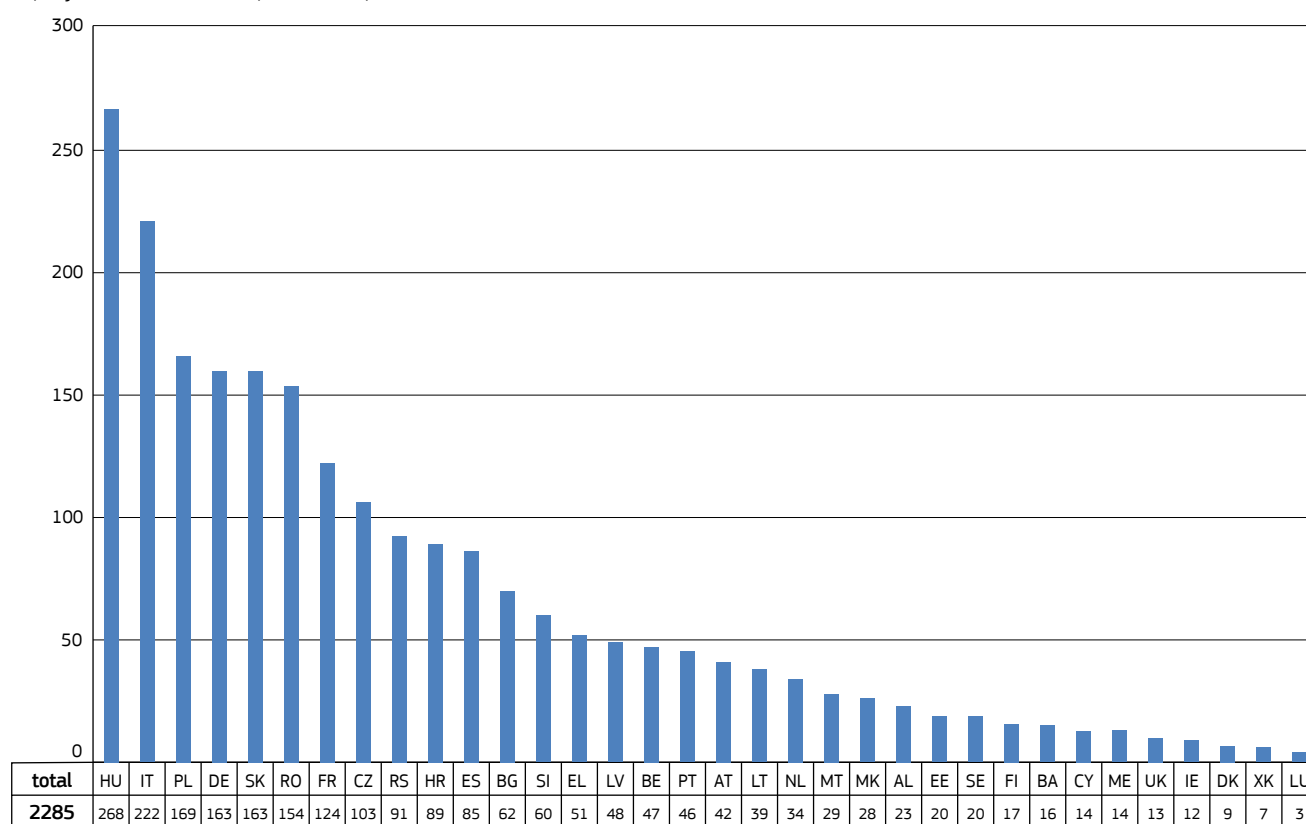
Success rate per country in relation to projects submitted by the same country
Ratio between applications submitted and selected per country.



Analysis of projects partners

• Overview per country

2285 partners were selected for action grants (European Remembrance, Town Twinning, Networks of Towns and Civil Society projects). Breakdown per country below:



• 2019 - Partners per country in selected applications

Action	Number of projects granted	Number of Partners in project granted	Average number of partners in 2019	Average number of partners in 2018
Network of Towns	49	293	6,0	6,9
Civil Society Projects	260	1368	5,3	5,4
Remembrance Projects	36	434	12,1	11
Town Twinning	29	190	6,6	7,3
TOTAL	374	2285	6,1	6,3

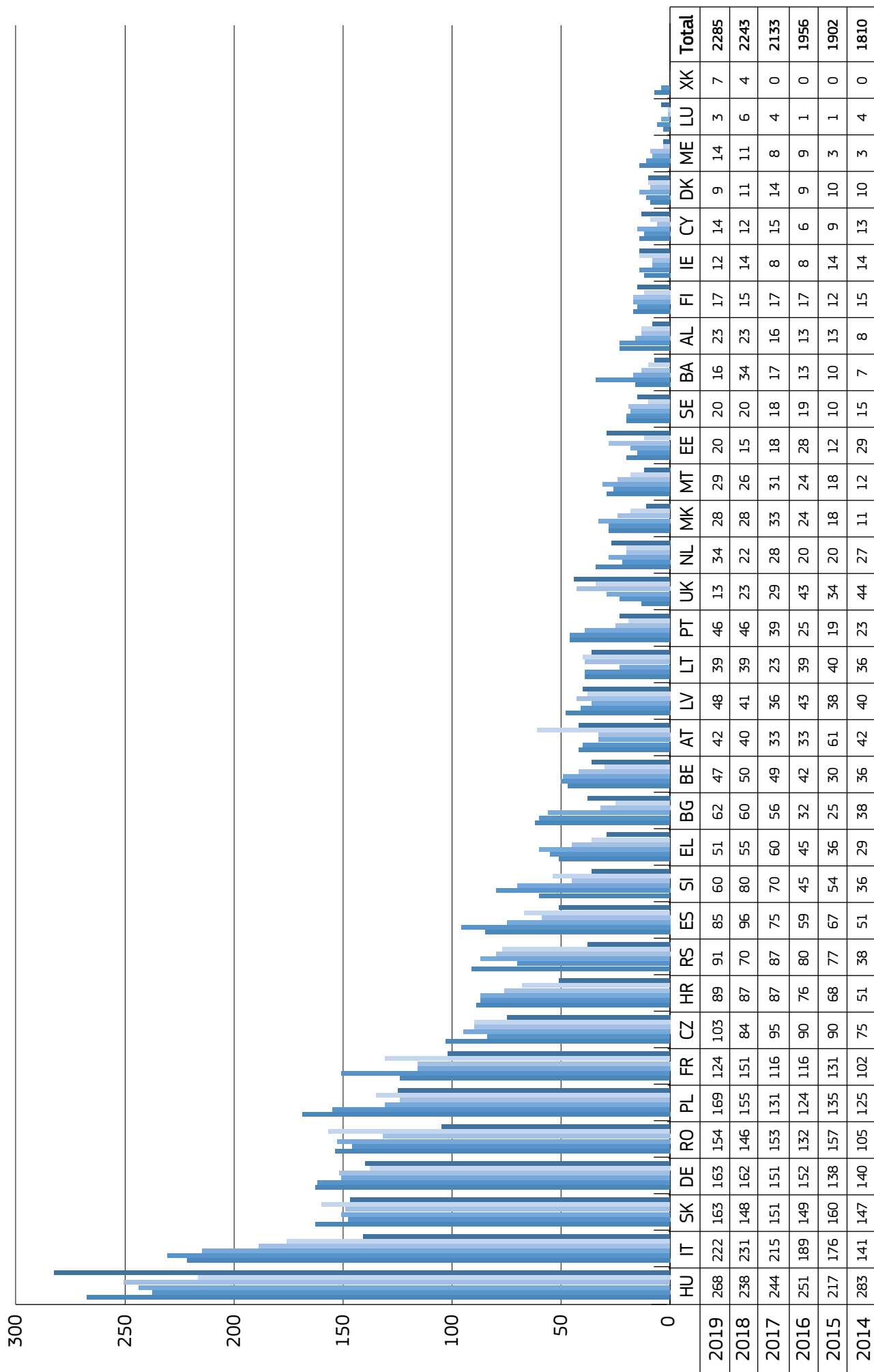
In tables at pages 6 and 7 of this document, the concept of “partners” includes all the organisations involved in the projects, included the applicants

- Partners per action in selected applications 2019

Country	European Remembrance	Town Twinning	Networks of Towns	Civil Society projects	Total
AL	5	5	11	2	23
AT	10	22	4	6	42
BA	2	7	6	1	16
BE	11	12	8	16	47
BG	11	21	23	7	62
CY	0	7	6	1	14
CZ	12	76	11	4	103
DE	28	105	20	10	163
DK	4	0	3	2	9
EE	4	5	6	5	20
EL	9	11	21	10	51
ES	16	34	24	11	85
FI	4	4	7	2	17
FR	17	82	15	10	124
HR	7	62	14	6	89
HU	16	225	19	8	268
IE	3	3	4	2	12
IT	27	126	49	20	222
LT	8	14	13	4	39
LU	0	1	2	0	3
LV	2	27	14	5	48
ME	2	4	6	2	14
MK	4	11	10	3	28
MT	2	14	12	1	29
NL	8	12	9	5	34
PL	36	98	22	13	169
PT	9	14	18	5	46
RO	15	110	20	9	154
RS	4	65	17	5	91
SE	1	8	9	2	20
SI	5	30	17	8	60
SK	11	144	5	3	163
UK	0	9	4	0	13
XK	0	0	5	2	7
IS	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	293	1368	434	190	2285
Number of projects granted	49	260	36	29	374

• Number of partners per country 2014-2020

The number of partners has grown continuously since 2014. Since the beginning of the programme, 12.329 partners were involved in action grants.



• Selection thresholds (action grants)

The table below show all the funding thresholds for action grants (i.e. the lowest score obtained by selected projects) since the beginning of the Europe for Citizens programme in 2014. It takes into consideration the released reserve lists.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Remembrance	84	79,5	82,5	82,5	82,5	80,5
Civil Society	82,75	81,75	81,5	82,25	82,5	82,5
Town Twinning phase 1	53	78	74	71	71	71
Town Twinning phase 2	70,75	74,25	73	72	71	71
Network of Town phase 1	67,5	80	81	82	81	81
Network of Town phase 2	76,25	85	84	83	82	81

• Feeling of being a citizen of the EU

According to Standard Reports of the Eurobarometer the feeling of being an EU citizen on European average has remained stable over the last years.

Country	Autumn 2019	Spring 2019	Autumn 2018	Spring 2018	Autumn 2017	Spring 2017	Autumn 2016	Spring 2016	Autumn 2015	Spring 2015	Autumn 2014	Spring 2014	Autumn 2013	Spring 2013	Autumn 2012	Spring 2012
	EB 92 p.14	EB 91 p.36	EB 90 p.33	EB 89 p.36	EB 88 p.39	EB 87 p. 38	EB 86 p.32	EB 85 p. 38	EB 84 p. 32	EB 83 p. 17	EB 82 p. 29	EB 81 p. 7	EB 80 p. 30	EB 79 p. 23	EB 78 p. 23	EB 77 p. 22
AT	73	80	75	77	78	73	66	69	63	72	73	87	63	66	63	60
BE	74	81	79	74	78	78	71	71	72	70	69	71	70	71	68	69
BG	56	52	51	51	56	55	50	49	47	50	48	46	49	48	47	50
CY	72	73	65	72	69	64	53	53	49	50	51	53	46	45	55	62
CZ	65	58	56	59	56	57	53	58	57	62	60	57	55	54	54	52
DE	83	88	86	84	82	82	77	78	74	81	74	79	73	73	74	74
DK	79	82	78	80	79	81	74	77	76	74	74	73	71	71	74	75
EE	80	79	81	78	78	75	75	76	73	79	78	76	72	70	73	67
EL	51	57	52	51	48	48	47	46	50	50	45	49	42	44	46	50
ES	86	87	83	82	88	75	79	76	75	69	71	71	69	68	73	70
FI	81	85	81	79	81	81	79	82	75	81	76	79	73	73	78	71
FR	58	64	62	61	63	64	61	67	61	61	63	63	57	61	66	65
HR	66	64	66	63	61	61	60	61	66	63	56	55	58	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
HU	80	84	80	77	67	70	69	65	69	67	67	59	59	59	54	51
IE	80	85	85	85	81	82	78	80	76	77	70	74	67	68	69	69
IT	55	57	59	56	54	53	51	49	49	53	47	47	45	52	51	45
LT	81	80	77	78	77	77	74	74	77	78	71	71	64	65	64	60
LU	91	93	89	93	90	89	92	93	85	88	89	85	85	88	87	85
LV	73	76	75	74	73	74	73	71	68	69	68	62	53	56	57	54
MT	81	81	82	82	85	82	82	84	82	84	85	87	74	81	76	72
NL	72	77	75	70	70	71	68	70	67	70	61	65	58	61	67	60
PL	81	84	79	80	77	80	78	76	71	74	74	77	67	70	74	67
PT	81	84	78	83	81	80	79	75	72	72	66	69	58	62	59	60
RO	72	73	68	64	63	66	67	59	62	65	68	61	56	53	51	60
SE	79	83	82	76	77	76	75	74	72	78	76	77	69	69	73	65
SI	76	77	72	73	73	71	73	70	75	65	69	69	61	64	68	66
SK	79	80	77	80	75	72	73	75	69	75	73	73	70	76	71	70
UK	53	58	58	57	55	54	55	53	52	56	60	52	42	48	48	42
EU	70	73	71	70	70	68	67	66	64	67	63	65	59	62	63	61

Synoptic table of projects submitted and granted per country and action in 2019

Europe for Citizens programme 2014 - 2020 Report 2019																		
Applications submitted										Projects selected								
CIV	REMEM	OG	TT1	TT2	NT1	NT2	TOTAL submitted	TOTAL selected		CIV	REMEM	OG	TT1	TT2	NT1	NT2		
AL	6	4	0	0	3	1	14	2		AL	1	0	0	1	0	0		Population rate
AT	15	11	1	2	0	2	31	4		AT	1	1	1	0	0	0		Success rate/ granted per country
BA	2	1	0	1	2	2	11	3		BA	0	0	1	1	0	0		Applications in %
BE	21	4	10	0	2	1	39	18		BE	3	10	0	1	1	1		Applications granted in %
BG	22	20	0	4	4	5	62	11		BG	1	2	3	2	1	2		Population rate
CY	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	1		CY	0	0	0	0	1	0		Success rate/ granted per country
CZ	7	8	1	9	6	1	32	14		CZ	1	2	6	4	0	0		Applications in %
DE	20	17	2	19	28	2	89	36		DE	2	4	13	14	1	0		Applications granted in %
DK	3	1	0	0	0	0	5	1		DK	0	1	0	0	0	0		Population rate
EE	4	7	0	1	1	1	16	1		EE	0	0	1	0	0	0		Success rate/ granted per country
EL	16	6	0	0	0	2	28	3		EL	1	1	0	0	0	1		Applications in %
ES	27	15	1	2	4	12	69	11		ES	4	1	1	2	2	0		Applications granted in %
FI	5	2	0	0	2	1	10	4		FI	1	0	0	1	1	1		Population rate
FR	14	5	8	12	21	1	65	35		FR	2	8	10	11	0	2		Success rate/ granted per country
HR	15	5	1	5	7	9	45	13		HR	1	1	2	6	1	1		Applications in %
HU	17	16	1	71	35	11	160	38		HU	2	1	20	11	1	2		Applications granted in %
IE	5	4	1	1	4	0	16	6		IE	2	1	1	1	0	0		Population rate
IT	93	48	0	37	51	32	303	55		IT	4	0	22	20	3	3		Success rate/ granted per country
LT	7	5	0	0	2	4	20	3		LT	1	0	0	1	0	0		Applications in %
LU	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1		LU	0	0	0	0	0	1		Applications granted in %
LV	5	5	0	2	1	2	16	5		LV	1	0	2	0	1	0		Population rate
ME	1	2	0	0	0	0	5	1		ME	0	1	0	0	0	0		Success rate/ granted per country
MK	10	6	0	2	1	3	24	3		MK	1	0	1	1	0	0		Applications in %
MT	4	1	0	1	1	3	14	4		MT	0	1	1	1	0	1		Applications granted in %
NL	10	7	2	0	0	2	23	6		NL	2	2	0	0	1	0		Population rate
PL	18	19	1	21	26	6	97	34		PL	4	1	12	13	0	2		Success rate/ granted per country
PT	7	9	0	5	7	5	37	11		PT	2	0	2	4	1	1		Applications in %
RO	15	11	0	26	14	5	73	18		RO	1	0	9	5	1	0		Applications granted in %
RS	14	7	0	10	4	6	47	9		RS	1	0	5	2	0	0		Population rate
SE	6	2	1	0	0	0	10	3		SE	1	1	0	0	0	1		Success rate/ granted per country
SI	7	3	0	4	5	8	27	9		SI	1	0	2	4	1	0		Applications in %
SK	8	6	0	65	56	5	146	40		SK	0	0	18	21	0	0		Applications granted in %
UK	4	2	0	0	0	0	6	0		UK	0	0	0	0	0	0		Population rate
XK*	3	2	0	1	0	1	7	1		XK*	0	0	0	0	1	0		Success rate/ granted per country
IS	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		IS	0	0	0	0	0	0		Applications in %
TOTAL	415	262	30	301	287	131	1554	404		TOTAL	29	49	133	127	18	18		100,00%
				588			259					36	268					EU Total
																		512.710.966

Synoptic table of projects submitted and granted per country and action in the period 2014-2019

Europe for Citizens programme 2014 - 2020
Report 2014-2019

Applications submitted										Projects selected										Statistic Data				
	CIV	REMEM	OG	TT1	TT2	NT1	NT2	TOTAL submitted	TOTAL selected		CIV	REMEM	OG	TT1	TT2	NT1	NT2	Applications Submitted in %	Applications Granted in %	Success rate submitted/ granted per country	Population rate	Population Eurostat 2019		
AL	19	18	0	2	4	7	8	58	3									0,46%	0,14%	5,17%	0,55%	2.870.324		
AT	75	57	9	15	7	9	13	185	26				1	4	1	2	3	1,48%	1,20%	14,05%	1,65%	8.822.267		
BA	29	16	2	6	9	8	12	82	8				0	2	3	0	0	0,66%	0,37%	9,76%	0,73%	3.502.550		
BE	149	66	86	17	13	9	13	353	59				19	6	5	4	2	2,83%	2,72%	16,71%	2,14%	11.413.058		
BG	153	121	8	18	23	24	35	382	41				0	10	8	3	6	3,06%	1,89%	10,73%	1,36%	7.050.034		
CY	17	2	0	2	3	4	5	33	7				0	1	0	2	0	0,26%	0,32%	21,21%	0,16%	864.236		
CZ	50	54	7	57	69	6	7	250	57				2	21	20	1	0	2,00%	2,63%	22,80%	2,00%	10.610.055		
DE	119	134	34	221	188	23	25	744	219				6	91	76	8	7	5,96%	10,09%	29,44%	15,60%	82.650.000		
DK	24	5	2	4	2	0	2	39	6				0	0	2	0	0	0,31%	0,28%	15,38%	1,08%	5.781.190		
EE	25	29	1	7	7	2	3	74	7				0	2	1	0	0	0,59%	0,32%	9,46%	0,25%	1.319.133		
EL	69	64	3	6	15	36	50	243	28				0	3	3	3	6	1,95%	1,29%	11,52%	2,05%	10.738.868		
ES	144	146	30	48	54	45	58	525	75				3	22	18	6	4	4,20%	3,45%	14,29%	8,82%	46.659.302		
FI	19	11	2	2	7	5	1	47	13				0	1	3	2	0	0,38%	0,60%	27,66%	1,04%	5.513.130		
FR	84	93	78	147	170	29	34	635	172				18	56	59	7	7	5,08%	7,92%	27,09%	12,66%	67.221.943		
HR	107	60	7	49	40	38	34	335	59				1	18	21	4	3	2,68%	2,72%	17,61%	0,80%	4.105.493		
HU	168	164	11	829	513	101	96	1882	270				2	156	79	12	5	15,07%	12,44%	14,35%	1,87%	9.778.371		
IE	29	16	4	7	13	0	2	71	21				1	3	5	0	0	0,57%	0,97%	29,58%	0,88%	4.838.259		
IT	495	447	20	286	266	200	245	1959	266				0	105	85	24	15	15,69%	12,25%	13,58%	11,52%	60.483.973		
LT	58	60	0	15	18	10	8	169	25				0	3	8	0	1	1,35%	1,15%	14,79%	0,55%	2.808.901		
LU	5	0	2	0	2	1	4	14	5				0	0	2	0	3	0,11%	0,23%	35,71%	0,11%	602.005		
LV	37	57	6	20	10	16	19	165	23				1	8	2	2	1	1,32%	1,06%	13,94%	0,37%	1.934.379		
ME	7	6	1	0	0	0	3	17	3				0	0	0	0	0	0,14%	0,14%	17,65%	0,12%	622.359		
MK	41	17	7	9	6	10	9	99	13				1	3	1	1	1	0,79%	0,60%	13,13%	0,39%	2.073.301		
MT	16	12	1	13	13	9	14	78	31				0	9	10	3	4	0,62%	1,43%	39,74%	0,08%	475.701		
NL	52	38	13	9	4	6	7	129	22				3	0	1	2	1	1,03%	1,01%	17,05%	3,22%	17.181.084		
PL	167	238	15	169	131	44	49	813	165				3	68	58	5	5	6,51%	7,60%	20,30%	7,21%	37.976.687		
PT	51	32	5	16	17	16	13	150	32				0	8	8	3	3	1,20%	1,47%	21,33%	1,96%	10.291.027		
RO	108	134	1	262	151	23	27	706	134				0	77	39	5	0	5,65%	6,17%	18,98%	3,75%	19.523.621		
RS	84	56	5	48	42	19	31	285	43				0	17	13	2	1	2,28%	1,98%	15,09%	1,34%	7.001.444		
SE	21	12	3	3	5	11	9	64	17				1	0	3	4	4	0,51%	0,78%	26,56%	1,87%	10.120.242		
SI	84	82	1	34	38	25	26	290	50				0	16	17	4	2	2,32%	2,30%	17,24%	0,39%	2.066.880		
SK	71	101	14	618	538	45	48	1435	248				1	145	87	3	3	11,49%	11,42%	17,28%	1,03%	5.443.120		
UK	68	33	22	19	18	4	7	171	22				4	4	5	0	0	1,37%	1,01%	12,87%	12,41%	66.238.007		
XK*	3	2	0	1	0	1	0	7	1				0	0	0	1	0	0,00%	0,00%	14,29%	0,00%	1.798.906		
TOTAL	2648	2383	400	2959	2396	786	917	12489	2171				67	859	645	113	87	99,94%	99,95%		100,00%	530.581.450		
				5355			1703								1504	200						EU Total	512.710.966	

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Europe for citizens Programme

Results 2019

Resume

In this document you will find an overview of the Europe for Citizens programme implementation in 2019 together with some data measuring the overall impact for the period 2014 - 2019.

PART A provides a policy feedback per action on the main achievements in 2019 as well as the first results of the "European Solidarity Corps" initiative.

PART B presents the main statistical data on the Programme execution in 2019 and in the period 2014 - 2019.

Furthermore, synoptic tables illustrate the breakdown of projects submitted and granted by country.

In 2019, **Directorate-General Migration & Home Affairs (DG HOME)** was responsible for the development and smooth running of the "Europe for Citizens" programme. It managed the budget and defined objectives, strategies and priority areas of action. It also guided and monitored the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the Programme at European level. DG HOME has delegated the management of the implementation of the Programme to the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

In 2020, **Directorate-General for Justice & Consumers (DG JUST)** has taken over the management of the programme from DG HOME.

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) The EACEA is responsible for the implementation of grants under the "Europe for Citizens" programme. EACEA manages the complete life cycle of these projects, including drawing up calls for proposals, selecting projects and signing Grant Decisions/Agreements, financial management, monitoring of projects, communication with beneficiaries and on the spot controls.

More information:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/europe-for-citizens_en