

The project « European Union is always with us» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 "Town-Twinning"

Participation: The project involved 970 citizens, notably 800 participants from the town of Ratíškovice (**Czech Republic**), 50 participants from the town of Popudinské Močidl'any (**Slovakia**), 50 participants from the town of Cífer (**Slovakia**), 20 participants from the town of Vouziers (**France**), 50 participants from the town of Daruvar (**Croatia**)

Location/ Dates: The event took place in **Ratíškovice, Czech Republic**, from 06/05/2022 to 08/05/2022

Short description:

The first day, 06/05/2022 was devoted primarily to the development of European citizenship. This was helped by a meeting with a senator of the Czech Parliament and a member of the EP. Citizens here could present their opinions on current events. It was also important to remember the history of the EU. Citizens got to know what it was like at the birth of the idea of a common Europe. During the activities, young people demonstrated how they perceive the EU and its countries

The second day, 07/05/2022 was dedicated to the topic of migration. During the discussion, the participants got to know the work of an interesting organization helping migrants with integration. Citizens got to know the pitfalls of a migrant's life. This helped correct their views on migration. In addition, the EU itself also presented itself. Topics related to the EU were presented in the form of promotional materials. Demonstrations of traditions were an element of intercultural dialogue. During the activities, citizens commemorated an important milestone in the democratization of Europe. It was a reminder of the transition from totalitarianism to democracy and the EU. For the young participants, it was a lesson in modern history and a reminder that life was not always as good as it is today. Cultural presentations were the basis for connecting all participants from different European countries through intercultural dialogue.

The third day, 08/05/2022 presented the topic of volunteering to the citizens. Non-profit organizations and volunteering themselves were introduced. The project also brought about a discussion of the representatives of the partner municipalities about the youth and their role in public matters. Brass band performances were a presentation of the cultural diversity of the nations of Europe. The canvas with the handprints of the participants became a memento of the partnership and the successful implementation of the project.