

The project «MigrART» 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 78 citizens, notably 35 participants from the city of Tubize (**Belgium**), 9 participants from the city of Daugavpils (**Latvia**), 6 participants from the city of Thermi (**Greece**), 3 participants from the city of Beja (**Portugal**), 4 participants from the city of Włocławek (**Poland**), 11 participants from the city of Neulingen (**Germany**), 5 participants from the city of Jablonec nad Nisou (**Czech Republic**) and 5 participants from the city of Almansa (**Spain**).

Location/ Dates: The event took place in **Scandiano, Italy** from 22/09/2016 to 26/09/2016

Short description: Migrations represent one of the topics of the utmost importance in the current European scenario. Nevertheless, it is not something totally "new", in fact the twinning between Scandiano and Tubize, that dates back to 1975/76, was signed to allow the Italian emigrants (who went to Belgium to work in the mines and in the heavy industry) to keep a link with their roots. Thank to this project we investigated the topic of integration/marginalization of newcomers in our cities, but we did it in an "unconventional" way, that is using the universal channel of Art (in all its forms of expression) as a tool to represent situations, places, behaviours and so on. During the meeting the citizens of the participating countries were asked first to observe and second to report - by painting, drawing, photographing, etc. – contexts referring to social integration/marginalization, then these works were used as an input for common discussion.

The day of 22/09/2016 was dedicated to the arrival and welcoming of the delegations, accommodation c/o the families of the territory.

After some ice-breaking activities, the day of 23/09/2016 was dedicated to the visit of some kindergartens and primary schools (as several participants were school staff members) and some other informal contexts of integration. Afterwards, in the "A. Caponnetto" Park the artists from the participating countries, inspired from what they had previously experienced, started a 2-days work to create an artistic "path" about the topics of migration and multiculturalism.

The day of 24/09/2016 was dedicated to the discussion of the topics either in plenary or working groups. The delegations began introducing their own city and the best practices related to intercultural dialogue, social integration and international relationships. Afterwards there was a round table for the discussion of possible project proposals. At the end of the day the visit to the works done by the artists in the park and some closing remarks.

The day of 25/09/2016 was dedicated to the deepening of the knowledge about the hosting territory and the socialization among the participants coming from several different countries. The delegations visited the city of Parma and had lunch with the host families. Afterwards, the official celebration of the 40° anniversary of the twinning between Scandiano and Tubize: all delegations took part to the ceremony and the following dinner, as this special event was worth being shared with all participating countries, for it is a good example of friendly relationship that has been able to last and renew itself over the time.

The day of 26/09/2016 was dedicated to the visit of the local farmers' market and to the departure of the delegations.