

**The project « Seven European Countries – One Identity» 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:** A total of 335 citizens from 7 countries and 7 cities are invited in the project: 15 citizens are invited to work in 7 civic forums organised in 7 countries - 105 citizens in total, and 230 citizens are invited to work on the international conference notably, 190 International and 40 domestic citizens, throughout this event. 190 international participants are invited from 7 countries: Spain, Italy, Croatia, Greece, Serbia and Slovenia. International participants are invited and were participated, as follows: 10 citizens from the Ayuntamiento Mislata, Spain; 30 citizens from Municipality of Vignanello, Italy; 40 citizens from Novo mesto, Slovenia; 40 citizens from Novi Marof, Croatia, 30 citizens from Siatista, Greece and 40 citizens from Sremski Karlovci, Serbia. Also, the Project involved 40 domestic participants from Birgu, Malta.

**Location/ Dates:** In the period from September 26th to October 5th, 2022, seven one-day civic forums "Our European Identity" were held in 7 partner cities in 7 countries: City of Birgu, Malta; Novi Marof, Croatia; Siatista, Greece; Mislata, Spain; Novo mesto, Slovenia; Sremski Karlovci, Serbia and Vignanello, Italia. The three-day international conference "Seven European Countries – One Identity" took place in Birgu, Malta, from 07.10.2019 to 09.10.2022.

#### **Short description:**

Each of 7 civic forums discussed 2 topics in accordance with the multi-year priority topics of the Europe for Citizens Program: 1) the future of the EU from the perspective of Euroscepticism, 2) Solidarity from the perspective of the migrant crisis in the EU. Then, a three-day international conference "Seven European countries - one identity" was organized and took place from October 6 to 8, 2022 in the city of Birgu during the big, traditional Birgu Fest event. The conference was organized through: 3 plenary sessions, 3 round tables, 1 lecture, a history lesson and 1 debate. A Memorandum on future cooperation was signed. Topics from specific priorities were discussed: the future of Europe and the challenge of Euroscepticism, the promotion of solidarity in times of crisis, fostering intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding, the stigmatization of migrants and minority groups, and the perspectives of European youth. The conference was attended by 240 participants from 7 countries, of which 190 foreign participants from 6 EU countries. 7 European countries are involved in the project: Malta, Spain, Greece, Slovenia, Serbia, Croatia and Italy.

On 07.10.2022. the first and second plenary sessions of the Conference were held, where the mayor of the city of Birgu welcomed the guests from the partner cities and wished them successful work during the Conference. Plenary work began where, within the second plenary session, representatives of all partners presented their cities and organizations from which they came and the most significant successfully implemented projects, as examples of good practice.

After the break, the participants were divided into groups and the work was structured in 3 round tables and one debate. The topics at the round tables are focused on perennial priorities such as the rise of Euroscepticism and its implications for the future of Europe, the migrant crisis, young people and their European future. A debate on the topic of European identity was organized. In the evening, the signing of the Memorandum on the cooperation of partners on the project was organized and the final plenary session was held summarizing the work of the Conference, where the representatives of the partners expressed their impressions and thanked the host for the hospitality and meaningful work.

On October 8, 2022. a history class was organized where the host provided a local expert who introduced us to the most significant cultural and historical objects, gave a lecture and introduced the participants to the history of the city of Birgu and Valletta. In the evening, the participants attended the big local traditional event Birgu Fest.