

FORMULARIO EUROPA PER I CITTADINI

Breve presentazione dell'ente (attività, obiettivi, esperienza) relativamente al settore di riferimento del progetto (1.000 ch.)

C.MONTI

The Municipality of Castelnovo is an autonomous entity which represents its community, takes care of its interests, promotes its development and guarantees its social, cultural, environmental and economical values. It aims to encourage democratic and civic participation of its citizens, their autonomous initiatives and social groups. It also aims to bring citizens closer to the European Union, favoring the understanding of its activities, role and policy-making process and promoting opportunities for social and intercultural engagement together with the Municipalities of Kahla and Voreppe (twinned town).

During the Commemorations for 25th April 2016, C. Monti invited Kahla and Voreppe to participate and Constitutions were distributed as symbol. The 3 Municipalities decided then to join forces for a wider project aimed to deepen specific themes, such as: identity, citizenship, civic and democratic engagement, favoring the development of more EU-enthusiastic and pro-active citizens.

(996)

KAHLA

The Municipality of Kahla encourages democratic and civic participation of its citizens, their autonomous initiatives and social groups. It also brings citizens closer to the European Union, favoring the understanding of its activities, role and policy-making process and promoting opportunities for social and intercultural engagement together with the Municipalities of Castelnovo ne' Monti and Voreppe.

Every year, the Municipality organizes commemorative events for the victims of forced labor in the REIHMAG armament factory in Kahla. Different nations from Western and Eastern Europe take part in the commemoration ceremonies, including young people from Castelnovo ne' Monti. During these visits, the two Municipalities stated the importance to work with the youth on lessons learnt from history, especially during national socialism. Sharing a common past history led to overcome prejudices and other shared objectives can be reached for the future if different Countries cooperate together.

(1000)

VOREPPE

The Municipality of Voreppe encourages democratic and civic participation of its citizens, their autonomous initiatives and social groups. It also brings citizens closer to the European Union, favoring the understanding of its activities, role and policy-making process and promoting opportunities for social and intercultural engagement together with the Municipalities of Castelnovo ne' Monti (twinned town) and Kahla.

The Municipality earned a Military Medal for its role during Resistance and commemorates its martyrs every year. These events aims to remind lessons learnt from history so that they stimulate the fight for freedom of thought, of expression, of movement. The Municipality motivates its citizens to be worthy of sacrifices made during II World War, also through the defense of constitutional values. It promotes active citizenship at local, national and EU level.

(882)

B.2 Please describe the role of the organisation in the project. (Max. 1000 characters)

C.MONTI

As project coordinator Castelnuovo ne' Monti will:

- plan and organize the Event
- keep in contact with PPs and EACEA
- assure PPs active involvement and participation
- manage monitoring and problems solution
- direct dissemination (including social media)
- deal with reporting

The Municipality has the necessary know-how and resources to coordinate the project. It has years of experience in the organization of events, also involving citizens from twinned towns (e.g. Commemorations for 25th April 2016). It is during this visit that the proposal was developed by the Vice-Mayor together with Mayors of Voreppe and Kahla and further developed during following meetings held in their territories.

The project will be coordinated by the Responsible for Culture, Youth Policies and International Relations Sector. The successful implementation will be guaranteed also thanks to the involvement of experts in Europe for Citizens projects and "testimonials" of the territory who will act as facilitators.

(970)

KAHLA

The Municipality of Kahla will actively participate in the THE WORDS OF EUROPE project implementation. It will contribute to the success of the Event, participating in all its phases: planning, organization, communication, implementation, dissemination, reporting. In particular, it will be responsible to involve its citizens and assure that participants (especially young people) will be prepared for the Event activities.

The Municipality of Kahla and its participants will share with other partners their experiences, know-how, good practices, ideas, emotions, and suggestions.

The involvement of the Municipality of Kahla since from the proposal planning phase, together with the fact that this project is a deepened and integrated follow-up of what was held in Castelnuovo ne' Monti for Commemorations of 25th April 2016, will guarantee a successful project implementation.

(877)

VOREPPE

The Municipality of Voreppe will actively participate in the THE WORDS OF EUROPE project implementation. It will contribute to the success of the Event, participating in all its phases: planning, organisation, communication, implementation, dissemination, reporting. In particular, it will be responsible to involve its citizens and assure that participants (especially young people) will be prepared for the Event activities.

The Municipality of Voreppe and its participants will share with other partners their experiences, know-how, good practices, ideas, emotions, and suggestions.

The involvement of the Municipality of Voreppe since from the proposal planning phase, together with the fact that this project is a deepened and integrated follow-up of what was held in Castelnuovo ne' Monti for Commemorations of 25th April 2016, will guarantee a successful project implementation.

(883)

C.4 Short description of the project, including its aims in English, in French or in German (Max. 2000 characters). * :

THE WORDS OF EUROPE project aims to strengthen relations among Castelnovo ne' Monti, Kahla and Voreppe and their citizens, promote European citizenship, favor civic and democratic participation, encourage societal and intercultural engagement, raise awareness of EU role in the past, present and future to guarantee values shared by involved Countries.

"Words of Welcome" Feast (Day1) will favor socialization among participants, especially young people. Convivial moments and music will create a friendly atmosphere and encourage dialogue and reciprocal knowledge, contributing to the building of bridges among different cultures.

Walking groups (Day2) will explore MaB UNESCO locations. "Testimonials" of the territory will share their knowledge and stories, stimulating empathy, emotions and discussion. These walks will provide the opportunity to wander (physically and metaphorically) among nature and remembrance, man and environment. Working groups (Day2 and 3) will be created on 3 main topics: constitutional acts, music and sustainable development to involve especially young people. The scope is to stimulate awareness on participants' identity, sense of belonging, recognition of common principles, better understanding of EU role, encouragement to active citizenship at local and European level.

During the "Rehearsals of Europe" evening event working groups will share insights with other participants, also using creative and innovative forms of communication.

Commemorations for 25th April (Day4) will highlight lessons learnt from history and common principles, raising awareness on EU positive and concrete achievements. Distribution of constitutional acts will be a symbol of the shared project path.

All project different activities aim to develop relations and contribute to the development of a sense of belonging not only to local communities, but also to the EU, making citizens (re)engage with the European integration process, including innovative forms of civic participation.

(1998)

D.1 Experience of the project organisers in the field concerned. (2000)

The Municipality of Castelnuovo ne' Monti has the necessary experience, know-how and resources to organize the project activities.

A similar event was organized for 25th April 2016, called "France, Germany, Italy: Free Citizens of Europe" to remind how ashes of the II World War led to the development of the EU. From 23/04 to 27/04 delegations from Kahla and Voreppe participated in meetings and workshops, improving mutual understanding and knowledge about history and territory and developing their long-lasting relations.

Celebrations included the visit of significant monuments and places. Students were also involved, who shared their experience about the Remembrance Trip to Kahla made in December 2015. Then partisans and Local Authorities delivered the Constitution to new 18-years-old youth as symbol of the future of old and young generations, in the name of values founding citizenship, as freedom, equality and brotherhood that nowadays have to take the form of hospitality, difference valorization and authentic communion.

Therefore, the partnership has capability in promoting reflections on important topics, such as common history, past mistakes, current international situation where similar errors (closeness, lack of dialogue, fear of others) are still present. They have familiarity with the organizations of events with a European spirit and involving young people and schools. They already experienced also the importance to visit places able to touch participants and further stimulate reflections. They proved to be able to involve citizens open to and interested in these activities.

The partnership demonstrated that they recognized the added value of events, where topics related to our past, present and future as well as values at the basis of resistance and of constitutional acts are discussed together with a collaborative attitude, which should be at the basis of the European Union integration process, too.

(1940)

E.1 State how your project fits in with the objectives (general and specific), themes and features you have selected (Max. 3500 characters) *

- To foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level.
- Encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement and volunteering at Union level.
- Debate on the Future of Europe

THE WORDS OF EUROPE project involves citizens, especially young people, to analyze key words of European Identity, starting from key words linked to constitutional acts, music and territory to stimulate a common debate on the future of Europe and promote civic and social engagement in line with the EU policy-making process.

The project promotes European citizenship as well as civic and democratic participation at EU level in the following ways:

- debating on EU future starting from key words of constitutional acts;
- analyzing song lyrics about citizenship, belonging, identity to understand if/how young people feel "European";
- reflecting on the relation man-environment to promote rediscovery of traditions, awareness about identity, engagement to guarantee the principle of sustainability

The promotion of opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement among participants depends on the awareness about their own identity from different points of view:

- regulations: understanding of founding values of constitutional acts means to understand the most important principles at the basis of their identity at national as well as at European level
- community relations: understanding of songs about citizenship, sense of belonging, identity to sensitize about these topics
- territory: reflection on the relationship Man-Biosphere to raise awareness on sustainable development, promote civic responsibility and active engagement, and stimulate a sense of belonging to certain territory, traditions, values, culture.

These discussion topics will favor young people involvement. Confrontation among different nationalities will raise awareness about their identity at local, national and European level.

Supporting the (re)discovery of participants' sense of belonging, THE WORDS OF EUROPE project will also favor the development of a sense of responsibility among them towards their community and a will to participate in the civic and democratic life. The project increases participants' propensity to be put at the service of others and of their territory. The recognition of shared fundamental principles contributes in fact to the strengthening of social capital and of solidarity.

The project also provides the opportunity to discuss the EU policy-making process: not in procedural terms, but in terms of how EU is perceived (especially by the youth), what they expect from EU, how they could feel part of the EU project.

Participants will develop social and civic competences, recognize the importance of active citizenship at all levels to spread democratic shared values and to promote social cohesion, and be stimulated to democratic and civic participation.

THE WORDS OF EUROPE project focuses on the "Debate on the future of Europe" priority. The idea is to start from the youth, representing present and future of Europe, and from key words linked to constitutional acts, music and territory that can contribute to the development of a sense of belonging to the European community. The path is to discuss lessons learnt from history and concrete achievements of the EU as well as to debate on what can be done to make citizens feel more European and to make them re-engage with the European integration process. Given that many participants will be young people, they will be asked also to reflect on possible innovative ways to play a more active role in the EU policy-making process.

(3396)

E.2. Activity plan / work programme of the project (Max. 3500 characters)

- The working methods applying within implementation of the project
- The appropriateness of the activities foreseen in the work programme to reach the project's needs and objectives.
- The European dimension of the project.

THE WORDS OF EUROPE activities will be implemented using different methodologies to guarantee dynamism and participation.

"Words of Welcome" Feast (Day1). This convivial moment will encourage dialogue and reciprocal knowledge: music will involve young people coming from different Countries and make them socialize, while dinner will offer the opportunity to taste products of the 3 partner Countries, building bridges among them.

Walking groups (Day2) to explore particularly relevant MaB UNESCO locations. "Testimonials" of the territory will share their knowledge and stories, stimulating empathy, emotions and discussion. These walks will provide the opportunity to wander (physically and metaphorically) among nature and remembrance, man and environment.

World Café working groups (Day2 and 3). Groups will be created including people from all nationalities and will focus on 3 topics particularly suitable to involve young people and reflect on "Identity".

Topics will be:

- Constitutional acts: reflections on their historical motivations, their values and relevance nowadays, the role of the EU in their promotion, sense of belonging to the national and European community, active civic and democratic involvement to apply these values. Group coordinated by witnesses of II World War, experts in local history and constitutional law
- Music: analysis of songs' lyrics about shared values, citizenship, identity to understand the point of view of young people about these themes. Do they feel like EU citizens? What does it mean to be European for them? Are they interested in EU matters? Group coordinated by teachers of Merulo Music Institute and the Band of Felina.
- Sustainability: reflections on the relation Man-Biosphere, concept of sustainable development, awareness, sense of responsibility to protect the environment, sense of belonging to local and European community, forms of democratic and civic participation. Group coordinated by MaB UNESCO experts.

World Café methodology implies conversation on relevant themes in a colloquial and pleasant way. Reference questions are prepared in advance by project coordinators and experts to stimulate reflection, discussion and collaboration among participants. Sharing ideas, they can influence one another, feeling part of a whole.

During the "Rehearsals of Europe" evening event working groups will share results, presenting them in innovative forms: graphic recordings, songs, narratives, images, suggestions of a common path.

Commemorations for 25th April and distribution of constitutional acts to 18 years olds (Day4). The aim is to highlight lessons learnt from history and common principles, raise awareness on the positive and concrete achievements of the EU and further promote participants' engagement for a successful and shared European integration process.

The European dimension is fundamental to reach the project objectives: participants, confronting with citizens from different Countries, can become aware of some elements of their identity, can identify common principles and strengthen them, can find motivation to be more involved in the civic and democratic life of their communities. Difference stimulate debate and debate can stimulate reciprocal approach, overcome of barriers, (re)discovery of a common history that led to a shared present, and recognition that development of European identity and promotion of active citizenship, societal engagement, solidarity are fundamental to guarantee a peaceful future together.

(3500)

E.3 Dissemination (Max. 3500 characters)

- The dissemination plan foreseen by the project in order to allow an effective transfer and exchange of the expected results.
- How the project will create a multiplier effect among a wider audience beyond those directly involved in the project activities.

A dissemination plan will be developed in order to spread information about project development, Event organization, Event implementation and project results. After the realization of a coordinated graphics, the THE WORDS OF EUROPE Facebook page will be created by the Lead Partner and managed by all project partners. It will be animated by posts describing the project, including targets and methodologies; EU financing and Europe for Citizens programme; the partnership (including links to PPs website); the activity programme; press releases; etc.

Participants will also be asked to participate in discussions launched on the Facebook page and to spread the page with friends. It is important that participants are not involved only during and after the Event, but also before its organization. In order to have a fruitful project, young people and other involved citizens will be prepared during the months preceding the Event by teachers and educators. All the materials (articles, books, researches, news, pictures, videos) they will use to start familiarizing with the project topics, as well as materials used during the Event, will all be uploaded on the Facebook page.

Participants will also be interviewed in order to express their opinion about the project and about the project topics. These videos will be uploaded, together with project pictures and videos, in order to document the implementation of the project path and to have tools able to express people's feelings and thoughts in a more direct and empathic way. If necessary, Instagram or Youtube can also be used.

A press conference will be organized for the Event with the aim to attract the interest of local media (newspapers, magazines, on-line press, radios, TVs, skilled press) to show the path carried out through the project.

Posters about some of the project activities ("Words of Welcome" Feast on Day1, "Rehearsals of Europe" on Day3; Commemorations on Day4) will be printed in order to attract the interest and involvement local citizens.

The websites and other media (newsletter, etc.) of the partnership members will also be used to communicate and disseminate the project.

The choice to use especially virtual tools is due to the fact that they are the most successful, especially when the target group is also made by young people. A sort of virtual community can be developed with a potential multiplier effect. Social media profiles will enlarge the project network, involving and engaging further youth, voluntary organizations, citizens, local administrations besides those participating directly in the Event. Also thanks to emotional captivating videos, the virtual community can be sensitized, increase their knowledge and awareness on project topics and become more inclined to take action (e.g.: augmented involvement in the civic and democratic life of their communities). Moreover, other local authorities and civil society organizations can decide to replicate this experience.

A multiplier effect will be assured also by cross-dissemination: local authorities, voluntary organizations, associations, schools involved can produce materials/initiatives in line with the THE WORDS OF EUROPE project that can be promoted using the project social media, as well as they can promote the THE WORDS OF EUROPE project activities and products via their own communication channels. A very wide public can thus be reached.

(3406)

E.4. Impact and Citizens involvement (Max. 3500 characters)

- What are the expected mi/long-term effects produced by the project.
- How the participants will be involved in the proposed activities.
- Percentage of participants not involved within NGOs/Institutional or social activities before their involvement in the project.

Main mid-long term effects:

- Increased knowledge among participants about their identity, shared values and common European citizenship, also among those more indifferent to the EU (especially among younger generations).
- Raised awareness about the necessity to be more involved in the civic and democratic life and increased number of citizens (especially youth) taking concrete action in terms of societal engagement and playing a more active role in the policy-making process.
- Sensitized direct participants and people reached by the dissemination campaign about the role of the EU as promoter of shared principles and the necessity to be more pro-active in order to guarantee that the EU becomes more and more effective, efficient and representative of people's will.
- Augmented cooperation among local authorities, voluntary organizations, associations, schools: exchanged good practices, developed relations, promoted shared initiatives, increased incisiveness. Spill-over effects: cooperation can be extended from this specific sector to others.
- Encouraged public-private partnership to promote European citizenship, societal engagement and civil and democratic participation.
- Developed virtual proactive and sympathetic community through project Facebook page and social media that will contribute to the debate on the future of Europe, European identity, societal engagement, civic and democratic participation at local as well as EU level
- Formalized twinning between C.Monti and Kahla

The Municipalities will identify participants since from the project beginning and, especially young people, they will be prepared by teachers and educators to the activities that will be held during the Event in April. Young people will start reflections and in-depth analysis on project themes, so that they will be more motivated and stimulated when they will meet in C.Monti. They will also be suggested to use new media to exchange ideas, news, articles, pictures, etc. at transnational level (e.g. Facebook page, Whatsapp group, Google Drive folder, etc.).

Local authorities, voluntary organizations, associations, schools will inform their target groups to find citizens interested in this experience, too.

The methodologies used during the Event will be diversified and aimed to boost participants' interest, active involvement and exchange of ideas and feelings. Day1 will have the objective to make participants feel welcome, to start building relations among people from different Countries, to make the three cultures closer, to create a pleasant atmosphere. Day2 will foresee walks to be surrounded by enchanting landscapes and rediscover the relation with nature, territory and identity. In the afternoon, working groups using the method of World Café will be created and coordinated by experts in the MaB Unesco concept, witnesses of II World War and professionals in music. World Café working groups will continue also during the Day3, using this approach which favors involvement, confrontation, and dialogue. On the Day4, Commemorations will be held for 25th April and Constitutional acts will be distributed: underlining lessons learnt from history and shared values, the idea is to stimulate emotions among participants aimed to encourage their engagement with the European integration process to be implemented in different forms (e.g.: electoral participation, civic participation, e-participation).

Participants not already involved in social activities are approx. 50%.

(3494)

Part F. Timetable of activities

Content (500)

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

9–18: Partners' arrival and welcome

19:00–23:00 “Words of Welcome” Feast. A convivial event will be organized to welcome citizens from Kahla and Voreppe. During dinner typical products of the 3 Municipalities involved will be offered as symbol of exchange and sharing of cultures, traditions, way of life. Local chorus and music bands will play songs to involve participants, especially youth. Singing and dancing together, they will have the opportunity to get close to each other.

Results (500)

- welcomed citizens from Partner Municipalities
 - exchanged and shared cultures, traditions, way of life
 - favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
 - built bridges and developed relations among participants
 - created enjoyable and friendly atmosphere
-

Content (500)

THE WORDS OF EARTH

9:00–12:00

Walking groups in MaB UNESCO sites of Tosco-Emiliano Apennine: participants will walk and discuss about nature and remembrance, man and environment, man and identity. “Testimonials” of these places will accompany them, explain the territory and share narratives. They will act as “facilitators”, providing inputs for reflection. Walking paths and discussion focus will be chosen according to the characteristics of each group (age, interests, etc.).

Results (500)

- increased knowledge about local nature and history
 - valorized know-how and narratives of local “testimonials”
 - strengthened relations among participants
 - introduced concept of identity
 - started reflections about project topics (lessons learnt by history, identity, sustainability, etc.)
 - provided input for further introspection
 - favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
-

Content (500)

THE WORDS OF PEOPLE

15:00–18:00

Building of 3 thematic working groups (that will continue the day after) managed with World Café method and start of debate. Each group will include all 3 different nationalities to guarantee heterogeneity and exchange of opinions.

Young people will be prepared during school year by teachers/educators through the development of social and civic competences (in line with Recommendation of E.P. and Council of 18/12/2006) and first discussions of project topics.

Results (500)

- created 3 working groups
- increased knowledge about the World Café methodology

- favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
 - strengthened relations among participants
 - started reflections on project topics
 - exchanged ideas and experiences
-

Content (500)

THE WORDS OF MUSIC

9–16

Working group coordinated by Merulo Institute / Band of Felina's teachers and World Café experts.

They will analyze traditional and modern song lyrics chosen in order to favor reflections on identity, sense of belonging, citizenship. Discussion will be led to understand the point of view of young people about EU. Do they feel like EU citizens? What does it mean to be European for them? Are they interested in EU matters? What does and should the EU make for them?

Results (500)

- promoted analysis on songs' lyrics and favored deep analysis and critical thinking
 - encouraged reflections on participants' identity
 - stimulated considerations on European identity
 - debated the role of the EU
 - favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
 - strengthened relations among participants
 - exchanged experiences and ideas
-

Content (500)

THE WORDS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

9-16

Working group coordinated by MaB UNESCO and World Café experts.

Reflections on the relation man-territory to renew this relation, to combat disaffection and promote the rediscovery of their own places, history, traditions and local culture as fundamental elements of their identity. Debate also on the value of sustainability, on the participation of citizens to guarantee this principle as well as other forms of democratic and civic participation.

Results (500)

- promoted analysis on relation man-territory
 - combated disaffection and promoted rediscovery of history, traditions and local culture
 - encouraged reflections on participants' identity
 - stimulated considerations on the value of sustainable development
 - debated the role of citizens to guarantee this principle
 - discussed forms of democratic and civic participation
 - favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
 - strengthened relations among participants
 - exchanged experiences and ideas
-

Content (500)

THE WORDS OF CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS

9–16

Working group coordinated by II World War witnesses and/or experts in local history and constitutional law and World Café experts.

Reflections on Constitutional Acts' principles, lessons learnt from history that led to their adoption and development of EU. What does it mean to be national and European citizens? What are national / European values? What democratic and civic participation at European level (digital / non-digital) should be promoted? How to incentivize it?

Results (500)

- analyzed Constitutional Acts' key principles
 - analyzed reasons at the basis of these acts
 - analyzed link between II World War and Constitutional Acts
 - analyzed link between II World War and European integration
 - encouraged reflections on national and European citizenship
 - encouraged reflections on national and European values
 - stimulated considerations on democratic and civic participation (old forms / new innovative forms)
 - debated ways to incentivize participation, especially young people
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Content (500)

"REHEARSALS OF EUROPE"

19:00–21:00

During the day, working groups will produce materials to present and share debates' results with other project participants and citizens in general. They will be stimulated to be innovative and creative. Materials can be of different type: graphic recordings, songs, narratives, images, pictures, etc. The aim will be to show the achievements of the common path in terms of increased knowledge, raised awareness, elaborated suggestions and felt emotions.

Results (500)

- valorized and disseminated workshops' results
 - stimulated participants' creativity
 - shared knowledge, awareness, suggestions and emotions among participants of different working groups
 - involved local citizens
 - favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
 - strengthened relations among participants
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Content (500)

THE WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

25th April Commemorations is part of the project: despite it is an Italian national celebration, it is linked to a shared history and shared values. All 3 involved Mayors will make a speech to underline what we all must remember from War and how we can avoid same errors, including promoting civic and democratic participation and favoring EU integration process.

Constitutional acts will be distributed to 18 years olds as symbol of the common path made through the project.

Results (500)

- highlighted lessons learnt from history and common principles
- raised awareness on the positive and concrete achievements of the EU
- promoted participants' engagement for a more democratic and participative society
- promoted participants' engagement for a successful and shared European integration process
- valorized emotions aroused and teachings collected during the day and the whole event
- favored socialization, dialogue and reciprocal knowledge
- strengthened relations among participants