

National meetings Czech republic 24.5.2021 – 31.5.2021

The main goal of the meeting was to teach participants about active citizenship in their respected community and countries. It was a wide range of participants with training topics focused mainly on; "How can adults improve their active citizenship?" The meeting focused on the importance of voting and participating in EU elections, a topic that is usually ignored. Participants were motivated to participate in the EU elections by providing evidence. Participants discussed how active voting can change citizens' daily lives. It was discussed why it is important to be more interested in what the EU does. Many participants did not know who the Czech delegate in the European Parliament was, when the next European Parliament elections were repeated with examples of how citizens can vote. The course was held in the Czech language, because all participants were from the Czech Republic. Although in some cases English phrases were spoken in line with certain EU bodies, there was no need to speak business English, as participants could be found more engaged through their mother tongue. All participants were young people under 30 years of age. We also had 3 participants who were only 18 years old, so they had never voted before. We showed the participants how to vote not only in the EU elections, but also in the Czech elections to the Senate, the parliament and how to elect the elected president. We called on participants to become more involved in democratic life, not only in their local community, but also at EU level, which is currently underestimated under the age of 30. We have shown them the benefits of the Czech Republic being part of the EU by introducing policies that affect Czech citizens and also showing them how EU funding is maintained. Due to the pandemic, we were not able to hold a personal meeting with such limited time, but we had two separate participants in two groups. Alexandra Witková- was the head coach for both groups. Her colleague Pavel Kopczyk prepared all important documents and evidence with her. He was present during the meeting and was available for questions and actively participated in some presentations. He was also responsible for the hygienic conditions needed during the prescriptions of covid, disinfectant gel and respirators. The second event was supposed to take place in the park, but unfortunately the weather was raining hard - we had to change places. The third meeting took place outside and we used the participatory method Oxford Debate. Participants acquired competencies for personal and professional development. They also gained knowledge and specific know-how. They experimented and developed new learning methods and training methods. They established new contacts and expanded their professional network. Some participants were Slovaks or dual nationalities. Almost all

participants were interested in this topic and contributed to our training with a lot of their experience on this topic. In our training course, we also had people from NGOs working in the field of civil society. By organizing meetings, our organization has improved its organizational skills and we will present the results of the meeting as early as 2.6. 2021 in the online workshop We have the future in our hands - European Youth Week 2021, which is organized by the NA Czech Republic. We also presented the results of our meetings on social networks and our organization's website. The event was attended by 29 participants.

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Jindřichův Hradec, 1.6.2021

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