



Europe for Citizens Programme 2014-2020

SUCCESS STORIES.... The Padova Best Practice 3 February 2021



European Policies Unit

Provincia di Padova



Europe for Citizens
Programme



The City of Este, Italy

THE 4 PROJECTS “UNITED”

from 2017 to 2020

2017 United in Diversity

2018 United 2018 - EYCH Label

2019 Eurofest 19

2020 United 2020

<https://www.comune.este.pd.it/it/page/united-2019>





The Partners





ESTE (ITALY)

- 16.500 inh.
- Region of Veneto

PERTUIS (FRANCE)

- 19.000 inh.
- Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

BAD WINDSHEIM (GERMANY)

- 12.000 inh.
State of Bavaria

TAPOLCA (HUNGARY)

- 16.000 inh.
- Region of Veszprém

LEEK (UNITED KINGDOM)

- 20.000 inh.
- Region West Midlands
-
-

RIJEKA (CROATIA)

- 175.000 inh.
- Region Primorsko-goranska



OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED IN DIVERSITY PROJECT

- **To contribute to citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity**
- **To foster European Citizenship and improve conditions for the civic and democratic participation at EU level**
- **To develop citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promote opportunities**

PRIORITIES

- **Understanding and debating Euroscepticism**
- **Debate on the Future of Europe**



WHO

Young people, students,
citizens

WHY

Develop understanding of the EU
opportunities,

Increase awareness of the rights as EU
citizens

Encourage the debate about the future of
Europe

Promote exchange of ideas between
young people and adults, citizens and the
EU institutions

HOW

Debates, conferences, music, exhibitions, historical re-enactment, museum tour

WHAT

Citizens' Meeting

WHERE

City of Este

WHEN

from 28th Sept. to 2nd Oct. 2017





The highlights of UNITED IN DIVERSITY 2017

- **The official opening of the exhibition the “The founding Fathers of the EU”**
- **The survey about the EU citizenship and the role of the EU in the life of the citizens of Italy, France, Germany, UK, Hungary and Croatia**
- **The Conference “Europe with or without the EU?”, attended by 100 students of the High School Ferrari of Este, special guests, the MEP Elisabetta Gardini and the Director of the Interreg Central Europe Programme**
- **The Flag raising Ceremony attended by 20 mayors and Regional and National decision makers**
- **The concert of the Rijeka Music Ensemble**
- **The evening programme “Tastes of Europe”**
- **The EuroYoung Music Festival**



ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT OF THE MEETING AND MAIN CONTRIBUTORS

- **The supervision of the Este Twinning Committee**
- **Cooperation with the local high schools in the preparation of the meetings, assistance and coordination of the national groups, organisation of the EU infopoint, within the dual training system**
- **The videomaker (alias) James Dawson, a high school student volunteered to create the film “United in Diversity”**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMW8lgn6wpE>
- **Each partner conducted preparatory activities among its own citizens**
- **Assistance from the cultural organisations and the Este Archaeological State Museum**
- **FAMILIES!**











UNITED 2018

 United Este 2018

The Citizens Meet the European Institutions-focus on:

- **The EU Youth Policies**
Q&A by the youth for the youth about the future of Europe, the EP Elections in 2019, the European Networks Eurodesk, Eures, EuropeDirect, Workshops. Keynote speakers: MEPs, University of Padova, Caffè Europa with the Youth Chapter of the Union of the European Federalists
- **2018 The European Year of Cultural Heritage**
A journey into the historical background of Este, the Lords of Este and their ramifications across Europe, ceramic workshop managed by the Foundation



Sabato 29 SETTEMBRE P.zza Maggiore _ ore 20.00



EuroYoung

La musica incontra i giovani europei con



2018  ANNO EUROPEO DEL PATRIMONIO CULTURALE #EuropeForCulture





UNITED 2019

Focus on:

Inclusion policies for disabled persons

Main sponsor Foundation Irea Morini Pedrina

- **Showcase of the European strategies for people with disabilities**
- **Exchange of best practices for inclusion, civic participation and equality policies**
- **Logo contest**
- **Official opening of the shop of the foundation**
- **Official opening of the electric wheelchair path to the top of the castle**
- **Video Europe in a Day with contributions from the twinned cities**
- **Exhibition “The Oxford Project”**

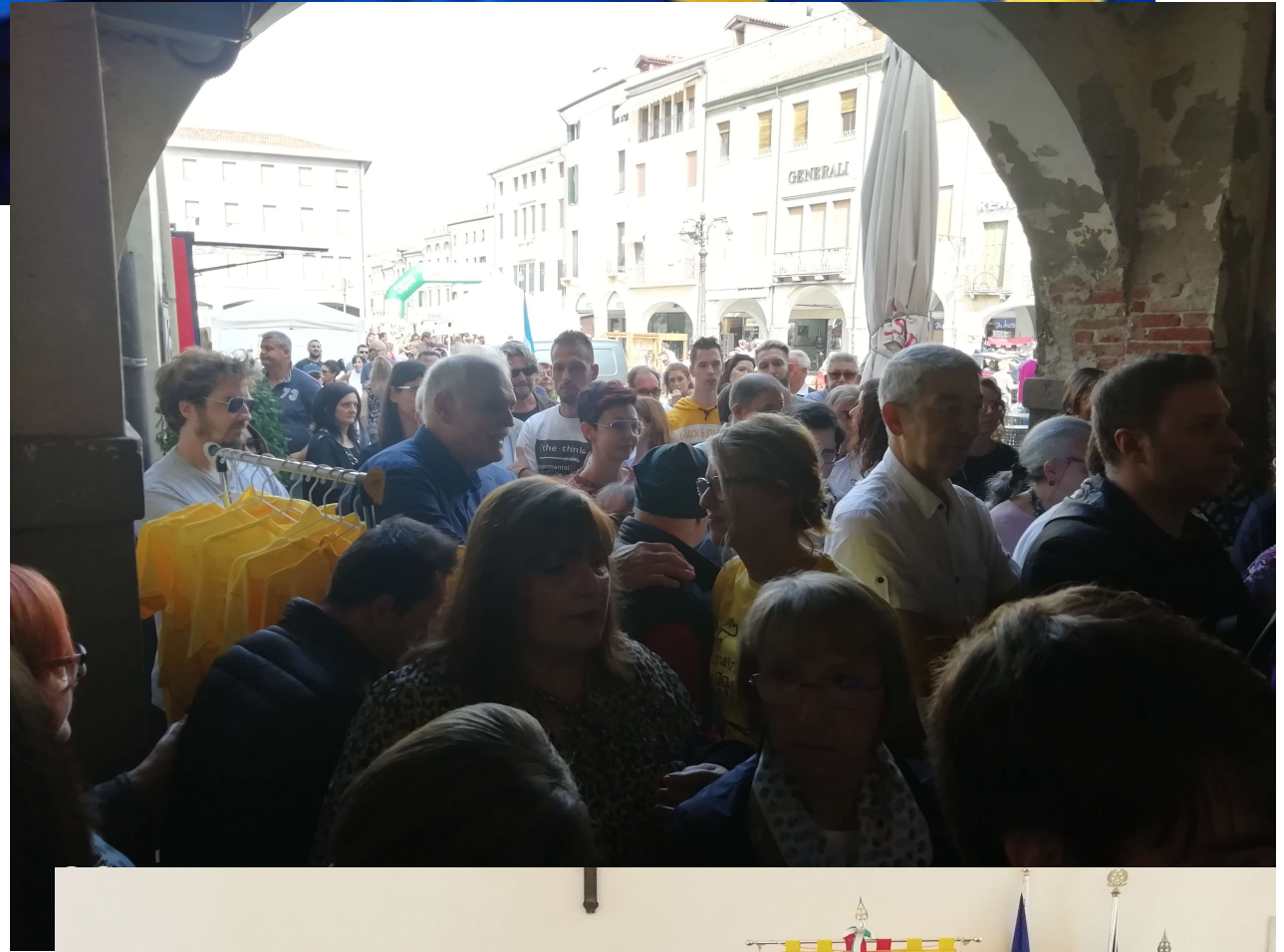


UNITED 2019

A few statements by the participants:

- *It is incredible to see the world coming together in Este (Sara, HSS, Este)*
- *Let's ask ourselves what we can do for Europe, not what Europe can do for us (Giacomo, HSS, Este)*
- *Persons are not disabled, we make them feel disabled (Rainer, Vice Mayor, Germany)*







UNITED 2020
Focus on: Green Deal
Main Sponsor: SESA private company

- **The EU Green Deal strategy roundtables**
- **Workshops in schools of circular economy**
- **The Covenant of Mayors commitments**
- **Contest among students, prize a tour of the institutions in BXL**
- **Dissemination of the new logo**





A NEVER ENDING SUCCESS STORY ...

2019



2017



*R. Sassu, A. D'Andrea
(a cura di)*

***Le strade della cittadinanza:
una rassegna di progetti
selezionati nell'ambito
del Programma Europa
per i Cittadini***

What is the Europe Prize? The Europe Prize was set up in 1955 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg to reward municipalities which are particularly active in promoting the European ideal.



The Province of Padova

- **102 Municipalities and 930.000 inhabitants**
- **50% of the Municipalities have signed twinning agreements**
- **85% of the Municipalities are twinned with cities from the EU**
- **Many agreements signed with France**
- **Agreements signed for the purpose of cultural exchanges of citizens and brought about by members of the community with links in other EU countries (descendants of Italian migrant families abroad, workers migrated from other countries, i.e. Romania)**





The European Policy Unit

Under the umbrella of a joint agreement the Province offered its expertise to the Municipalities to develop their European dimension with a holistic approach that consisted of:

- Organization of Infodays, in partnership with the Europe Direct offices and other members of its network (City of Venice, University of Padova and Venice, the Regional government, other EU networks)**
- Overall assessment of the City capacity to guide/join a EU project: survey of the resources, the assets, the community tools to organize a project with EU funds, brainstorming with the City authorities, assessment of needs, study of the response and results of previous EU projects, if any**
- Customized design of the Europe for Citizens project in partnerships with the City human resources (i.e. employees, councillors, volunteers)**
- Submission of the project, funding, implementation and reporting**
- Follow up of the project and evaluation of the impact on the citizenship and dissemination with potential outcomes, i.e. invitation to join other projects, submission of other projects, increased skills of human resources in EU funding**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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