

**The project Enabling European e-Participation (E-UROPa) no. 2014 – 3062 / 001 - 001 was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"**

**5 events have been carried out within this project:**

**Event 1: European e-Participation Day 2015**

**Participation:** The event directly involved 1268 citizens, including 153 participants from Albania, 82 participants from Denmark, 47 participants from Estonia, 23 participants from Germany, 65 participants from Italy, 247 participants from Latvia, 53 participants from Lithuania, 168 participants from Poland, 133 participants from Romania, 177 participants from Serbia, and 120 participants from Spain.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in more than 20 cities in 11 countries on and around 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

**Short description:** We have celebrated May 7 as European e-Participation Day in 11 European countries. Each project partner organised national activities such as workshops and conferences to engage citizens and raise awareness about different online tools for democratic participation in the EU policy. A detailed description of national activities and results is available at the project's website at <http://euparticipation.org/may-7-in-your-country/>.

- In Albania it brought together 150 young citizens to learn about e-Participation tools at an event organised at Tirana Times Library. An "E-Participation and Raising Voice Albania" workshop was held with activists about political rights. The Albanian partner was invited to the morning show at national TV to talk about e-Participation day and e-Participation story competition.
- In Denmark an event was organized in a major Copenhagen municipal activity centre for seniors. 30 people participated in the introduction to the online tools and 20 people attended a workshop where all the tools were tested. Telecentre-danmark collaborated with the Danish national TV station "dk4" in making a 30 minutes talk show about the e-UROPA project ([http://youtu.be/\\_Kr2gJ7QWhI](http://youtu.be/_Kr2gJ7QWhI)).
- In Estonia e-Participation tools were introduced to high school students. During the day a conversation "Chat with your MEP" was conducted and students could ask MEP Marju Lauristin 16 questions using Twitter and receive her answers. The event was prepared together with the European Commission Representation in Estonia, European Parliament Information Office in Estonia and Look@World Foundation.
- In Germany the event was organised at the ProSeniore Residence in Berlin-Mitte and invited interested senior citizens and adults to learn more about the e-Participation tools and share their opinions. 23 interested people came to the event who learned about online petitions and what can be achieved with civic online participation tools.
- In Italy a half-day conference and a workshop was targeting high school students. Over 50 students came in Rome together to participate at a conference and workshop on e-Participation and possibilities for active citizenship using online tools. A practical workshop, using Lego Serious Play approach, was organised in order to propose and discuss about ideas of specific petitions to be launched to the European Parliament by students.
- In Latvia LIKTA organised the Day in cooperation with Latvian Library network and the e-participation portal [www.manabalss.lv](http://www.manabalss.lv). National and European e-participation possibilities and online tools to participate in the policies and policy-making were presented. Around 125 participants took part in evaluation survey of e-participation tools.
- In Lithuania LIA organized an event in Vilnius Central Library attended by 53 participants; most of them were seniors 65+. After the presentations of e-participation tools were invited to

the computer classroom where they were mentored through the process of finding and using the tools that are most relevant to them.

- In Poland workshops were organized by 6 public libraries and 2 schools in 8 different communes. Local workshops involved 168 youth aged 14-17 years. Workshop participants received educational and promotional materials given by Warsaw offices of EU institutions. Among the results 5 were MEPs contacted, 1 petition submitted to the EP, 4 petitions to the EP supported, and several questions submitted via Eurodesk / European Youth Portal.
- In Romania 5 simultaneous events took place to celebrate e-participation in Timisoara, Arad, Oradea, Râmnicu-Vâlcea and Bucharest. A total of 133 people were directly involved in the 5 events. In addition, over 540 people in libraries, telecentres and schools were indirectly involved by attending 1-hour workshops to learn about e-participation. Two live sessions with MEP successfully organised.
- In Serbia seminars and workshops were organised in four towns, while the main event was held at the University Library in Belgrade, which hosted a lecture on the importance of e-participation and possibilities for active citizenship using European and local online tools. The audience included librarians, university students, journalists and IT professionals. In addition around 150 high school students were introduced to online tools.
- In Spain Cibernarium of Barcelona hosted the Day of e-participation, which had an attendance of 120 people (half of them by connecting live streaming). Following a plenary session on the topic, both Catalanian and European e-participation tools were presented through practical, experience-based presentations.

### **Event 2: International e-Participation contest “My e-Participation story”**

**Participation:** The event directly involved 74 citizens, including 6 participants from Albania, 1 participant from Denmark, 11 participants from Estonia, 3 participants from Germany, 7 participants from Italy, 4 participants from Latvia, 4 participants from Lithuania, 5 participants from Poland, 13 participants from Romania, 12 participants from Serbia, and 2 participants from Spain. The international contest attracted 6 participants: 2 from Bulgaria, 1 from Georgia, 1 from Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1 from Macedonia, and 1 from the Netherlands.

**Location / Dates:** The international competition took place in 11 countries as well as at European level from 7<sup>th</sup> May to the 31<sup>st</sup> August. The submissions were evaluated in September.

**Short description:** The European e-Participation Day was used to announce the international “My e-Participation story” competition aiming to collect personal stories of citizens who have used EU or national e-Participation tools to influence policy-making and make a difference in their lives and the lives of others. We asked participants to write a short essay or video. Out of 74 submitted stories 12 winners were selected and invited to the final conference in Brussels. As a collection of award winning stories a “Compendium of citizens’ stories about making a difference through ICT” was created and published on the project’s website (<http://euparticipation.org/competition-2/compendium/>) and disseminated through various communication channels of Telecentre-Europe and project partners.

### **Event 3: Workshop on e-Participation for telecentre leaders**

**Participation:** The event directly involved 80 citizens from 27 countries, including 1 participant from Albania, 9 participants from Belgium, 4 participants from Croatia, 1 participant from the Czech Republic, 2 participants from Denmark, 1 participant from Estonia, 2 participants from France, 2 participants from Germany, 2 participants from Greece, 3 participants from Hungary, 2 participants from Ireland, 3 participants from Italy, 3 participants from Latvia, 2 participants from Lithuania, 2 participants from Macedonia, 2 participants from Malta, 1 participant from Moldova, 3 participants from Poland, 2 participants from Portugal, 4 participants from Romania, 4 participants from Russia, 6 participants from Serbia, 1 participant from Slovenia, 8 participants from Spain, 4 participants from Sweden, 5 participants from the United Kingdom, and 1 participant from the United States.

**Location / Dates:** Hotel Hyatt Belgrade (Serbia), 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015

**Short description:** On the 25<sup>th</sup> September a dedicated workshop was held in Belgrade to discuss the role of telecentres and the importance of digital literacy in enabling citizens to engage with public institutions online, use e-government services and influence policy-makers. In an increasingly digitalised society, e-participation and e-citizenship become more and more important part of active citizenship. Speakers and moderators composed of e-participation experts from government, civic activist and e-participation entrepreneurs helped to showcase initiatives for e-participation from different angles.

#### **Event 4: Multi-stakeholder Conference “e-Participation from citizens' perspective”**

**Participation:** The event directly involved approximately 60 participants from at least 18 countries, including Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Portugal, and the United Kingdom.

**Location / Dates:** European Parliament Room JAN4Q2 (Rue Wiertz 60, Brussels), 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Short description:** On 8<sup>th</sup> December a Multi-stakeholder conference “Enabling Civil e-Participation in Europe” was organised in the European Parliament. The half-day event followed by a networking cocktail was hosted by two MEPs: Mr György Schöpflin (EPP, Hungary) and Ms Marju Lauristin (S&D, Estonia). Eight high-level speakers presented their views and experiences in two panels: 1) The role of ICT in active citizenship and 2) Digital literacy, access and provision of e-services. A featured moment of the conference was its closing session where the "My e-Participation Story" award winners were publicly announced and called to the stage.

#### **Event 5: Training for NGO leaders “The role of CSOs in enabling Civil E-participation in Europe”**

**Participation:** The event directly involved 30 participants from at least 15 countries, including 2 participants from Albania, 6 participants from Belgium, 1 participant from Bulgaria, 2 participants from Denmark, 1 participant from Estonia, 2 participants from Germany, 1 participant from Hungary, 1 participant from Italy, 3 participants from Latvia, 2 participants from Lithuania, 1 participant from Malta, 1 participant from Romania, 2 participants from Serbia, 1 participant from Slovenia, and 4 participants from Spain.

**Location / Dates:** Catalanian Representation (Rue de la Loi 227, Brussels), 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Short description:** On 9<sup>th</sup> December an international workshop “The role of CSOs in enabling Civil E-participation in Europe” was organized in Brussels attended by 30 participants of NGO representatives, e-participation experts and civic activists from national and EU level to share and learn from each other's experiences with democratic participation in the digital age as well as to inspire them how to innovate and empower the societal groups with which they work. Participants were discussing the topics in-depth in two working groups: Access to e-government services & structured e-participation opportunities at EU level, and 2) ICT tools to enable grassroots citizens' initiatives.