

## The project «Mobile EU citizens integration - one for all, all for one! - UNITED» 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: The project involved 185 citizens, notably 42 participants from the city of Primaria Oarja, Romania, 55 participants from the city of Siatista, Greece, 21 participants from the city of Breznicki Hum, Croatia, 19 participants from the city of Sopronkövesd Község Önkormányzata, Hungary, 21 participants from the city of Sremski Karlovci, Serbia, and 24 participants from the city of Novo Mesto, Slovenia.

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Bucharest and Primaria Oarja, Romania, from 23/09/2021 to 25/09/2021.

## Short description:

The day of 23/09/2021 was dedicated to giving the general context of the project's topic, EU legal basis of mobile EU citizens' rights. Mr. Konstantinos Symeonidis, President of the Association A.S.E.L. RO welcomed the participants and invited one by one the representatives of the participating organisations to give a brief introduction of their bodies, as well as to describe the situation of EU mobile citizens integration in their country and municipality. Afterward, and following the presentation of the Action and the Project, Mr. Stylianos Vasileiou made a detailed presentation and initiated an open dialogue with the participants regarding with the legislation and the administrative practices related to enabling democratic participation for mobile EU citizens and their rights, including voting rights, and responsibilities of EU mobile citizens. The first day was closed with the participants' declaration on their opinions and views and a social dinner in Bucharest.

The day of **24/09/2021** was dedicated to the Town Twinning Ceremony and the participants visited the Municipality of Primaria Oarja, and spent the day having visits to important venues, creating connections and networking. Mr. Constantin Bîlea, the Mayor of Primaria Oarja, welcomed the participants and the representatives of partners' Municipalities at the Oarja City Hall. There, the Town Twinning Ceremony took place, and the Municipalities involved exchanged remembrance gifts. Afterward, a visit to the local School took place, and a visit to the largest MDF Factory in Europe, where a great percentage of the staff is EU Mobile citizens. Then, participants visited the Curtea de Argeş, the Monastery and the Kings' graves, where the Mayor of Primaria Oarja and the Monastery Archimandrite gave a guided tour.

The day of **25/09/2021** was dedicated to a tour guide in Bucharest, as well as for networking with local authorities and experts were invited to give the opportunity to advice on major EU topics, including legislation and administrative practices related to enabling democratic participation for mobile EU citizens and their rights, including voting rights, and responsibilities of EU mobile citizens.

As inclusion is a matter of local governments and societies, and it is important to ensure that municipal services are open to all residents and the cohesiveness of a more and more diverse populations, UNITED project can be considered a tentative first glance at some of the problems concerned, considering the incomplete studies on the social and political impacts of EU free movement to date. Thought UNITED activities, it has been pointed out that bringing together a wide range of partner towns in a town twinning event around EU mobile citizen's integration, is of benefit for EU citizens well-being and harmonious co-habitancy.