

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	3 – EUROPSKI DOM SLAVONSKI BROD (EHSB)
PIC number:	946908181
Project name and acronym:	Have your say in EU - challenges of democracy and future of debate in European Union

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP 3
Event name:	HAVE YOUR SAY IN EU - RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION IN THE AGE OF THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION
Type:	Workshops and conference
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Slavonski Brod, Croatia
Date(s):	1-3.06.2023
Website(s) (if any):	Have your say in EU – Polska Fundacja im. Roberta Schumana
Participants	
Female:	63
Male:	34
Non-binary:	-
From country 1 [Poland]:	2
From country 2 [Germany]:	2
From country 3 [Croatia]:	89
From country 4 [Bulgaria]:	4
Total number of participants:	97
From total number of countries:	4
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
<p>The event was held in June (1-3) in Slavonski Brod, in Croatia, organised by the EUROPSKI DOM SLAVONSKI BROD (EHSB).</p> <p>Participants from Poland, Germany and Bulgaria discussed with representatives of the Europe House Slavonski Brod and teachers and students of the Matija Antun Reljković Vocational High School (Croatia) on projects aiming at increasing the turnout of citizens at the #EP2024 elections and on</p>	

stronger and more exclusive participation of citizens in democratic processes at all levels. *Tomislav Levak*, professor and communicator of the Academy of Arts in Osijek from J. J. Strossmayer University, held an interactive lecture and workshop on “Responsible Communication In New Media Universe”. . In the interaction, interesting exchange of opinions and attitudes, and education based on gamification new collaborations on the topics of media literacy and responsible communication in the digital environment were agreed upon. The workshop was very well evaluated; The presenter received great comments and an extremely positive evaluation after the lecture and workshop.

The Croatian MEP *Romana Jerković* discussed communication between EU institutions and citizens, especially in the preparatory period for the EP, with participation of the juniors and seniors of the School of Ambassadors of the European Parliament. The students asked many questions, among others: How the EP communicates with citizens, whether communication between EU institutions and citizens became more interactive and democratic, will there be any changes in the EP2024 elections? Should be mandatory voting in the European elections be introduced in all member states? Would that increase the turnout in the elections in the Republic of Croatia? Does giving 16-year-olds the right to vote strengthen democratic habits and encourages active participation in democratic processes? After the conversation with the representative, the junior and senior ambassadors exchanged impressions with the foreign guests, discussed the future of Europe, the freedom of the media in the digital age, the possibilities of more active engagement in social and political life, the obstacles and challenges facing them. The meeting was certainly useful for the youngest participants, as in next year they will be able to participate in European elections for the first time.

The participants visited Slavonskobrodsk TV and discussed the responsibility of regional TV stations in communication with representatives of local authorities, the public and business sectors. Ivan Čalić, editor-in-chief of SBTV, spoke about the program of the regional TV station, sources of information, the representation of EU topics in the program, financing, the method of selecting news (what is given priority), the reputation and popularity of SBTV in Brod Posavina County and neighbouring countries which this media covers.

The representatives of the EHSB in collaboration with Nikolina Pranjić and Jasna Vujčić, lecturers at the University of Slavonski Brod, held a short introductory lecture and workshop on media literacy. The second working day started with a meeting with the members and users of the Vrapčiči (little sparrows) association focused on the improvement of mental health and quality of life of patients with psychotic disorders to discuss its communication with the media and how such topics should be presented to sensitize the wider public.

In the City Library of Slavonski Brod, the International conference “Responsible Communication in the Age of the Digital Revolution” was held, with the support of the European Commission in Croatia and the EP Office in Zagreb. The purpose of holding the conference was to inform the public that citizens deserve objective information, and some media, especially new digital channels, are being used to spread misinformation in an increasingly divided world. The representatives of Poland, Bulgaria and Germany presented also its national backgrounds and some practices regarding countering disinformation.

The meeting concluded with the visit in the Radio Brod, the first established radio station in Slavonia. The way of working and communication of the local radio station was discussed with citizens and representatives of all three sectors; from a radio perspective – what is responsible communication, objective information; the importance and popularity of local radio and (in)dependence on media space participants – media owners, local authorities, advertisers.

Links to photos:

<https://schuman.pl/have-your-say-in-eu/#1677582535927-167151c3-0fdb>

<http://europski-dom-sb.hr/international-conference-responsible-communication-in-the-age-of-the-digital-revolution/>

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).