

Abstract progetto RE-Building EU

CERV – Town Twinning/Network of Towns

Re-BuildingEU aims to **foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at the Union level**. Nowadays, the EU is facing diverse challenges linked to anti-European movements, which are scaring away the citizens. COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the situation, limiting mobility and feeding Euroscepticism. This problem can be solved only by promoting EU action at the local level, by fostering debate among people from different countries and by increasing citizens' understanding of the possibilities offered by the EU. The project aims to involve people from 5 towns in different countries (Italy, Poland, Denmark, Romania and Greece) in workshops about the EU role and development opportunities (both social and personal). Target groups will be: (1) students from local schools; (2) civil society representatives and young local entrepreneurs; (3) municipalities. The objective is to provide them with specific workshops in order to make them aware of the importance of the EU. The sessions will involve representatives of the local EU parliament as well as successful entrepreneurs and associations in order to share success stories of their experience, increasing the awareness of the public on the opportunities offered by the EU for each different individual, organization or geography. At the end of the workshops each national group will meet in Bruxelles to be involved in different activities: a simulation about EU functioning dedicated to students and meetings with EU representatives addressed to municipalities' representatives, young leaders and entrepreneurs. These activities will strengthen not only links with the EU, but also between participants, who will have the possibility to share their views and meet people from different countries, feeling tangibly the possibilities of **direct engagement** offered by the EU. At the end of the project, a dissemination conference in each partner country will be organized inviting political representatives, journalists and people concerned. A special focus will be put on the **intergenerational** and **trans-national aspects**, with people of different ages and from different countries which meet up and share diverse visions, with a **bottom-up approach**. This will allow Re-BuildingEU to bring the EU and **its citizens closer**.