

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

| PROJECT | |
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| Participant: | Moletu Rajono Savivaldybes Administracija |
| PIC number: | 931009687 |
| Project name and acronym: | 30 Years of Maastricht: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future of Europe - MAASTRICHT30 |

| EVENT DESCRIPTION | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Event number: | 2 nd Event | | |
| Event name: | Celebrating 30 Years Of The Maastricht Treaty | | |
| Type: | Conference, Introduction | | |
| In situ/online: | <i>In-situ</i> | | |
| Location: | Moletai, Lithuania | | |
| Date(s): | April 18th-21st, 2024 | | |
| Website(s) (if any): | https://www.moletai.lt/ | | |
| Participants | | | |
| Female: | 40 | | |
| Male: | 30 | | |
| From country 1 [Bulgaria]: | 2 | | |
| From country 2 [France]: | 1 | | |
| From country 3 [Greece]: | 1 | | |
| From country 4 [Italy]: | 2 | | |
| From country 5 [Lithuania]: | 58 | | |
| From country 6 [Malta]: | 2 | | |
| From country 7 [Portugal]: | 2 | | |
| From country 8 [Spain]: | 2 | | |
| Total number of participants: | 70 | From total number of countries: | 8 |
| Description | | | |
| <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i> | | | |
| The II event of the project "30 Years of Maastricht: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future of Europe" was held in Moletai, Lithuania, from April 18 to 21, 2024. This gathering brought together 12 | | | |

delegates from eight European countries, with participation from 70 people, including both European and local attendees. The main objective was to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Maastricht Treaty, reflecting on its impact on the European Union and its citizens. Specific goals included promoting knowledge of the Maastricht Treaty, facilitating the exchange of ideas and experiences, strengthening ties of friendship and cooperation, and evaluating and documenting participants' impressions for the creation of an e-book.

Representatives from eight European countries—Lithuania, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Malta, Bulgaria, Italy, and France—participated, including government officials, educators, youth leaders, entrepreneurs, and members of civic organizations. Some participating delegations were the Municipality of Moletai (Lithuania), Asociación Tiraboleiros (Spain), União Foz Sousa Covelo (Portugal), Dimos Pileias Hortiatias (Greece), Local Council Tas Sliema (Malta), Obstina Mezdra (Bulgaria), Tumberinos di Gavoi (Italy), Comune di Gallodoro (Italy), and Association La Didine (France).

The event was designed to be highly participatory, combining workshops, round tables, and conferences, as we can see in the official activity program:

Thursday 18 April

Arrival of the different delegations

21:00 h. Welcome dinner at the hotel. Presentation of the guidelines

Friday 19 April

09:20 h. Departure from the hotel

10.00 h. Welcome words by Mayor Saulius Jauneika / parliament deputat Paulius Saudargas. Presentation to media and civil society in the Parliament of Lithuania.

10:15 h. Conference, “The Maastricht Legacy: Investigating its impact on EU politics, economy and society” by Member of the Parliament, Mr. Paulius Saudargas

10.45 h. Seminar: “30 years of European integration: Assessing the Achievements and Challenges of Maastricht”

11.15 h. Tour of the Parliament

13.00 h. Lunch at Bernėlių užėiga 15.00 h. Guided tour of the old town of Vilnius, Royal Palace

18.00 h. Departure from Vilnius to Moletai

20.30 h. Welcome dinner at the hotel

Saturday 20 April

09.15 h. Departure from the hotel

09.30 h. Welcome words by the Mayor Saulius Jauneika to the delegations

09.40 h. Musical performance. Molėtai School of Arts folklore chapel, leading Rūta Vyšniauskienė

09.50 h. Brotherhood signature

10.30 h. Workshop. Exchange of contacts with various institutions – topics to discuss

11.00 h. Coffee break

11.40 h. Meeting at gymnasium. Greetings by the principle Rimutė Guobienė and guided tour of the High School

12.30 h. Presentation of the different partners

13.00 h. Lunch

15.30 h. Visiting Mindūnai Tower and Guided tour of Molėtai Museum of Ethnocosmology

18.00 h. Information regarding III meeting in Sofia (Bulgaria)

19.00 h. Departure to Vilnius

20:15 h. Evaluation of the program and dissemination strategy

20.30 h. Dinner

Sunday 21 April

Breakfast

Departure of the delegations

Key results:

- **Organization and Logistics:** Participants highly praised the event's organization and logistics. Evaluations via anonymous electronic forms showed average ratings between 4.2 and 4.8 out of 5, indicating high overall satisfaction.
- **Impact of the Maastricht Treaty:** Central themes included the impact of the Maastricht Treaty on European citizenship, economic integration, and social policies. Discussions highlighted how the Treaty has facilitated cooperation among member states, promoted economic stability, and improved social policies.
- **Conferences and Workshops:** Key sessions included a main conference by Paulius Saudargas on the achievements and challenges of European integration and interactive workshops on youth mobility, education and employment opportunities, and immigration policy challenges.
- **Twinning Ceremony:** A significant moment, symbolizing friendship and cooperation among participating countries, with representatives signing an agreement to promote European citizenship and local cooperation.
- **Cultural and Official Visits:** These provided deeper understanding of Lithuanian culture and history, fostering conviviality and cultural exchange. Highlights included a visit to the Lithuanian Parliament, a tour of Vilnius' old town, and a visit to the Museum of Ethnocosmology.

Evaluation and Feedback: The event's evaluation reflected high general satisfaction, with positive feedback on organization, logistics, and content. Recommendations included allowing more free time for participants to explore the surroundings independently and increasing diversity in informal activities.

Dissemination and Future Plans: Dissemination activities included social media posts, website updates, press releases, and radio interviews, enhancing event visibility. Documents and opinions collected will be used to create an e-book. Future plans include a third meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria, to continue the project and expand discussions on European integration.

Conclusions:

The event "30 Years of Maastricht: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future of Europe" underscored the Maastricht Treaty's role in shaping the modern EU, facilitating European citizenship and free movement of people, goods, and services, thus strengthening political and economic cohesion. It highlighted the profound impact of Union citizenship, allowing Europeans to live, work, study, and vote across member states without relinquishing national citizenship. Key challenges identified included fiscal harmonization, agro-food sector sustainability, geopolitical tensions, and digital transformation, requiring coordinated responses from EU members and institutions. The twinning ceremony emphasized cooperation and solidarity among European cities, reinforcing a commitment to promoting European citizenship. The event saw participation from 70 individuals from eight countries, with high satisfaction ratings (4.2 to 4.8 out of 5) reflecting quality organization and content. Documents and opinions collected will form an e-book documenting event reflections. Dissemination activities on social media, websites, and through press releases and radio interviews enhanced visibility. A third meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria, was planned to continue discussions and collaborations. The event celebrated Maastricht's achievements and provided a platform for dialogue, underscoring the importance of cooperation and commitment to European citizenship as the EU faces future challenges.

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