

The project HOW TO SURVIVE A DEMOCRACY was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

**Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"
Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"
Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"**

7 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 180 citizens, mostly from Amsterdam, also from Utrecht and Nijmegen (NL)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Amsterdam, NL, from 9/11/2019 to 10/11/2019

Short description: In the commemoration weekend of 30 years fall of the Berlin wall we organized in cooperation with the renowned Debating Centre De Balie a mini-festival consisting of 3 parts: an on-stage programme on Nov. 9 2020 centralized around the question "How to survive a dictatorship?" The next day on Nov. 10 we centralized debate around the question "How to survive a EU democracy?"

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 810 citizens, mostly from Maastricht, also from Roermond, Amsterdam, Nijmegen, Den Bosch, Eindhoven (NL)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Maastricht, NL from 6/12/2019 to 8/12/2019

Short description: It was the official opening of the HOW TO SURVIVE A DEMOCRACY pop-up museum, which took place during the Maastricht Europe Days. We organized 3 workshops in which people played the BFG or the Populist Game together, with debates about their opinions afterwards.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 275 citizens, mostly from Tallinn and Narva (EE)

Location / Dates: The event took place online from 15/01/2021 to 2/03/2021*

Short description: We had organized and planned 2 exhibitions of the pop-up museum in Tallinn and Narva, with events and workshops. But due to Covid-19 it was postponed twice and canceled finally. Instead of live events there were online events and workshops with school classes.

* This event was originally planned for 01/06/2020 till 30/06/2020, but due to covid restrictions we had to postpone it to the beginning of 2021, and the program had to take place online instead.

Event 4

Participation: The event involved 500 citizens, mostly from Rotterdam (NL)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Rotterdam, NL from 03/02/2020 to 7/02/2020

Short description: The pop-up museum was on show for a week at a practical school (student ages 15-18) during their 'freedom week'. We organized 2 workshops in which the Populist Game was played, and there were guided tours in the museum.

Event 5

Participation: The event involved 50 citizens, mostly from Nijmegen (NL)

Location / Dates: The event took place online from 10/12/2020 to 14/12/2020

Short description: We took part in the virtual festival program of Festival Boulevard Europe, a festival for citizens and scientists about European democracy. We played the Boiling Frog Game and the Populist Game in small groups, combined with lectures of scientists and debates. Also our video portraits How to Survive a Dictatorship were shown.

Event 6

Participation: The event involved 10.000 citizens, from all over the Netherlands

Location / Dates: The event took place in Zwolle, NL from 13/02/2021 to 28/06/2021

Short description: The pop-up museum was adopted for 4 months in an exhibition named 'Who owns the world' at Museum De Fundatie.

Event 7

Participation: The event involved 268 citizens, mostly from Warsaw, also from Poznan (PL)

Location / Dates: The event took place in Warsaw, PL from 1/09/2021 to 3/11/2021**

Short description: The pop-up museum was at display for 2 months in cultural centre Fort Nowy in Warsaw. We organized an opening event with lectures, live interviews, debate and music. We organized 3 workshops with secondary school classes. They got a guided tour in the pop-up museum, played the BFG together and did the poster workshop.

** This event was originally planned for 01/03/2020 till 31/03/2020, but due to covid restrictions we had to postpone it.

Preparatory activities

Participation: The preparatory involved 75 people mostly from PL, NL, EE

Location/Dates: the preparatory activities took place from September 2019 until September 2021, mostly in Amsterdam, Maastricht, and Nijmegen (NL), as well as in Warsaw (PL) and Tallin and Narva (EE). Almost all the preparatory meetings took place online.

Short description: The project started with developing the traveling pop-up museum. We collected through the network of our partner organisations in NL, PL, EE but also DE, RO, CZ the personal stories of ordinary EU citizens on "How to survive an EU dictatorship?". We transformed them into audio-visual documentaries to screen them on the outside of the pop-up museum. We researched in cooperation with journalists and scientists on different topics related to EU democracy, dictatorship, EU enlargement and the EP. We put great effort into finding attractive ways to present these abstract topics to a varied audience, in order to address a young and diverse European audience as well as an older European audience. We invented the art installation 'Moving Posters' that lets visitors physically experience and interact with the 4 fundamentals of democracy: trias politica, rule of law, regular elections, protecting the minority against the majority. We did extensive research and talked to European scientists to better understand the principles of populism and translate it in an attractive form. We implemented the interactive Boiling Frog Game (BFG) in the democracy lab. We implemented a workshop method to stimulate participants to express their thoughts on democracy in a poster. We tested the workshop on various audiences (different ages groups, nations and backgrounds) to make it as inclusive and accessible as possible. We implemented the art installation Consensus Machine. Together with partners we organized displays We organized displays of the pop-up museum at various venues: schools, musea, cultural centres, and festivals. Each exhibition was accompanied by a tailor-made side program. Together with partners we organized for example a program of speakers and music that fit perfectly with the theme of the pop-up installation. Also we trained teachers and trainers to use the various materials from the pop-up museum for their lessons and workshops.