

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

 Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	Municipality of Valongo (UNIONE DELLA ROMAGNA FAENTINA)
PIC number:	939095510
Project name and acronym:	"Cities 4 YOUth - Next Generation (C4YOU - NEXT GEN),

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	7		
Event name:	Cities 4 YOUth Event in Italy		
Type:	International mobility, hosting of a youth event and multicultural youth festival		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Faenza, Italy		
Date(s):	April - June		
Website(s) (if any):	https://cerv1.webnode.page/work-package-7/		
Participants			
Female:	133		
Male:	80		
Non-binary:	0		
From city 1 [Starachowice]:	7		
From city 2 [Kielce]:	6		
From city 3 [Alzira]:	5		
From city 4 [Faenza]:	184		
From city 5 [Valongo]:	5		
From city 6 [Pissouri]:	6		
Total number of participants:	213	From total number of countries:	5
Description			

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The WP7 event of the project „Cities for YOUTH - Next Generation” was implemented in Faenza, Italy, from 4 to 8 May 2026, coordinated by the Municipality of Faenza. It brought together young people, youth workers, representatives of municipalities, youth councils, educational institutions, and civil society organisations from Italy, Poland, Cyprus, Spain, and Portugal. The event aimed to strengthen European cooperation, exchange good practices in youth policy, and empower young people to become active participants in democratic life.

The programme opened with introductory and coordination sessions, during which participants became familiar with the objectives of the project, the planned activities, expected outcomes, and the overall implementation of the work package. Partner organisations presented their institutions, local youth initiatives, and approaches to youth participation, creating a platform for exchanging experiences and identifying common challenges faced by young people across Europe.

An important part of the mobility was the cooperation with the Municipality of Faenza. During meetings with municipal representatives, including Councillor Davide Agresti, participants explored the city's approach to youth policy, civic participation, and cooperation with local communities. Discussions focused on the role of municipalities in supporting young people, creating opportunities for civic engagement, and developing long-term strategies that encourage young people to actively participate in local decision-making processes.

The educational programme also included meetings with representatives of local Youth Councils from Faenza and Casola Valsenio, where participants exchanged experiences concerning youth representation, consultation mechanisms, and cooperation with local authorities. Young people presented examples of local initiatives, discussed the functioning of youth councils in their respective countries, and reflected on different models of youth participation in democratic life. These exchanges enabled participants to compare solutions implemented in different municipalities and identify transferable good practices.

Participants also met with volunteers involved in the European Solidarity Corps, who introduced practical examples of international volunteering, civic engagement, and youth-led community projects. Interactive workshops focused on media literacy, recognising misinformation, responsible communication, and critical thinking. Through simulations, debates, and collaborative exercises, participants developed practical skills enabling them to critically assess information and participate responsibly in public debate.

A valuable educational component of the programme was the cooperation with Istituto Comprensivo Europa Faenza. Students and teachers presented innovative educational practices, inclusive learning approaches, and activities promoting human rights and democratic values within the school environment. International participants compared educational systems, discussed challenges faced by young people in their countries, and exchanged ideas on how schools, municipalities, and youth organisations can work together to strengthen youth participation and inclusion.

The study visit also enabled participants to discover the cultural heritage and community initiatives of the Emilia-Romagna region. Guided by local students, participants explored the historic centre of Faenza, including its architectural heritage, public spaces, and internationally recognised ceramic traditions. Educational visits continued in the medieval village of Brisighella, where participants completed community-based team challenges organised in cooperation with local organisations, including youth volunteers, scout leaders, social organisations supporting migrants, and local cultural institutions. These activities strengthened teamwork, intercultural cooperation, communication skills, and awareness of the role local communities play in supporting social inclusion.

Another important educational activity was the visit to the Gypsum Vein Regional Park, a UNESCO-recognised geological heritage site, where participants learned about environmental sustainability, biodiversity, and responsible tourism. The outdoor educational activities demonstrated how environmental protection and cultural heritage can become important elements of local identity and youth engagement.

Throughout the mobility, participants actively engaged in a wide range of non-formal education activities designed to strengthen democratic competences, critical thinking, and civic participation. Workshops addressed topics such as misinformation, freedom of expression, equality, inclusion, human rights, and responsible use of social media. Interactive methods, including simulations, opinion-based exercises, group discussions, and collaborative problem-solving, enabled participants to exchange perspectives and develop practical competences relevant to active citizenship.

A central public activity of the work package was the Youth Festival, organised as part of the European Union Fair in Faenza. The festival gathered international participants, local young people, schools, municipal representatives, youth organisations, and members of the local community. The programme included educational exhibitions, interactive workshops, European-themed games, cultural performances, presentations on European opportunities for young people, and activities promoting

democratic participation and European values. International participants actively contributed to the festival by supporting educational stands, participating in the opening ceremony, and engaging with local young people through intercultural dialogue and collaborative activities.

Special attention was given to structured dialogue methods. Participants took part in a Fishbowl discussion, encouraging open and respectful exchange of opinions, as well as an Oxford-style Debate centred on the motion "This House believes that young people have more opportunities in big cities than in small towns". The debate enabled participants to analyse complex social issues from different perspectives while developing public speaking, analytical thinking, teamwork, and argumentation skills.

The programme concluded with reflection and evaluation sessions, during which participants assessed their learning outcomes, shared feedback, identified good practices observed during the study visit, and discussed opportunities for maintaining long-term cooperation within the international partnership. The event was implemented entirely through non-formal education methodologies, ensuring active participation, peer learning, inclusion, intercultural exchange, and collaborative learning throughout all activities.

As part of the WP7 implementation, a Youth Initiative was carried out as a participatory process directly involving the young participants. Building upon the knowledge and experiences gained during the mobility, participants worked in international groups to identify key challenges affecting young people in their local communities and developed proposals for future youth-led initiatives. Discussions focused on strengthening youth participation in local decision-making, combating misinformation, promoting European values, encouraging intercultural dialogue, improving cooperation between youth councils and municipalities, and creating new opportunities for civic engagement. The initiative resulted in a set of recommendations and ideas for future local actions that participants committed to promoting within their respective communities, ensuring that the outcomes of the mobility would continue beyond the international event.

Overall, the WP7 event in Faenza significantly contributed to strengthening cooperation between municipalities, youth councils, schools, and youth organisations across Europe. Through institutional meetings, study visits, educational workshops, debates, the Youth Festival, and the Youth Initiative, participants developed civic competences, expanded their understanding of European youth policy, exchanged good practices, and strengthened their commitment to active citizenship and democratic participation in line with the objectives of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) Programme.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	28.02.2025	Initial version (new MFF).