

## The project « You&Me - Youth and memory activism» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

### Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"

#### Preparatory activities

**Participation:** This activity involved 11 participants: 4 from Bosnia-Herzeg, 5 from Spain and 2 from Cyprus.

**Location / Dates:** February 10<sup>th</sup> 2021, Barcelona, Nicosia and Sarajevo (online, due to Covid-19 travel restrictions)

**Short description:** The kick-off meeting consisted of a one-day online gathering intended to officially start the project and to coordinate the development of the different activities. In this meeting, the specific role of each organization within the project was formalized, final contents and calendar were discussed and a definitive schedule of activities was approved. Also, rules and proceedings for the proper justification of the grant were discussed and clarified.

**Events:** 4 events have been carried out within this project: 3 youth exchanges and the publication of a policy brief with recommendations on how to engage young people in remembrance activities. The methodology of the international workshops was based on non-formal education and experiential learning. Young representatives from the three participant countries gathered to learn the history of other European regions and how these are dealing with troubled pasts through visits to memory sites or interviews with witnesses. Also three memorial actions in public space were organized, one in every venue, bringing together youth from different countries who had the chance to discuss and create a joint performance.

#### Event 1

**Participation:** The event involved 30 citizens, including 19 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 6 participants from Spain and 5 citizens from Cyprus.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina) from 01/10/2021 to 05/10/2021

**Short description:** The 5-day workshop in Sarajevo gathered 25 participants in situ plus 5 more online participants. They attended a lecture on the history of Bosnia and Herzegovina by historian Nicolas Moll and shared thoughts and ideas with Claudia Zini, who was representing the organization "Kuma", that deals with memorialization through arts. This was done in a "World café" method, wandering from table discussing different questions: Where do you see memorialization in the streets of the place that you are living? Where do you see memorialization in education? Do you see memorialization in public holidays? and Who or what is memorialized in your place of origin? These sessions were streamed online in order to include participants from Cyprus who couldn't travel due to the Covid-19 travel ban. The rest of the time was dedicated to visit museums and memory sites like the War Childhood Museum or the Srebrenica Gallery 11/07/95. The last day participants split up in 3 groups and carried out short performances on the main street of Sarajevo, which included music and theatre, to reflect on the importance of addressing the past to get a more tolerant society today. The performances caught quite some attention of locals and tourists of whom some stopped to watch on.

#### Event 2

**Participation:** The event involved 26 citizens including 6 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina (online), 5 participants from Spain and 15 citizens from Cyprus

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Nicosia (Cyprus) from 11/01/2022 to 16/01/2022

**Short description:** The activities were implemented in locations that raised questions and triggered memories like the UN Buffer zone and the checkpoints in Nicosia. Mainly it was used the space of Home4Cooperation, which is a unique community centre located in the middle of the dividing lines in Cyprus, in the Ledra Palace area. All activities were based on non-formal education and experiential learning like the "History line" when participants placed events that are important for them on a timeline that are related to their personal, family, community, world history to discuss the effects of the past on personal and collective memory and the distinction between history and memory. The last day a short performance was carried out by the workshop participants on the streets of Nicosia to raise awareness about the difficulties of present times that have their roots in past troubles that were not properly addressed.

### **Event 3**

**Participation:** The event involved 36 citizens including 5 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 23 participants from Spain and 8 citizens from Cyprus

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Barcelona and La Jonquera (Spain) from 24/03/2022 to 29/03/2022

**Short description:** The 36 participants were asked to reflect about 4 specific concepts (border, identity, memory and conflict) aiming to reach the final conclusions of the whole project. Participants visited memory sites connected to the Spanish Civil War like the anti-aircraft battery at Turó de la Rovira hill and also working class neighborhoods in Barcelona that were very active in the struggles for freedom and democracy during Franco times. A 2-day extension to La Jonquera, in the Spanish-French border, offered participants the opportunity to learn about the exile of almost 500.000 people after the war fleeing Francoist repression. Back to Barcelona, on the last day, participants posted large-size pictures in a central square of the Gràcia neighborhood representing the 4 concepts and talked to passers-by about the local memories of the difficult past (war, exile, dictatorship...). Finally, all participants attended a theatre show connected to the topics of migration and identity by a group of international artists.

### **Event 4**

**Participation:** The event involved 50 citizens, including 15 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 20 participants from Spain and 15 citizens from Cyprus

**Location / Dates:** This long-term event took place from October 2021 to June 2022 in the 3 venues where the youth exchanges were held: Sarajevo, Nicosia and Barcelona.

**Short description:** During the 3 international workshops participants discussed about methodologies and best practices intended to attract youth in memory politics. As a result of this, a policy brief was published with recommendations on how to engage young people in this field from a transnational perspective, aiming to acquire a tool that could be applicable in all EU Member States and third countries. 300 hard copies of the booklet were printed and it's available online as well.