

**The project «Sustainability of unification» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"**

**Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 "Town-Twinning"**

**Participation:** The project allowed a meeting of 646 citizens, of which

435 came from the city of **Backi Petrovac (Serbia)**,  
40 came from the city of **Stara Lubovna (Slovak Republic)**,  
42 came from the city of **Nitra (Slovak Republic)**,  
40 came from the city of **Ruzomberok (Slovak Republic)**,  
40 came from the city of **Vukovar (Croatia)**  
15 came from the **civic association Ceskoslovenske renome (Czech Republic)**  
34 came from the **Regional Development Agency Backa (Serbia)**.

**Place / dates:** The meeting took place in Backi Petrovac (Serbia) from 03/08/2017 to 06/08/2017

**Short description:**

The day of 03/08/2017 was dedicated to the guests, a formal and informal meeting where the program and the project were presented. The importance and sustainability of cooperation was promoted, the idea and importance of EU membership was promoted. On the same day, a presentation on youth migration, employment, volunteering and education, and discussions on addressing the issue of unemployment and migration was held at the YMCA Youth Center.

The day of 04/08/2017 Was the reception of partner cities with the Mayor of the municipality of Backi Petrovac, where the local, regional and national development was discussed, and the results of cooperation with other cities and examples of good practice were presented. Then there was a presentation and discussion on the topic of the development of culture and education, the importance of opening chapter 26 for Serbia, where partner cities shared their experiences in harmonizing culture and education with EU standards. In the continuation of the day was a heritage (folk dances, customs, art, national dishes). In youth center YMCA was a creative work with children on the subject of the EU through the beauty of diversity.

The day of 05/08/2017 was panel discussion on the sustainability of EU-funded projects where was presented examples of good practice and experience of partners. After the panel discussion, participants of the partner cities took a part in the art fair, where was the cultural artistic program, the partner cities had their stands where they presented their country, culture and tradition. Volunteers were in charge of citizens' opinions and attitudes through questionnaires.

The day of 06/08/2017 was closing ceremony where partners summing the results and impressions of the project and invited partners to future cooperation. Sports activities were carried out during the day and exhibitions, competitions and gala concerts were held throughout the day.

The themes of the event in Backi Petrovac was: migration of young people, employment, education, culture, strengthening cooperation with partners, raising awareness about the significance of the program "Europe for Citizens" and discussions on future co-operation. The aim of the project was to encourage citizens to actively participate and understand the importance of sustainability of all activities that are being carried out at Union level.

The "Sustainability of Unification" project represents the cooperation of 7 partners from 4 countries. The specific objectives of the project were volunteering as an essential element of active citizenship and community development; Employment as one of the solutions for the migration of young people; The EU programs and their importance for the development of the EU region. The program presented a combination of different types of activities that attract participants to the program. Themes are selected so that participants feel involved and motivated to attend all events.