

**The project «#FOLLOWEU» 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 involved 1098 citizens, notably 900 participants from the village of Kajaľ (Slovakia), 66 participants from the village of Szászvár (Hungary), 56 participants from the village of Jilovce (Czech Republic), 39 participants from the village of Comuna Sinteua (Romania) and 37 participants from the village of Kasterlee (Belgium).

**Location/ Dates:** The event took place in Kajaľ (Slovakia), from 16/07/2021 to 18/07/2021

**Short description:**

The day of 16/07/2021, as part of the introduction of the second in a series of events, citizens were introduced to one of the basic pillars of European citizenship - volunteering. Citizens participated in the activities not only passively and were not only recipients of information, but they were also active participants. In addition, as part of best practices, they were able to contact organizations that operate voluntarily in various fields. As European citizenship is an important element in consolidating and securing the process of European integration, the European Commission continues to support the involvement of European citizens in all aspects of the life of their communities, enabling them to participate in building an increasingly interconnected Europe.

The day of 17/07/2021 participants drew attention to intercultural dialogue, through which they sought to create connections and common ground between the cultures, communities and people involved by promoting understanding and interaction. There was also a presentation of intercultural dialogue, which was a challenge for all Europeans to discover the benefits of our rich cultural heritage and to learn from different cultural traditions. By presenting intercultural dialogue through the event, it helped to prevent conflicts and the marginalization of citizens on the basis of cultural identity. The project thus contributed to the development of a respectable, dynamic and multifaceted European identity. We believe that diversity is undoubtedly one of our greatest strengths, as it can foster creativity and innovation, which are the driving force behind economic growth and employment in the long term.

The day of 18/07/2021, the participants focused on solidarity, which is a common value that creates cohesion and responds to societal challenges. We often perceive migration through the negative eyepiece that is mediated to us. We often do not have a reason, what are migrants doing. The main theme was discussed from social, economic and political aspect. The project supported diversity, tolerance and respect their common values.