

Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024



European Federation of Older Students in universities - EFOS

Self-financed NGO with consultative status at the U.N.

Implementation by the members universities and senior academies

Supported by the European projects Erasmus+

EFOS has the following aims:

- Promoting high level education of older people
- Fostering of joint projects for older students throughout Europe
- Representing the interests of academic education for older people in politics and society
- Identifying possibilities of using the skills and expertise of older students for the benefit of science and society

Target groups: older students and the elderly in the communities within the national and international network and cooperation

Representing interests of Seniors: - Representation of older people and EFOS at the Committee on Ageing at UN in Vienna

- EFOS Manifesto, EFOS Declaration as documents to promote Seniors' learning and Human rights for older persons.

Important results: Projects Erasmus+



EduSenNet - Educational Senior Network: implemented research on the methodology of learning, focused on the motivation, barriers and needs of seniors (4,000), collection of good practices.

SELID – Seniors Learning in the Digital Society: improving computer literacy, extending learning opportunities in Digital technologies, ICT, accessible apps, online courses, best practices for seniors' learning (4,800 seniors involved in 2019-2022).

GENEDUinENVIRO: environmental learning for seniors since 2023, innovative practices, care of own environment, saving electricity, community health, excursions: Danubiana Gallery, National parks...



Contact person / contact address:

PhDr. Nadežda Hrapková, PhD., EFOS president, PhDr. Katarína Grunwald, EFOS General Secretary,
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FORZA

AGENCY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CARPATHIAN REGION

15 years of experience



THE THEMES



- Local economic development
- Sustainable urban mobility
- Nature-based solutions



- Multifunctional forest management and close-to-nature silviculture
- Climate-smart forestry



- Forest pedagogics
- Lifelong learning
- Women in forestry
- Urban forestry

PROJECTS within DANUBE REGION PROGRAM

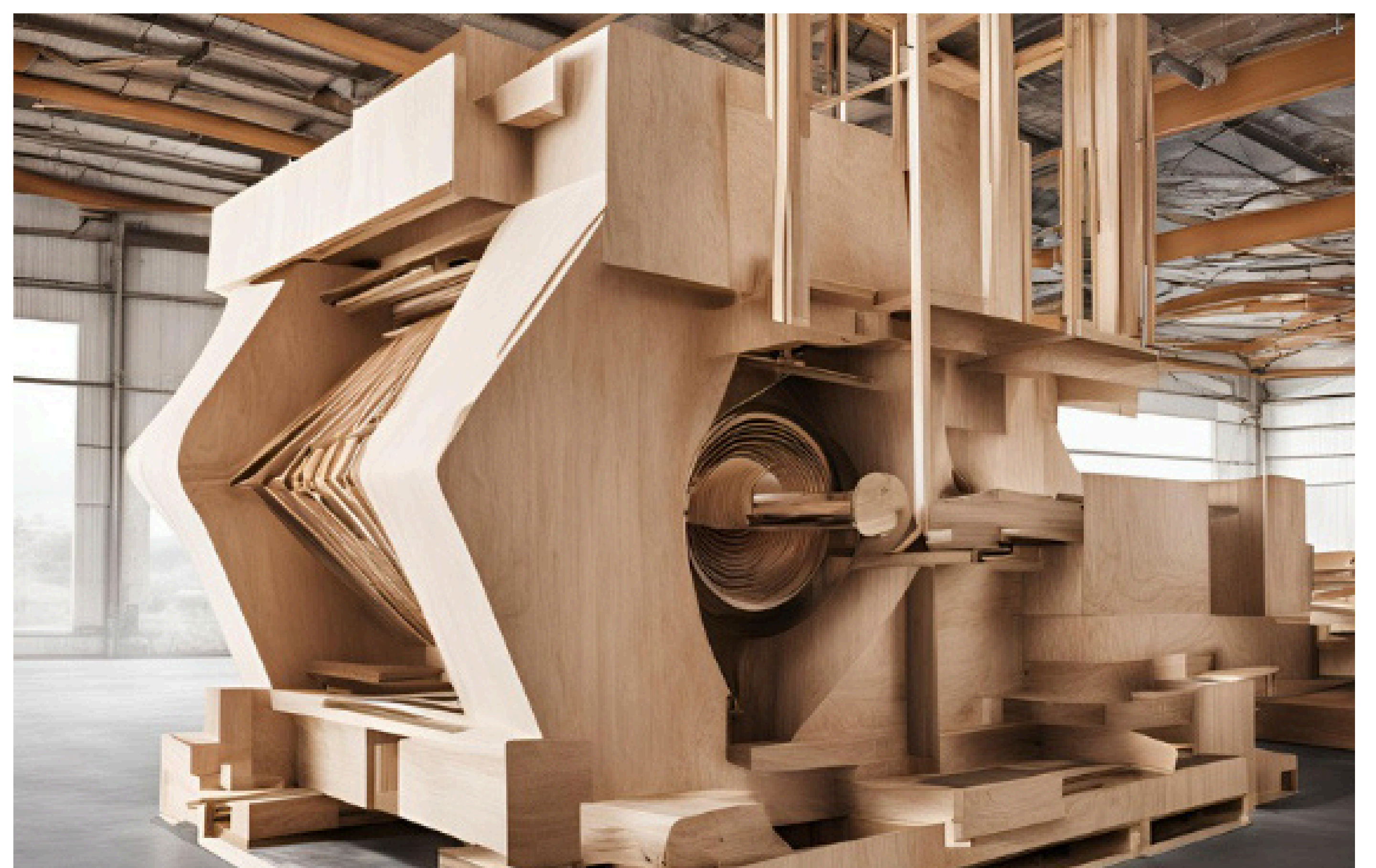


Co-funded by the European Union



Fem2Forests: Innovative pathways for women in forestry

Interreg Danube Region



DRWO4.0: Danube Region Wood Industry Transformation Model towards Industry 4.0

Interreg Danube Region



FORZA Agency for Sustainable Development of the Carpathian Region

SELECTED PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES



Water quality on forest lands via watershed management tools



DigiMedFor: Digitalization and innovation tools in forests



Bicycles for Ukraine's volunteers



Youth Green Conference 2025



RURACTIVE: Innovative solutions for rural development



CIRCLER: Circular Economy Transition Manager

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AGORA Platform Association – Active Communities for Development initiatives, Sofia, Bulgaria

Implementation by

Supported by

America for Bulgaria Foundation, Erasmus + Program, National Fund

Objectives/focus of work

To activate community participation in Bulgaria; To develop and apply new approaches for community development; To build the capacity of local community organizations (Chitalishtes) as community centres

Target group

Local communities; Chitalishtes; Local authorities

Cooperation partner

More than 100 Chitalishtes (*Chitalishte is a unique, traditional, community based, non-profit organization with cultural-educational functions in Bulgaria*); 10 Bulgarian municipalities; NGOs

Important findings/results/experiences

Strengthening the Chitalishtes in the Platform by building their capacity through training, exchange of knowledge and experience and improve the environment for their development and collaboration;

Activation of local communities and their organizations by providing sustainable local resources through the creation of municipal funds in support of local initiatives;

Solved local problems with the participation of local communities;

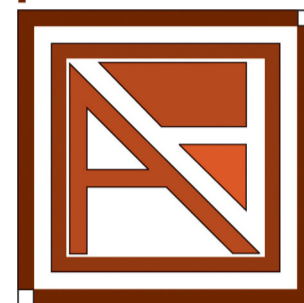
Culture for development initiatives: fests, social art, social theatre;

Promotion of the Chitalishtes through 13 editions of Contest "AGORA"

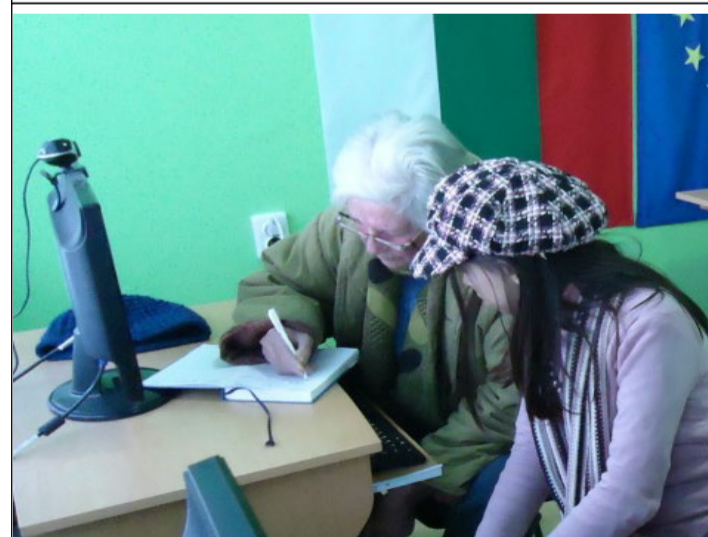
for the Most Successful Chitalishte Community Initiative

Analyses, studies, concepts and publications

platform



AGORA



Contact person / contact address

Emilia Lissichkova / e.lissichkova@agora-bg.org

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Senior Day Center Number One from Cluj-Napoca

Implementation by The Social and Medical Assistance Division

Supported by Cluj-Napoca City-Hall

Objectives/focus of work

Providing free alternative social services within the Center to ensure an independent and active life for the elderly, medical recovery through physiotherapy, socialization and leisure, psychological counseling, health education and administrative problems.

Target group

Individual, family and group social needs, through socializing activities in order to prevent social exclusion and through social reintegration.

Cooperation partner

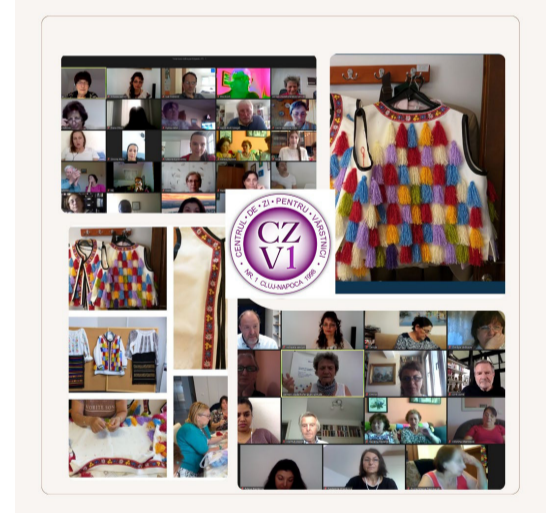
UBB - Alma Mater Napocensis Foundation, Academicradio, EduNation, BailARTE DS, "Octavian Goga" Cluj County Library, Urban Culture Center Cluj-Napoca.

Important findings/results/experiences

DAILY ACTIVITIES - Recovery: Physical Therapy, Physiotherapy, Logic games, social games, insight games, memory activation and skill, reading.
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES - Free courses: Foreign languages such as German, English, French, Japanese; PC and Internet use, Guitar; Piano; Qi-Gong relaxation and mobility sport; Dance Course (Salsa, Bachata and Argentine Tango) + Senior Dance; Reflex therapy; Painting; Creative Workshop, String art; Tailoring / Knitting Workshop; Repertory ensemble "The Joy of Seniors" traditions, games and popular songs; Rehearsal vocal group "The Joy of Seniors" - choral and traditional music; Therapy through humor (Râsoteka).
OTHER IMPORTANT EXPERIENCES: University of Third Age and The Senior University; "Security Day on the Net"; "Particular Aspects of Spirituality"; "Loneliness or Inability to Communicate?"; "Prevention of Colorectal Cancer"; "Open Day" at the Centre; "Dance, Healthy Lifestyles at All Ages"; "Nutrition"; "The Game of the Ages"; "Digital Seniors"; The Ensemble "The Joy of Seniors" and the Theater Team.

Contact person / contact address

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Mother Centers
International
Network for
Empowerment



We empower and connect mothers in a caring community worldwide.

Who we are:

In 20
countries

1000+
Mother
Centers

Since
2000

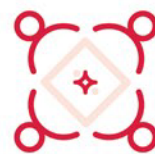
The **Mother Centers International Network for Empowerment (MINE)** is an award winning network representing the international Mother Centers movement.

Mother Centers worldwide are **grassroots, self-organized communities**, supporting mothers, families on a daily basis.

Mother Centers **bring women and families into center stage** and support them in building their confidence and ability to help themselves and each other. They re-integrate the culture of care into public life. Mother Centers influence the quality of parenting and family relations as well as of neighborhoods. They contribute to social cohesion and integration in communities as well as bringing a grassroots voice to local governance.

MINE stands for a world that values and supports the work of mothers, and in which the culture of care is reintegrated into public life.

How we help:



Community & Network

MINE empowers Mother Centers with international partnerships and expertise.



International cooperation

MINE represents Mother Centers in cooperation with governments and social players, and coordinate international campaigns.



Skill building & sharing

MINE provides online and international courses, skill-shares, conferences, partnership building.



Support & visibility

MINE supports grassroots advocacy on family and community issues, and improves the visibility of the Mother Centers globally.

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The Association „The Writers` League“ Timisoara Banat Branch/LSFTB

Active since 2010

<https://www.ligascriitorilortm.ro>

Objectives/focus of work

Encouraging, stimulating and promoting literary creation by carrying out appropriate cultural, artistic and literary activities

Target group

People of all ages, from pupils to seniors

Cooperation partner

Danube Networkers

Important findings/results/experiences

LSFTB has focused on public education, encouraging lifelong learning projects by organising cultural events focused on the development of artistic skills, with a strong intergenerational focus and participation in numerous European projects since 2012

Contact person / contact address

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Strengthening civil society in the Danube region for a joint Europe

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ZAPROKUL, Center for Study in Cultural Development

Supported by Ministry of Culture of Republic of Serbia, UNESCO, EU Erasmus projects

Objectives/focus of work

The Center for Studies in Cultural Development (CSCD), established in 1967, is a unique institution in the Republic of Serbia, which engages in developmental, applied, and action research across the social sciences and humanities in the fields of culture and media, as well as the accompanying activities: strategic planning, publishing, organizing of scientific, professional, and international events, and similar projects.

Target group

Public cultural institutions, civil cultural sector, citizens, educational institutions, schools, academic sector, local authorities

Cooperation partners From its founding, CSCD has been oriented towards international collaboration in all segments of its work.

A specific highlight includes a decades-long collaboration with UNESCO.

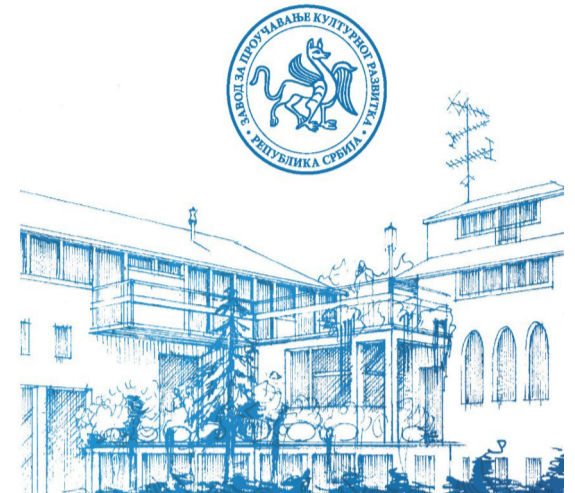
Together with the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia, CSCD represents a national point of contact for the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO 2005).

In recent years, the CSCD is increasingly turning to international cooperation and participation in international projects.

Important findings/results/experiences

The electronic database e-Kultura (www.e-kultura.net) is one of the main continuous projects of CSCD and the primary source for official cultural statistics in Serbia. This database includes information on more than 2,000 cultural organizations in Serbia (museums, archives, institutes for the protection of cultural monuments, theatres, galleries, cinemas, citizen associations, etc.). In addition, experts at CSCD were engaged in creating the series of local strategy plans. Since 1968 CSCD has published Kultura – Review for the theory and sociology of culture and for the cultural policy, which is a highly-ranked academic journal on a national level.

Our research is often focused on the tangible and intangible cultural heritage



КУЛТУРА



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Halina-Szwarc-University of third age in Warsaw

The first University of the third age that was founded in 1975

Objectives/focus of work: The ongoing education of senior citizens. The intellectual, psychological and physical activation of senior citizens: e.g. lectures, foreign language lessons, excursions, computer courses, etc.

Target group

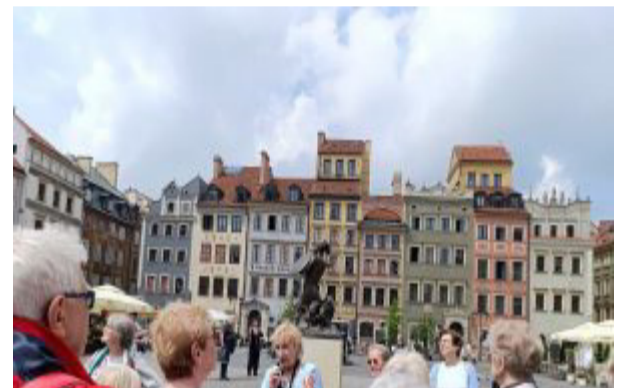
People of the age 55+

Cooperation partner

No cooperation partners yet

Important experiences

- We have significant experience in working in favour of seniors, we also know their expectations in terms of lifelong learning.
- In order to broaden the horizons of knowledge, we offer various lecture topics from scientists, e.g. from the Polish Academy of Sciences, the University of Warsaw and the Warsaw Medical University, as well as from practitioners from various fields of interest and life.
- Seminars and lectures are organised in interesting places, including the Royal Castle and museums.



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DANET e.V. Association Danube Networkers for Europe e.V.

[https:// danube-networkers.eu](https://danube-networkers.eu)

Implementation since 2014 by Civil Society organizations from the Danube Region promoting the educational Network Danube-Networkers, Coordination office ILEU e.V.

Supported by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg (start-up), Baden-Württemberg Foundation

Objectives/focus of work

It is a European non-for-profit umbrella association of educational organizations and individual experts engaged in and promoting education and scientific research and representing political issues of lifelong learning and citizenship internationally. DANET promotes exchange and common work in the following areas: learning and education in later life, social participation, dialogue and cooperation of generations, cross-cultural dialogue in Europe and particularly in the Danube Region, use of new digital media. DANET initiates local, regional and transnational educational and learning activities and projects supporting the development of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR; Priority Areas: SPB3, SPB9, SPB 10).

Target group Educational organizations and individual experts dealing with promoting education and scientific research in the Danube Region and beyond

Cooperation partner

ILEU e.V., Ulm University, The Public Open University Zagreb, Slovenian Third Age University, The Association The Writers' League Timisoara, U3A University of Galati, University of Ruse, "Platform AGORA" Association, Zakropul Belgrade, Italian Federation of the Universities of the Third Age and others.

Important findings/results/experiences

During the spread of the Coronavirus, we have looked for possibilities for people in the Danube countries, especially elderly ones, to connect with each other and not to be alone during such hard times. We participated in multiple projects, which proved to be long living and very helpful in connecting people of different cultures and age groups. Our members foster new methods of adult education and European awareness by lectures, publications and other means on a national and international level taking profit of different digital communication tools/social media.

Contact person / contact address

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TLU - Turbota pro Litnih v Ukraini

Assistance to older Ukrainians in wartime

Implementation by

Ukrainian Charity „Turbota pro Litnih v Ukraini“

Supported by WJR, Caritas (France)

Objectives/focus of work:

Humanitarian aid to lonely older IDPs, to older people staying in the war affected zones and to nursing homes residents in war affected zones

Target group

Lonely and vulnerable older people

Cooperation partner

National Police of Ukraine

Important findings/results/experiences

- NFI kits were delivered to 5500 older vulnerable persons in the war affected area
- NFI and hot meals were distributed to 2160 older IDPs
- Humanitarian aid was purchased and delivered to 21 nursing homes in the war affected area and nursing homes accommodated older IDPs
- TLU volunteers sewed 1800 bedding kits for nursing homes residents
- Information telephone lines for IDPs and war affected older people in 9 Ukrainian cities



Contact person / contact address

Galina Poliakova, poliakova-tlu@i.ua

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[Project DANECT: Danube-Networkers invite: Come together for connecting cultures – danect.eu](#)

Implementation by ILEU e.V., Ulm - Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen in der Erwachsenenbildung Ulm (Institute for virtual and face-to-face learning in the area of adult education Ulm)

Funded by the Baden-Württemberg Foundation, Germany as part of the funding program "Perspektive Donau"

Objectives/focus of work

Created as reaction of the corona crisis, DANECT continuously brings people from all Danube countries and other European countries together by Zoom since 2020. In so called *Come together sessions* old and young people are meeting to share music pieces, poems and presentations performed by participants (video collection of all sessions available on danect.eu).

Inputs by lectures give the possibility to discuss themes of interest. Bridge language is English, consecutive translation by volunteers via Zoom's translator channels allows those who don't know English to understand it as well. In language circles (EN, F, IT) international exchange takes place. DANECT fosters encounters and exchange of ideas which can be deepened by using the online platform ViMA danube. An excellent method when there is no opportunity to meet in person.

Cooperation partner

Members of the educational network "Danube-Networkers": p.ex. University of Ruse "Angel Kanchev", Ruse, Bulgaria; Association "Liga Scriitorilor" Filiala Timisoara Banat, Romania; CZV1 - Day Center for Seniors No.1, Cluj-Napoca, Romania; National Foundation for Humane Aging, Vrsac, Serbia; University of the Third Age, Slovenia and others.

Important findings/results/experiences

Experience during and after the coronavirus pandemic has shown that lively online communities can also be created if methodical rules are respected: good preparation, no anonymity - participants introduce themselves, good moderation and consecutive translation from English into other Danube languages (Romanian, Bulgarian, Serbian, Ukrainian)

Contact person / contact address:

ILEU e.V., President Carmen Stadelhofer, Weinhof 9, 89073 Ulm/Germany; info@ileu.net, danect.eu

The screenshot shows the DANECT website interface. At the top is the DANECT logo and the text "Danube-Networkers invite: Come together for connecting cultures". Below this is a navigation menu with options like Home, About Us, Come together video collection, Competition, Discovery Tools, ViMA danube, Online Activities, Young and Old together, and Calendar. The main content area features a grid of "Come Together Sessions" with various images and dates, such as "Traces of Europe", "United in diversity", and "Invitation Come Together Online Solidarity Session".

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Project: Keeping the Peace of the Ethnic Groups of the Slivo Pole Municipality, Bulgaria

Implementation by the Union of Pensioners, Slivo Pole Municipality

Supported by the Slivo Pole Municipality

Objectives/focus of work

The target groups become aware of the ethnic intangible cultural heritage as part of the diversity of Europe's culture and acquire new knowledge on this topic.

Involvement of all ages through drama theatre, which contributes to the local ethnic and European future in peace and mutual respect.

Target group: ethnic groups Bulgarians, Turkish, Pomacs (Bulgarian Muslims), Roma, and Tatars; adult educators, all ages

Cooperation partners:

Club of Pensioners – Yudelnik; Club of Pensioners – Koshov; Club of Pensioners – Borisovo; University of Ruse, Bulgaria; University of Third Age of the University “Dunarea de Jos”, Romania

Important findings/results/experiences:

To continue to preserve the Peace of the ethnic groups of the Slivo Pole Municipality, Bulgaria, through intangible cultural heritage.

To develop scenarios and present drama theatre “The Night Before Wedding for Bulgarians and Turkish” with actors and audiences of all ages.

To continue the activities of the local ethnic groups of Bulgarians, Turkish, Pomacs, Roma, and Tatars, such as presenting their specific intangible cultural heritage.

To collaborate with the Romanian partner, the Third Age University in Romania, through social, cultural and education activities.



Contact person / contact address:

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Strengthening civil society in the Danube region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: Ukrainehilfe "Разом в Ульмі – Zusammen in Ulm"!

<https://ukrainehilfe-ileu.de/>

Implementation by ILEU e.V., Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen in der Erwachsenenbildung Ulm (Institute for virtual and face-to-face learning in the area of adult education Ulm)

Supported by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg, Baden-Württemberg Foundation, Ulm City, Heidehof-Foundation and other foundations and clubs

Focus of work: We provide humanitarian aid by methodically facilitating communication, encounters and integration. People, their needs, talents and abilities are at the center of our work. We want to help refugees to realise their potential and participate in our society.

Target group: Ukrainian refugees in the Ulm/Neu-Ulm area

Cooperation partners: Many civil society organisations in Ulm for example Roxy, Ulm Family Education Centre, Local Agenda Ulm 21, European Danube Academy and others

Important findings/results/experiences:

Our motto is "Together in Ulm". By combining digital technologies with analogue meetings, we have created an active digital community of refugees and locals and many demand-oriented activities in the areas of culture, education, politics, business and the environment. Large participation in major events as well as collaboration in many small analogue and online groups.

Thanks to good public relations work, Ukrainehilfe ILEU has a high level of visibility and an agile, well-functioning network - regionally, nationally and internationally (partner organisations, volunteers, aid workers). You can find out more about the various projects here:

- <http://ukrainehilfe-ileu.de/>
- <http://idsu-ulm.net/>
- <http://idu-55-plus-ulm.net/>

Contact person / contact address:

ILEU e.V., President Carmen Stadelhofer, Weinhof 9, 89073 Ulm/Germany; ukrainehilfe@ileu.net, ileu.net



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Project: Online Platform

ViMA danube – Virtual Meetings Activities

Vima-danube.eu

Implementation by ILEU e.V., Ulm - Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen in der Erwachsenenbildung Ulm (Institute for virtual and face-to-face learning in the area of adult education Ulm)

Supported by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg and Ulm City in the frame of the *Mission Smart City Project by Digitalen Agenda Ulm*

Objectives/focus of work

ViMA danube is an open and multifunctional online-platform, a digital meeting point for all citizens of the Danube countries and other European countries, access in 14 languages!

The aim of the platform is to give people in the Danube Region and beyond the opportunity to get in touch with similar interests people through the search and offer function or to work together by creating digital interest groups.

Cooperation partner

In strong cooperation with partners from the educational network "Danube-Networkers", the Association DANET and others. Many citizens of all ages in many Danube countries are involved. Strong cooperation with the project DANECT (danect.eu)

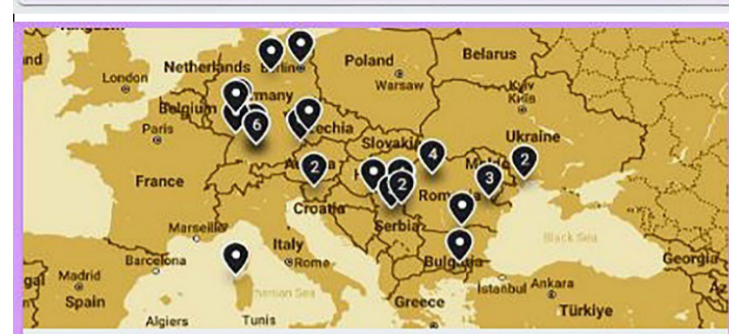
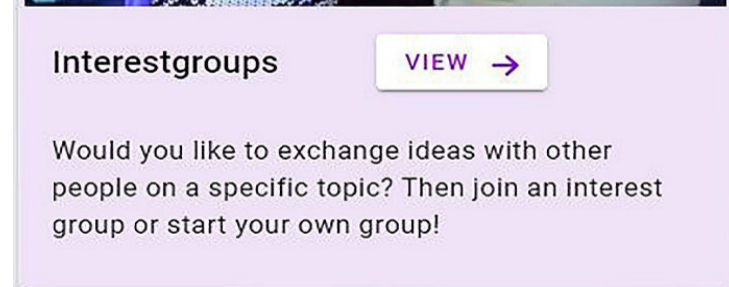
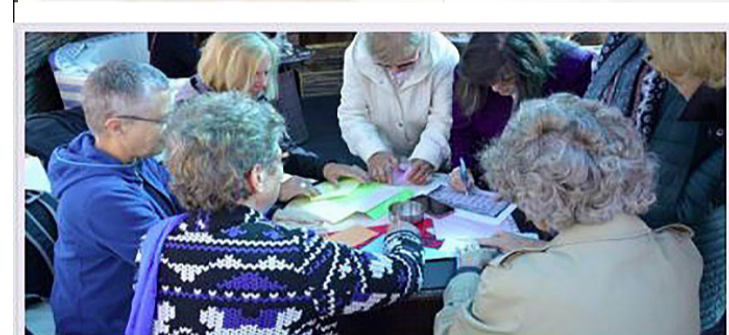
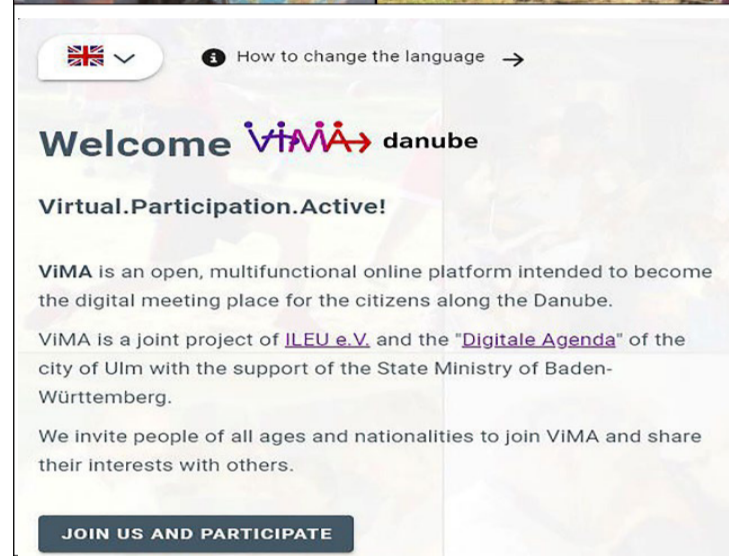
Important findings/results/experiences

ViMA danube supports the intergenerational dialogue of many people from different countries in different parts of Europe, especially the Danube countries. *ViMA volunteers* are testing & helping to develop and spread the idea of online participation, according to the needs of the users.

The website is available in 14 different languages: communication in their native language gives people of all ages, ethnicities and educational backgrounds the opportunity to share common interests, even if no common language is available. This opportunity to overcome language barriers and find easy ways to communicate with other Danubians/Europeans fosters civil society and helps to build bridges between Western and South-Eastern Europe. Results and content of other projects (e.g. DANECT) and workshops are shared and discussed in the interest groups on the ViMA website, which promotes cross-project exchange.

Contact person / contact address:

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ILEU e.V. - Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen in der Erwachsenenbildung Ulm (Institute for virtual and face-to-face learning in the area of adult education Ulm)

NGO, founded 2002, since 2013 coordination of the informal education network Danube-Networkers (founded 2008), and office of the NGO *Danube-Networkers for Europe* (DANET) e.V. founded 2014. Member of EUSDR Baden-Württemberg, Danube Civil Society Forum and others.

Objectives/focus of work

Our aim is to contribute to overcome the mental barriers between the Europeans, especially in the countries of the Danube Region, and to promote awareness of a peaceful united Europe.

Target group

People of all age groups and nationalities in the Danube countries and all other European countries.

Cooperation partner

Since 2008 cooperation with over 100 civil society associations from the fields of education, culture, social affairs and environment, universities and schools from all 10 Danube countries in joint activities, with some of them in long-term ongoing projects.

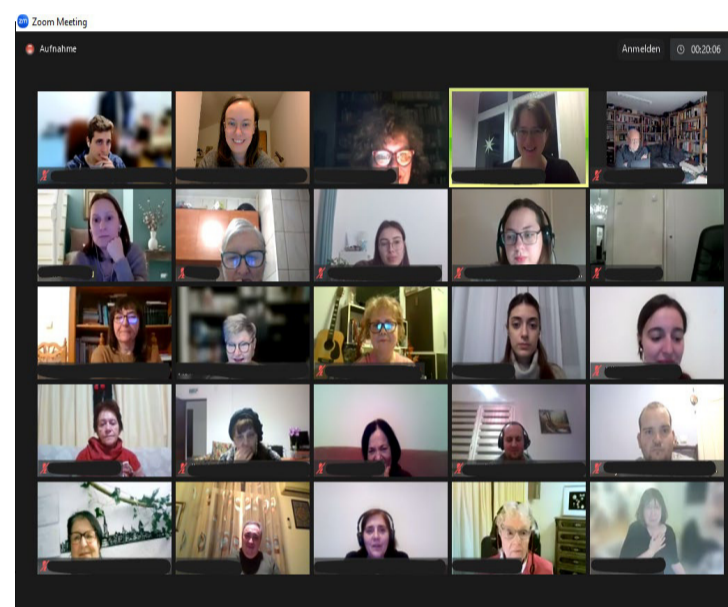
Important findings/results/experiences

The tasks and objectives of the association include the development and testing of innovative educational programs to foster lifelong learning for adults and intergenerational dialogue. Focus on cooperation by use of different digital tools, esp. interactive *Come Together sessions* by video-conferences (danect.eu) and the online platform *ViMA danube* (vima-danube.eu). Since March 2022 ILEU provides humanitarian help for Ukrainian refugees under the motto "*Zusammen in Ulm*" (Together in Ulm) to foster communication, encounters and integration by various pedagogical approaches (ukrainehilfe-ileu.de). We encourage transnational cooperation and civic engagement funded by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg, Baden-Württemberg-Stiftung, Stadt Ulm, Erasmus+ projects and others, supported by many volunteers.

Contact person / contact address:

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JLEU



Postersession

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Project: "With and for Roma in the Danube Region"

Implementation by: EHO, Novi Sad, Serbia

Supported by: Diakonie Württemberg

Financed by: Ministry of State of Baden-Württemberg

Objectives/focus of work

The project aims to share experience, knowledge and examples of good practice in working with the Roma community and other marginalized groups in the countries of the Danube Region, starting with a focus on Romania, Serbia and Slovakia. Further, a sustainable network will be established.

Cooperation partner

- Diakonia of the Evang. Church A.C. in Slovakia
- The Evangelic Academic of Transylvania, Romania

Important findings/results/experiences

- Local relevance: Consulting on a topic needs local ownership
- No magic solution: Each community needs its own adapted methods
- Networking: Intersectoral cooperation is essential
- Education: Individual educational programs are needed
- Dissemination: Sensibilization of public institutions and services who support marginalized groups needs to be stressed on all levels
- Prioritizing: Each community need to recognize high priority topics and local actors need to be empowered to tackle these issues.
- Dignity: The change of traditional perspectives need to come from within each community



Contact person / contact address

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Project: "Lighthouse of Freedom"

Implementation by two NGO's in Bosnia-Herzegovina:

- Faros in Sarajevo
- "Zemlja djece" (Childrens World) in Tuzla

Supported by:

Hoffnung für Osteuropa / Hope for Eastern Europe (Diakonie Württemberg), Ministry of State Baden-Württemberg (EUDSR), Pharos e.V. Stuttgart and USAID, the American Agency for International Development

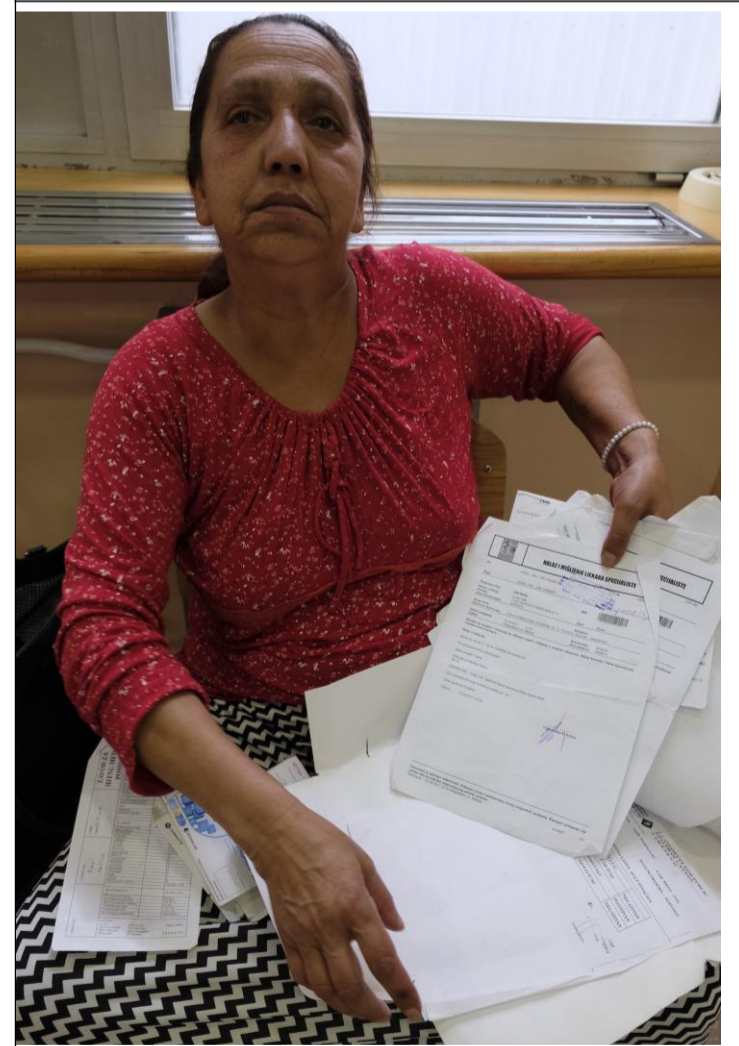


Objectives/focus of work

The preventive program "Lighthouse of Freedom" helps socially marginalized groups in Bosnia-Herzegovina to obtain legal status such as birth registration, identity documents and residence permits, to ensure that they do not become victims of human trafficking (human trafficking is defined as any act whereby a person forces another person to do something and benefits from it).

Important findings/results/experiences

Socially disadvantaged members of the Roma minority, who are legally invisible, without citizenship or residence permits, are supported through social work and the assumption of expenses. Faros also initiates the adaptation of laws to international human rights standards to ensure legal status for all people.



Contact person / contact address:

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Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: Roma women empowerment in the Danube Region

Implementation by

Social Association St. Andrew, a Bulgarian-German Non-Profit Organisation c/o: Stiftung Liebenau

Funding partner

Baden-Württemberg Stiftung et al.

Objectives/focus of work

Recognise education as a priority, participate in extracurricular educational activities, experience strength through community with other women, get to know other living environments and role models, volunteer for your own and the wider community, find out about other support options at the information center

Target group

47 girls/women and their families, four boys, network

Cooperation partner

Community Center Yavin-2004

Народно Читалище Явин-2004

(Narodno Tshitalishte Yavin-2004)

Important findings/results/experiences

Shared activities together with an attractive, positive group experience create a competing counterbalance to the uniqueness of the lifestyle, provide new starting points for changing actions and strategies in the immediate social environment, for example, attend school regularly instead of marrying early (improving the ability to act socially (ego stabilisation)). By creating altered experiences, an altered consciousness is generated, often leading to involvement in terms of changing living conditions at the level of the neighbourhood, community or society, for example organising a district festival or a round table on the subject of discrimination (changed awareness through changed experiences)



Contact Monika.Heitmann@Stiftung-Liebenau.de, Tel. +49 (0)7542 10-3333, Leitung Partnerschaftsprojekte mit lokalen Organisationen, Bulgarisch-Deutsches Sozialwerk St. Andreas e. V., Büro Deutschland c/o: Stiftung Liebenau, Siggenweilerstr. 11, 88074 Meckenbeuren, Deutschland

Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: „War Zone Initiative“

Implementation by

Soroptimist International Edinet Club Moldova inaugurated in June 2007

Supported by

Soroptimist International of Europe Disaster Recovery Fund and Project Matching of SI

Objectives/focus of work

Assistance to Ukrainian Refugees Centers and Private Sector (66679,23EU) in purchasing equipment, mattresses, computers, wood and coal for heating, clothes, shoes, medicine, food, hygienic goods, entertainment, etc.

Target group

Ukrainian refugees and vulnerable Moldovan Families

Cooperation partner

Local Authorities, NGOs

Important findings/results/experiences

We always experienced great emotions on the days we met the refugees. There were applauses, hugs, warm and nice atmosphere and tears, of course.

Nothing can be compared to the feeling of being able to help people in need.



Contact person / contact address

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Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: Danube Guides Action 2

Implementation by Danube Office Ulm/Neu-Ulm and Partners

Financially supported by Staatsministerium Baden Württemberg

Objectives/focus of work

"Danube Guides Action 2" is already the third project for the qualification and networking of Danube Guides in 8 countries along the Danube and its tributaries. It focuses on the expansion and consolidation of the transnational Danube Guides network. Danube Guides are special nature-culture guides for the Danube Region with the aim of communicating the valuable natural and cultural heritage of the Danube Region by providing suitable offers to different target groups (tourists, schoolchildren, local population, children, people with disabilities etc.). Thus, the projects contribute to awareness raising for environmental protection in the Danube Region.

Cooperation partner:



Important findings/results/experiences

Development in previous projects:

- The Danube Guides (DG) network exists more than 6 years
- More than 100 Guides have completed the trainings
- Guided tours are offered along the Danube, focusing on the Danube as natural and cultural heritage

In this project:

- Integration of ever more project partners (last countries: Moldova and Ukraine)
- Network consolidation plan and workshops to lead the network into a project-independent future
- Onboarding Training: online training of new Danube Guides
- Two transnational intensification courses for further professionalization and networking of already existing and new Danube Guides
- Webinars for further knowledge transfer organized by Project partners



Kick-Off Meeting with Projectpartners



Guiding on the river



Guiding Situation along the river

Contact person / contact address

Almut Sedlmeier/Elena Goertler-Reck, Donaubüro, Kronengasse 4/3, 89073 Ulm

Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024



Project: ENVIRO BRATISLAVA (July – December 2023)

Comenius University Bratislava, SLOVAKIA

University of the Third Age (UTA)

Supported by: Municipality of the Capital City of Slovakia in Bratislava

Objectives:

protection and relationship with the environment, using information through educational programs, using intergenerational learning and help of young generation

- sustainability and respect for the ecological approach in life
- explanations, experts' lectures and excursions to support ecological behaviour and the attitude towards our environment.

Target groups: older people from Bratislava and its surroundings, senior students from the UTA, young students from the faculties

Cooperation partner:

Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University Bratislava

Faculty of Management, Comenius University Bratislava

Important findings/results/experiences:

- development of opinions on environmental protection in the groups of seniors at the communities and older students at the university with the involvement of young generation
- involvement of seniors in ecological topics and personal contribution to the environment (separation of the waste, etc.)
- innovation of the programs of UTA, new topics, lectures
- support of intergenerational contacts within education
- development of digital skills of seniors supported by young students
- excursions, visit of Beekeeping Museum, Small Danube area, Danube and its ecosystem, Dam Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros, etc.



Contact person / contact address:

PhDr. Nadežda Hrapková, PhD., Project Manager

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Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: Erasmus+ mobility of the third age students of the Public Open University Zagreb

Implementation by

Public Open University Zagreb

Supported by

Erasmus+

Objectives/focus of work

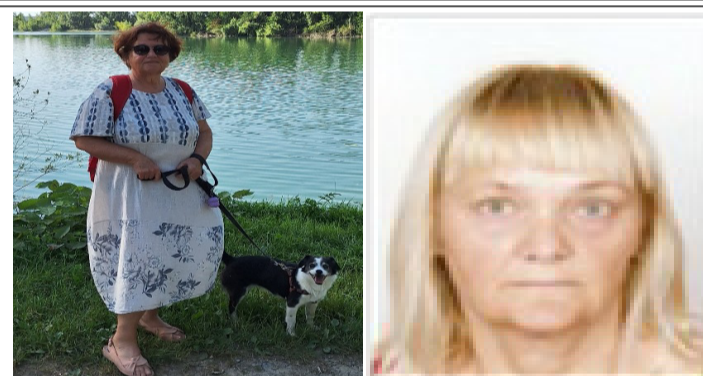
The impact of Erasmus+ mobility projects on third age students
Strengthening awareness of belonging to the European cultural circle

Cooperation partner

ZAWiW, Universität Ulm

Important findings/results/experiences

- increased self-empowerment and self-esteem
- improved foreign language competences
- increased intercultural awareness
- more active participation in society
- improved positive interactions with people from different backgrounds
- awareness of the European project and the values of the European Union
- increased motivation to participate in similar projects after the mobility period



Contact person / contact address:

Ana Majuric / ana.majuric@pou.hr

Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: SEE-U Senior Explorers of Urban Environment, Erasmus+

Implementation by

Slovenian Third Age University and SEE-U project partners

Objectives/focus of work

Not only do digital devices, applications and services keep us informed, they also enable us to participate in society. Many older people are at risk of digital/social exclusion. With SEE -U, we help narrowing the digital gap. We are developing learning environments that inspire and support older learners to master the Action Bound application by collaboratively creating digitally based walks for older people and indeed anybody.

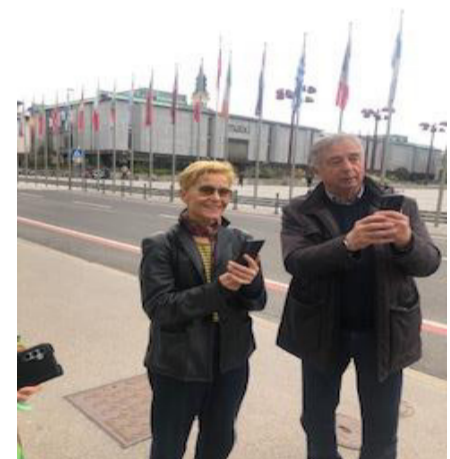
Target group

Older women and men in the post-professional phase who would like to develop and offer free interactive web-based walks together with and for older people.

Important findings/results/experiences

Having less possibilities to be involved in social giving and receiving processes, older people slowly become socially invisible.

Building digitally based neighborhood walks and learning programmes around the participating older people's meaningful places, revisiting their memories, getting to know their values and abilities makes older people not only learners and researchers but also achievers. Older people become seen, heard, listened to, recognized as well as ready to be digitally included.



Contact person / contact address:

Dr. Dušana Findeisen. www.utzo.si, Slovenian Third Age University, Poljanska c. 6, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: “Caring Communities”

Implementation by

Diakonie Baden and Partners

Supported by

Interreg

Objectives/focus of work:

To foster innovative transnational collaborations in homecare and community building.

Capacity building in three programs:

- System Innovation Lab tackles system challenges in respective Countries
- Accelerator program offers professional support to actors who already developed an innovative solution
- Transnational Innovation Program aims to build capacities for and to strengthen transnational collaboration structures in the field of homecare and community-based service

The project is scientifically supported and evaluated by the universities of Heidelberg/Germany, Zagreb and Sofia

Target group: Innovators from the field of (home-) and community building, but also all actors who can contribute to improving the lives of care-dependent persons, e.g., public organisations of all territorial levels, social services providers, informal caregivers, volunteer-

Cooperation partners:

18 partners from 9 Countries of the Danube Region

Important findings/results/experiences:

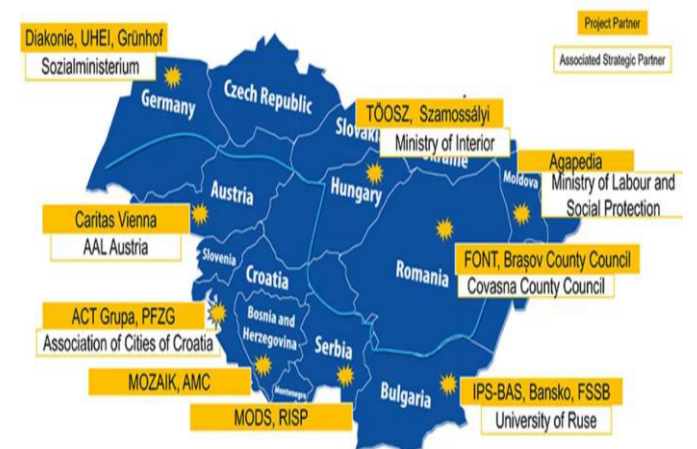
We all face similar challenges regarding home-care. Creating transnational collaborations can foster synergies and disseminate and scale innovative ideas to other countries.

Interreg
Danube Region



Co-funded by
the European Union

Caring Communities



Contact person / contact address:

KVonhoff@diakonie-baden.de more information about the project: interreg-danube.eu/projects/caring-communities

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: Municipal Funds for Local Initiatives Project

Implementation by AGORA Platform Association

Supported by America for Bulgaria Foundation

Objectives/focus of work

To activate community participation in Bulgaria through the establishment and functioning of municipal funds for local initiatives as sustainable local instruments for development.

Target group

Local community organizations; local communities; local authorities.

Cooperation partner

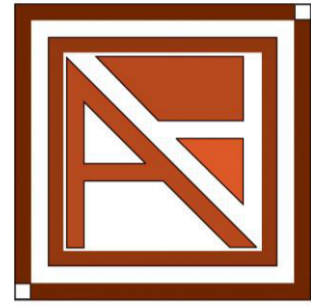
10 Bulgarian municipalities

Important findings/results/experiences

In the period March 2021 - October 2023, the following results were achieved:

- 10 sustainable municipal funds supporting local initiatives for local problems solving
- 101 local initiatives financed by the municipal funds and implemented by local organizations: NGOs, Chitalishtes, cultural organizations, informal citizens groups
- 881 volunteers attracted that worked out 8,373 hours of voluntary work for the local initiatives implementation
- Local problems solved with the participation of the community.

platform



AGORA



Contact person / contact address

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Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube Region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project

"Albert Einstein: Die Reise eines Genies und das Geheimnis seines gestohlenen Gehirns" / "Albert Einstein: The journey of a genius and the secret of his stolen brain"

Implementation by

Guțu Daniela
Petcu Ecaterina
Verdeș Marcus
Pascaru Mădălina

Supported by

Don@u-Online-Projects 2024: "Schöne neue Welt" Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Baden-Württemberg / "Brave New World" Baden-Württemberg State Agency for Civic Education

Objectives

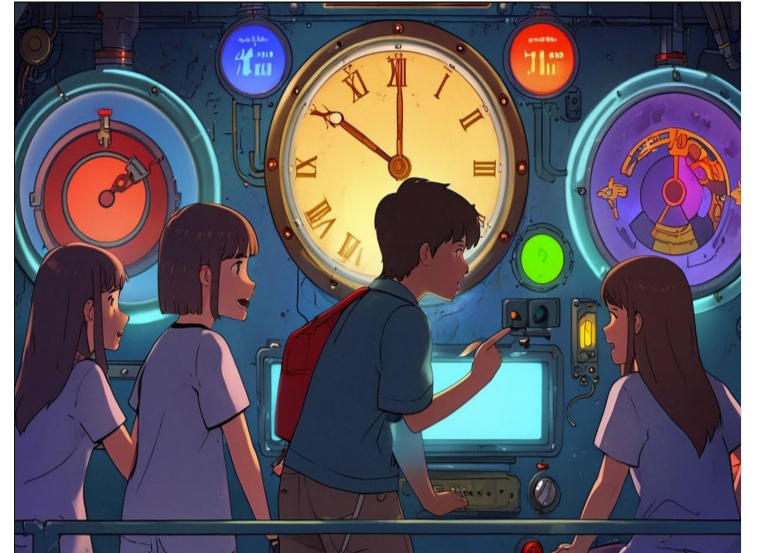
1. Studying Einstein's life and achievements
2. Identifying Einstein's major scientific contributions
3. Assessing Einstein's cultural impact and related ethical issues
4. Promoting understanding of science and critical thinking in the context of brain theft
5. Organizing debates or conferences on ethics and brain theft in science

Cooperation partner

I.P.L.T. "Mihail Kogălniceanu", Chișinău, Republik Moldau

Important findings/results/experiences

1. Comprehensive study of Einstein's life and achievements
2. Analysis of Einstein's major scientific contributions
3. Cultural impact of Einstein and ethical dilemmas
4. Promotion of education and critical thinking
5. Debate and awareness
6. International collaborations and exchanges



Contact person / contact address

mamusinika@mail.ru, danielagutu67@gmail.com

Strengthening civil society in the Danube region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

International competition "Traces of Europe in my town" in the frame of the project ViMA danube, May 2024

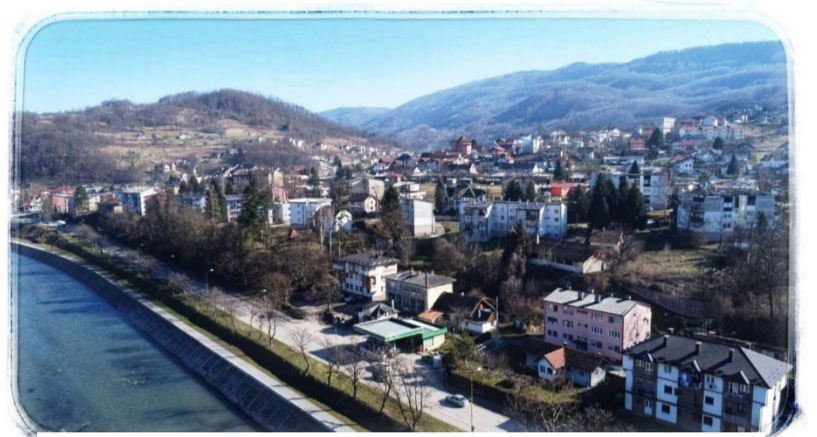
Participation was possible with pictures, texts or a video. Here are some impression of the photo submissions; all photos and the interesting text and video submissions can be found on our project website (see below).



Maika Dils, Cluj-Napoca, Romania / Germany



Julia Gora, Cherson / Odesa, Ukraine



Senada Dzankic, Zavidovici, Bosnia and Herzegovina



Angela Schumacher, Berlin, Germany



Diana Georgieva, Ruse, Bulgaria

L'Europe, c'est nous

Explorer la diversité culturelle de l'Europe, c'est le but de notre discours



Gerhard Heilmann, Rüsselsheim, Germany



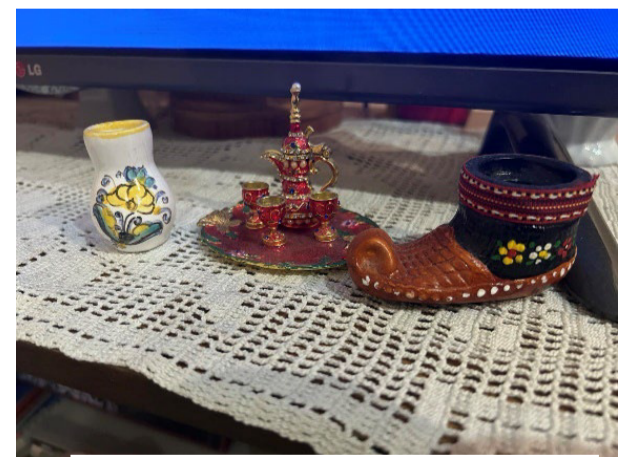
Katarina Dostalova, Bratislava, Slovakia



Dana Constantinescu, Craiova, Romania



Nataliia Smyrnova, Ulm, Ukraine / Germany



Vojislav Milunov, Vrsac, Serbia

All winners of the picture, video and text entries and their explanation text can be found on danect.eu:



Have a look at all other entries of the competition:

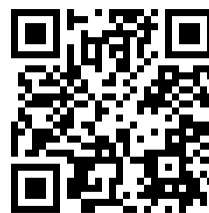


Ukrainehilfe ILEU e.V.

“Разом в Ульмі – Zusammen in Ulm”



<https://ukrainehilfe-ileu.de/>



Postersession

Strengthening civil society in the Danube region for a joint Europe

As part of the 13th International Danube Festival Ulm/Neu-Ulm 2024

Project: Online Platform

ViMA danube – Virtual Meetings Activities

Vima-danube.eu

Implementation by ILEU e.V., Ulm - Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen in der Erwachsenenbildung Ulm (Institute for virtual and face-to-face learning in the area of adult education Ulm)

Supported by the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg and Ulm City in the frame of the *Mission Smart City Project by Digitalen Agenda Ulm*

Objectives/focus of work

ViMA danube is an open and multifunctional online-platform, a digital meeting point for all citizens of the Danube countries and other European countries, access in 14 languages!

The aim of the platform is to give people in the Danube Region and beyond the opportunity to get in touch with similar interests people through the search and offer function or to work together by creating digital interest groups.

Cooperation partner

In strong cooperation with partners from the educational network "Danube-Networkers", the Association DANET and others. Many citizens of all ages in many Danube countries are involved. Strong cooperation with the project DANECT (danect.eu)

Important findings/results/experiences

ViMA danube supports the intergenerational dialogue of many people from different countries in different parts of Europe, especially the Danube countries. *ViMA volunteers* are testing & helping to develop and spread the idea of online participation, according to the needs of the users.

The website is available in 14 different languages: communication in their native language gives people of all ages, ethnicities and educational backgrounds the opportunity to share common interests, even if no common language is available. This opportunity to overcome language barriers and find easy ways to communicate with other Danubians/Europeans fosters civil society and helps to build bridges between Western and South-Eastern Europe. Results and content of other projects (e.g. DANECT) and workshops are shared and discussed in the interest groups on the ViMA website, which promotes cross-project exchange.

Contact person / contact address:

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info@ileu.net, ileu.net, Instagram: Vima_Danube, Facebook: Vima Danube

