

**The project « Audaces fortuna adiuvat » 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 1000 citizens, notably 800 participants from the host town of Veľké Úľany (**Slovakia**), 50 participants from the city of Mikulov (**Czech Republic**), 50 participants from the town of Vápenná (**Czech Republic**), 50 participants from the city of Jánossomorja (**Hungary**) and 50 participants from the town of Csabrendek (**Hungary**).

**Location/ Dates:** The event took place in Veľké Úľany (**Slovakia**), from 08/09/2016 to 10/09/2016

**Short description:**

The day of 08/09/2016 was dedicated to creating a new connection between the partners. Partners from Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary met in Veľké Úľany to involve citizens more in the partnership and to happenings in Europe. The joint meeting began in the afternoon with the opening ceremony. This was followed by creating the partner letters. Representative for each municipality received a letter, on which citizens wrote messages during the event (for the EU, for new friends, about impressions of the event). In this way, municipal representatives had the opportunity to find out how it really is concerning the connection between the partnerships and between citizens. This was followed by a lecture on the issue of the EU and migration of nations that addressed a current issue. Within the lecture photos from asylum camps were resented and problems connected with migration were discussed. Citizens expressed their views on the subject. The social evening brought the possibility of bringing together people from three countries.

The day of 09/09/2016 was dedicated to creating a relaxed atmosphere and starting up new relationships between the citizens of the partner municipalities. This was helped by sport, culture and fun activities. The morning program began with the activity World of the children. It was fun sports games and activities for children and their parents. Children experienced during the morning a lot of fun. The project did not forget the oldest citizens. As part of the Club for the elderly seniors commemorated times past and discussed experiences with solidarity towards them provided by the young generation. For the youth a debate on volunteering was prepared. Young participants were discovering the topic of volunteering and helping others without compensation with the help of lecturers. They found that volunteering is not just about financial aid, but using their own hands or mind, for a good cause in favour of an individual or community. The project paid attention to the adult generation, too. It was devoted to the topic of growing scepticism towards the EU. This hot topic, especially after the Brexit, was discussed from the perspective of ordinary citizens. In the afternoon, the program continued with the seniors' football tournament and workshops. Within the workshops the young and old could try out various forms of folk creativity and also taste traditional dishes of our grandmothers. This activity brought together all participants, regardless of age, social status, gender or nationality. The early evening discussion "Quo vadis, partnership" brought new light into the partnership. Municipal representatives and active citizens created a new concept of partnership based on the municipalities and their citizens. The evening program helped join the participants at the sound of non-traditional musical instruments.

The day of 10/09/2016 was dedicated to culture. In the morning teams of the partners cooked en gross in kettles and showed their skills in preparing meals outdoors. The quiz "Do you know the EU?" engaged younger generations in getting to know the EU and in presenting their knowledge about the EU. This was another method how the EU got closer to people – to young people who are the future of Europe. The cultural performances created a friendly atmosphere. They presented the multiculturalism of Europe and the skills of its citizens - from young to old. Thanks to this barriers between peoples were torn down. Before the end of the meeting the partner letters were published. In their concluding speeches, the mayors highlighted the benefits of the event and expressed hope for further joint meeting in 2017.