

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).*

PROJECT	
Participant:	[5] - [The Good Lobby] ([TGL])
PIC number:	898946434
Project name and acronym:	Born in EU - Born in EU

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	D19.1		
Event name:	Workshop in Italy / Born in EU: i giovani e la politica Roma		
Type:	workshop		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Italy, Rome		
Date(s):	15/01/2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.thegoodlobby.it/eventi/born-in-eu-i-giovani-e-la-politica-roma/		
Participants			
Female:	16		
Male:	9		
Non-binary:			
From country 1 [Italy]:	25		
From country 2 [name]:			
From country 3 [name]:			
...			
Total number of participants:	25	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
The workshop started with a brief presentation of The Good Lobby, the project Born in EU and the participants. A quick quiz-based icebreaker set the scene for the day, with some questions of general european union			

knowledge. Following the presentation of the research on electoral participation conducted by TGL, the participants were prompted to discuss and answer various questions around the issue of participation. The emotional, political and structural dimensions were discussed (with particular attention to the European dimension), together with common profiles of people who do not vote. From the participants' discussions, some specific insights emerged:

- The European electoral law in Italy allows for preferential voting. National parties misuse this democratic feature by deciding to candidate well-known people with no interest in being elected as MEPs just to show how popular they are. This is then used against the opposition as a political "weapon". People who are aware of this mechanism may decide not to vote because they do not want to take part or support this exploitative show.
- People usually compare the EP with national parliaments, and they may think that the EP has less impact than its national counterparts. This may be true, though arguable, but it may lead to think that voting at the European elections is not that necessary
- Inefficiencies and poor accountability creates mistrust and apathy towards the political works. This is true both in the European and national contexts.
- Common feelings accompanying the decision not to vote are:
 - Disconnection and apathy
 - Anger, feeling of being deceived, annoyance
 - disinterest / unwillingness to get informed

After lunch, the participants had the chance to further discuss electoral participation by elaborating their own proposal and solutions in groups, after a theoretical take on the issue by TGL. Proposals and solutions were presented to the whole group at the end of the workshop.

- One proposal focused on a campaign to show how impactful the European parliament is. One possibility would be to highlight what the main institutions do. This would show that the main EU institutions are steered by national governments, and the EP is the opportunity to have a say at the EU level also for people who have an adverse government in place.
- Another proposal focused on an advocacy campaign whose common thread are the themes that youth values the most. This includes: environment, betterment of society, civil and political rights, education and work policies. The campaign could include online and offline components, and could focus on past achievements of the EU in these areas.
- One group elaborated the idea of having bottom up campaigns to push parties to:
 - not candidate people not actually interested in being elected as MEPs
 - promote less known candidates locally
 - candidate the best of their leadership for the EP, enhancing the role that the P plays in policymaking.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).