

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 ITALIA (TGL)
PIC number:	898946434
Project name and acronym:	Born in EU - Born in EU

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	D4.1		
Event name:	Opening Event/Workshop in Italy		
Type:	workshop		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Italy, Turin		
Date(s):	29/09/2023		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.thegoodlobby.it/eventi/born-in-eu-i-giovani-e-la-politica/		
Participants			
Female:	15		
Male:	13		
Non-binary:			
From country 1 [Italy]:	28		
From country 2 [name]:			
From country 3 [name]:			
...			
Total number of participants:	28	From total number of countries:	0
Description			
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.			
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, together with common profiles of people who do not vote. From the participants' discussions, some specific insights emerged:

- The structural reasons that lead young people to abstain from voting seem to be lack of interest in politics and political processes. Lack of interest may derive from lack of information: government and mass media are indicated as responsible to fill the information gap.
- Another significant structural reason is the general feeling that voting does not matter and does not lead to change. This is accompanied by a mistrust in politicians and politics.
- Key emotions accompanying the decision not to vote can be grouped into 3 main groups: Indifference, Mistrust and Confusion. Participants were able to identify more precise shades of emotions such as: apathy, forlorn, disillusion and uncertainty.
- In some specific environments, it is easier to establish a debate around politics. People belonging to these bubbles seem more prone to vote.

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 group discussed the importance of voting as a civic duty. Government-led campaigns on the importance of voting highlighting the role and the responsibilities of citizens towards the State is indicated as a possible solution to the lack of interest (and information) problem.
- Another group discussed how if people are able to build "critical mass" around a certain issue, it is possible to change the status quo. This would not necessarily lead to better politics/politicians, but it would eradicate the idea that "voting does not matter". The group explained how this has happened in Italy to a certain extent, the proof is the rise of populist parties. If it happened once, it can happen again.
- Strong value-oriented parties tend to attract more. Politicians who do not take clear stances on issues and do not communicate in terms of value and identity are not appealing. The creation of new parties (or informal citizens groups nevertheless) rooted in ideals and values (e.g civil / human rights were chosen as relevant topics for the younger generation) may improve participation.

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