

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:	D20.1
Event name:	Workshop in Italy / Born in EU: i giovani e la politica Napoli
Type:	workshop
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Italy, Naples
Date(s):	10/02/2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.thegoodlobby.it/eventi/born-in-eu-i-giovani-e-la-politica-napoli/
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:	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:

- People sometimes do not experience or know the impact that European politics and policy has in their everyday lives. The feeling is that what happens at the EU level is “from another world”, or very distant at best.
- A common problem that emerged is the popularity of candidates at EU elections. Usually, less-known candidates are chosen for EP elections (as the well-known ones usually run for national elections) and this makes it hard for people to feel a connection with them. Moreover, parties do not do a great job at promoting their own EP candidates.
- People (youth especially) do not feel represented by current parties. This because of:
 - the high number of issues and multidimensionality of today's world makes it hard to find a perfect match
 - priorities of politicians are highly misaligned with youth priorities
- Distance and apathy are the most common feelings that people may feel when deciding not to vote, combined with confusion.

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 the educational aspect and the idea that public education must proactively teach what the European framework is about and how to be active citizenship. This would reduce the perceived distance between EU institution and youth, and can be the opportunity to let people know what the impact of EU policies are.
- One idea focused on the media environment around EP elections. Since candidates at EP elections may be less known, coalitions of media (press, podcasts, social media accounts) could put them in the spotlight uncovering their ideas and perspectives
- Two groups focused on the information aspect:
 - being informed on who the candidates are and what they believe in is fundamental in order to vote for the ones that are more aligned with youth's priorities (if you are relatively young).
 - Being aware on the electoral law is equally important to make sure that the vote is informed. People may face different incentives depending on the law regulating their own EP elections.

Information on both respects must be provided by parties themselves, media and institutional communications.

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