

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:	1 - Asociatia Polylogos (Polylogos)
PIC number:	895397980
Project name and acronym:	Actions Supporting the Participation of Youth through Relevant Education in Europe — ASPYRE Europe

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	1		
Event name:	Grand Opening ASPYRE EUROPE		
Type:	Meeting, launching event		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Romania, Cluj-Napoca		
Date(s):	9-12 September 2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://polylogos.eu/event/launching-new-project-aspire-europe/		
Participants			
Female:	35		
Male:	19		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Romania]:	47		
From country 2 [Italy]:	4		
From country 3 [Bosnia and Herzegovina]:	3		
...			
Total number of participants:	54	From total number of countries:	3
Description			
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.			
Summary of the event			
The opening event of ASPYRE EUROPE was organised with the purpose of Fostering collaboration among consortium partners and formulating a detailed project plan that builds on each partners' unique strengths, experiences and expertise			

- Mobilising the direct target groups, who will disseminate news about the project in their communities and contexts, and thereby foster engagement and anticipation for upcoming project activities and events;
- Obtaining valuable insights from the target groups for how to enhance the success and impact of the project (in particular, understanding experiences from previous participants of similar projects and activities, as well as hopes and expectations for a new group of participants in ASPYRE EUROPE).

The **Kick-Off consortium meeting** was organised from **10th to 11th of September**, giving the partners the chance to meet in person, share knowledge and experiences, and collaboratively construct a working strategy.

The **Opening event** took place on the **11th of September**. It provided an opportunity for a wider audience, in particular the direct target groups, to learn about the project for the first time, thereby strengthening their anticipation for upcoming activities and events. The consortium partners got the chance to meet the direct target groups of previous similar activities, to learn about their experiences and expectations, and to better be able to visualise the implementation in their own countries.

Participants per target group

- Youth (16-24): 34
- Teachers, educators and youth workers: 8
- Decision-makers: 1
- Others / the general public: 11

Overview of activities

DAY 1: 9 September - Arrivals

- Consortium partners from Italy and BiH arrive in Cluj-Napoca

DAY 2: 10 September - Consortium meeting

- Sharing experiences and expectations relevant to the project
- Clarifying the vision of the project
- Discussion and brainstorming about Toolkit on democracy and youth civic participation (D3.1), and related events
- Project management plan and requirements

DAY 3: 11 September - Consortium meeting and launching event

Consortium meeting:

- Monitoring and Evaluation plan
- Communication and Dissemination
- EU Survey on Justice, Rights and Values

Launching event ASPYRE EUROPE:

- Opening and introduction of project team
- Presentation of the project
- The project partners share about the current situation regarding youth civic participation in their countries, and the needs addressed by the project
- Interactive exchange and dialogue with participants
 - Former participants share their experiences and anticipation for the project
 - New participants share hopes, ideas and expectations for ASPYRE EUROPE
- EU Survey on Justice, Rights and Values
- Informal networking and socialising among participants

DAY 4: 12 September - Departures

- Debrief: Sharing impressions and learnings from launching event
- Clarifying next steps
- Departures

Communication and Dissemination

Online communication

10 September 2024 - Social media:

- Instagram: [Link](#)
 - Views (*the number of times post was played or displayed*): 739
 - Likes: 25
- Facebook: [Link](#)
 - Reach (*the number of people who saw the content at least once*): 340
 - Impressions (*the number of times the content was viewed on a screen*): 369
 - Reactions, comments and shares: 31
 - Total clicks: 37

13 September 2024 - Social media

- Instagram: [Link](#)
 - Views: 1813
 - Likes: 80
- Facebook: [Link](#)
 - Reach: 172
 - Impressions: 200
 - Reactions, comments and shares: 23
 - Total clicks: 67

Media coverage:

Two press releases were sent to local media stations: EBS Radio and TVR Cluj, resulting in the following media coverage:

- EBS Radio, 11 September 2024:
 - <https://ebsradio.ro/stirile-ebs/tinerii-incurajati-sa-se-implice-in-viata-cetatii/>
- TVR Cluj, 12 September 2024:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/tvrcluj/videos/o-nou%C4%83-genera%C8%9Bie-de-cet%C4%83%C8%9Bie-activi/1501338307410398/>

Gender sensitivity and non-discrimination

The event demonstrated a strong commitment to gender sensitivity and inclusivity, with 65% of participants identifying as female. Although no participants identified as non-binary in the registration forms, all communication leading up to the event employed gender-sensitive language, intentionally avoiding biases and stereotypes. This ensured that the language used was inclusive, respectful, and mindful of diverse gender identities.

Special attention was given to fostering the meaningful participation of youth with hearing impairments. Targeted invitations were extended to the High School for Youth with Hearing Impairments (*Liceul Tehnologic Special Pentru Deficienti de Auzi*), ensuring their inclusion in the event through close collaboration with their teachers. The venue was arranged to accommodate interpreters, ensuring they had the necessary space and time to facilitate the discussions, thereby guaranteeing equal access and participation for everyone, regardless of disability.

Throughout the event, concerted efforts were made to ensure that all participants, regardless of gender, ability, or background, were given equal opportunities to contribute to and engage in the discussions. This approach reinforced the project's commitment to fostering an inclusive environment where diversity is valued and everyone can participate meaningfully.

Outcomes and Impact

The opening event of the ASPYRE EUROPE project already contributed to the achievement of the project's key objectives, laying the foundation for long-term impact. The event generated the following key outcomes:

1. **Engagement of teachers, youth workers and educators**
The project successfully brought together 8 teachers, educators, and youth workers from different schools, contexts and backgrounds, introducing them to the project and inviting them to participate in upcoming events, such as the co-creation workshop with teachers and educators in Romania (WP3). This early engagement provides a strong foundation for the

educators to become active advocates of youth civic participation, empowering them to mentor young people throughout the project's duration.

2. Youth engagement and mobilisation

A total of 34 young participants from three different High Schools in Cluj and surrounding villages took part in the event, actively engaging in discussions about their roles in the project. Through interactive dialogue and exchange, these youth shared personal experiences and aspirations, offering valuable insights that will help shape the project. For example, several participants reflected on how their involvement in the previous round of ASPYRE (2022-2023) in Romania empowered them to raise their voices on important issues, collaborate effectively with others, and build networks with "allies" to help advance their ideas. It was mentioned that their experience of participating in meaningful dialogue with decision-makers has given them courage and confidence to be more actively involved in society, and highlighted practical examples of community changes which came about through their participation in ASPYRE, such as improved heating in schools, access to free public transportation for students, and more. Additionally, first-time voters involved in the SPGs project (2023-2024) emphasised the importance of understanding civic rights and responsibilities, which extend well beyond just voting.

The youth expressed their hopes for ASPYRE EUROPE, particularly their enthusiasm for meeting peers from across Romania and partner countries, Italy and Bosnia and Herzegovina, with whom they hope to share ideas and work together to improve their communities. The engagement of both new and returning participants signals early success in building a cohort of young people motivated to participate in the project, and learn how to engage meaningfully in democratic decision-making processes. These participants are committed to promoting the project within their schools and communities, enhancing its reach among the target audience. The multiplier effect generated by these motivated youth will be instrumental in mobilising participants for the upcoming Active Youth Forum (WP6) in Romania, establishing a strong foundation for further engagement.

3. Knowledge sharing and exchange among consortium partners

The meeting of consortium partners from different countries laid the foundation for continued fruitful collaboration over the next two years of project implementation. Taking time to share important contextual information about the different areas in which the project will be implemented, as well as exchanging best practices and strategies, allowed the consortium to co-create a sound and robust project plan. Importantly, the consortium spent time brainstorming ideas and developing an action plan for the toolkit (D3.1). Additionally, NIT presented the project's Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy, and provided helpful guidelines for the partners to systematically track progress and evaluate results. The partners now have a clearer vision of their collective goals and a shared understanding of how to implement the project in their respective contexts.

4. Dialogue with decision-makers

Although only one decision-maker was present at the event, their participation set a precedent for ongoing engagement with relevant authorities. This connection is critical for ensuring that youth voices are heard in decision-making processes at multiple levels.

5. Widespread communication and dissemination

The project's online communication strategy has already reached a broad audience, with posts on Instagram and Facebook garnering over 2,000 views and numerous interactions from followers. Moreover, media coverage through EBS Radio and TVR Cluj has significantly boosted the project's visibility, helping to engage the public and raise awareness about the importance of youth civic participation, and opportunities for involvement in upcoming ASPYRE EUROPE events. This early momentum in communication and dissemination efforts bodes well for sustaining public interest and engagement throughout the project's lifecycle.

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