

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	
Project name and acronym:	ZA4NED - Generation Z & Alpha in the Driver's Seat for Youth Participation and European Democracy
Participant:	OKK Junior, Serbia
PIC number:	906918670

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP2
Event name:	Beyond Voting – New Forms of Civic Engagement
Type:	meeting and workshop
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Nis, Serbia
Date(s):	15/06/2026 - 18/06/2026
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.facebook.com/100069411630752/posts/1346010057722703/?rdid=gtqJaR841oZ0mmm# https://www.facebook.com/EducPro.eu/posts/pfbid02o888Ypc_e4fcntrPLzMLDi3G6T4DBYVZGG95ZcCqHPkps8SJ3qQaaAjzB7HPXugi8l https://educpro.eu/11_news_event2_za4ned/ https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1448148640677077&id=100064458653062&mibextid=wwXlfr&rdid=y9Zg9I3cN670718s# https://www.instagram.com/p/DaAUlh7CPwQ/?igsh=MTVieTd_oMGgzdDJiZQ%3D%3D https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYhVMxInLQc https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DxR4tepfc/ https://www.instagram.com/p/DZ66olfgoCJ/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== https://mmh.hr/vijesti/u-nisu-odrzan-drugi-sastanak-i-dogadaj-u-sklopu-za4ned-projekta

	https://facebook.com/drpdnminternational/posts/1040026462004374 https://www.nevladnik.info/si/novice/?id=19328 https://www.instagram.com/p/DZ7PO-ZDkHe/ https://www.linkedin.com/posts/drpdnm-international-086b321bb_z4ned-civicengagement-youthempowerment-ugcPost-7475138825778884608-ZJpV/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAADM_NOYBetL5JS0eGQ6tMdNfNv4B7hPYAN4 https://www.radiosienatv.it/colle-di-val-delsa-guarda-al-leuropa-a-nis-il-confronto-con-gli-studenti-serbi-sulla-partecipazione-democratica/ Video Facebook		
Participants			
Female:	15		
Male:	19		
Non-binary:	/		
From country 1 [Spain]:	3 (1 female 2 male)		
From country 2 [Italy]:	2 (1 female 1 male)		
From country 3 [Estonia]:	2 (2 female)		
From country 4 [Hungary]:	2 (2 male)		
From country 5 [Portugal]:	2 (1 female and 1 male)		
From country 6 [Slovenia]:	2 (2 female)		
From country 7 [Croatia]:	2 (1 female 1 male)		
From country 8 [Serbia]	19 (7 female 12 male)		
Total number of participants:	34	From total number of countries:	8
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
Within the framework of the CERV Network of Towns project ZA4NED – Generation Z & Alpha in the Driver's Seat for Youth Participation and European Democracy, Work Package 2 entitled "Beyond Voting – New Forms of Civic Engagement" was successfully implemented in Niš, Serbia, from 15 to 18 June 2026. The event gathered participants from eight European countries: Spain, Italy, Portugal, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, Estonia and Serbia. The meeting brought together representatives of municipalities, NGOs, youth organizations, educators, researchers and young people with the common objective of exploring innovative approaches to civic participation beyond traditional democratic processes. Throughout the four-day programme, participants exchanged good practices, strengthened international cooperation, developed practical digital advocacy skills and discussed how new technologies and online platforms can increase youth engagement in democratic life. The programme combined expert-led sessions, practical workshops,			

meetings with local authorities, cultural activities and networking opportunities, fostering intercultural dialogue and the creation of future collaborative initiatives.

The first day was dedicated to the arrival of international delegations in Niš. Participants were welcomed by the hosting organization and accommodated before gathering for an informal welcome dinner in the evening. The dinner provided the first opportunity for participants from the eight partner countries to meet each other, establish personal contacts, exchange expectations about the upcoming activities and strengthen the friendly atmosphere that characterized the entire event.

The working programme officially started at the Centre for Professional Development (Centar za stručno usavršavanje), where participants were welcomed by the project coordinators and experts from the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Media and Communication. The morning sessions focused on understanding how social media and digital communication have transformed democratic participation among young people. During the **"Influencer Democracy Challenge – From Theory to Practice"**, participants explored how influencers, content creators and online communities shape public opinion, raise awareness and motivate civic action. Through practical examples and group discussions, they analysed both the opportunities and the challenges of digital influence in democratic societies. The following session, **"Virtual Advocacy Bootcamp"**, equipped participants with practical knowledge about digital advocacy tools such as online petitions, digital forums and crowdsourced activism platforms. Participants learned how online campaigns can effectively engage citizens, influence public policies and encourage constructive dialogue between communities and decision-makers. Following lunch, participants took part in the **"Hashtag to Action Workshop"**, where they worked in international teams to transform online awareness campaigns into real community actions. The workshop encouraged creative thinking, teamwork and practical planning of youth-led civic initiatives. The programme concluded with a guided cultural tour **"Niš Through History"**, allowing participants to discover the rich historical heritage of one of Europe's oldest cities while continuing informal networking and intercultural exchange.

The third day was held at the **Municipality of Medijana**, where participants were officially welcomed by the President of the Municipality and representatives of the local Youth Office. During the introductory presentations, participants learned about local governance structures, youth policies and initiatives implemented to encourage active citizenship among young people. The central activity of the day was the **"Hack the System Roundtable"**, an interactive dialogue between participants and municipal representatives. Together they explored how local governments can better integrate digital activism into formal democratic processes and how municipalities can respond to the rapidly changing ways in which young people engage in civic life. This was followed by a **Digital Campaign Simulation**, during which participants worked in multinational teams to design mock digital campaigns addressing current social and civic challenges. Using social media strategies, visual communication and video storytelling, each team developed and presented a complete campaign, demonstrating how digital tools can mobilize communities and promote social change. In the afternoon, participants joined the **"Memes for Change Competition"**, where they creatively used humour and visual communication to raise awareness about important social and political issues affecting their communities. This activity demonstrated that accessible, engaging and relatable digital content can be an effective instrument for civic education and participation, particularly among younger generations. The official programme concluded with a Final Dinner and Certificate Ceremony, celebrating the successful completion of the training activities, recognising participants' contributions and reinforcing the partnerships established during the event.

Following breakfast, participants departed from Niš and returned to their respective countries. The event concluded with strengthened international partnerships, new knowledge on innovative forms of civic engagement and concrete ideas for future cooperation within the ZA4NED project and other European initiatives.

The Work Package 2 meeting successfully achieved its objectives by:

- bringing together participants from eight European countries to exchange experiences and good practices on youth participation and democracy;
- improving participants' understanding of digital advocacy, online activism and innovative civic engagement methods;
- strengthening cooperation between municipalities, civil society organisations, universities and youth organisations;
- promoting intercultural dialogue and European values through collaborative learning and networking;
- encouraging participants to develop creative approaches for increasing youth involvement in democratic processes;
- generating new ideas and recommendations for integrating digital participation into local governance and public decision-making;

- reinforcing the long-term sustainability of the ZA4NED partnership through stronger international cooperation and future joint initiatives.

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