

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	101143824 – VILNIUS UNIVERSITY (VU)
PIC number:	999893170
Project name and acronym:	CAMINO

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP6 – Europe celebration event in Lithuania
Event name:	EUROPE DAY in Vilnius University - Europe celebration event in Lithuania
Type:	Flash mob and street theatre performance, exhibition opening; theatre performance
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Lithuania, Vilnius
Date(s):	9 May 2024
Website(s) (if any):	www.kultura.vu.lt ; www.vu.lt https://universities4culture.eu/en/projects/documents/eds/
Participants	
Female:	167
Male:	89
Non-binary:	-
From country 1 Lithuania:	215
From country 2 Belarus:	5
From country 3 Ukraine:	2
From country 4 Germany:	1
From country 5 Spain:	8
From country 6 Estonia:	8
From country 7 Slovakia:	1
From country 8 Hungary:	1
From country 9 Italy:	1

From country 10 Georgia:	1		
From country 11 Greece:	1		
From country 12 USA:	9		
From country 13 Sweden:	1		
From country 14 France:	2		
Total number of participants:	256: 239 from EU countries; 17 from non-EU countries	From total number of countries:	14: 10 – EU countries 4- non-EU countries

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The objective of W6 was to organize a public event in Lithuania, commemorating the 20th anniversary of EU enlargement in 2004. The public event took place in Vilnius, at Vilnius University (VU) Old Campus, indoors and outdoors, on the 9th of May 2024. A whole day event was centred on 3 main activities - (1) a Tele bridge, digitally connecting all the partner universities in a joint flash mob “Ode to Joy”, (2) opening of the International Student Photo Competition Exhibition and (3) a solemn moment marking the accession of Lithuania to the EU. All events were organized by VU Culture Centre.

A Europe Day’s program can be found here under “Publicity” -

<https://universities4culture.eu/projects/documents/deliverables/wp6-europe-celebration-event-in-lithuania/>

First activity – 9 May at 13:30-13:50 (EET time) - a Tele bridge, digitally connecting all the partner universities in a joint flash mob “Ode to Joy” was organized outdoors of VU, on Pilies Str. (main Vilnius old town street), at the entrance to Vilnius university merchandise shop “VU atributika”. The time for streaming a flash mob video (2:16 min) in all partner countries was the same, and in addition to that VU Improvisation Studio (leader Vytautas Kontrimas) prepared a street action – a theatrical improvisation involving passers-by. Theatre actors gathered on Pilies Street and invited the VU community, local and random passers-by, Vilnius city residents, and guests to celebrate Europe Day and watch various interpretations of the European anthem "Ode to Joy". A LED TV screen and audio equipment were placed for joint, simultaneous streaming to the public of the created video. Video consisted of the introduction and welcoming speech by B. Koller (UPS) (with Lithuanian subtitles) and a joint flash mob “Ode to Joy”, a compilation of 7 individually created flash mobs from LV, PL, LT, SK, HU, CZ, EE, which were created by various student ensembles and youth organizations, to the music of L. van Beethoven "Ode to Joy" (“Anthem of Europe”). Vilnius University was represented by the VU Song and Dance Ensemble, the musicians of the wind orchestra “Oktava”, the video was directed by Indrė Alaburdienė, the head of the ensemble's dance group, and filmed and edited by video artist Jokūbas Savodnikas.

More about this event can be learned under WP13 EDS & deliverables.

Second activity at 16:30- 17:00 (EET time) - an opening event of The International Student Photo Exhibition “Inspired by Europe” was organized in the hall gallery of the VU Rectorate, VU Old Campus, Universiteto St. 3, Vilnius. The exhibition reveals unique insights into the identity, lifestyle, values, hopes, and dreams of modern Europe from the student's perspective. Among the photographs - the picture "Nymph of the Folklore Mountain" by Gabija Matkutė, a student of the Faculty of Communication at VU, who participated at the opening and gave a speech to the public and told a unique story of how and where she was making the picture and how later, after 2 years, she found the person from the picture, in order to get her permission to send the picture for this competition. Prof. Rimvydas Petrauskas, the rector of VU, congratulated G. Matkutė, and made an inspiring speech from a historical perspective about Lithuania’s accession into the EU and its way during these 20 years. Between the gathered important guests: Vilmantė Pakalniškienė, vice-rector for Organizational

Development and Community Affairs, Eglė Lastauskienė, President of the VU Senate, Arminas Varanauskas, a journalist, researcher, director of the Knowledge Economy Forum, member of the European Network of Experts in Student-Centered Learning, who deeply expressed the fascination of the Europe Day events.

The exhibition opening moments can be found here under “Photos” -

<https://universities4culture.eu/projects/documents/deliverables/wp6-europe-celebration-event-in-lithuania/>

Third activity - the program of the day was closed at 18:00-19:00 (EET time) by the VU Kinetic Theatre dance performance “Hommo in Maxima” (director Andrius Pulkauninkas) at VU Theatre hall, Universiteto Str. 3, Vilnius. The performance, intended to mark Lithuania's 20-year membership in the EU in a theatrical form and to review the development of Lithuanian society during these two decades, became the focus of Europe Day. According to A. Pulkauninkas, this dance performance is an experiment that tries to review the development of four values after Lithuania joined the EU and to understand the perception of the world by young people who grew up and matured in Europe.

Creative team of the performance: A. Pulkauninkas (director), G. Laurinavičiūtė (choreographer), E. Jovaišaitė (scenographer), K. Jančauskaitė (music composer), Š. Kuckailis (animation, video projections).

Moments from the performance can be found here under “Photos” -

<https://universities4culture.eu/projects/documents/deliverables/wp6-europe-celebration-event-in-lithuania/>

After the exhibition opening and theatre performance, all participants were invited to stay for informal communication, feedback, sharing the experiences, networking, and socializing and enjoying a buffet.

On Europe Day, more than 255 people visited the events of the VU Culture Centre, and not only representatives from Lithuania, but also from abroad: Italy, Ukraine, France, Germany, Greece, Sweden, Georgia, Belarus, Slovakia, Hungary, Estonia, Spain, and the USA. Among high-level guests - representatives from Bratislava Comenius University, Association of Hungarian Amateur Theaters and Actors, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, Vilnius Municipality, the State Study Fund, Lithuanian National Culture Centre, Vilnius TECH, Kaunas University of Technology, Klaipėda University, Vytautas the Great University, Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius University Student’s Representation, European Humanitarian University, etc.

The EU20 Celebration event “Europe Day in Vilnius university”, organized for the first time in VU in such broad cultural scale and variety, brought together people from different backgrounds – partner country representatives, local communities, foreign and Lithuanian university students and staff, high level officials – in an inclusive and engaging manner to celebrate our country's EU membership.

Altogether 256 participants from 10 EU and 4 non-EU countries participated in the celebration, thus the two core criteria for this WP – the number of countries and the number of participants - were fully met.

Publicity materials, media reviews can be found here -

<https://universities4culture.eu/projects/documents/deliverables/wp6-europe-celebration-event-in-lithuania/>

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	25.06.2024	Initial version (new MFF).