

The project «Free your mind: Youth Activism in Southern Europe in Times of Dictatorship» was funded with the support of the European Union under the programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"

Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"

6 events have been carried out within this project:

Preparatory Activity

Participation: 10 participants from the partner institutions (Portugal: 4; Greece: Greece 5; Spain: 1)

Location/date: Online (Zoom), hosted by Iscte-IUL (Lisbon, Portugal) in February 22nd 2021,

Short description: The kick-off meeting was an opportunity to discuss and agree on the general guidelines for project management and methodological approach, set up the work plan, and the project communication and dissemination strategies.

Event 1 - Interdisciplinary Conference Youth Resisting Dictatorship in Greece (1967-74) and beyond: Social Sciences and Humanities Perspectives

Participation: 49 speakers + 142 audience members (Greece: 167; Portugal: 8; Canada: 1; Germany: 2; Mexico: 1; Spain: 4; Sweden: 2; UK: 2; DE: 1; IT: 1; 2 participants did not disclose nationality)

Location / Dates: Online (Zoom + YouTube), hosted by UCrete (Crete, Greece) in 19th-20th November 2021

Short description: The conference featured 9 panels, a keynote and a round table. The dialogue between scholars of different scientific fields provided valuable insights and a comprehensive overview on various perspectives on issues such as youth culture, resistance to authoritarian regimes and youth mobilisation towards (re)claiming democracy and the transformation of society. Overall, the conference strengthened remembrance through critical reflections on the social achievements of the past, thus deepening knowledge of the sociohistorical context, and advancing the understanding of the conditions which inspire young generations to mobilise towards a more democratic, just and peaceful society.

Event 2 - Public exhibition on youth activism against dictatorship in PT

Participation: Open to the general public (minimum number of direct participants: PT: 142; GR:1; SP: 1; IT:1 – this is the number of participants that signed the participant's.).

Location / Dates: Iscte-IUL (Lisbon, Portugal), 10th December 2021 to 20th January 2022

Short description: The activity's focus was divulging the resistance materials produced by Portuguese students during dictatorship and received extensive attention from the academic community at Iscte and the general public, as well as from actors in formal politics. The exhibition was inaugurated on the 10th December, and the participants of the event 3, participated in the inaugural session of the exhibition. The exhibition hall was open during one month and a half, with free entry for all students and general public, thus we expect that the number of participants was significantly higher, but they were not registered.

Event 3 - Academic conference Student Resistance to Dictatorship

Participation: 15 speakers + 130 attendees (PT: 142; GR:1; SP: 1; IT: 1)

Location / Dates: Iscte-IUL (Lisbon, Portugal), December, 10th 2021

Short description: The conference took place on the opening day of the exhibition, and provided the appropriate academic and societal context and debate about the materials displayed. It was an encounter of researchers and Human Rights practitioners focused on the student movement against the Portuguese Dictatorship, but also drew bridges between resistance movements in Southern Europe.

Event 4 - Youth Activism against Dictatorships hybrid public event

Participation: 45 attendees (Greece: 44; not disclosed: 1)

Location / Dates: SCHS (Crete, Greece), May 16th 2022.

Short description: The event featured participatory and interactive educational activities, based on the lived experiences of the participants (secondary school pupils and teachers, university students and faculty, general public). The younger members of the audience learned from the experience of the older ones and the latter recalled events that marked earlier times. The similarities in experiences under the dictatorships of the European South reflected in common memories, anxieties and concerns that emerged and were commented by participants and members of the audience. These contribute to meeting the objectives of the FYM project by both teams in Greece.

Event 5 - Final round table Free Your Mind

Participation: 5 speakers and 49 attendees (Portugal: 44; Spain: 2; Ukraine: 1; Brazil: 2; Austria: 1; UK: 1; Liberia 1; GR: 2)

Location / Dates: Iscte-IUL (Lisbon, Portugal), October, 24th 2022.

Short Description: The round table feature participants from PT, SP and GR, who presented their research on youth activism against dictatorship in the 3 countries, and accounted for the legacies of those movements in today's participatory democratic practices.