

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APS ASSOUTENTI (AU), Italy 2. SDRUZHENIE BULGARSKA NATSIONALNA ASOTSIATSIYA AKTIVNI POTREBITELI (BNAAP), Bulgaria 3. CENTRUL PENTRU PROMOVAREA INVATARII PERMANENTE TIMISOARA ASOCIATIA (CPIP), Romania 4. CROMO KOZHASZNU ALAPITVANY (CROMO), Hungary 5. DIMIOURGIKI SKEPSI ANAPTYXIS (CRE.THI.DEV), Greece 6. ISTITUTO EUROPEO PER LO SVILUPPO SOCIO ECONOMICO ASSOCIAZIONE (ISES), Italy
PIC number:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PIC 898166651 2. PIC 938217757 3. PIC 950602620 4. PIC 949523883 5. PIC 942801977 6. PIC 948848666
Project name and acronym:	[WE-DEMOCRACY – No one left behind – Empowering citizens to participate in democratic processes]

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	[1]
Event name:	[Circular Economy as a tool to engage citizens in the democratic debate - Meeting to present WE-DEMOCRACY online survey results]
Type:	[International meeting]
In situ/online:	[Online]
Location:	[Online]
Date(s):	[22/05/2023 and 27/09/2023]
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.wedemocracy-project.eu
Participants	
Female:	380
Male:	215
Non-binary:	4
From country 1 [Bulgaria]:	113
From country 2 [Greece]:	126
From country 3 [Hungary]:	131

From country 4 [Italy]:	108		
From country 5 [Romania]:	121		
...			
Total number of participants:	599	From total number of countries:	5
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>Such event was organised in two different moments. On May 22, 2023 partners invited citizens in the event to present the online survey developed within the project in order to invite them to participate and complete it. The meeting so served to just launch the online survey in all its sections and the platform hosting it.</p> <p>On September 27, 2023 the event was organised to debate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens' knowledge on the environment in general and in particular on reuse and recycling. • Citizens' purchase intentions and environmental concerns regarding food and electronic products. • Citizens' actual behaviour regarding food waste and electrical and electronic products (green behaviour and confidence in green products). • Citizens' attitudes towards regarding the collection and disposal of bio-waste. <p>However, the major scope of the event was to present the project's online survey (WP1 – PROBLEM MAPPING) carried out in Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Italy and Romania. We gathered online participants in the survey which was aimed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to uncover ways to engage citizens in the Circular Economy by assessing their current knowledge and behaviours with regards to the Circular Economy, the factors that could increase their engagement in the Circular Economy (incentives, drivers, etc) and the barriers preventing this engagement. • to provide policy-relevant insights in the transition from a linear economy to a circular economy in the European Union. <p>The conception of such event, but of the entire project, was to increase civic engagement on a specific topic: Circular Economy. We have chosen this specific topic because we acknowledge the importance and the urgent need for a more Circular Economy in Europe. After the COVID19 pandemic, online democratic participation has seen even an unprecedented level of engagement. However, awareness of such participatory democracy instruments needs to be greatly increased, and stakeholders must work together to do so. There are many examples of democratic innovation, which rely predominantly on online collaboration. The Internet has opened up new opportunities for political engagement. But to what extent does the potential of e-participation contribute to creating a European public community and improving the quality of democratic decision-making at the EU level? To answer this question, WE-democracy project aims to foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level by gradually transforming the relationship between EU citizens and EU decision-makers into more of a partnership, thus contributing to the creation of an engaged citizenship. However, due to a lack of education and transparency it is difficult for European citizens and consumers to grasp what Circular Economy really entails which makes it harder for citizens to advocate for a change of the existing linear model.</p> <p>The aim of the online survey was to make a first step to understand what EU citizens know and think about Circular Economy and how they behave towards it. The event to discuss the very impressive results of the online survey served as basis to prepare the next project steps which are going to develop innovative democratic approaches and tools to help citizens make their voices heard and publicly exchange views on all areas of EU action, notably e-democracy, and to engage them in discussions and action related to our climate and environment.</p> <p>Event audience: project partners, EU citizens aged 18+ (without any discrimination of gender, race, nationality...), representatives from organisations specialising in studying e-democracy and circular economy; civil society organisations working in areas of e-democracy and circular economy.</p> <p>The event agenda was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short instruction about We-Democracy 			

- Presentation of the national results of the survey
- Presentation of the comparative analysis
- Debate/Discussion on the results