

*Appendix D*



**Administration Report of Malta UNESCO Youth Association**

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*Bonello*

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## Introduction

Another active year for MUYA has led to another AGM, and this year has seen ample activities for committee & active members, both in the aspects of participation in international projects and local collaborations.

Throughout the years 2019/2020 MUYA focused more on instilling closer bonds with other active bodies through the organization of various meetings, and as a result, through the submission of various projects.

On the international level, MUYA has again flourished throughout this year. In the term 2019/2020 MUYA partnered in five more Erasmus+ projects compared to previous year and in total sent of 69 of its members abroad – i.e. a 45% increase in participation when compared to the last term. These participants were sent to 17 different mobilities including youth exchanges, training courses and advanced planning visits amongst 12 different countries. When analysing the statistics, there was only one participant that attended four different projects, however the most common trend for participants is they attend only one project in one AGM term.

MUYA's most significant projects for this year were two projects – (i) "LEAD: Leadership, Education and Development" - supported by the international funding opportunity Erasmus+ which saw the involvement of 30 young people hosted in Dingli Youth Activity Centre for 9 days and (ii) "SINFONIJA – Uniting Cultures through the Power of Music" – a community music project, funded by Malta Arts Council through the Creative Communities Fund spanning between the period May to November 2019 with the participation of 49 musician and singers and a total of 168 attendees during the final SINFONIJA concert.

## 1. National projects and local activities

### 1.1 – Annual General Meeting & 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday Drinks

14<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Malta UNESCO Youth Association annual AGM in 2019 was held at Kunsill Nazzjonali taż-Żgħazagh premises in Floriana with the appointed Chairperson Ms Anson Aquilina. During the AGM the Secretary General Thelma Bonello gave an overview of the activities and projects which Malta UNESCO Youth Association participated throughout the year 2018 to the date of the AGM: National projects, International projects local and overseas and future projects. Following this, Reece Delia presented the financial report on behalf of the Treasurer Bernard Bonello. During this AGM, Ms Thelma Bonello, was reconfirmed in her current role of Secretary General, while Mr Reece Delia was appointed as the new Treasurer and Mr Bernard Bonello was appointed as a Committee Member for the upcoming two years. Since members were either reconfirmed or changed in role positions, and no contestants submitted their nomination, no voting procedures as per Statute were necessary. No changes to the statute were made for the year 2019 and thus, the previous Statute was reconfirmed. At the end of the AGM, Mr Anson Aquilina and Ms Christianne Caruana were confirmed on the Board of Vigilance for the coming year. The event was followed by a social event to celebrate MU YA's 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday, marking exactly 12 years from MU YA's establishment on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2007.

### 1.2 – SINFONIJA – Cultural Integration and Inclusion through the Power of Music

May – November 2019

SINFONIJA – Uniting Cultures through the Power of Music – was a community music project, administered and implemented by the Malta UNESCO Youth Association and funded by Malta Arts Council through the Creative Communities Fund spanning between the period May to November 2019. The primary objective of the project was to bring together people, residing in Malta, of all ages, genders, religions, nationalities and walks of life and propose to them a musical journey. The idea was simple – bring together people of different cultures and allow them to share their ideas, and work to develop a concert that would showcase the beauty of different excerpts of world music to the public at large. SINFONIJA involved a total of 12 workshops in which a total of 49 musicians & singers, coming from seven different countries, all residing in Malta, with an age range of almost seventy 70 years, met monthly at the Community Theatre in Attard under the conduct of Mrs. Conrad Briffa & MU YA helpers. The scope for participants joining, was not only get to know more about each other's cultures and backgrounds but to also select a musical repertoire that would incorporate their personal experiences and perceptions of world music and ultimately rehearse and work together to play and present the musical repertoire to an audience in a final concert. The project culminated on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019 whereby a concert was held at the St. Aloysius College Theatre whereby musicians & choir performed a medley of known songs that travel across the globe to 168 attendees. The event also included collaborations with a number of expat communities in particular, the Chinese Cultural Institute and the Malta Malayalee Association both performing traditional dances representing their communities, the Gozo Community Choir, performing a Swedish ABBA number; and also the Future Voices Studio singing group that performed 2 Maltese songs with the SINFONIJA Choir and Orchestra. The event was featured on Maltarti in the following [video](#).

### 1.3 – Erasmus+ EUPA Grant Award Ceremony

1<sup>st</sup> August 2019

The European Union Programmes Agency (EUPA) organized an event to distribute its grants for the second deadline of “KA1 – Learning Mobility of Individuals” of 2019. MU YA was granted the funds for Erasmus+ Training Course “LEAD : Leadership, Exploration and Development” The event was organized in Fortress Builders in Valletta where awardees were invited for a small reception in the same venue to also commemorate the 32 years of the Erasmus+ funding programmes. The Treasurer Mr. Delia and two Committee Members Mr. Bonello (project organizer) and Mr. Briffa attended this event on behalf of the rest of the committee.



## 2. International projects Implemented by MUYA

### 2.1 – E+ Training Course: LEAD: Leadership, Exploration and Development

25th August – 2nd September 2019

"LEAD: Leadership Exploration and Development" training course was organised by the Malta UNESCO Youth Association at the Dingli Youth Activity Centre, Malta from the 25th of August to the 2nd of September 2019 (7 working days 26/08 to 01/09 and 2 travel days) following the guidelines for 2019 of Key Action 1 - Learning Mobility of Individuals, Erasmus+ programme of the European Commission. Supported by trainers and support staff from Malta, Czech Republic and Estonia, this project included 30 youth workers and youth leaders from countries including Malta, Estonia, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Kosovo, Latvia, Germany, Ukraine and Lithuania. The training course targeted full members of the partner organization, specifically certified youth worker / passionate youth leaders who work on a frequent basis with young people interested in becoming a better group leader or a future group leader. The profile of the participants grouped young people that work with minors and at-risk youth (young people from low-income families/ dysfunctional families, young migrants/ minority representatives/ refugees, school drop-outs). The participants were all interested in raising their level of competences as a leader, facilitator and ultimately group leader at youth exchanges. During the training course, all participants shared their own experiences and were motivated to experiment and contribute to the physical outcomes and transfer gained knowledge. Sessions during the training course included: Body language and performance in front of groups, Conflict resolution, Move and groove, Stereotypes, Paradoxes, We don't like you & we are watching you.

### 3. Participation in international projects abroad

#### 3.1 – E+ Training Course: Update to Transnational

*Organised by Somos la Otra*

*El Padul, Granada, Spain, 21st February – 28th February 2019*

*Maltese participants: Mark Gilson, David Micallef*

The first project for the term 2019 / 2020 was held in Spain, a few days after the AGM of 2019. Two participants were sent to represent MUYA amongst 9 different participating countries: Spain, Germany, Macedonia, Austria, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Greece, Italy and Latvia. This training course was aimed at empowering young people to explore possibilities of setting up an international partnership and prepare a concept of transnational youth initiative. The priority of this course was to promote the development of European projects and stimulate the participation and involvement in the society of young people through transnational youth initiatives in collaboration with partners or groups from other countries. This was carried out through theoretical units with practical learning, exchange of experiences and personal reflection, interactive sessions, workshops, simulations, case studies, teamwork tasks and debates.

#### 3.2 – E+ Training Course: Humanities Hand

*Organised by Love Life Generation*

*London, United Kingdom, 8th April – 14th April 2019*

*Maltese participants: John Paul Formosa, Frank Muscat, Alexander Hili*

Malta UNESCO Youth Association was one of the participating organisations in the Erasmus+ Training Course called "Humanities Hand" which took place in Debden House, London, UK from the 8th to the 14th of April 2019. Trainers and Youth Workers from 8 countries (Greece, Hungary, Croatia, Latvia, Romania, Malta, United Kingdom and Italy) came together to partake in training aimed at creating an inspirational learning space.

The project aimed at supporting youth workers in finding tools, improving skills and gaining more insight into supporting refugees and migrants. In the words of participant John Paul Formosa, the training included powerful activities, tools and techniques that were aimed at cause for reflection for the participants with topics covering privilege, social structures, borders, hate speech and international documents amongst others. The point of these activities was to provide a unique opportunity for the participants to gain insight on the daily struggles of immigrants and youths including how to provide assistance in such situations. Each country was also given the chance to share local realities and struggles relating to immigration. This alone resulted in deep discussions regarding immigration and about how countries and people are approaching the situation differently based on cultural traditions and social norms.

In addition, the project was an opportunity for the Maltese participants to expand their knowledge on how to address the local day to day struggles that immigrants encounter and how to mitigate such situations. Coming from a variety of different backgrounds, Participants were gathering in the evening to discuss various initiatives and possible solutions regarding immigration. One such activity was the 'Fish Bowl' activity, where participants had the opportunity to discuss controversial topics in an educated environment while understanding other people's perspectives.

All in all the project proved a great experience for the Maltese team with opportunity to expand their own skills whilst sharing their own knowledge with different countries. The training course was a powerful experience for the Maltese Team and provided adequate training, knowledge and presentations about different cultural perspectives, an intercultural market and many more effective tools regarding immigration and refugees.

#### 3.3 – World Heritage Youth Symposium

*Organised by Hellenic Cultural and Educational Club for UNESCO*

*Ancient Olympia, Athens, Greece, 10th April – 14th April 2019*

*Maltese participants: Rodianne Cassar & Reece Delia*

This term saw also the participation of two MUYA Committee Members (President, Ms. Rodianne Cassar together with Treasurer, Mr. Reece Delia) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Heritage Symposium organised by the Hellenic Cultural and Educational Club for UNESCO. The opportunity to participate in this event came through an invitation by the Maltese National Commission of UNESCO. During the Symposium which started in Athens on the 10th April 2019 with the Opening Ceremony and ended on the 14th April in Ancient Olympia, the President (Ms Cassar) and Treasurer (Mr Delia) of MUYA in conjunction with all the remaining participants from circa fifteen countries, co-signed the Ancient Olympia Youth Declaration condemning assaults and crimes committed against World Heritage sites and cultural diversity. The declaration was eventually sent to UNESCO, on the 21st May, date of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. Such opportunities to



participate in UNESCO activities are very welcomed by Malta UNESCO Youth Association and such partnerships need to be strengthened in order to increase participation in such forums.

### **3.4 – E+ Training Course: Visual Dreamers**

*Organised by Shokkin Group*

*Scanzano Jonico, Italy, 13th April – 20th April 2019*

*Maltese participants: Mariano Galea, Karl Magro Gazzano, Vickie Scerri*

In April 2019, 3 Maltese participants participated in another Erasmus+ project that took place in Italy. The main aim of the project was to improve youth workers'/youth leaders' ability to elicit and support social innovation ideas together with young people by applying visual thinking and visual facilitation techniques, which result in more engaging and attractive project concepts. In the words of participant Mariano Galea, during Visual Dreamers participants were set out to learn more about graphic facilitation through the topic of Social Innovation. The group was encouraged to come up with their own ideas in relation to this topic, and then presented these ideas to the rest of the group by using fast drawing techniques which were also learnt during the project itself. The participants were also taken to visit Matera and to taste the traditional Italian pizza - which is of course a must do when in Italy!

### **3.5 – E+ Youth Exchange: Make it Rural**

*Organised by Active Youth*

*Kaunas, Lithuania, 23rd April – 1st May 2019*

*Maltese participants: Reece Delia, Christian Briffa, Andrea Pavia, Andre Attard, Alexander Deeley, Matthew Causon*

This youth exchange, held in the very picturesque Lithuania city of Kaunas towards the end of April 2020, had the primary aim of providing participants with the necessary tools to develop their rural entrepreneurship ideas into concrete projects. Adopting a very hands-on approach, with a good balance of practical team exercises as well as information sessions, the group of thirty-six (36) participants also got the chance to visit a local rural market with a number of rural start-ups as well as a nearby rural village to understand how rural entrepreneurship was also a common venture along the decades. Each country also had to present their culture and inform the rest of the group on successful rural businesses in their respective home countries. New friends, new insights and new memories to last a lifetime – participants extended their thank yous to MU YA for this amazing opportunity!

### **3.6 – E+ Training Course: Createamity**

*Organised by Shokkin Group*

*Vihikula, Estonia, 15th May – 23rd May 2019*

*Maltese participants: Frank Muscat, Darine Aboulez, Mariano Galea*

When looking at employability skills desired in the current job market, the importance of effective communication, teamwork, creative thinking and problem-solving is very important. However, this set of skills is hardly trained in the traditional school scene. Soft skills require a challenging environment that gives an opportunity to assess oneself and own behaviour and they are developed through real life work and often through gaming techniques and methods. Quest games were one of these methods explored in the Training Course Createamity since they involve a team of people working together to fulfil challenging mental, logical, at times physical tasks together under a specific time limit. Indeed, in the words of one of the Maltese participants "Createamity" was a training course combining the fun of escape rooms with education. By the end of the course participants described having learnt, built and tested education escape rooms...while also enjoying the infinite benefits of Estonian Sauna!

### **3.7 – E+ Training Course: Wings of youth work**

*Organised by Mladinski center Trbovlje*

*Trbovlje, Slovenia, 19th May – 24th May 2019*

*Maltese participants: Luigi Sammut, Jamie Thomason*

The third and last activity of this Training course Wings of youth work was held in May 2019. This final project in the series of three projects was meant for youth workers and/or youth leaders and volunteers who are in daily contact with youth, with the aim to develop their knowledge, experience and competences. Through this project a booklet was created with the intent that youth organizations start to develop their own training system to pass on the knowledge of the organization to new volunteers, mentors, youth leaders and youth workers. The participating countries were Italy, Portugal, Croatia, Malta, Greece, Denmark, Norway and two Maltese participants participated on behalf of MU YA.

The logo for Borello, featuring the name in a stylized, handwritten blue font.



### **3.8 – E+ Youth Exchange: Humanity on the Road**

*Organised by Stowarzyszenie Europe4Youth*

*Krakow, Poland, 24th May – 31st May 2019*

*Maltese participants: Cindy Vargas, Ryan Delia, Jacob Cachia, Jodie Bonnici, Sanad Amish, Becky Saliba*

The next project was a YE held at the end of May, and the second of series of three mobilities envisaged in this Humanity on the Road project. According to Maltese participants Ryan Delia the program was very fruitful and versatile comprising of activities where the participants could laugh, while there were other times where they could reflect and learn through their own experiences. He continued to describe the LARP (live action role play) method employed as being “quite a challenge where you needed to get into a role which is quite different from who you are but it felt like you could be anyone you wanted to be in those few hours you forget all the troubles and pressure life brings and be someone else.” Participants added that they were content with both Maltese group and rest of the participants – indeed they bonded very quickly. An experience they will never forget!

### **3.9 – E+ Youth Exchange: Creativity - Migration and Solidarity**

*Organised by Madiba SCS*

*Claviere, Italy, 21st June – 30th June 2019*

*Maltese participants: Johnpaul Formosa, Christian Briffa, Aaron David Goodwin, Marie Therese Pavia, Aidan Gauci, Andrea Pavia, Catherine Mangion*

Creativity was the last mobility of the long-term project, YELS – Youth Exchange Leadership Skills. This ‘Creativity’ project was the first to take place in Italy and it was aimed at the younger spectrum of teens aged 16 to 18. These projects are a welcomed opportunity for these teens since usually Erasmus+ projects are 18+. In particular, this Youth Exchange explored the topics of migration and solidarity through creative workshops and non-formal education activities. The workshops included music, drama, breakdance, video and photography. Participants describe Creativity projects as miniatures of a world we all want to live in. Indeed, Creativity projects have been taking place since several times since 2004. More than 1000 young people have participated coming from more than 25 different countries and multiple cultural backgrounds. “Creativity” is a platform for young people to express themselves using artistic means in a variety of topics of primary interest to them. It is a gathering of bodies, minds and souls and not an accumulation of numbers.

### **3.10 – E+ Training Course: Leadership through Humanitarian Values**

*Organised by Hungarian Red Cross and Red Cross Youth*

*Balatonszárszó, Hungary, 26th July – 4th August 2019*

*Maltese participants: Simon Grech, Frank Muscat, Maria Cauchi, Anthony Attard*

The aim of this project held between July and August was for youth workers to broaden their non-formal methods with psychological perspectives and share their best practices to reach a common goal: creating a more inclusive society. The topics tackled during the project included: humanitarian values, improving communication, understanding crisis, intercultural cooperation, sharing European values and deepening self-awareness. Participating countries were Hungary, Poland, Italy, Latvia, Spain and Malta.

### **3.11 – E+ Youth Exchange: Creativity UK 5 - Democracy Through Creativity**

*Organised by Love Life Generation*

*Essex, United Kingdom, 11th August – 21st August 2019*

*Maltese participants: Christian Briffa, Andrea Pavia, Gerard Zammit Young, David Cachia, Raisa Zammit, Shaian Debono, Mariah Vella*

This youth exchange, held in Essex towards the end of August 2019, had the primary aim of providing participants with the necessary tools to develop their creative skills and actively engage them during the entire duration of the project. A total of 9 countries came together and participants took part in non-formal activities and workshop which were taking place in preparation of a final showcase, based on the topic of ‘Democracy’, towards the end of the exchange as part of the results and dissemination methods for which the local community is also invited. The group included both adults and minors, with the age of participation being that between 16 and 19, which was the second opportunity provided by MUYA this year for these age groups. Workshops ranged from dance to theatre, fashion and other creative forms of creative/artistic representations. Through these methods participants developed their competences, with particular attentiveness on active citizenship, which was key to the implementation of this youth exchange. Christian Briffa, the leader of this group, extended his thank you to MUYA and Love Life Generation for giving these youth another memorable experience.

### **3.12 – E+ Youth Exchange: Let's Grow**

*Organised by Klub Studentov Kranj*

*Kovk and Kranj, Slovenia, 13th September – 21st September 2019*

*Maltese participants: Gabriella Massa, Andre Camilleri, Marcos Caruana, Timothy Alden, Melissa Formosa, Christine Bajada*

In September, Klub študentov Kranj hosted an international youth exchange "Let's G.R.O.W. (Gardening, Reflection, Outdoors, Wellbeing)." The project was a collaboration of 5 countries: Slovenia, Denmark, Malta, Spain and UK. The exchange took place in the village of Kovk and in Kranj, and included 34 young people, aged 18-28 and a total of 6 participants participated on behalf of MUYA. The main theme of the project was the influence of nature, sports, meditation, healthy nutrition and crafts on mental and physical health. During the exchange participants created a [booklet](#) with tips and that lead to better health and wellbeing. Mornings were dedicated to outdoor activities. Surrounded by nature, participants tried their skills in yoga and a little more acrobatic acroyoga. A special time on the schedule was reserved for meditation and talking about mental health. Throughout the week, participants were encouraged to anonymously share their experience or write their advice to the stories of others. A day before leaving this peaceful retreat, participants hiked to the nearby hill Sinji vrh. During the week on Kovk, participants busted different nutrition myths, learnt about the local plants and their usefulness, and shared knowledge through workshops like lindy hop and cheerleading. In Kranj, participants went on a treasure hunt and completed different task while exploring the city centre. Participants also took part in a woodworking workshop. Some of the participants also went on air on local Radio Kranj, where they talked about their experience during the exchange.

### **3.13 – E+ Youth Exchange: Humanity on the Road - 2**

*Organised by Stowarzyszenie Europe4Youth*

*Krakow, Poland, 21st September – 28th September 2019*

*Maltese participants: Jacob Cachia, Michael Formosa, Liam Schembri, Jodie Bonnici, Julia Degiorgio, Lisa Degiorgio*

The next project in September was Humanity on the Road 2 which was the last of a series of three projects, concluding this long-term project. The previous project took place in May and two participants, Jodie and Jacob participated in both exchanges (as one of the requirements of the project). Following the project, participants reported having gained a much deeper understanding of migration, xenophobia, social classes and integration due to the highly effective method of eduLARP used during the project. The workshops also contributed to participants gaining more confidence and increasing their aptitude to the understanding of cultural differences. According to the Maltese team, Europe4Youth did an excellent job of integrating the youthpass into the project, encouraging youths to teach each other and enabling them to research and learn more. Particularly positive was the artistic and creative methods used to reflect and express what was learnt. The hosts were very responsive, helping participants with many issues they might have faced. One of the Maltese participants was very content about the arrangements they made for another participant who was doing Ramadan fasting during the project. The project and organising team was highly capable of bringing together youths from a broad variety of backgrounds and cultures, and enabling them with all the tools needed to build a close community based on trust and respect. The participants all agreed that the use of eduLARP methodology is innovative and very useful for 21st century learning.

### **3.14 – E+ Training Course: Combating the differences**

*Organised by Active Youth*

*Kaunas, Lithuania, 22 September – 30th September 2019*

*Maltese participants: Clifford Galea Vella, Liliana Fenech, Darine Aboulez, Mariano Galea*

To tackle the issue of social exclusion due to marginalization of young people coming from disadvantaged backgrounds, youth organizations from Hungary, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Turkey, Malta, and Lithuania have united for the project "Combating the Differences". The project's aim was to give youth workers the training necessary to be able to lead capoeira therapy sessions. To accomplish this, a training course was hosted in Lithuania between the 22 and 30 September 2019. Youngsters with behaviour disorders and dysfunctional backgrounds are often insecure and self-doubting, face discrimination, negative stereotypes, and increased social barriers. One of the ways to help them feel more confident is through Capoeira. This method is an Afro-Brazilian martial art that incorporates games, music, and dance. It has previously been used as a therapeutic activity that proved to be a huge success in empowering troubled people and bringing community members closer together. According to participant Mariano Galea, at the end of the project, participants were given the opportunity to practice Capoeira with kids having some form of disability – an experience they will never forget.

### **3.15 – E+ Youth Exchange APV: Lingua Franca**

*Organised by Buinho Creative Hub*

*Aljustrel, Portugal, 8th November – 10th November 2019*

*Maltese participants: Chris Micallef*

In November 2019, the APV for Lingua Franca was held. The Youth Exchange of this project was scheduled to happen between the 14th and 30th July 2020, however this will be postponed to a tentative 2021. It will target the participation of youths aged between 15 and 17. During the 1-day APV the final aspects of the project implementation and management were discussed. Lingua Franca is a project that brings together makerspaces and UNESCO youth clubs with the purpose of providing high quality educational contents to disadvantaged young people while promoting the Erasmus and UNESCO goals of inter-religious dialogue, tolerance and safeguard of human rights.

Some of the activities planned for the Youth Exchange are to learn how to use 3D printing and 3D modelling to enable participants concepts and creations to become real; learn electronics and build their own scientific equipment to run experiments; learn the fundamentals in biohacking, microbiology and biotechnology participate in playful, fun, and exciting workshops which involve making art with bacteria's and other microorganisms; learn about the local costumes and rich traditions of the mining town Aljustrel, Messejana, and overall Alentejo's southern region and to visit the "Military Road" project in Lisbon's and Sao Luis Cultivamos Cultura. For prospective participants, this will be an opportunity to make new friends and bring home some unique shared experiences and stories.

### **3.16 – E+ Training Course: Let Youth Take Control**

*Organised by KINDERVEREINIGUNG Leipzig e.V.*

*Naunhof, Germany, 17th November – 22 November 2019*

*Maltese participants: Jade Micallef, Kay Gauci*

During November 2019, a training course aimed for persons working with youths was organised by KINDERVEREINIGUNG Leipzig e.V. was organized in Germany, together with eight partner organisations from different European countries who are active in the field of youth work. Since 2017 KINDERVEREINIGUNG Leipzig e.V. coordinates the project *wir weit weg* in which pupils that do not strive for higher education, develop international youth exchanges supported by so called "coaches international" (young adults, mainly university students). The training looked at how participative youth work looks like in the different European countries and regional contexts. It also looked at how youth work can be strengthened or introduced in other European regions. The participants discussed how youth work can be improved and which structures are needed to implement participative youth projects.

### **3.17 – E+ Training Course: Radical Escape**

*Organised by Be International*

*Brno, Czech Republic, 11<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020*

*Maltese participants: Mariano Galea, Samuel Borg, David Bartolo*

To conclude, the last project for the year 2019/2020 was held in March 2020 in Czech Republic with 8 participating countries. This TC aimed at enabling youth workers to strengthen preventative measures against radicalisation of young people through the use of educational concepts based on escape games. By the end of the training course participants were assigned to develop and test 3 portable educational escape rooms connected to social exclusion, media manipulation or marginalization. A booklet had to be created as a result of this training course to be able to be shared amongst the NGO network, however due to unforeseen circumstances attributed to the COVID19 pandemic, this project had to be stopped short. Organizers helped all participants to return to their home countries when all country borders were closing. MUYA extends its thanks in this regard to the trainers who took all the necessary precautions in order to ascertain the participants safe return to their countries.



## **4. Other Meetings & Collaborations**

### **4.1 – POLIFEST – Celebrating Europe Day, Celebrating Democracy**

*3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019*

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, marking Europe Week 2019, Aġenzija Żgħazagh invited youth organisations to join a gala event as part of the European Youth Week Celebrations. Through the previous events organised through the project POLIFEST (funded through Erasmus+), around 550 young people aged 15 upwards and hailing from different settings (including NGOs and various post secondary institutions) in Malta and Gozo have met to discuss various policy issues. During this gala event, the recommendations formulated by young people and youth organisations related to the 'Celebrating Democracy' strand were put forward to various MEPs. The event served as a platform through which young people passed on the recommendations to local policy makers and contestants of the upcoming MEP elections. This concluding event which saw the participation of Ms Rodianne Cassar (President) and Ms Thelma Bonello (Secretary General) on behalf of MU YA initiated a solid body of discussion of young people with policy makers addressing directly mid-term review of the National Youth Policy Towards 2020. The activities also consisted of sit-down discussions with the MEPs in relation to different thematic natures, where policy makers were expected to take on the views of youth suggestions. The event was followed by a short reception.

### **4.2 – Meeting with Siġġiewi Local Council**

*5th November 2019*

The President and Secretary General had a meeting with Councillor Ms. Rodianne Harber on November 5th (responsible for the youth sector in Siġġiewi). Points discussed during the meeting were: activities by MU YA, activities by MU YA that can be implemented in Siġġiewi (focus on Culture Nights), resources of the Local Council (meeting rooms / hosting venues), participation in a meeting with the Youth of Siġġiewi to promote activities of youth involvement.

### **4.2 – Planting Trees**

*11th November 2019*

On this day, committee members Ms Rodianne Cassar and Ms Thelma Bonello joined members from ACT Malta next to Manikata Church in Mellieħa. The activity consisted in spending some hours helping in a field this organisation is taking care of with different needs in the field itself. The groups were divided systematically into 4 groups – one group taking care of building a construction that is intended to protect small trees from the wind; one group taking care of collecting various crates; one group preparing the soil; and another group collecting, cleaning and crafting holes in milk cartons (which are used to plant growing trees). At around noon, some helpers built a fire over which lunch consisting of fresh vegetables was cooked for the volunteers. This activity is held frequently by ACT and it is a very good way to get in touch with nature while enhancing collaboration between different NGOs and volunteers.

### **4.3 – MU YA Committee Meets ME**

*11th February 2020*

A meet up was organised by MU YA in view of the upcoming elections at Ta' Martin Billiards Hall in Mosta. The event was organized as an effort to find motivated and energetic candidates interested in contesting the Annual General Meeting to be held first in March 2020 and later postponed to September 2020 for the positions of International Officer and Committee Member. During the event, following a brief introduction about each and every member, MU YA committee explained how the benefits of being a committee member are endless, especially if one is looking for personal self-growth, to give back something to society or just to keep busy with something different amongst the daily routine.

### **4.4 – Meeting with Żejtun Local Council**

*24th February 2020*

On the 24th February a meeting with Żejtun Local Council was organised. At first the meeting was held with Councillor Mr. Sean Chircop representing the body and eventually MU YA Committee was introduced to the Mayor of Żejtun, Ms. Maria Dolores Abela. Various points were discussed, starting out with the ongoing collaboration established in the previous months through applied projects submitted in collaboration between MU YA and the Żejtun Local Council. A brief introduction was given to the council about the personal background of each Committee Member together with the functions in the committee. The Council explained to MU YA its views and the conversation later ensued on further collaborations and the possibility of the establishment of MU YA headquarters in the locality of Żejtun.



## 5. Upcoming Projects and Events

### 5.1 – Future Participation in International projects abroad

MUYA currently has several approved projects that were to be actualized in 2020, which due to the COVID19 pandemic are going to be postponed to a tentative July 2021 (subject to the situation at the time). In total, MUYA has a total of 8 shelved projects which are already approved by the partner national agencies. Due to the improved situation in Germany, one of the projects “On the Way to EDINU 2.0 – Building a Community of Values” organised by Fahrten-Ferne-Abenteuer Ferienwerk gemeinnützige GmbH has been rescheduled to the 11 to 19 September 2020 in Berlin and MUYA is currently finalizing the list of participants – which has an unexpectedly good turnout for the current times. The following is a list of the remainder projects which still need to be actualized in the upcoming year:

- “Lingua Franca” with the APV already organized in November 2019, Youth Exchange still to be done.
- “Visually” Organised by Ticker2Europe in Galicia, Spain
- “Game Zone” Organised by La Villa in France
- “Youth Sensing” APV + YE Organised by Buhino, Portugal
- “Creativity” Organised by Kids in Action, Greece
- “Edularp” Organised by Fahrten-Ferne-Abenteuer Ferienwerk gemeinnützige GmbH in Germany
- “Gota D’Agua” Organised by Buhino, Portugal

### 5.2 – Pending applications

Other application, amongst which 2 projects were selected on the reserve list by EUPA (one KA1 project and one KA2 project), will be both re-submitted for the October 2020 deadline. If approved, the “Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices” project will be the first project of its kind organised by Malta UNESCO Youth Association and two partner organisations.

### 5.3 – Approved Projects

In the years 2019/2020 MUYA has also been greatly active in applying & achieving awards for both local funding schemes and also EU-based funds. On MUYA’s future schedule, 2 projects are planned with Żejtun Local Xouncil (with MUYA contact point being Treasurer Mr. Reece Delia) and 1 Erasmus+ project (being coordinated by Committee Member Mr. Bernard Bonello). The following gives a short resume of each of these projects.

“**Olive Twist**” was developed through a close collaboration between the Local Council of Żejtun, the NGO Wirt iż-Żejtun and the Voluntary Organisation Malta UNESCO Youth Association (MUYA). Out of several applications, Olive Twist was one of the final 3 projects selected by the funding body – Spazju Kreattiv – which makes MUYA extremely proud of this achievement with the awarded fund of 30,000 €! The project has the primary objective of bringing together an artistic team of seasoned artists, the majority of whom are born and raised in Żejtun itself, and the community in the picturesque town in the south of Malta, Żejtun in order to develop a structure that serves a landmark in one of the key central points of the town. The idea is to construct a structure that resembles the intertwining of the branches of the olive tree, an emblematic symbol of the town of Żejtun and indeed a central component of its cultural and historical heritage. The proposed impressions were designed by the artist Rune Bo Jakobsen for Misraħ Carlo Diacono. The olive tree lends its name to the town itself, and hence is an integral part of the fabric that composes the society of Żejtun. Through the olive tree structure that will be developed, which will be a crucial component of the rehabilitation of Carlo Diacono Square in Żejtun to be undertaken by the Local Council of Żejtun given that the square remains a fulcrum of the town. The fund sponsoring this project is under the Art in Public Spaces Programme of 2019-2021 issued by Spazju Kreattiv & the Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects (MITP).

“**Ghana Meets Rap**” also to be carried out in collaboration with the Local Council of Żejtun is a project that was originally scheduled to occur during the Żejtun GhanaFest. The awarded funding of 3000 € was gained through an application submitted by Treasurer Mr. Reece Delia through the Achievers Scheme of 2019 launched by Parliamentary Secretary for Reforms, Citizenship and Simplification of Administrative Processes. The project will be divided in 6 different workshops with the main aim to integrate youth in society from an early age.



On the European spectrum, the **"Erasmus+ Training Course EDUBOARDZ"** was also awarded funding. This project, originally scheduled for June 2020, will be now held in tentative March 2021 and will see the participation of 30 Participants and 9 countries. The project "EDUBOARDZ" is aimed to introduce game-based learning and gamification for youth workers/youth leaders to incorporate in own work such that it is transferable to socially relevant topics.