

The project « SISTER (Seminars for Integrating Simultaneous Twinning Experiences and Reconsolidation) » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 "Town-Twinning"

Participation: The project involved 226 citizens, notably 101 participants from the city of Genoa (Italy), 125 participants from the city of Murcia (Spain) etc.

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Murcia, Spain, from 14/10/2021 to 17/10/2021, with a follow-up virtual meeting on 25/10/2021.

Short description:

From the 14th to the 17th of October 2021, the project SISTER, "Seminars for Integrating Simultaneous Twinning Experiences and Reconsolidation", took place in a hybrid format physically in the City of Murcia in a Transnational Bilateral Meeting, and with digital connection to Genoa as well, followed on the 25th of October by a virtual meeting to further discuss the outcomes, conclusions and local impact of the SISTER project.

Do to COVID-19 and restrictions, no large meetings were held as such, instead participants were divided in parallel sessions to assure distancing, ventilation and COVID measures.

By using a mutual knowledge and dialogue between both municipalities, detecting common experiences and problems and identifying strategies and meeting points where collaboration is possible, and define the framework for future action through the European dimension, seeking the voluntary commitment of its participants.

With a methodology of active participation, in which citizens are the protagonists of the proposed actions.

Thus, dialogue will be encouraged both through leisure activities and reflection that promote collaboration and group cohesion.

As it is a meeting of citizens, the topics addressed will address general issues related to intercultural dialogue and the development of democracy through the active participation of citizens in decision-making processes, mutual understanding based on the reality of the two cities, historical and current ties, reflected all of this in 22 activities: Six guided tours, to share the historical, cultural, architectural identity, etc. de Murcia, so that the delegation better understand its sister city.

Four "breakout rooms" for understanding, dialogue, exchange and co-creation on different topics, from significant events and the image of the city to the historical reasons for the twinning between Murcia and Genoa.

Three "site-visits", parallel technical visits to address education, commerce and culture, as well as three more visits to emblematic projects of the city, in citizen participation for urban renewal, making the city greener and an innovative cultural centre linked to the European urban agenda2030 partnership for culture and cultural heritage.

Four specific workshops to better understand our twinned cities, based on the book of invisible cities, on Murcia as the gastronomic capital of Spain 2021, on shared European values and integration, and Murcia tradition and innovation.

Two musical events, one modern and the other classic, to share the current audio-visual and digital culture of the Municipality of Murcia.

And additionally the world championship of Pesto held a local event in Murcia, as part of the twinning, to share the world-famous Genovese delicacy with the people of Murcia.

You can download the full programme [here](#)