

The project «FACTS – From Alternatives Narratives to Citizens True EU Stories» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Strand 2 – Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

Preparatory activities: It consisted of 3 meetings that involved 15 participants each.

Location / Dates: Virtual meetings held on the 22nd of January 2021, the 22nd of April 2021 and the 3rd of December 2021.

Short description: Three preparatory meetings attended by the members of the consortium (CIDOB, IAI, ELIAMEP, Das Progressive Zentrum, WiseEuropa and the Open European Dialogue Team of the German Marshall Fund) were held online to plan and organise the different activities of the action FACTS. The first meeting served as a kick-off meeting, the consortium discussed the schedule and content of the activities and deliverables, the ethical considerations of the research and its privacy issues. Partners discussed on a common set of questions to design the questionnaire for the semi-structured focus groups, agreed upon the communication strategy and budget issues of the project and shared good practices on logistics. The second meeting was specifically devoted to the organisation of the focus groups in each country, tackling issues such as the methodology of the focus group and the final questionnaire, the recruitment of participants, templates for informed consent and registration and reporting rules and supporting documents. The third meeting was devoted mainly to the organization of the final conference and start discussing the final monograph to be published at the end of the action.

Events: 11 events have been carried out within this project: 10 citizens' forums (two in each country from the network – 8 online events and 2 in-person event) and 1 face-to-face final conference in Barcelona (Spain).

Event 1: Citizens' Forum in Spain

Participation: The event involved 27 citizens from **Spain**, including 17 participants from the city of Barcelona, 2 from the town of El Bruc, 2 from the town of Mollet del Vallès, 1 from the town of l'Hospitalet, 1 from the town of Sant Andreu de la Barca, 1 from the town of Sant Cugat del Vallès, 1 from the town of Sant Joan Despí, 1 from the city of Tarragona and 1 from the city of Terrassa.

Location / Dates: The event took place physically in Barcelona (Spain) on the 08/07/2021.

Short description: This was the first of the two focus groups held in Spain. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs).

Event 2: Citizens' Forum in Spain

Participation: The event involved 28 citizens from **Spain**, including 13 participants from the city of Barcelona, 8 participants from the city of Tarragona, 2 participants from the city of Hospitalet, 1 participant from the town of Breda, 1 participant from the town of Caldes d'Estrac, 1 participant from the town of Ripollet, 1 participant from the city of Sabadell and 1 participant from the city of Sant Cugat del Vallès.

Location / Dates: The event took place physically in Barcelona (Spain) on the 12/07/2021.

Short description: This was the second of the two focus groups held in Spain. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a

new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs).

Event 3: Citizens' Forum in Italy

Participation: The event involved 28 citizens from **Italy**, including 9 participants from the city of Rome, 1 participant from the city of Bressanone, 1 participant from the city of Cagliari, 1 participant from the city of Casapulla, 2 participants from the city of Lecce, 6 participants from the city of Verona, 1 participant from the city of Trento, 2 participants from the city of Torino, 1 participant from the city of Siracusa, 1 participant from the city of Rovigo, 1 participant from the city of Modena, 1 participant from the city of Monza and 1 participant from the city of Milano.

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 18/06/2021.

Short description: This was the first of the two focus groups held in Italy. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI).

Event 4: Citizens' Forum in Italy

Participation: The event involved 25 citizens from **Italy**, including 9 participants from the city of Rome, 3 participants from Naples, and 1 respectively from Quero Vas, Faenza, Sondrio, Modena, Taranto, Rende, Cernusco, Vicenza, Brescia, Torino, Pistoia and Collegno. One participant connected from Bruxelles (Belgium).

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 15/10/2021.

Short description: This was the second of the two focus groups held in Italy. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI).

Event 5: Citizens' Forum in Greece

Participation: The event involved 25 citizens from **Greece**, including 10 participants from the city of Athens, 2 participants from Patra, 2 participants from Thessaloniki and 1 respectively from Rhodes, Mytilini, Larisa, Preveza, Herakleion, Kavala, Samos, Corfu, Alexandroupoli, Ioannina and Chania.

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 10/06/2021.

Short description: This was the first of the two focus groups held in Greece. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP).

Event 6: Citizens' Forum in Greece

Participation: The event involved 25 citizens from **Greece**, including 9 participants from the city of Athens, 3 participants from Thessaloniki and 1 respectively from Kavala, Larisa, Herakleion Crete, Samos, Serres, Rhodes, Lesbos, Patra, Agios Nikolaos in Crete, Arta, Corfu, Alexandroupoli and Piraeus.

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 01/07/2021.

Short description: This was the second of the two focus groups held in Greece. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP).

Event 7: Citizens' Forum in Poland

Participation: The event involved 29 citizens from **Poland**, including 4 participants from the city of Kielce, 4 participants from Gdańsk, 4 participants from Warsaw, 4 participants from Bydgoszcz, 2 participants from Radom and 1 respectively from Dywity, Głogów, Leszno, Łódź, Lublin, Piła, Poznań, Śmigiel, Wałbrzych, Wiczorkowska and Wrocław.

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 20/07/2021.

Short description: This was the first of the two focus groups held in Poland. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and

policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by WiseEuropa.

Event 8: Citizens' Forum in Poland

Participation: The event involved 28 citizens from **Poland**, including 3 participants from the city of Kielce, 3 participants from Gdańsk, 2 participants from Warsaw, 3 participants from Bydgoszcz, 3 participants from Rzeszów and 1 respectively from Bonowice, Bytom, Gdynia, Łowicz, Lublin, Pabianice, Piaseczno, Piła, Poznań, Radom, Rębelice Królewskie, Starogard Gdański, Turość Kościelna and Wrocław.

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 22/07/2021.

Short description: This was the second of the two focus groups held in Poland. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with a different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by WiseEuropa.

Event 9: Citizens' Forum in Germany

Participation: The event involved 31 citizens from **Germany**, including 4 participants from the city of Berlin, 3 participants from Frankfurt, 2 participants from München, 2 participants from Plevén, and 1 respectively from Bergisch Gladbach, Birkenwerder, Bonn, Düsseldorf, Essen, Gießen, Halle, Herzberg am Harz, Hesel, Kandem, Karlsruhe, Leipzig, Ludwigsburg, Münster, Neu-Isenburg, Olfen (Oberzent), Offenbach am Main, Oldenburg (Oldb), Rostock and Stuttgart.

Location / Dates: The event took place online with 2 sessions held on the 07/07/2021 and the 12/07/2021.

Short description: This was the first of the two events held in Germany. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by Das Progressive Zentrum (DPZ).

Event 10: Citizens' Forum in Germany

Participation: The event involved 28 citizens from **Germany**, including 6 participants from the city of Berlin, 3 participants from Stuttgart, 2 participants from Bremen, 2 participants from Leipzig, 2 participants from Lüneburg, and 1 respectively from Bottrop, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Göttingen, Hamburg, Hameln, Heiligenhafen, Heinsberg, Lonsheim, Neunkirchen am Potzberg, Pfungstadt, Siegburg and Wörth.

Location / Dates: The event took place online on the 30/08/2021.

Short description: This was the second of the two events held in Germany. The intention was to organize a dialogue among citizens of different age groups, balanced in gender, and with different cultural background to discuss about their personal perspectives on the future of the EU, its institutions and policies, as well as the impact of disinformation and fake news that affect the EU in their lives, working on a new narrative for the EU. The forum was organised and led by Das Progressive Zentrum (DPZ).

Event 11: Final Conference in Spain

Participation: The event involved 37 participants, including 30 citizens and 7 parliamentarians, from the following countries and cities: 11 participants from **Spain**, including 7 from the city of Barcelona, 1 from Sant Cugat del Vallès, 1 from Astéasu, 1 from Tossa de Mar and 1 from Ourense; 7 participants from **Italy**, including 2 participants from the city of Rome, 1 from Quero Vas, 1 from Pisa, 1 from Taranto, 1 from Piossasco and 1 from Varese; 6 participants from **Greece**, including 4 participants from the city of Athens, 1 from Grete and 1 from Mytilini; 6 participants from **Poland**, including 1 participant from the city of Warsaw, 1 from Kielce, 1 from Łódź, 1 from Rębelice Królewskie, 1 from Gdańsk; 7 participants from **Germany**, including 2 participants from the city of Berlin, 1 from Munich, 1 from Leipzig, 1 from Stuttgart, 1 from Paderborn and 1 from Heinsberg.

Location / Dates: The event took place physically in Barcelona (Spain) from the 20/05/2022 to the 21/05/2022.

Short description: This was the final conference of the projects FACTS. CIDOB (Spain), IAI (Italy), Eliamep (Greece), WiseEuropa (Poland), DPZ (Germany) and the Open European Dialogue team from the German Marshall Fund of the United States (Brussels office) held a two-day conference of 30 citizens and 7 elected representatives from national parliaments from different member states. After celebrating the national focus groups, the final conference unfolded in a two-day conference to explore narratives and attitudes towards the European Union, in a joint exercise with citizens from different member states, age, gender and mobilized or non-mobilized status, and members of parliament who reflected together on past, present and future EU narratives. The conference was organised and led by the Open European Dialogue team (GMF).