



With the support of the Europe for Citizens programme
of the European Union

**“Encouraging and Strengthening Solidarity in European
Municipalities - E.S.S.E.M.” PROJECT**

Europe for Citizens Programme

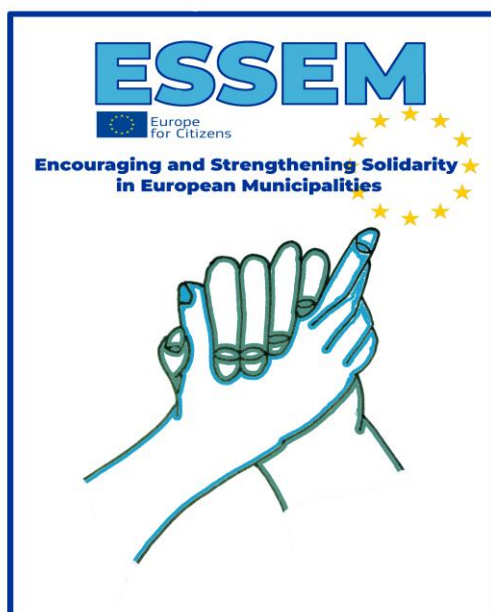
Strand 2 - Democratic engagement and civic participation

Decision N. 2018-3306/103-001 – Ref. N. 606188-CITIZ-L-2018-2-LT-CITIZ-TT

EUROPEAN TWINNING MEETING

in Slowland Piedmont area: Santhià, Cerrione, Roppolo,
Alice Castello, Cavaglià, Moncrivello - Italy

26-30 SEPTEMBER 2019



E.S.S.E.M. SCHOOLS CONTEST
Call for participation

SPECIFIC TOPIC: Solidarity in times of crisis

E.S.S.E.M. is a project approved by the European Commission under the European Programme “Europe for Citizens 2014-2020”.

The partnership, represented by 14 **Municipalities of Italy, France, Estonia, Albania, Latvia**, invites kids, pupils and young students living in their territories to take part and to get involved in the **European Contest for Schools** about the theme of **SOLIDARITY**.

These 14 local authorities have been individuated for their enthusiasm to be part in a process toward the official Town twinning Oath to be signed in Italy, in the latest days of September 2019.

The partnership is composed by:

- ✓ Municipality of Santhià - Italy – Lead Partner
- ✓ Municipality of Klos – Albania
- ✓ Municipality of Mat – Albania
- ✓ Municipality of Valga - Estonia
- ✓ Municipality of Villerest – France
- ✓ Municipality of Pargauja – Latvia
- ✓ Municipality of Amata - Latvia
- ✓ Municipality of Montbazin – France
- ✓ Municipality of Cerrione – Italy
- ✓ Municipality of Roppolo – Italy
- ✓ Municipality of Cavaglià – Italy
- ✓ Municipality of Alice Castello – Italy
- ✓ Municipality of Moncrivello – Italy
- ✓ Municipality of Crecy Le Chapelle – France.

The chosen issue for E.S.S.E.M. project is “**Solidarity in time of crisis**”. The aim is to stimulate debate, reflection and cooperation on the issue of solidarity to create shared values, concrete civic participation and common mechanisms for donations and volunteering, above all with/for kids and young people.

It is the occasion to highlight and assess the existing solidarity mechanisms inside the EU, to focus the issue of solidarity versus responsibility, also increasingly raised in the context of other policy, such as migration. The project wants also to foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation in the involved territories, to encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level and to give information about the “*European Solidarity Corps*”.

The 2019 Twinning Meeting will be held in northern Italy, in the Slowland Piedmont area at Santhià, Cerrione, Roppolo, Alice Castello, Cavaglià, Moncrivello, full of activities such as a Solidarity Day (with workshops), visits at no-profit organisations, special games for youngsters, the Schools Contest, the TownTwinning oath Ceremony, an Intercultural evening dedicated to Countries traditions, Solidarity itineraries.

The **Contest for the Schools** on the theme of Solidarity and possible channels of European solidarity (like volunteering, donations, foundations, charities, crowdfunding) is one of the flagship activities of the project. It is an opportunity for **kids, pupils and young students** to reflect and express their own opinion, ideas and thoughts about the **meaning and the theme of European citizenship and solidarity, generosity, reciprocity and basic values of the European Union**.

It’s crucial to support youngsters in shaping their future, to develop their full potential and skills, and their every day life in respecting European basic values.

This contest is organised in a common effort to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of children and youth living in the Countries partners of this project, in order to promote a **strong culture of solidarity and services for people with difficulties and needs**.

The Municipalities partners of the project, kindly invite the local schools to submit dynamic and forward-thinking products and/or creative works (such as essays, videos/clips, posters, songs, pictures, slogans, etc..) focused on the issues of **solidarity, generosity, reciprocity and basic values of the European Union**.

Make your voice heard! Be... E.S.S.E.M. supporter!

Are you:

- between 5 and 20 years old?
- attending a school of one of these involved Municipalities or neighbouring territories?
- or studying in a town which is nearby the partners of the project?
- open-minded and curious to discover European perspectives, other cultures and new people?
- interested in the topic and issues that concern the society we live in, such as the theme of SOLIDARITY?
- interested to express your opinions on the theme of SOLIDARITY both in general than in your personal local aspects?

If you answered “**yes**” to all these questions, the partnership invites you to take part to the E.S.S.E.M. Contest.

JOIN US ...!!!!

To take part to the contest, you must send your creative work to your local Municipality (or the neighbour village listed here below, in your EU Country) which is partner of the project before the **deadline of 1st JUNE, 2019.**

The selections will be carried out at each municipal level by mayors, teachers and experts of EU projects. The works/creative products by young people (such as for example: pictures, paintings, essays, videos/clips, posters, songs, slogans, etc../free format are permitted) will be exhibited in Italy during the Twinning event, in September 2019.

Each Municipality which is partner of the project could also decide to invite, as members of its own delegation that will be present in Italy, the winner/s - or some their representatives - to the Twinning event.

THEME: "SOLIDARITY"

You can choose to represent a specific aspect of it or the general meaning of the theme. Each product has to be sent to the contest by the school or single person and must have a cover page indicating (1) Title, (2) Authors (in case of group specify the number of members, their names, ages), (3) the school name, (4) address, (5) phone numbers and email, (6) nationality, (7) the reasons and key-concept concerning the product.

Entries can be submitted by email, post or delivered in person at the local addresses here below.

DEADLINE: Entries (products sent to the contest) must be received until:

29th JULY, 2019 (= receipt date).

Contact Points:

Municipality/ Village/City	address	Direct phone /Email	Contact person
xx	xx	Phone: Email:	xx
xx	xx	Phone: Email:	xx

Thank you!

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

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