

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

⚠ Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one work package = one lump sum.)

PROJECT	
Participant:	[101081484] - [Democracy International e.V.] [DI]
PIC number:	[937080238]
Project name and acronym:	[Parliament for the Future of Europe] — [PaFutEU]

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	[13]
Event name:	Get to know your candidates, get to know your constituents – event Ljubljana
Type:	[OTHER]
In situ/online:	<i>In situ</i>
Location:	[Ljubljana], [Slovenia]
Date(s):	[16.5.2024]
Website(s) (if any):	<p>https://www.democracy-international.org/pafuteu</p> <p>https://www.mirovni-institut.si/dogodki/razprava-o-prihodnosti-evropske-demokracije-s-kandidati-in-kandidatkami-za-volitve-v-evropski-parlament-2024/ (invitation to the event)</p> <p>https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/o-prihodnosti-evropske-demokracije-s-kandidati-in-kandidatkami-za-volitve-v-evropski-parlament/ (event news/report)</p> <p>https://sloga-platform.org/razprava-mi-s-kandidatkami-in-kandidati-za-ep-2024/ (event news from SLOGA organization)</p> <p>https://www.rtvlo.si/evropska-unija/evropske-volitve-2024/kako-prihodnost-evropske-demokracije-vidijo-kandidati-za-evropske-poslance/708497 (report on event from RTVSLO – Slovene Public Broadcaster)</p> <p>https://www.sta.si/3300813/kandidati-za-evropske-poslance-spregovorili-o-odtujitvi-eu-svobodi-medijev-in-mladih?q=mir,institut (report on event from STA – Slovenian Press Agency)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GS1hm8bXfUM&t=8s (video recording from the event)</p>
Participants	
Female:	18
Male:	9
Non-binary:	3

From country 1 [Slovenia] :	29		
From country 2 [Hungary] :	1		
Total number of participants:	30	From total number of countries:	2
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>The event Get to know your candidates, get to know your constituents (in the local Slovenian language promoted as <i>Razprava o prihodnosti evropske demokracije s kandidati in kandidatkami za volitve v Evropski parlament 2024</i>; in English: Debate on the future of European democracy with the candidates for the 2024 European Parliament elections) took place on Thursday, May 16 from 9:40 am to 12:40 pm in the premises of the M Hotel. 12 political parties and lists were invited to participate in the debate and 9 of them confirmed their participation. Subsequently, one of the lists did not receive enough signatures to run in the elections, so in the end 8 of the 11 parties and lists (8 candidates) took part in the event. These were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mija Aleš (Slovenska ljudska stranka) - Mojca Erjavec (Nova Slovenija) - Neva Grašič (Socialni demokrati) - Jure Leben (Gibanje Svoboda) - Dr. Uroš Lipušček (Demokratska stranka upokojeencev Slovenije in Dobra država) - Nataša Sukič (Levica) - Violeta Tomić (Nič od tega) - Urša Zgojznik (Vesna). <p>The debate focused on the proposals on European democracy that emerged from the Conference on the Future of Europe and which were discussed at the Citizens' Panel in Ljubljana in March 2024 as part of the PaFutEU project. 3 main topics were prepared, each of which consisted of 2 questions to the candidates, which we provided to them in advance. Each question was therefore answered by 4 candidates which were drawn by lot on the spot To ensure an equal debate between all candidates, each candidate had 3 minutes (timed) to answer. The debate was moderated by experienced journalist and editor Nataša Briški, who specializes in EU issues and moderation. After a brief presentation of the project, its activities and objectives by Tjaša Turnšek (The Peace Institute), the debate addressed the issue of the European Union's remoteness and weak European identity, with the candidates putting forward solutions and proposals to strengthen cooperation between the European institutions and the citizens of the EU, as well as the common European identity, which must be based on the shared values of solidarity, equality and the protection of human rights. In the second part, the debate focused on media freedom and the fight against disinformation (with a focus on social networks), where we asked the candidates whether they see politics as part of the solution or part of the problem. The issue of the new EU law on media freedom came to the fore, with a focus on the transparency of media ownership. In the last part of the discussion, we addressed the issue of political (non-)participation among young people, as only 10% of young people between the ages of 18 and 30 voted in the last European elections. Moreover, Slovenia is one of the countries with the lowest voter turnout in European elections in 2019. The various possible reasons for the political (non-)participation of young people were discussed and candidates were asked how they take the needs of young people into account in their own party and list programmes and how they mobilise them for the upcoming European elections. The debate ended with questions from the audience.</p> <p>The entire event was recorded and the video is publicly available on the Peace Institute's YouTube channel. To date it has 58 views. The event was promoted through Peace Institute's website, Facebook and Instagram, two newsletters were sent to more than one thousand recipients, and journalists and youth organizations were invited. Two major (public) media outlets covered the event - Slovenian Public Broadcaster and Slovenian</p>			

Press Agency. The candidates who participated in the debate shared content on their personal and the party's social media accounts (posts and stories with statements, pictures and videos). We distributed **promotional material to encourage citizens to vote** (EU material and material from civil initiative The Voice of the People) and Catalogue of Ideas, produced as part of the Parliament for the Future of Europe project. Considering that, according to the latest data, **voter turnout in the EU elections in Slovenia increased by around 12%** (one of the countries with the highest increase from 2019), we believe that our event also contributed to this.

One additional participant took part from Bosnia.