



Europe for Citizens  
Programme

## **Project ‘Building societies without racism’**

**Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values  
Program (CERV) Network of Towns**

**ENENT 1o – Siggiewi Local Council, Malta 25-28 May 2023**

KPODD is on the "radar" of the European Commission!

Cooperation with the European Commission was claimed and achieved by the Social and Cultural Organization of the Municipality of Delta - KPODD

The European Commission approved KPODD's request for €145,000 in funding to organize and implement in five European municipalities (among them Delta Municipality) a program concerning the Rights, Equality and Values of citizens entitled "Building societies without racism».

The effort began about a year and a half ago, when the draft program was prepared and submitted, with the aim, among other things, to "travel" the name of the KPODD in 14 European countries and not only since the diffusion of the program reaches even further.

At the beginning of this journey in Malta, the fight against police violence and the racist content it contains was discussed.

The relevant two-day discussion was held in the presence of the president of the KPODD, Mr. Alexandros Diamantopoulos, the mayor of the municipality of Siggieori in Malta, Mr. Dominic Grech, the mayor of the municipality of Gallodoro in Italy, Mr. Filippo Gurrenti, and the mayor of the municipality of Freguesia Baguim do Monte in Portugal Mr. Francisco Laranjeira.

An intervention was made by Ms. Alexander Tortell – Inclusion & Anti-Racism Adviser – Human Rights Directorate. Also, the representatives of organizations participated in the discussion.

The positions of the participants and the conclusions of the work of the first day were that: Policymakers must create, enforce and fund policies to eliminate discrimination; Governments, local authorities must provide the appropriate financial re-sources for schools to be able to promote equality and non-discrimination and regularly monitor the situation.

Governments, local authorities must work together to:

- mandate schools to incorporate the fight against racism and discrimination, as well as respect for diversity, into their operation.
- ensure that human rights education is offered from kindergarten onwards and that teaching materials are free of racist content and updated to reflect the diversity and pluralism of society.
- provide incentives for responsible use of the Internet.

- ensure that schools adopt and enforce a code of conduct against racism and discrimination for students and staff
- monitor racist incidents by implementing policies to end them.

There was also an intervention by Police Inspector Mark Cremona-Community Policing & Crime Prevention. He emphasized the importance of collaboration with the school community and he analyzed the programs they implement with them.

Representatives of the school community and participants reported that teachers are trained to work with children from all backgrounds; also, pupils' parents should be included in their school's decisions to promote equality and non-discrimination in education. Children from all backgrounds must have equal access to education and be fully integrated into the school system.

- the school tackles any segregation of minority children by pre-venting them from being placed into separate classes and helping minority children learn the language of instruction.
- the school encourage recruitment of teachers from minority groups
- the school actively promote equality through awareness-raising campaigns targeted at all pupils and their families
- Police educates teachers to prevent any manifestations of racism and racial discrimination at school, and to react promptly and effectively when faced with such problems.

They present key statistics about minority children such as school attendance, drop-out rates and academic performance.

