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 workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	DRUSTVO GLEDALISCE GLEJ DRUSTVO GLEDALISCE GLEJ (Glej Theatre)
PIC number:	947659640
Project name and acronym:	RESISTANCE! - Youth Festival of Modern European History — RESISTANCE

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	WP3, D7		
Event name:	RESISTANCE! Youth Festival of Modern European History		
Type:	Festival		
In situ/online:	In-situ		
Location:	Portugal, Braga		
Date(s):	2.5.2024 - 4.5.2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://braga25.pt/proj/resistance/		
Participants			
Female:	37		
Male:	11		
Non-binary:	1		
From country 1 Portugal:	571		
From country 2 Italy:	7		
From country 3 Serbia:	1		
From country 4 Netherlands:	5		
From country 5 Czech Republic:	7		
From country 6 Slovenia:	6		
From country 7 France:	7		
Total number of participants:	604	From total number of countries:	7

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

Participation disclaimer:

The performances and activities related to the Resistance project were held at two schools and during a public festival event: at Escola Sá de Miranda, the plays were performed in front of approximately 105 students from the 11th and 12th grades, at Escola D. Maria II, the audience consisted of around 300 students from primary school as well as the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.

Additionally, the performances were showcased during the Festival Política at the Centro de Juventude, where they were attended by an audience of approximately 150 people over the course of three days.

Gender-specific data were not collected for all audiences. This decision was made to respect student privacy and due to the sensitivity of the issue, which we recognized. We did not want to pressure young participants into disclosing or documenting their gender if they were not willing to do so. All student participation was approved by school authorities, with consent and supervision provided by headmasters or designated teachers.

Description:

With the exception of the group from France, all the groups arrived in Braga from the RESISTANCE Festival in Italy on May 1 at midnight, so it wasn't possible to hold a welcome session. On May 2, the first day of the programme, the presentations took place in the theatre of the Sá de Miranda Secondary School at 09h00 and ran until 12h30.

We chose to take the performances to the schools on the first two days of the programme (May 2 and 3, Thursday, and Friday) in the morning, when it would be easier to gather a larger group of students (target audience) to take part in the festival. We tried to choose schools that were close to the accommodation and that were also easily accessible to the participants. We also opted for schools with which Theatro Circo has already maintained a regular activity in Braga25's mediation and audience participation programmes.

Weeks after the festival the teachers were given the entire festival programme and the main topics that would be covered so they could share them with the students.

Before the performances began, the Braga25 team welcomed all the participants. Since there was no time for a technical rehearsal, all the performances went well, and it was easy to move from one performance to another. The morning of the first day, however, was more tense because there was no time to rehearse.

At Sá de Miranda Secondary School, 11th and 12th graders took part, accompanied by their teachers, some of whom revealed that some of the festival's themes were being covered in some of the subjects they teach, hence the importance of hosting RESISTANCE! at this school.

The students were interested and attentive to the performances from each country and some were very interested in the debates that took place after each performance. At first it wasn't easy to get everyone talking, but gradually, once the language issues had been overcome, some students were able to express their opinions. The mentors from the partner countries had the opportunity to contextualise their pieces and answer questions from the audience, which made the debates more fluid.

All the performances were in the partners mother language with English subtitles. The historical introductions and the debate were in English with simultaneous translation into Portuguese. After the performances at the school, the group had lunch at the Braga Youth Centre, where the rest of the afternoon's performances also took place.

The Braga Youth Centre promotes Creativity, Entrepreneurship, Citizenship and Youth Association projects and, at the same time, promotes youth mobility actions, enabling young people to get in touch with the cultural, historical, and natural heritage of the Municipality of Braga.

In Braga, the RESISTANCE! Festival was part of the Festival Política, which also took place here. The Festival Política is an annual festival that takes place in different Portuguese cities, organised by the NGO Associação Isonomia, which aims to promote civic participation, the defence of human rights and the fight against abstention.

After lunch, all the groups had the chance to rehearse and get to know the venue. At the Youth Centre, in the first performance of the afternoon it was more difficult to gather an audience, due to the time of day. Even so, the audience, which also included participants from other countries, was very active and the young people from the Italian team, who were responsible for the debate, were able to create engagement and the audience was able to raise their hands and answer yes or no questions.

In the evening, however, the audience was more complete and the debate that followed the performance was very participatory.

Overall, it was a very intense first day with few breaks for the production team, but there was a good atmosphere and a spirit of camaraderie.

On the second day of the festival, the groups performed at the D. Maria II Secondary School. The festival kicked off with France's performance and at the end some students were able to raise their hands and answer yes or no questions.

The most heated debate took place after Portugal's performance as a result of the behaviour of some members of the audience regarding issues of sexual harassment towards the girls who were performing. The teachers present and some of the mentors tried to draw attention to behaviour that shouldn't happen, and some students showed their discontent with some of their schoolmates. In the end, the teachers were very satisfied with the performances and debates and with the topics covered, emphasising that there is still a long way to go.

After the performances, the group had lunch at the Youth Centre where the remaining performances took place in the afternoon.

A larger audience was visible on this day, but it was mostly the project's partners who took part in the debates at the end of each performance. All the performances were in their mother language with English subtitles. The debate was in English with simultaneous translation into Portuguese, which allowed the audience less familiar with the language to participate.

At the end of the day, the group went out for dinner and had the opportunity to socialise in the city centre.

On Saturday, the last day of the festival, the morning began with a visit to Theatro Circo, where the partners had the opportunity to learn more about the history of this century-old theatre.

Later in the morning, the mentors and producers met to discuss more technical issues relating to the Festival as well as carrying out a internal evaluation of the activities so far. The topics of the meeting included language issues, the need to have a historical introduction before the performances, the need to have more audiences present and the potential that schools can offer. They also discussed the main difficulties in production and communication issues.

One of the issues detected from the evaluation with mentors and participants was the tiredness that some of the young people felt because the two festivals had taken place one after the other.

After lunch, the last two performances of the festival took place at the Braga Youth Centre. Being a Saturday, this was the day when the festival had the largest audience, and the debates were also the most participatory.

The day ended with dinner at the Youth Centre, the atmosphere was one of joy and fun and everyone was very happy that everything had gone well. This was also a time for everyone to get together and share the experience of being in a new city.

HISTORY OF CHANGES			
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE	
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).	