

• PARTNERSHIP •



• PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES •



• EVENTS •

EVENT 1
SANTA COMBA
(Spain)



EVENT 2
PAVLIKENI
(Bulgaria)



EVENT 3
RABAT
(Malta)



EVENT 4
PAIAO
(Portugal)



EVENT 5
PASZTO
(Hungary)



EVENT 6
MEDULIN
(Croatia)



PROMOTER:



HOST:



JUNTA DE FREGUESIA DO PAIAO
(PORTUGAL)

Youth and democracy: EMPOWERING EUROPE'S NEXT GENERATION



CERV Programme
Network of Towns - Red de Ciudades



EVENT IV
Paiao - Figueira da Foz (Portugal)
2-5 February 2025



Funded by the
European Union

GREETINGS



Welcome to Paiao!

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Paiao, a charming parish of Figueira da Foz, for the 4th event of our Network of Towns project. We are honored to host representatives from 19 countries, united by our shared commitment to fostering youth participation and building a brighter future for Europe.

As we gather here, we are reminded of the importance of strengthening the bonds between our nations, getting to know our neighbors, and collaborating to find solutions that will benefit us all. Our goal is to create a future where peace and harmony prevail, and where every individual feels empowered to contribute to the democratic process.

This event is dedicated to empowering our youth, helping them understand the value of democracy, and appreciating the European project where everyone has a place. We believe that by engaging young people in the democratic process, we can ensure a vibrant and inclusive future for Europe.

During this event, we will discuss strategies to motivate first-time voters to participate in elections and associations. We will explore how public institutions can support and inspire young people, serving as role models for them. By sharing our experiences and best practices, we aim to create a roadmap for encouraging youth participation across Europe.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you and invite you to explore the beauty and culture of Portugal. Paiao, with its rich history and stunning landscapes, offers a unique experience that I hope you will cherish. I encourage you to take the time to discover our local biodiversity through ecotourism and immerse yourself in the natural wonders of our region.

Moreover, I invite you to indulge in the exquisite cuisine of Portugal, particularly our seafood dishes that are deeply connected to our maritime heritage. From fresh fish to delectable shellfish, our culinary delights are sure to leave a lasting impression.

As we embark on this journey together, let us remember the importance of unity and collaboration. By working together, we can create a future where every young person feels valued and empowered to make a difference. Let us continue to build bridges, foster understanding, and create a Europe that thrives on diversity and inclusion.

Thank you for being here and for your commitment to this important cause. I look forward to fruitful discussions and meaningful exchanges that will pave the way for a brighter future for all.

Welcome to Paiao, and enjoy your stay in Portugal!

Warm regards,

José Alberto da Silva Carvalho
President of Paiao

"YOUth and democracy: empowering EUrope's next generation" is a project of the Cities Network, framed in the CERV program. The promoter will be the City Council of Santa Comba, Spain, whose collaboration with 17 other countries of the European Union, will have as its main objective to offer citizens the opportunity to express the type of Europe they want in the medium and long term, as well as Investigate and promote measures to increase citizen and youth participation in the 2024 European Elections.

The main characteristic of this project is its strong transnational dimension, because thanks to the participation of 17 countries and 18 partners, a great impact will be generated in the participating territories: Spain, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Portugal, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Poland, Croatia, Greece, Malta, Austria, France, Hungary, Italy, Ireland and Romania. For 18 months, the citizens of these territories will participate on equal terms, by holding 6 events in 6 different countries.

Workshops for reflection, seminars, debates on issues of concern, round tables, conferences with experts and political representatives, exchanges of good practices, visits to public, social and cultural entities, citizen forums... We will also hold meetings with volunteers, public exhibitions and documentary projections with the aim of raising public awareness about values such as the multiculturalism of European citizenship, the benefits of understanding and tolerance to feel like one's own the EU.

The project is expected to have a highly significant impact at all levels, not only in the participating municipalities, but also at the European.

GREETINGS

PROJECT

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY

- Arrival at Porto Airport
- Transfer to Figueira da Foz
- Welcome dinner
- Presentation of the participants

MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY

- 09:30 Departure from hotel
- 10:00 Arrival to Paiao
- 10:10 Welcome greetings:
 - Mr. Jose Alberto Carvalho
President of Paiao
 - Mr. Alberto Romar
Mayor of Santa Comba
- 10:20 Video of Paiao presentation by young people
- 10:30 Debate - young people and first-time voters: how to motivate them?
 - National Deputy - Ms. Ana Oliveira -
 - Representative of Youth National Council - Mr. Jose Veranda
- 11:15 Coffee break – traditional music
- 11:30 Group photo
- 11:45 Visiting Cultural Heritage in Paiao
- 12:30 Lunch
- 15:00 Visits around the territory and Figueira – Monastery of Seiça
- 19:30 Back to hotel
- 20:00 Dinner

TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY

- 07:00 - 09:30 Breakfast and check out at the hotel
- 10:00 Meeting at the municipality of Figueira da Foz with the mayor Mr. Pedro Santana Lopes
- 10:15 CONFERENCE – Ms. Ana Catarina Mendes - Member of the European Parliament - European Parliament, youth perspective and challenges for the 2024-2029 legislature.
- 10:45 Group photo
- 11:15 Understanding a maritime town: guided visit to the fish and seafood market.
- 12:00 Musuem of salt
- 13:30 Lunch in Figueira da Foz
- 15:00 Transfer to Porto
- 17:00 Arrival to Porto and check-in
- 17:30 Free time in Porto
- 20:00 Evaluation - next meeting information
- 20:30 Goodbye dinner

- Breakfast
- Check out at the hotel
- Departure of the participants

PROGRAM