



Europe Sings Together
Ruše, Slovenia, May 4th - 11th 2018

Brochure and song book





“Europe sings together 2018” - EST 18

This year, for the second consecutive time, we have prepared the project in the framework of ERASMUS+ programmes, which we entitled “Europe Sings Together” or EST 18 in honour and support of the European idea, which fostered 73 years of peace and prosperity among the nations of the European Union.

In the past 73 years, Europe has experienced a lot of change. Following World War II, the vast majority of the continent was destroyed. It was, therefore, the desire of all nations that such a tragedy never happens again. The process began after the publication of the Schuman Declaration on the 9th of May 1950. When the French Foreign Minister, Robert Schuman, presented the European and world public the idea of a Europe built on new foundations such as democracy, human rights, equality and solidarity - values we today deem essential to the European Union.



History of the project

Europe Sings Together is our original idea which we presented for the first time at the conference “Hear My Voice” in October 2014 in Brussels and a year later on 25 March 2015 in Cyprus on the E+ Youth Exchange “Just Say Yes”. We suggested that every 9th of May, on Europe Day, all through Europe people should prepare music events in public places, which shall conclude with a joined performance of the European Anthem, the Ode to Joy.

In December 2016 we got an approved and confirmed “Europe sings together” project under ERASMUS+ programme and implemented it between the 2nd and 11th of May 2017 in the Slovene cities of Ruše and Maribor. We invited partners from Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Croatia, Lithuania, Poland, Italy and Slovenia - together 47 young people from eight European countries.

Europe sings together 2018
Photo: Slavko Rajh



In December 2017 we again applied for the ERASMUS+ programme, with the programme “Europe sings together - EST 18 “. This time we have invited six partners from Greece, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Portugal and Slovenia to join the project.

In seven days between 4th and 11th of May we prepared and performed six music workshops, as well as all those that belong to the ERASMUS + programme.

The ERASMUS+ programme

The added value of this year's project was the production of a songbook - a selection of folk songs prepared by our participants in music workshops.

After gaining official approval, we prepared an info-pack, created a corporate image, a Facebook page, organised accommodation and food for participants, prepared facilities for the implementation of workshops and established a precisely defined schedule for each day. This was followed by workshops in which the participants learned about the inner workings and the formation of the European Union. The participants also got acquainted with ERASMUS+ projects more closely and were taught how to write their own project.

All eight competencies of informal learning have been engaged with and added to the Youthpass which the participants were awarded at the end of the project.

In the context of music workshops, the participants learned about Friedrich Schiller, the author of the lyrics of the Ode to Joy, as well as Ludwig Van Beethoven, who wrote the music as part of his famous ninth symphony. Every night, one national team presented

their respective country - its history, nature and attractions, as well as food, drink, music and dancing. At the end of the project, we prepared a ceremony where Youthpass diplomas were awarded, followed by a farewell party.



EST 18 workshop



The Trip to Ljubljana and a visit of the Slovenian Parliament

On “Europe Day” we took the participants - coming from both, the far south of the EU as well as the Baltic - on a one day trip to Ljubljana. Unfortunately, we had not enough time to show them the famous Lake Bled or the Triglav national park. In Ljubljana, we were welcomed by dr. Milan Brglez president of the Slovene National Parliament. Together with six youth choirs and the Brass Band Slovenia, we performed Ode of Joy in front of the building of the Slovenian National Parliament.



After the reception, we visited the European House in Ljubljana and climbed up the castle hill to the Castle. We had to rush back to Maribor because we had a concert in the Union Hall Maribor in the evening.



Slovenian Parliament
European House in Ljubljana

Musical event on Europe Day at the Union concert Hall in Maribor.

The focus of our project was the concert on the 9th of May - the Europe Day. We put a lot of preparation into the performance. Even before the arrival in Slovenia, the participants got acquainted with the texts melodies of the songs that we performed. We spend two whole days of the project practising for the concert at music workshops led by professional music teachers. The special feature of this year's concert was six high school choirs, together with the Brass band Slovenia, performing "You raise me up" and "Dan Ljubezni" (a famous Slovene song) together with the Ode to Joy in German, English and Slovenian.



Concert of Europe Day 9 May 2018 at Union Hall Maribor

Performers:

- Youth Choir of the First Gymnasium Maribor, conductors: Polona Meke Ožinger and Maja Lutar
- Youth Choir II. Gymnasium Maribor, conductor: Viljem Babič
- Youth Choir III. Gymnasium Maribor, conductor: Jožica Lovrenčič Lah
- The choir of the Gymnasium Ptuj, conductor: Nina Lorber
- Youth Choir of Conservatory for Music and Ballet Maribor, conductor: Peter Smolič Novak
- Choir of Anton Martin Slomšek's diary choir, conductor: Špela Drašler
- International Choir of the project ERASMUS+ (Portugal, Lithuania, Latvia, Greece, Bulgaria and Slovenia), conductors: Viljem Babič and mag. Aleksander Čonč
- Brass Band Slovenia, conductor: mag. Aleksander Čonč



Workshops

One of the goals of our project is that it becomes traditional and that it spreads into other European cities and institutions who may like the idea of our Europe Sings Together project. We hope that in the future more European cities will prepare musical performances on the 9th of May, honouring the idea of the European Union by singing the Ode to Joy. We are already preparing the music event Europe Sings Together on 9th of May next year. This brochure is an invitation to join in on our project next year.





Erasmus+



Europe Sings Together
Ruše, Slovenia, May 4th - 11th 2018





The Schuman Declaration – 9 May 1950



Robert Schuman
the architect of the European
integration project
© European Community 2007

https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/symbols/europe-day/schuman-declaration_en

The Schuman Declaration was presented by French foreign minister Robert Schuman on 9 May 1950. It proposed the creation of a European Coal and Steel Community, whose members would pool coal and steel production.

The ECSC (founding members: France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg) was the first of a series of supranational European institutions that would ultimately become today's "European Union".

Historical context

In 1950, the nations of Europe were still struggling to overcome the devastation wrought by World War II, which had ended 5 years earlier.

Determined to prevent another such terrible war, European governments concluded that pooling coal and steel production would – in the words of the Declaration – make war between historic rivals France and Germany “not merely unthinkable, but materially impossible”.

It was thought – correctly – that merging of economic interests would help raise standards of living and be the first step towards a more united Europe. Membership of the ECSC was open to other countries.

Key quotes

“World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers which threaten it.”

“Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity.”

“The pooling of coal and steel production... will change the destinies of those regions which have long been devoted to the manufacture of munitions of war, of which they have been the most constant victims.”



Winston Churchill
calling for a United States of Europe
Yousuf Karsh. Library and Archives Canada,
e010751643



Konrad Adenauer
a pragmatic democrat & tireless unifier
KAS-ACDP/Peter Bouserath, CC-BY-SA 3.0 DE



Jean Monnet
the unifying force behind the birth
of the European Union
© European Community 1967

The European anthem

The melody used to symbolize the EU comes from the Ninth Symphony composed in 1823 by Ludwig Van Beethoven, when he set music to the “Ode to Joy”, Friedrich von Schiller’s lyrical verse from 1785.

German

An die Freude

original lyrical verse

Freude, schöner Götterfunken,
Tochter aus Elysium,
Wir betreten feuertrunken,
Himmlische, dein Heiligtum!

Deine Zauber binden wieder
Was die Mode streng geteilt*;

Alle Menschen werden
Brüder*
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.

English

Ode to Joy

translation by Henry Van Dyke

Joyul, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow’rs
before Thee,

Op’ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and
sadness;

Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

Slovenian

Oda radosti

translation by Pavel Oblak

Radost, od boga edina
hčerka ti Elizizijska!
V tvoje hrame nas stopinja vodi,
o božanstvena!

Tvoji čari časa teku
so pregnali kruto noč.

Človek spet je brat človeku,
kadar veje tvoja moč.

Live performance at Union Hall Maribor

<http://bit.ly/EST-18>



Performing Ode to joy.



SONG BOOK EST 2018

TEXTS ON INTERNATIONAL SONGS

Slovenia

Zdravljica

7. kitica, Himna

Žive naj vsi narodi,
Ki hrepene dočakat' dan,
Da koder sonce hodi,
Prepir iz sveta bo pregnan.
Da rojak,
Prost bo vsak,
Ne vrag, le sosed bo mejak

“The selected stanza from Zdravljica is the Slovenian National Anthem, written by France Prešeren, one of Slovenia's greatest poets. It carries a strong message of hope for human unity and vision of a good future, includes some letters/sounds quite specific to the Slovenian language, feels uplifting as one sings it, and is also not too long, thereby opened to the possibility of being easily learned by heart.”

A Toast

7th stanza - National Anthem

Long live all the nations,
Which yearn to see the day,
That wherever the sun walks,
Strife shall be washed away.
That all our countrymen,
Shall be free,
And not the devil, but a true neighbour at our borders shall be!



Greece

Akornteon

Original Greek text

Sti geitonia mou tin palia eiha ena filo
pou iksere kai epaize t' akornteon
otan tragoudage ftistos itan o ilios
foties sta heria tou anave t' akornteon

Ma ena vradi skoteino san ola t' alla
kratage tsilies paizontas akornteon
fasistika kamionia stathikan sti mantra
kai mia ripi stamatisse t' akornteon

T' arhinismeno sinthima panta mou menei
opote akouo apo tote akornteon
ki ehei san staba ti zoi mou simadepsei
de tha perasei o fasismos

“The song selected by the Greek team was ‘Accordion’. It was written around 1965 by Mikis Theodorakis, when the Germans invaded Greece, during the World War II, but Manos Loizos was the first to sing it in 1974, so the song has been associated ever since with the Dictatorship in Greece. The reason we chose this particular song was mainly due to its antifascist content/meaning and of course because the lyrics are considered to be relatively easy.”

Accordion

English translation

In my old neighbourhood I had a friend
who knew and played the accordion
when he sang, he was like the sun
fires in his hands were ignited by the accordion

But at one dark night, like every other nigh
the kept look-outs, playing the accordion
fascist vans stood next to the pen
and a gunfire stopped the accordion

The already started watchword always comes back to
me whenever I hear the accordion since then and it has,
like a stamp, marked my life
facism will not prevail!





Bulgaria

Заедно (Zaedno)

Припев:

Колко малки сме били за големите мечти
Бягахме излъгани и боли, бяхме сами
Колко малко ни дели от големите мечти
Бягахме излъгани, но можем да бъдем
заедно,
Да бъдем с теб едно, да бъдем заедно по
добри.
Много малко трябва
По-лесно е, по-лесно е, по-лесно е
Да направим нещо малко, но за друг
По-лесно е, по-лесно е
Да бъдем заедно, заедно със теб

Together

Chorus:

How little we were for the big dreams
We were lied to and we ran, and it hurts, we were
alone
How little separates us from the big dreams
We were lied to and we ran, but we can be
together
Be one, be better together
Not much is needed
It's easier, it's easier, it's easier
To do something little but for someone else
It's easier, it's easier
To be together, together with you

“The Bulgarian team chose the song ‘Заедно’ (‘Together’) because of it’s message. The song is sang by three different famous Bulgarian singers, who came together to appeal for friendship and kindness to each other. The theme of friendship coincited with our project and so we picked that song.”



Portugal

I threw the stick to the cat

I threw the stick to the cat - cat - cat
But the cat - cat - cat
Did't die - die - die
Miss Chica - ca - ca, got scared
With scream, with the scream that cat did
Meow!!

“The theme chosen by the portuguese team was ‘I threw the stick to the cat’. It’s a song for children, it’s also very old and its author is unknown. It was chosen because it is easy to memorize and to pronounce! So, in a simple and fun way, we practice the Portuguese language!”





Lithuania

Ant Kalno Mūrai žodžiai

Ant kalno mūrai - joja lietuviai (x2)
 Joja joja lietuvaičiai
 Neša neša jaunikaičiai
 vainiką rūtų.(x2)
 Štai ir prijojo uošvės dvarelį (x2)
 Kelkis kelkis mergužėle
 Balta graži lelijėle
 žirgelių girdyt. (x2)
 Dar nesikelsiu
 dar ne dienele(x2)
 Man močiutė taip įsakė
 Su berneliais nekalbėti
 Močiutės klausau
 širdelės klausau. (x2)

“It’s one of the most popular Latvian folk songs and we chose this song because of its light melody and character - it’s about being optimistic and hopeful despite the struggles of life. It also mentions Latvian love of singing and the chorus is just a series of syllables that get repeated and we thought it might make it easy for everyone to repeat and learn it.”

Strong men on the mountain

Strong men on the mountain - lithuanians are riding (2x)
 Riding, riding, lithuanians
 Carrying, carrying, the youngsters
 A crown from flowers (2x)
 Here they reached the castle of the mother in law (x2)
 Wake up, wake up girl
 A white beautiful lily
 To give water to the horses (x2)
 I won’t get up
 It’s still not day (x2)
 My grandma told me
 To not talk to boys
 I’m listening to my grandma,
 I’m listening to my heart (x2)



Latvia

Bēdu, manu lielu bēdu

Latvian folk song

Bēdu manu lielu bēdu, es par bēdu nebēdāju
ēdu manu lielu bēdu, es par bēdu nebēdāju
Ram-tai, ram-tai ra-di-ri-di rī-di, ram-tai rī-di ral-la-lā (2x)
Liku bēdu zem akmeņa, pāri gāju dziedādama (2x)
Ram-tai, ram-tai ra-di-ri-di rī-di, ram-tai rī-di ral-la-lā (2x)

Es negāju noskumusi
nevienā(i) vietīnā
Ar dziesmiņu druvā gāju,
ar valodu sētiņā

Jo es bēdu bēdājos,
jo nelaime priecājas
Labāk gāju dziedādama,
lai nelaime bēdājas

Labāk gāju dziedādama,
lai nelaime bēdājas
Ja dzīvoju, tad dzīvoju,
tad ij jautri padzīvoju

English translation

Oh trouble, my big trouble,
I'm not worried about you (x2)

Chorus
Ramtai ramtai radi ridi rīdi,
Ramtai rīdi rallala.

I put my trouble under a rock,
Stepped over it singing (x2)

Chorus

I went nowhere
While sad (x2)

Chorus

With a song I went to work,
With stories back home (x2)

“This is Lithuanian song. Unknown author and lyrics. This is a war song and in these days we are singing this song when celebrating something special. Basketball is our second religion so when we win the games we singing this song. When we feel good energy we sing this song. We sing this song together, not alone. We sing this song loud and with power.”



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Text and production	Lucijan Vihar
Design	Dejan Paska
Musical Participants	MePZ Prve gimnazija Maribor (Polona Meke Ožinger in Maja Lutar) Mladinski pevski zbor II. gimnazije Maribor (Viljem Babič) MePZ III. gimnazije Maribor (Jožica Lovrenčič Lah) Pevski zbor Gimnazije Ptuj (Nina Lorber) MePZ Konservatorija za glasbo in balet Maribor (Peter Smolič Novak) Pevski zbor Škofijske gimnazije Zavoda Antona Martina Slomška (Špela Drašler) ERASMUS+ choir with participants from Portugal, Lithuania, Latvia, Greece, Bulgaria and Slovenia Brass Band Slovenija (Aleksander Čonč)
Music mentors	Viljem Babič and Aleksander Čonč
Photo	Mojca Savicki, Slavko Rajh, Nina Klančnik

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