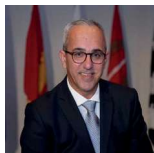


## GREETINGS



Welcome to Rabat!

Dear friends and participants from 18 European Union countries.

On behalf of our vibrant city of Rabat, it is my distinct pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all of you attending this significant meeting within the framework of the Network of Cities project, funded by the European Commission. This gathering, focused on youth participation in politics, is a testament to our shared commitment to fostering a brighter future for our young citizens.

Malta takes great pride in its active youth associations and the spirited Band Clubs that play an essential role in our community. Their involvement is crucial in shaping the cultural and social fabric of our nation. It is with immense pride that we also highlight the recent appointment of our very own Glenn Micallef as the European Commissioner for Youth, a role in which he will undoubtedly champion the interests of young people across Europe.

We hope that this event will serve as a fruitful platform for the exchange of ideas and experiences among young people, students, educators, entrepreneurs, and musicians. Such interactions are vital in fostering unity and understanding among the citizens of Europe. Moreover, we believe that the debates on various cross-cutting themes will be both enriching and enlightening.

As you partake in this significant dialogue, we encourage you to immerse yourselves in the charm of Rabat. Explore our city's festive Christmas markets and the renowned Christmas Village, Natalis Notabilis, which add a magical touch to our city during this season.

Once again, welcome to Rabat. May your stay be enjoyable, and may this meeting pave the way for enduring friendships and valuable collaborations.

Warm regards.

**Sandro Craus**, Mayor of Rabat.

"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 •

## MONDAY 9 DECEMBER

- Arrival of the delegates
- Check-in Hotel 115 The Strand
- 20:30 Welcome dinner

## TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER

- 09:00 Departure from hotel Neu – Gzira to Rabat
- 10:00 Arrival to Rabat
- 10:10 Welcome greetings
  - **Mr. Sandro Craus** - Mayor of Rabat
  - **Ms. Noelia Baleato** - ViceMayor of Santa Comba
  - **Mr. Sandro Azzopardi** - President of the West Region
- 10:30 **Mr. Owen Bonnici** - Minister for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government: Empowering Europe's Next Generation, young people.
- 10:45 Young politicians – vocation, motivation, challenges - how youth organizations can empower young people to participate in politics?
  - **Mr. Matthew Chetcuti** – Deputy Mayor of Rabat
  - **Hon. Ian Vassallo** – National Deputy at the Maltese Parliament
  - **Hon. Alison Zerafa Civelli** – Deputy at the Maltese Parliament
- 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:30 Group Picture
- 12:00 Visiting Cultural Heritage in Rabat
- 13:30 Lunch at Peristyle Restaurant
- 16:00 Transfer to Mdina, the silence city - cultural visit
- 18:00 Christmas Market Village in Rabat – Natalis Notabilis

- 20:00 Back to the hotel
- 21:00 Dinner

## WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER

- 09:00 Departure from the hotel to Valletta
- 10:00 Accession to EU funds and programmes related to Youths and Malta House by Mr. Roderick Zerafa, Head of the Malta European Services
  - Debate - Shaping Europe from the young generations. Open debate - What changes should the EU make to be more relevant and attractive to young people in Europe?
- 11:15 Walk to the Parliament and time for a coffee
- 12:15 Check in at the Parliament. Guided visit to the democratic institution
- 12:45 Meeting with **Hon. Naomi Cachia**, Member of the Parliament and Government Whip
  - TOPIC: 20 years of Malta in the European Union
- 13:30 Lunch at Valletta in Luciano Restaurant
- 15:00 Visiting the Co-Cathedral of Malta
- 16:00 Free time in Valletta
- 18:00 Transfer to the hotel
- 20:15 Final Evaluation and information regarding next meeting in Portugal
- 20:30 Goodbye dinner

## THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER

- Breakfast
- Check-out
- Departure of the delegates

• PROGRAM •

## • 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:



*Youth and democracy:*  
**EMPOWERING EUROPE'S  
NEXT GENERATION**



**CERV Programme**  
Network of Towns – Red de Ciudades

**EVENT III**  
Rabat (Malta)  
9 - 12 December 2024



Funded by the  
European Union