



Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency

# **THE "EUROPE FOR CITIZENS" PROGRAMME RESULTS 2016**

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## INDEX

ACRONYMS .....	4
A. RESULTS 2016.....	6
Results 2016: Overview .....	6
Strand 1: European Remembrance .....	8
Strand 2: Democratic engagement & civic participation .....	8
Civil Society Projects .....	8
Town Twinning .....	9
Network of Towns.....	10
Operating Grants .....	11
2016 at a glance.....	13
Main achievements in 2016.....	14
B. EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS SELECTED IN 2016.....	18
Strand 1: European Remembrance .....	18
Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation.....	19
Civil Society Projects .....	19
Town Twinning .....	20
Network of Towns.....	22
Operating Grants .....	23
C. QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION .....	26
Applications submitted in 2016.....	26
• Overview per action .....	26
• Comparison 2014-2016 .....	26
• Overview per country .....	28
• Variation 2015-2016 per country .....	29
Applications selected in 2016 .....	30
• Success rate of the Programme .....	30
• Success rate per action .....	30
• Success rate per country in relation to all projects submitted (2430) .....	31
• Success rate per country in relation to projects submitted by the same country.....	31
• Applications selected: comparison between 2015 and 2016.....	33
• Variation of ratios: population rate vs. success rate.....	34
• New beneficiaries in 2016 per action .....	35
• Amounts granted per country .....	35
Analysis of project partners.....	36

- Overview per country: number of partners in projects selected by country ..... 36
- Overview per action: average number of partners per action: ..... 36
- Coverage in regional terms ..... 37
  - Applications submitted and selected per region ..... 37
  - Distribution of partners per region of selected projects ..... 37
- Feeling of being a citizen of the EU ..... 38
  - Feeling of being a citizen of the EU: average ..... 39
  - EU countries with EU feelings <60% ..... 39
  - Overview of budgetary execution in 2016 ..... 51
-

## Acronyms

<b>AFCO</b>	Constitutional Affairs Committee (European Parliament)
<b>BUDG</b>	Budgets Committee (European Parliament)
<b>CE</b>	Central Europe
<b>CSP</b>	Civil Society Projects
<b>CULT</b>	Culture and Education Committee (European Parliament)
<b>DG</b>	Directorate-General
<b>EACEA</b>	Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency
<b>EB</b>	Eurobarometer
<b>ECPs</b>	Europe for Citizens Contact Points
<b>EE</b>	Eastern Europe
<b>EFC</b>	Europe for Citizens
<b>EP</b>	European Parliament
<b>NE</b>	Northern Europe
<b>NT</b>	Network of Towns
<b>OG</b>	Operating Grants
<b>PEC</b>	Point European Contact
<b>REM</b>	European Remembrance
<b>SE</b>	Southern Europe
<b>TT</b>	Town Twinning

## **A. RESULTS 2016**

## A. Results 2016

### Results 2016: Overview

The third year of implementation of the programme Europe for citizens 2014-2020, 2016 could be characterized as the coming of age, reaching a cruise speed while the legacy of the previous programme (2007-2013) is almost closed.

The implementation of the **multiannual thematic priorities** as of 2016 constitutes a novelty. The submitted and selected projects show that the beneficiaries fully understood and embraced the new priorities of the programme which are aligned with the Commission's. A more focused, stable and structured approach in the projects, facilitate the **policy feedback and support** dimension at Agency level. This aspect featured more than ever in the implementation of the programme, notably through the participation of the colleagues of the unit in the evaluation process or by means of implementing the monitoring and the knowledge management strategy, and in particular through the continuing organisation of the *matinales* and *Live!* sessions on the topics of the programme.

With regard to the **results of the programme management**, the execution rate has been excellent (100% in commitments and payments). Effective management is demonstrated by the Agency's indicators such as *total time to grant beneficiaries* which is the shortest at Agency level and the low *number of appeals against the Award Decisions* (despite a huge amount of rejected proposals). In relation to **commitment credits**, 2016 showed that the allocated **budget** to the programme does not meet the high interest generated. The low success **rate** —going as low as 4.6% for the Civil Society Measure— implies that a significant number of good projects could not be financed because of the lack of credits. Regarding the **payment credits**, the efficiency of the execution required a reinforcement of € 2,5 million as part of the year-end global transfer (which represents about 10% of the original appropriations)

The simplification and streamlining of the procedures already implemented in the past years (notably the lump-sums financial system), allowed for an efficient management of more than 2500 applications by a relatively small team. In this regard, the second phase (deadline 1<sup>st</sup> of September) represented a challenge and required a global commitment for the town twinning action.

2016 has been also the year of the first review of the implementation of the programme by the **European Parliament**. The interim report of the European Parliament on the implementation of the programme has been adopted on 2 March 2017 and the discussions in the CULT, BUDG and AFCO committees showed a huge parliamentary support, illustrated by the EP proposal to strengthen the budget of the programme in 2017 (eventually not adopted in the final budgetary trilogue).

In the next pages you will find an overview of the programme implementation by action — highlighting the main achievements— as well as statistical data on the Programme execution in 2016. Synoptic tables illustrate the breakdown of projects submitted and granted by country. Furthermore, two notes annexed to this document explore two specific aspects of the programme implementation i.e. the success rate and the geographical balance.

This report is meant for internal use and as a useful instrument to feed further reflection on the programme as well as providing factual elements as required for external stakeholders.

## Strand 1: European Remembrance

In line with its specific objective, the European Remembrance strand has supported in 2016 38 projects that contributed to a better understanding of the EU, its history, diversity and the strengthening of the EU values. The common feature of the European Remembrance projects selected in 2016 can be found in the reflection on the core **European values** —such as liberty, democracy, the rule of law and the respect for human rights— and the threat faced in the recent history and nowadays. Projects selected in 2016 can be classified in **three different categories**: (1) **Flagship projects** linking the past to the present on broad themes and recurrent issues such as racism, genocide, loss of citizenship and the fight for fundamental rights; (2) projects commemorating the persecution, discrimination, deprivation of fundamental rights of a specific **minority groups** under European totalitarian regimes; (3) projects that focus on the **commemoration** of specific events or themes highlighting the lessons learned from the past. Overall, the quality of the proposals submitted within the 2016 selections has increased compared to 2015 (which is reflected in the increased threshold of 82.5 points compared to 79.5 points in 2015). However, like in previous years, the selection 2016 is characterized by a **very low success rate of 8%** showing that the interest for this strand is not matched by the available budget.

## Strand 2: Democratic engagement & civic participation

### Civil Society Projects

The Civil Society Projects selected in 2016, in addition to their contribution to the relevant Specific Objective set by the programme, show a strong coherence with the Commission's priorities. When presenting his vision for a better Europe in the last State of the Union speech, President JUNCKER explored several themes; among others he underlined the importance of **solidarity**, which is 'the glue that keeps our Union together', and the necessity to preserve the European way, our values —such as freedom, **democracy** and the rule of law— by empowering citizens with the help of **digital technologies**.

The Europe for Citizens Programme and in particular the measure "Civil Society Projects"— translated this vision into concrete projects.

In fact, the projects submitted and selected in 2016 can be roughly classified in two major fields according to their focus on Solidarity or Democracy. Actions of solidarity (including volunteering) emerged particularly in the context of the **migrant crisis**. Many projects look at solidarity as the value which counterbalances the raise of racist and anti-tolerant behaviour.

The other bulk of projects look into the **current threats to democracy** and its shortcomings; ways are explored through debates, enhanced understanding of the functioning of the EU, and development of civic participation, also for communities which have less access to policy- and decision-making levels and information. In this field beneficiaries explore innovative tools to reach out to as many citizens as possible through virtual exchanges, online debates, social networks, webinars, the



development of media literacy, vlogs (video blogs), e-participation, online platforms, and crowdsourcing.

Citizens need space –and funds– for debate and action. The number of applications submitted in 2016 (**541 against 440 in 2015**, an increase of more than 18%) show that civil society organisations found in this measure the right space to pitch their projects. It is unfortunate to have to note that the budget being limited, it allowed only a limited number (25) of good projects to be funded (the **success rate is below 5%**).

### **Town Twinning**

As for the previous year, in 2016 the highest participation rate within the Town Twinning measure was noted for HU and SK applicants. Nevertheless, in comparison with the previous year, the geographical distribution at submission level has been improved. Indeed, whereas in 2015, 53% of the applications were submitted by two countries (HU and SK); in 2016, the participation rate from those two countries decreased to 46%. Moreover, in comparison with the previous year, the increase in participation was observed for some countries traditionally considered as under-represented within the programme, namely: ES, PT and IE. Despite the notable decrease of applications from HU (i.e. in 2016 the relative decrease was around 44%), which contributed to the better geographical distribution, the geographical unbalance remained important. In this respect, it is worth stressing that the corrections were made at the level of selection ensuring better geographical distribution of EU funds. Thus, 32% of SK and HU projects were selected against 46% of applications submitted by those two countries. Furthermore, some countries with very low participation rate (such as IE, BA, LV, CY and DK) were successful in 2016. Even though the geographical balance remains to be improved, it should be also underlined that in terms of the geographical spread including the partners, Town Twinning measure succeeded to represent all programme participating countries within the selected projects.

TT projects selected in 2016 demonstrated an increase in the number of partner organisations involved: in average, more than 5 partner organisations are involved in a town twinning event. Having said that it is important to stress that although the multilateral town twinning projects are inclined to further enlarge their partnerships, the programme continues supporting bilateral TT projects. In this respect, at submission level the ratio between bilateral and multilateral partnerships remained stable in comparison to the previous year: around 25% for bilateral projects and 75% for multilateral ones. An increase was also noted in the number of citizens involved in the projects activities, which consequently had an impact on the average value of grant per town twinning project. Thus, in 2016 the average value of grant per town twinning project considerably increased passing from 16.420€ in 2015 to 17.430€ in 2016 (representing around 7% of the relative increase). This constant increase of the average value of grant per TT project is also reflected in terms of the number of outputs produced: the number of grants allocated within this measure is smaller than foreseen in 2016 AWP (237 against 310 foreseen). Despite the constantly increasing average value of grant per town twinning project, it is important to underline that TT measure continues supporting projects with a very small budget: thus, 25% of the selected projects received the grant between 5.000€ and 10.000€.

In order to promote the civic participation in the European Union policy making process and to develop opportunities for societal engagement and volunteering at Union level, **237** projects were selected within this measure, aiming to bring together a wide range of citizens all over the EU around topics in line with the programme objectives and its multiannual priorities. It is important to stress that the recently adopted multiannual priorities were fully addressed by the TT beneficiaries. Reactive to the current political and social contexts, the selected projects put emphasis on the issues related to the Debate on the future of Europe particularly in the context of the so-called 'Brexit' and growing Euroscepticism, migration challenges and solidarity in times of crisis. Considering the strong interconnection between the programme priorities most of the project promoters managed to successfully combine different themes and programme priorities looking for synergies and concrete outputs: *Migration issues* were addressed by 43% of selected TT projects; *Debate on the Future of Europe* by 42%; *Solidarity in times of crisis* was addressed by 26% and *Understanding and debating Euroscepticism* by 21%.

### **Network of Towns**

As for the previous year, the highest participation rate was noted for applicants from IT (24%) and HU (12%). Similar to Town Twinning measure, the considerable decrease of HU applications in 2016 within Networks of Towns measure (representing the relevant decrease of 33%) contributed to the **better geographical distribution of NT projects at submission level**. Indeed, whereas in 2015, **43%** of the applications were submitted by two countries (IT and HU); in 2016, the participation rate from those two countries decreased to **36%**. Moreover, the increase of the participation was observed for the applicants from ES, DE, NL and PL contributing to the better geographical balance in comparison to the previous year. Despite certain improvement of geographical distribution at submission level, the geographical unbalance remains important including at the level of selected projects. Thus, 17 out of 33 programme participating countries were successful within 2016 selections under NT measure. The greatest number of selected projects came from Italy (23%), France (10%), Hungary (10%) followed by Germany (7%), Spain (7%) and Poland (7%). Having said that, the high success rate of IT projects is sustained on the one hand by the high projects' quality and on the one hand by the strong relevance of the programme priorities (especially the one related to the migration) to the current societal, social and political context in the country. Even though the geographical balance remains to be improved, it is worth underlining that in terms of the geographical spread including the partners, 31 out of 33 countries participating in the programme are represented within 2016 NT selected projects. Although LU and IE were not represented within 2016 NT selected projects, these countries were covered this year within TT measure.

In comparison to the previous year, NT projects selected in 2016 demonstrated an increase in the number of partner organisations involved. Indeed, whereas in 2015, in average, 8,5 partner organisations were involved in a NT project; in 2016 this average grew up to 9,7 partner organisations per project (representing a relevant increase of 14%). 2016 NT projects can be characterised not only by larger partnerships ensuring substantial geographical coverage, but also by the important diversity of the projects' actors (i.e. local/regional authorities, civil society sector, experts, citizens etc.), which is crucial for presenting an overall picture of the addressed issues and challenges at different levels.

Furthermore, 2016 NT projects proved to be more structured projects built around bigger number of local/international events and involving bigger number of direct participants. This increase in terms of number of events and number of direct project participants consequently impacted on the average value of grant per NT project. Thus, in 2016 the average value of grant per NT project considerably increased passing from € 127.110 € in 2015 to 137.330 € in 2016 (representing around 8% of the relative increase). This constant increase of the average value of grant per NT project is also reflected in terms of the number of outputs produced: the number of grants allocated within this measure is smaller than foreseen in 2016 AWP (30 against 44 foreseen).

**30** projects were funded within NT measure, providing support to municipalities and associations working together on a common theme in a long-term perspective, and wishing to develop networks of towns to make their cooperation more sustainable. 2016 NT beneficiaries managed successfully address the programme multiannual priorities putting particular emphasis on migration-related issues. Considering the obvious correlation between the programme priorities and current political, social and societal challenges, most of the project promoters managed to successfully articulate different priority themes looking for synergies and concrete solutions. Thus, in many cases, the beneficiaries combined reflection and project activities around of more than one programme priority: *Migration issues* were addressed by 57% of selected NT projects, *Debate on the Future of Europe* was addressed by 33%, *Solidarity in times of crisis* was addressed by 23% and *Understanding and debating Euroscepticism* was addressed by 20%.

## **Operating Grants**

Support is granted to organisations in the form of **Framework Partnerships** for four years (2014-2017). Framework Partnerships are cooperation mechanisms established between European public policy research organisations (think tanks) as well as civil society organisations at European level and the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency. Under these Framework Partnerships annual operating grants are awarded every year.

In 2016, 36 operating grants were awarded in order to provide financial support for costs required for the proper conduct of the usual and permanent activities of these organisations. Compared to 2015, there has been no change as regards to the organisations selected, apart from one polish organisation (Fundacja instytut spraw publicznych - Institute of Public Affairs) that left the Framework Partnership because it preferred to receive indirect costs within EU action grants.

31 of the selected organisations focused on civil society projects and put a particular emphasis on the "Debate on the future of Europe". The remaining 5 organisations mainly addressed "Ostracism and loss of citizenship under totalitarian regimes: drawing the lessons for today" within European Remembrance projects. The participation of citizens and intercultural as well as immigration issues were the main themes that were covered by the organisations.



## 2016 at a glance

**2467** applications submitted within the EFC programme (REM, TT, NT, CSP, OG)

**2430** applications for projects grants (REM, TT, NT, CSP)

Decrease of **11%** of applications submitted for projects' grants in comparison with 2015 (see explanatory note in section "Town Twinning")

**366** applications selected (of which **330** for projects' grants)

**15%** of average success rate

**HU, IT, SK** and **PL** are the countries that introduce the highest number of applications (48% in total)

**HU, IT, SK, DE** are the countries with the highest number of applications selected (43%)

All **EU Member States** (except LU) are project's beneficiaries

**MT, FI, FR** have the highest success rate per country (ratio submitted/selected by country)

**1956** partner organisations directly involved in EFC projects selected in 2016

An average of **5 partners** per project in TT and **8** in all the other actions; for NT (around 10)

**Equilibrium** achieved in the variation of the ratios country population/projects selected, with the following exceptions:

- HU and SK overrepresented;
- UK, DE and FR underrepresented.

**Average grant** per project:

- In TT: € 17.432
- In REM,CIV: € 120.615 ; for NT (€ 137.330)
- In OG : € 187.865

More than **50%** of the projects focused on migration and social inclusion issues and solidarity in times of crises

LU, MT, FI, ES and PT are the countries where the feeling of being European citizens is higher

EL, IT, BG, CY and CZ are the countries where the feeling of being European citizens is lower.

## Main achievements in 2016

The "Europe for citizens" programme has now been running for three years within the multiannual financial framework 2014-2020. More than € 60 million have been awarded since 2014, **supporting the projects of more than 1000 direct beneficiary organisations across all Member States, and involving roughly 7000 organisations across our continent.**

As in previous years, in 2016 the Agency has continued to ensure that Programme implementation is carried out fully in line with the Work Programme endorsed by EU Member States delegates in the management committee.

Nearly 2500 applications were received, of which around 400 were selected for a total amount of around € 22.7 million. The **selection and contracting processes took place in accordance with the Work Programme and the roadmaps.**

Due to the tight schedule related to the contractualisation of the second phase of the Town Twinning measure characterised by the big number of grants allocated to small scale projects of short duration, a **global commitment** has been done for an amount of 1.949.000 €. The complexity of having to manage a second phase close to the end of the budgetary year is being discussed with the Parent DG.

The data shows an overall decrease of around 11% in submitted applications. This is mainly due to the Town Twinning action that experienced a marked decrease of applications coming from HU (209 applications less in 2016 compared to 2015 (i.e. in 2016 the relative decrease was around 44% for HU applicants). The silver lining to this particular decline is a better geographical distribution of applications across Member States. IT, HU, SK, PL and DE were collectively responsible for around 50% of all applications received. Organisations established in all Member States, except LU (that submitted no applications) are represented within those selected. HU, IT, SK and DE are the countries with the highest number of applications selected.

The salient features that characterised the selection process in 2016 were:

1. The very **low success rate** (e.g. European Remembrance: 8%; Civil Society projects: 4,6%) which shows a strong interest for those actions not matched by the available budget. This means that a large number of high quality proposals could not be funded. The Agency Director brought the attention of the parent DG and Programme Committee on this aspect.
2. The success of the **multi-annual priorities** introduced for the first time in the 2016 Work Programme which led to a 25% increase in the number of applications submitted for Civil Society Projects compared to 2015 and an increase in the quality level. A significant number of projects (more than 50%) focused on migration and social inclusion issues and solidarity in times of crises. This can be interpreted as a commitment by local and regional authorities and grassroots organisations to the themes highlighted in the priorities. Or, in other words, the priorities respond to the main concerns of citizens nowadays. This phenomenon is also evident in applications for the Remembrance strand, mainly focussing on how *ostracism and*

*the loss of citizenship under totalitarian regimes enables us to draw lessons that are relevant today (39%), and on commemorating historical turning points in recent European history.*

3. The programme priority tackling migration issues found significant response at local and regional levels. Local and regional authorities demonstrated strong mobilisation around such a complex phenomenon as migration putting an emphasis on solidarity, volunteering, mutual understanding and tolerance. 119 (45%) out of 267 projects selected in 2016 within Town Twinning and Networks of Towns measures addressed the issues related the current migration crisis. The countries having the biggest number of selected projects addressing migration issues are: IT, SK, DE followed by HU, PL and RO. By tackling migration issues, programme promoters also reflect on solidarity mechanisms and volunteering, present concrete policies implemented locally and regionally with regards to the integration of immigrants in the labour market and the society, debate on growing Euroscepticism and fight against stigmatization of immigrants and their use for political propaganda. Upon the analysis of 119 selected projects tackling migration issues, 3 major angles were identified: migration and its impact on the societies (39%); Migration crisis and solidarity (32%) and Integration of immigrants (29%). Taking into account this strong involvement of local and regional authorities in the management of the current unprecedented migration crisis, we expect from the TT and NT selected projects concrete and tangible results based on the synergies of the European partnerships of towns.
4. Last but not least, in addition to the projects' implementation, the network of the national contact points (PECs) was extended. PT designated a PEC in 2016 and contacts with National Authorities in LU were established in order to ensure the official designation.





## **B. EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS SELECTED IN 2016**

## **B. Examples of projects selected in 2016**

### **Strand 1: European Remembrance**

#### **PL - Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention**

##### **Instytut Auschwitz na Rzecz Pokoju I Pojednania**

The "Seminar for Genocide prevention" of the "Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation" is a global multi-dimensional educational program at its 8th edition and is carried out in a campus located in Oswiecim/Auschwitz. Participants engage with the history from the perspective of prevention and lessons that can be applied to contemporary issues of atrocity crimes. The overall objective of the project is to empower participants with practical competencies necessary to prevent genocide, prevent further atrocities once genocide has begun or to prevent future atrocities once a society has begun to rebuild after genocide. Policy fields that will be discussed are peace-building, democracy building, good governance and transitional justice. The seminar is organised and performed by a diverse high level instructional team, including high-level practitioners, UN and government representatives as well as NGOs workers: all with demonstrated abilities in their fields. The sustainability of the project is demonstrated by the creation of a global network of alumni/ government officials around the world.

#### **FR - Building a Common European Memory for Civil Society**

##### **European Grassroots Antiracist Movement Association**

The project "Building a Common European Memory for Civil Society", gathers 12 NGOs within the framework of the European Grassroots Antiracist Movement Association (EGAM) and has the objective to mobilise and to empower European Civil Society, to create sustainable actors of change in the fight against racism, to raise awareness on the history of Europe and to reinforce inclusive European identity built upon shared memory. The main issues to be addressed are the Armenian Genocide, the Memory of the Shoah/Nazi Persecutions, the Roma genocide and the Yugoslav wars. This will be achieved by means of four European Training Seminars (ETS) of activists, the hosting of an International Conference on the fight against genocide denial, a Memory Tour of the Western Balkans region and self-funded grassroots actions. Moreover, the project aims to empower actors, to reflect and to debate on the fight against genocide denial, to raise awareness, to mobilise young people at European and local level as well as to engage a wider audience and to enable activist to utilise new skills.

## **Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation**

### **Civil Society Projects**

#### **AT – Balkan refugee trail – a pathway for European solidarity (B-Trail)**

##### **Interkulturelles Zentrum**

This project's objective is to push forward democratic participation at EU level. It clearly demonstrates an EU added value as it seeks to propose concrete solutions at EU level through cooperation and coordination.

Most European states are faced with the current 'migrant crisis', which leads in some countries to major threats to the cohesion of EU society, such as populism and intolerance. But this observation would not be complete without recognizing the dedication of Europe's civil society in dealing with the arrival of migrants. The project promoters believe that community action in the field of migration - whether in small communities or in large cities - has a huge potential to address the democratic challenges Europe faces today. Concretely, the project brings together civil society organisations from 7 countries, mainly located on the 'Balkan route' to contrast and compare their practices, share lessons learnt, explore recent history. They will explore ways for an efficient, coordinated action to actively participate in the shaping of democracy at EU level. At a more theoretical level, the project aims at promoting the idea of solidarity as a tool for dealing with future challenges in Europe.

#### **IT – New forms of European Citizenship in Migration Era - NECME**

##### **Foundation Giovanni e Francesca Falcone**

The beneficiary of this project uses its unique experience in the field of organised crime and a large partnership (16 partners) to promote the active citizenship of migrants. The project involves stakeholders from all levels of the integration process.

The project is coordinated by the Foundation Giovanni e Francesca Falcone. It aims to stimulate among civil society, in synergy with institutions involved in integration process, a more active role in promoting active citizenship of migrants, starting from the analysis of inclusion difficulties and of the role of human beings trafficking and its links with international organized crime. Participants from 16 different countries will implement activities aimed to overcome xenophobic, intolerant and discriminating behaviours, by raising awareness on fundamental rights and difficulties faced by migrant citizens. Activities include the analysis of the concepts of inclusion and the intercultural dimension of local citizenship, meetings with stakeholders dealing with intercultural inclusion policies and with countering human being trafficking, a meeting at Fundamental Rights Agency on human rights, intercultural citizenship, integration and on EU policies related to the subject. It foresees local dissemination activities in each partner country. Stakeholders involved include teachers, representatives of associations and European agencies, administrators of public institutions, journalists, law enforcement. All participants will be stimulated to act for a better migrant inclusion in European society. A main event is planned in Palermo (21-25 May 2017) in the occurrence of the commemoration of the murder of Judge Falcone.

## **SI - European Citizens Crowdsourcing- EUCROWD**

### **Zavod Institut Za Elektronsko Participacijo**

This project explores one tool offered by digital technologies-crowdsourcing- to identify the practical possibilities it can offer for a greater engagement of citizens in democracy.

Digital technology offers huge opportunities for citizen's engagement and for the accountability of governmental action. The EUCROWD project explores the use of innovative channels of e-democracy of citizens with a focus on tool of e-participation: crowdsourcing. Crowdsourcing is 'an open call for anybody to participate in a task open on-line (Brabham, 2008; Howe, 2008) by submitting information, knowledge, or talent'. It has become a popular tool to engage people in processes ranging from urban planning to new product design and solving complex scientific problems. How can this tool foster a democratic debate on the future of the European Union? Seven public workshops will gather citizens, NGOs, activists, experts, media, politicians and government officials to share experiences on civic and democratic participation at national and European level. An online repository will be created (Knowledge centre on Digital Democracy), gathering best practices, state-of-the-art knowledge and guidelines for crowdsourcing at the national and European level in the fields of immigration, the economic crisis and the future of Europe. The outcome will be policy recommendations to promote crowdsourcing as a way of fostering European citizenship, encourage the participation of citizens at the Union level and support debate on the Future of Europe. The project has the ambition to further evolve as a sustainable partnership of citizens and civil society organizations for the promotion of citizens-oriented open governments and digital democracy at EU level.

## **Town Twinning**

### **MT - Changing Public Perceptions on Migrants**

#### **Tal-Pieta Local Council**

This project's goal is to consolidate existing ties between two twinned towns as well as facilitate the integration of the migrant community within these localities. They both are small European town facing an increasing growth of migrants. Migration will be discussed, its effects on citizens' life, while examining and mitigating xenophobia, racism, intolerance, stigmatisation and discrimination. A better understanding of migration, tolerance and solidarity will be promoted, stressing the richness of diversity and the importance of working towards achieving more united communities.

This project will contribute towards increasing the level of EU citizens and migrant participation in the EU's democratic life (with a special focus on citizens coming from small towns). It will serve as a special occasion to discuss and reflect about migration challenges that small towns face and their future within the EU's context. In order to ensure a rich and balanced dialogue, the participants come from different backgrounds namely migrants, representatives from different pressure groups such as youth NGOs & cultural associations. The project's results and outcomes will be presented to the relevant authorities and stakeholders as recommendations.

## **IT – Lab fraternité/fraternità: le jumelage comme laboratoire d'idées**

### **Municipality of Quincinetto**

The project "Lab fraternité/fraternità: le jumelage comme laboratoire d'idées" is the result of the collaboration between two municipalities of Quincinetto (Italy) and Marnaz (France). The aim of the project is to promote an active participation of citizens in the process of social inclusion of migrants. The topic has been addressed from different angles, namely the perception of the local community towards the migration phenomenon, the roots and reasons for the migration wave seen in the last two years in Europe, practical ways of integrating migrants into their new communities and the role of the EU and each Member state to address the migration wave.

The project involved more than 470 direct participants and gathered different types of actors including civil society organisations, experts working in the field of migration and asylum, schools, local and regional authorities' as well as migrants. The main outputs were the elaboration of a position paper assembling ideas discussed and a structured analysis based on the results of the survey measuring the level of understanding of people of the migration phenomenon and their attitudes towards the way local and national authorities handle the situation.

## **LT - We of Today – Europe of Tomorrow**

### **Silales rajono savivaldybes administracija**

The town twinning project "We of Today – Europe of Tomorrow" was implemented by the Municipality of Šilalė from Lithuania in partnership with two other municipalities, from Germany and from Poland, as well as two local Lithuanian partners (a school and a youth organisation). The project brings together young people from those 3 EU countries to discuss about the migration crisis and solidarity mechanisms in Europe with regards to the migration challenges. The aim of the project is to develop citizens' solidarity, senses of community and common responsibility, especially among young people, in order to help migrants to become full members of the societies.

Non-traditional teaching and learning techniques were organized during the 4-days event and these included round table discussion, walking event for tolerance, simulation game, workshop, Living Library and film screening. These innovative methods gave an opportunity to look at the migration crisis and its origins from different perspectives, analyse the real situation of refugees, learn more about foreigners, create a possibility to involve various target groups and educate these groups about the issue debated widely on the European political agenda. More than 350 participants directly participated in the event.

## **Network of Towns**

### **IT - Reactivating European citizenship: a network of inclusive towns**

#### **Anci Abruzzo**

This Networks of Towns project, with a wide geographical coverage, aims at building a network of local authorities and NGOs from different EU countries in order to develop shared approaches on integration of migrants and combat every form of stigmatization supporting the new “European Agenda on migration”.

At the local level, the legal principles and values regulating the citizenship of the partner countries will be analysed and will gather good practices of integration and intercultural dialogue carried out by the local administrations, in order to promote a more accurate perception of third-country nationals by EU citizens.

At EU level, 8 transnational events will be organized through which topics such as the strategies for ethnic stigma reduction & promotion of intercultural dialogue at local level, the necessity of an inclusive European citizenship starting from the educational system, etc. will be analysed and debated in workshops, panel discussions, exchange of good practices and opinions between policy makers and citizens.

Through the comparison of experiences of different national realities, the partners and the stakeholders involved will draft a handbook about the modalities to combat ethnic stigmatisation, prevent racism and to promote mutual understanding between natives and immigrants. The document will be presented and discussed with the local administrators and the policy makers of the partner cities and of the EU during the international events of the project, empowering participants to play a full part in the democratic life of the EU.

### **FI - 3i - Welcome to Europe: 3i - inclusion, integration & internationalisation**

#### **Kalajoen kaupunki**

The EU is facing times of deep transformation and alteration to its principles with the crises related to asylum seekers, Euroscepticism and the stigmatization of immigrants. The task therefore is to address these issues and to combat them by developing a project which aims to return to the roots of EU; integration, inclusion and internationalisation (3i).

Based on a partnership with an interesting geographical coverage, the project will provide citizens the opportunity and foundation to interact and participate in events that will be tailored to share best practices and experiences on the main topics of the project. By doing so, the project will also aim to foster a strong sense of European identity and enhance mutual understanding between existing members and our new European members.

The project aims to address negative attitudes towards immigrants and de-stigmatize the current attitudes towards refugees and asylum seekers, while identifying best practices and exchange of knowhow related to the inclusion and integration of these members into local communities. Focus will be on local community involvement in order to create intercultural dialogue between project members. This will provide a platform to learn, share and debate on issues related to the future of

Europe. Locals will be encouraged to participate and give their voice to these key issues, but also learn from good practices implemented in other countries.

### **ES - Los recién llegados son ciudadanos europeos?**

#### **Associacio Municipal d'Argermanament de Carcaixent**

The project focuses on the integration of migrants and refugees in Europe. It will analyse the situation of these groups and the implementation of actions aiming at reducing xenophobia, promoting diversity and integration, solidarity and equal rights. In a first place, the partners will analyse the situation of migrants in their cities. This will be followed by an exchange of best practices and actions to be taken, involving at all stages and activities underrepresented groups, notably migrants and specially women migrants and youngsters. All the activities are planned to ensure a high mobilisation not only of participants but also from people not involved in the project. Volunteer families will be in charge of organisational matters and different stakeholders will be involved in the different activities. Activities are planned following different methods. A more theoretical part will involve NGOs, CSOs, public authorities, MEPs, etc. in the exchange of information and best practices in the fight of stigmatisation and xenophobia at their level, and secondly, more practical part will be organised, in which participants will be involved in debates, round tables, workshops in a proactive manner.

As the partnership presents a good geographical distribution (southern, central and eastern European countries), it will be very interesting to see how each country tackles the problems and challenges posed by migration and how different responses and approaches are reached, depending on each country situation. This will be done by a country-by-country analysis of the situation of migrants and refugees and by listening to their stories and living experiences in each country, giving them the opportunity to be heard and to express their concerns and situation. This will enable participants to engage in the debates and discussions in a proactive way, as first-hand testimonies will be presented, thus making people more aware of the situation.

### **Operating Grants**

#### **DE – Institut für Europäische Politik EV (IEP)**

The aim of the Institut für Europäische Politik, a think tank organisation based in Berlin, is to analyse and to reflect on European policies as well as to disseminate their results to a wider public. IEP's publications, which were mainly focused on Euro-scepticism, and the organisation of a large number of public events, seminars and discussions, gave the opportunity to interact and to participate in constructing an ever closer Union by fostering a national and Europe-wide debate and by reflecting on EU institutions and policies, European citizenship and democracy, shared values, principles and common history. IEP's work programme in 2016 consisted of 28 activities which took place in various German cities as well as in Vilnius, Italy, Lisbon, Zagreb, Bruges, Maastricht and Nice. In the course of 2016, the IEP promoted public debate and the reflection on the "Future of Europe" and citizens'

participation in the democratic life of the EU. Moreover, the challenges of European integration were addressed in its activities. Furthermore, the IEP strengthened a better understanding of the opportunities for citizens to participate in the EU by involving them in the debate on rationales and benefits of European integration. The IEP interacted with EU citizens, politicians, decision-makers, the academic world and civil society organisations, by means of a series of events, study groups, transnational cooperation with other partners, teaching commitments at universities and international master study programmes, lectures and public debates.

### **BE - Centre Européen du Volontariat (CEV)**

The Centre Européen du Volontariat is a European network of over 80 national, regional and local volunteer centres & volunteer-support agencies across Europe. CEV members work together at the EU level with the assistance of the secretariat staff in Brussels to promote & support volunteering through knowledge sharing, capacity building training & advocacy, reaching out to the many thousands of volunteer organisations & many more individual volunteers who look to volunteer centres as a source of support to bring the European dimension to their work.

The work programme 2016 aims at strengthening connections with national & regional volunteer centres who will act as multipliers in addition to individual volunteers & smaller, local organisations. In 2016 CEV organises several key events: Capacity Building Seminar for Employee Volunteering; Study visits organised to Brussels and groups hosted; Seminar on research and measurement of volunteering; 2 employee volunteering events at EU level. The main conference in the autumn in Brussels entitled PIPE (Promoting Inclusion - Preventing Extremism) analyses the way in which volunteering contributes to this is Europe, producing a publication of best practice.

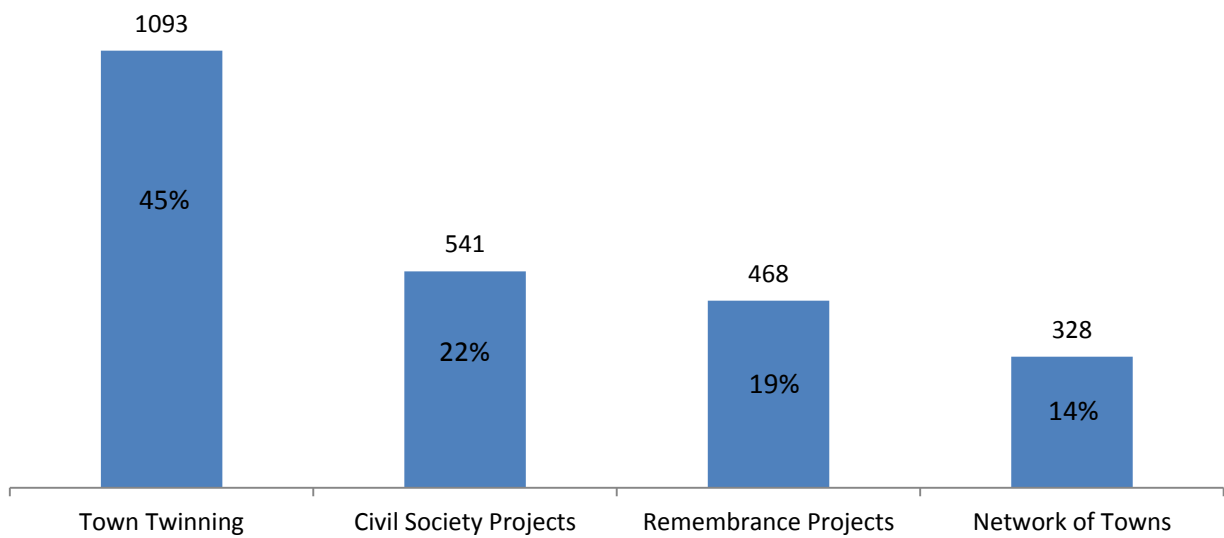


## **C. QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION**

### C. Quantitative information

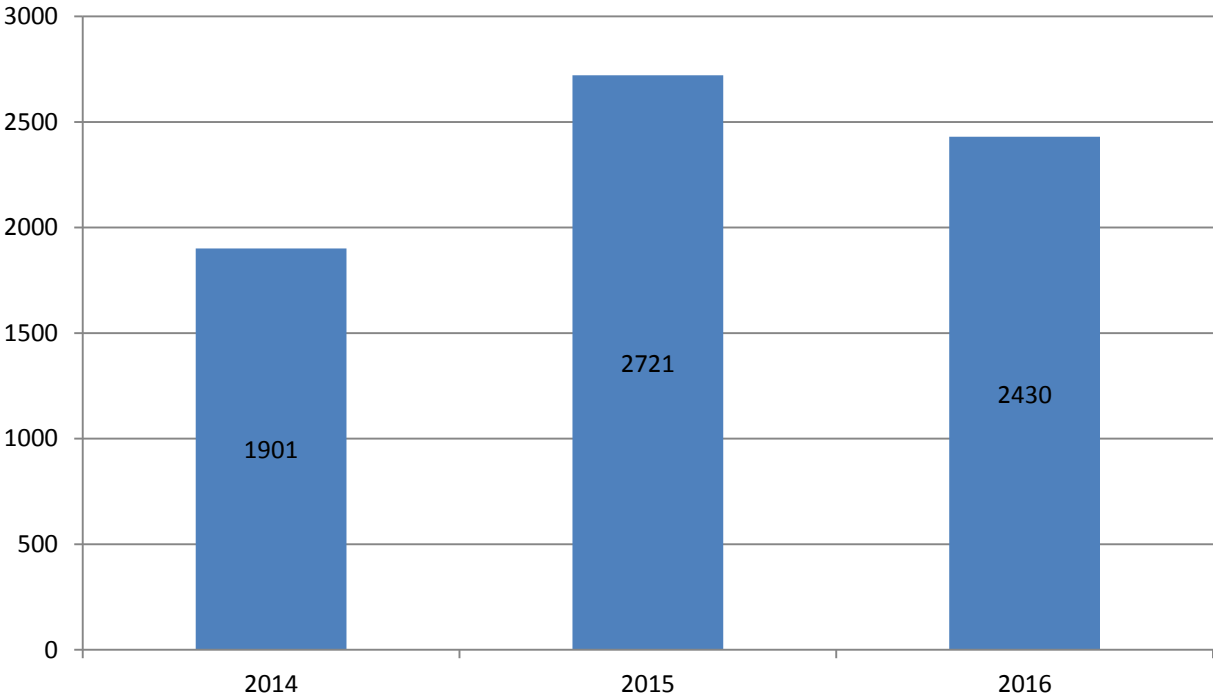
#### Applications submitted in 2016

- Overview per action



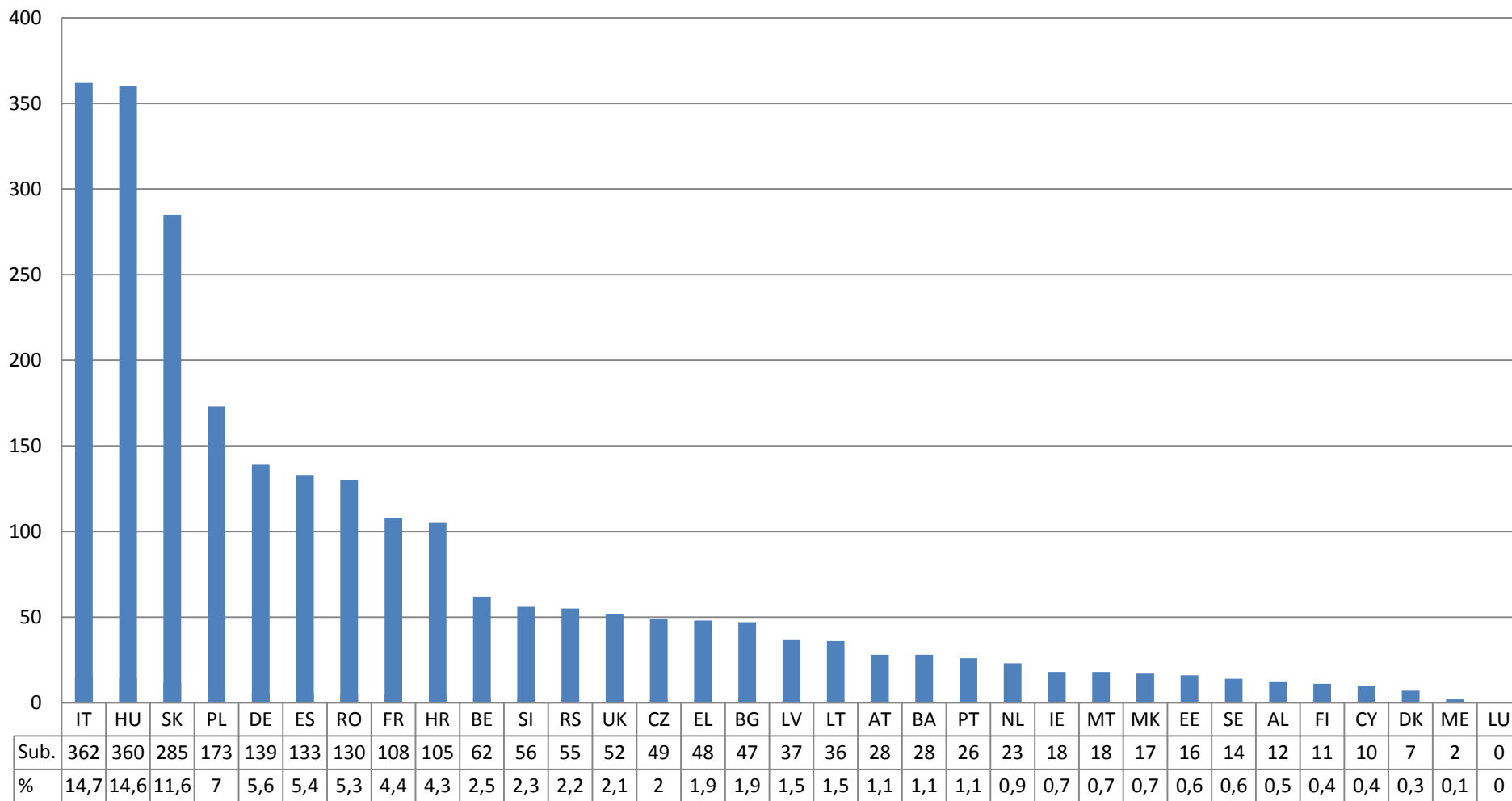
- Comparison 2014-2016

The number of applications submitted represents a **decrease** of more than **11%** in comparison with **2015** and an **increase** of **22%** in comparison with 2014.

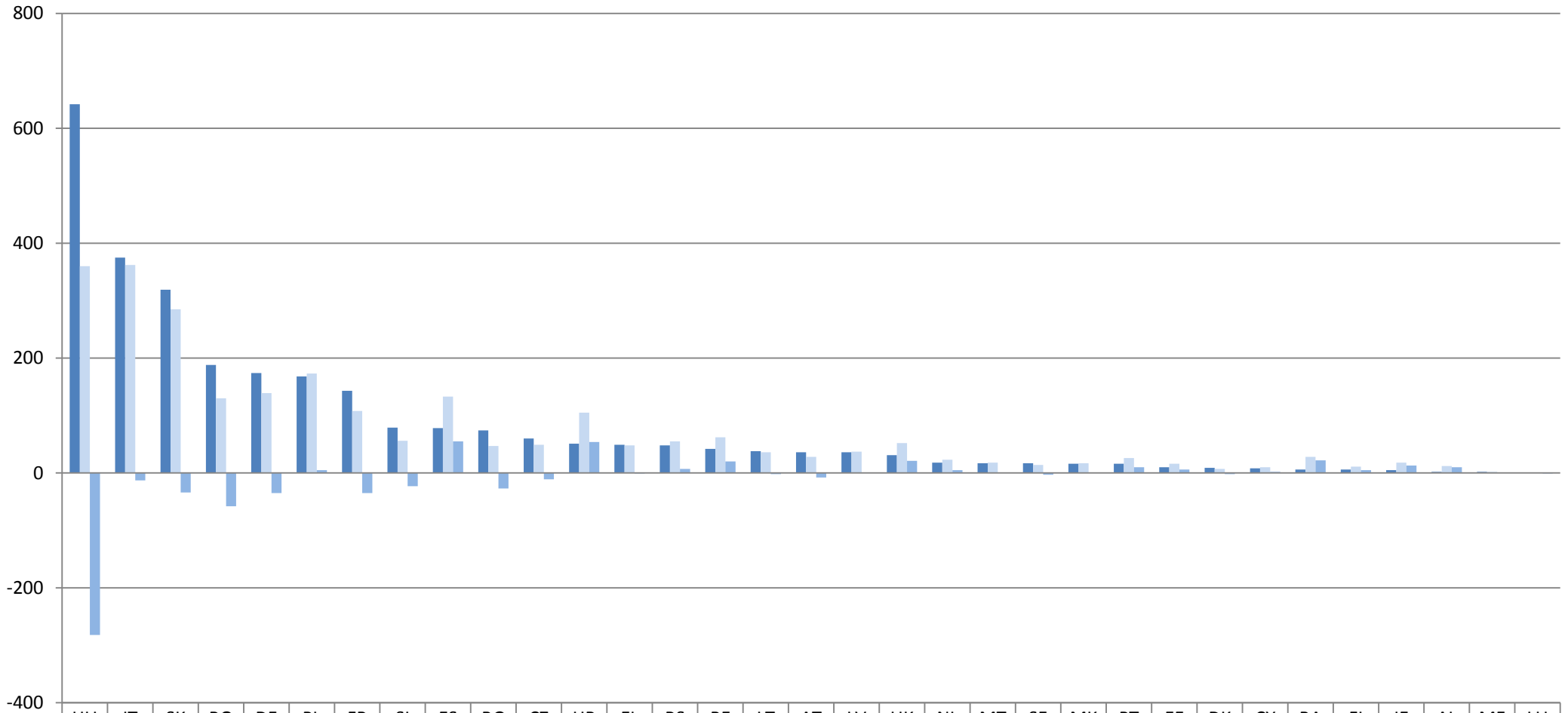


- **Overview per country**

**Italy** was the Member State introducing the greatest number of projects (**362**) **14,6%**, followed by **Hungary (360) 14,5%**, **Slovakia (285) 11,5%** and **Poland (173) 7%**.



• Variation 2015-1016 per country

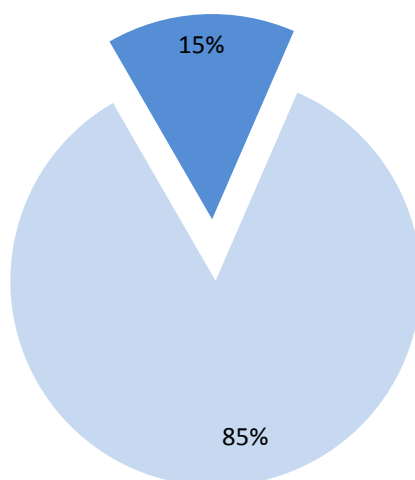


	HU	IT	SK	RO	DE	PL	FR	SI	ES	BG	CZ	HR	EL	RS	BE	LT	AT	LV	UK	NL	MT	SE	MK	PT	EE	DK	CY	BA	FI	IE	AL	ME	LU
2015	642	375	319	188	174	168	143	79	78	74	60	51	49	48	42	38	36	36	31	18	17	17	16	16	10	9	8	6	6	5	2	2	1
2016	360	362	285	130	139	173	108	56	133	47	49	105	48	55	62	36	28	37	52	23	18	14	17	26	16	7	10	28	11	18	12	2	0
Var.	-282	-13	-34	-58	-35	5	-35	-23	55	-27	-11	54	-1	7	20	-2	-8	1	21	5	1	-3	1	10	6	-2	2	22	5	13	10	0	-1

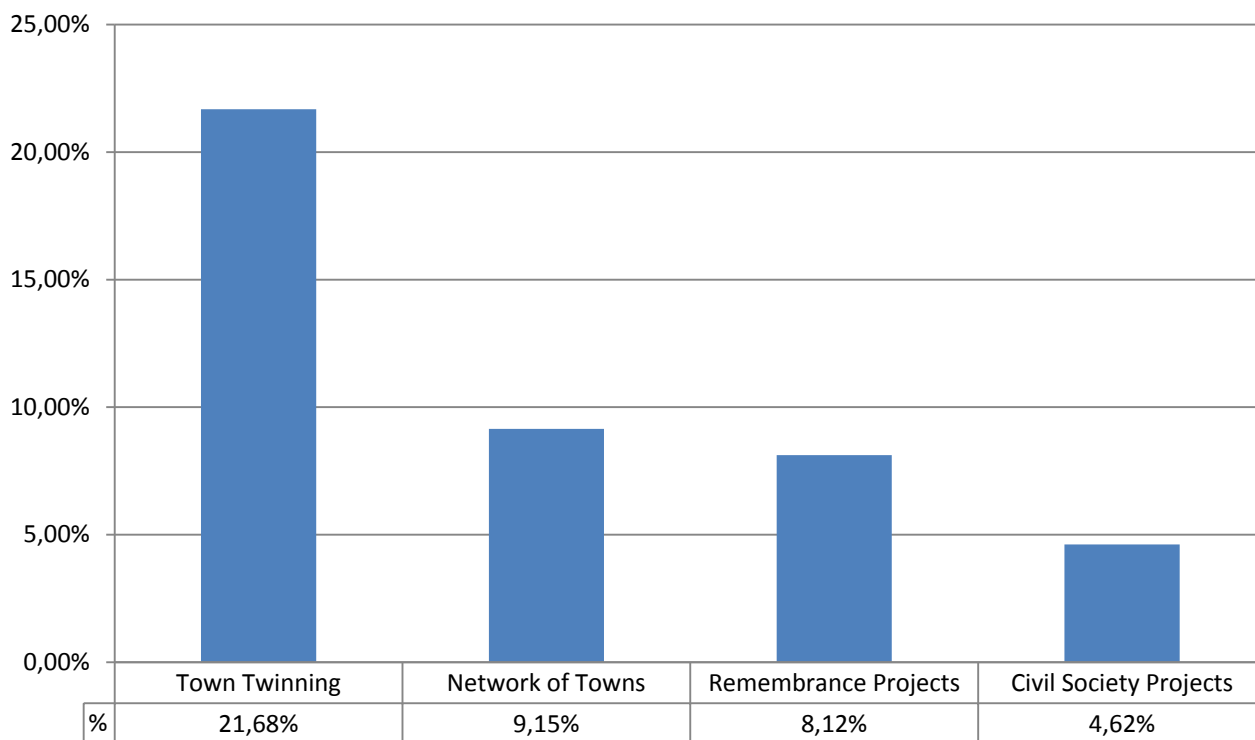
## Applications selected in 2016

- **Success rate of the Programme**

In 2016, out of the **2430** applications submitted (within TT, NT, REM, CSP and OG), **366** were selected. Therefore, the average success rate is **15%**.



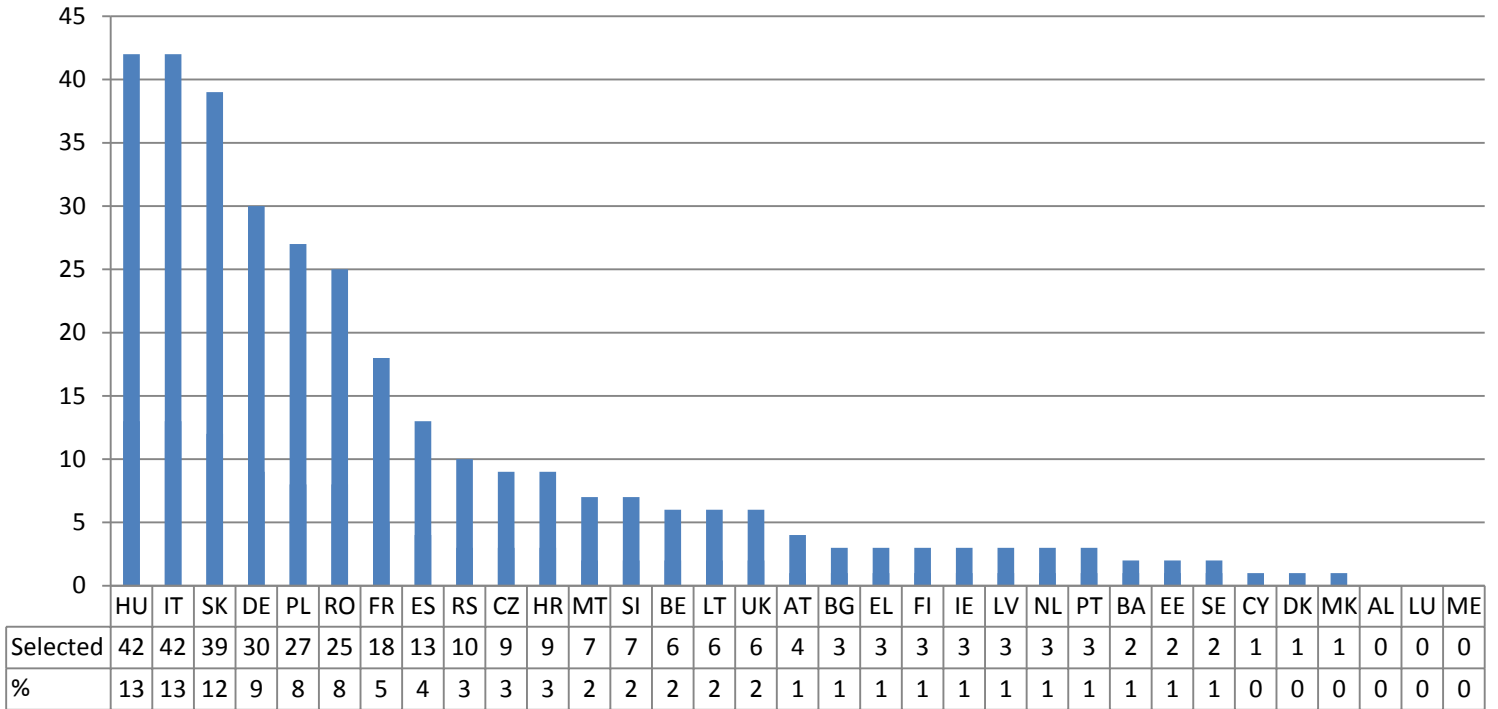
- **Success rate per action**



- **Success rate per country in relation to all projects submitted (2430)**

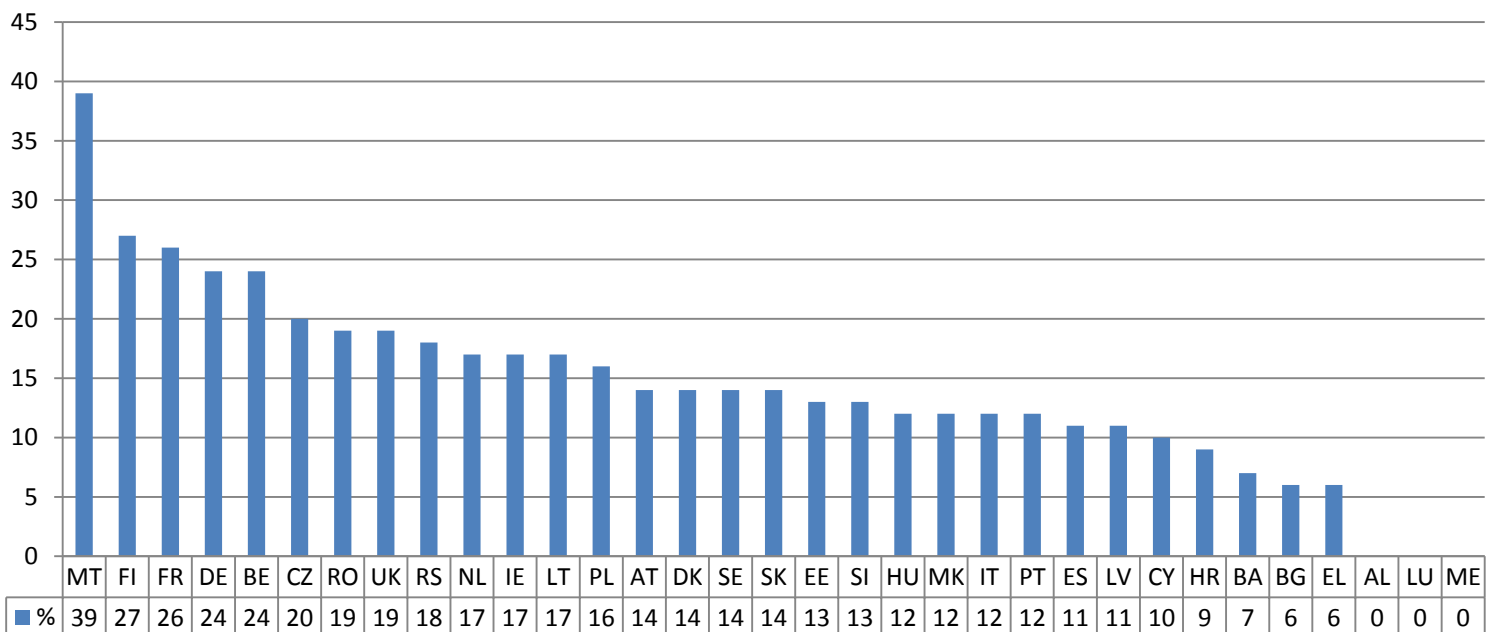
In 2016, 27 out of 28 Member States are beneficiaries, except Luxembourg.

**Hungary and Italy (12,7%)** have the greatest number of applications selected, followed by **Slovakia (11,8%)** and **Germany (9,1%)**.

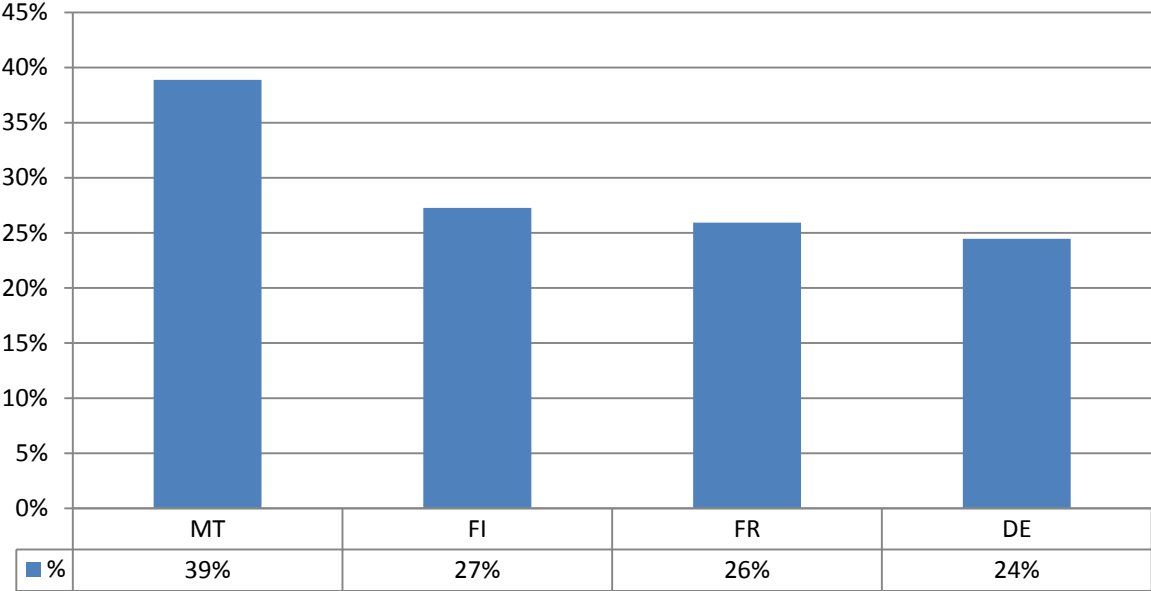


- **Success rate per country in relation to projects submitted by the same country**

Ratio between applications submitted and selected per country.



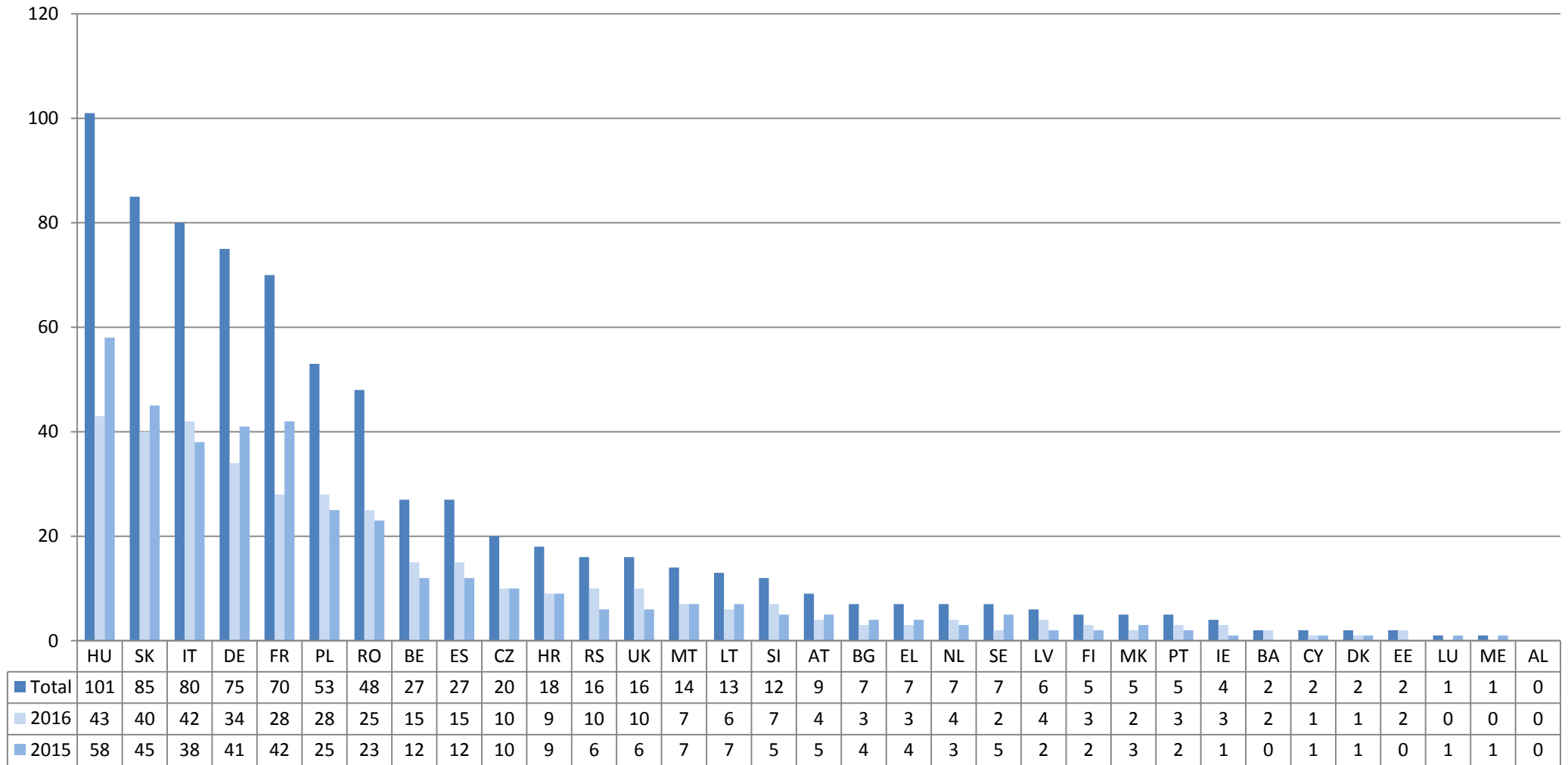
Within Member States, the greatest success rate per country in 2016 belongs to **Malta (39%)**, followed by **Finland (27%)**, **France (26%)** and **Germany (24%)**.





- **Applications selected: comparison between 2015 and 2016**

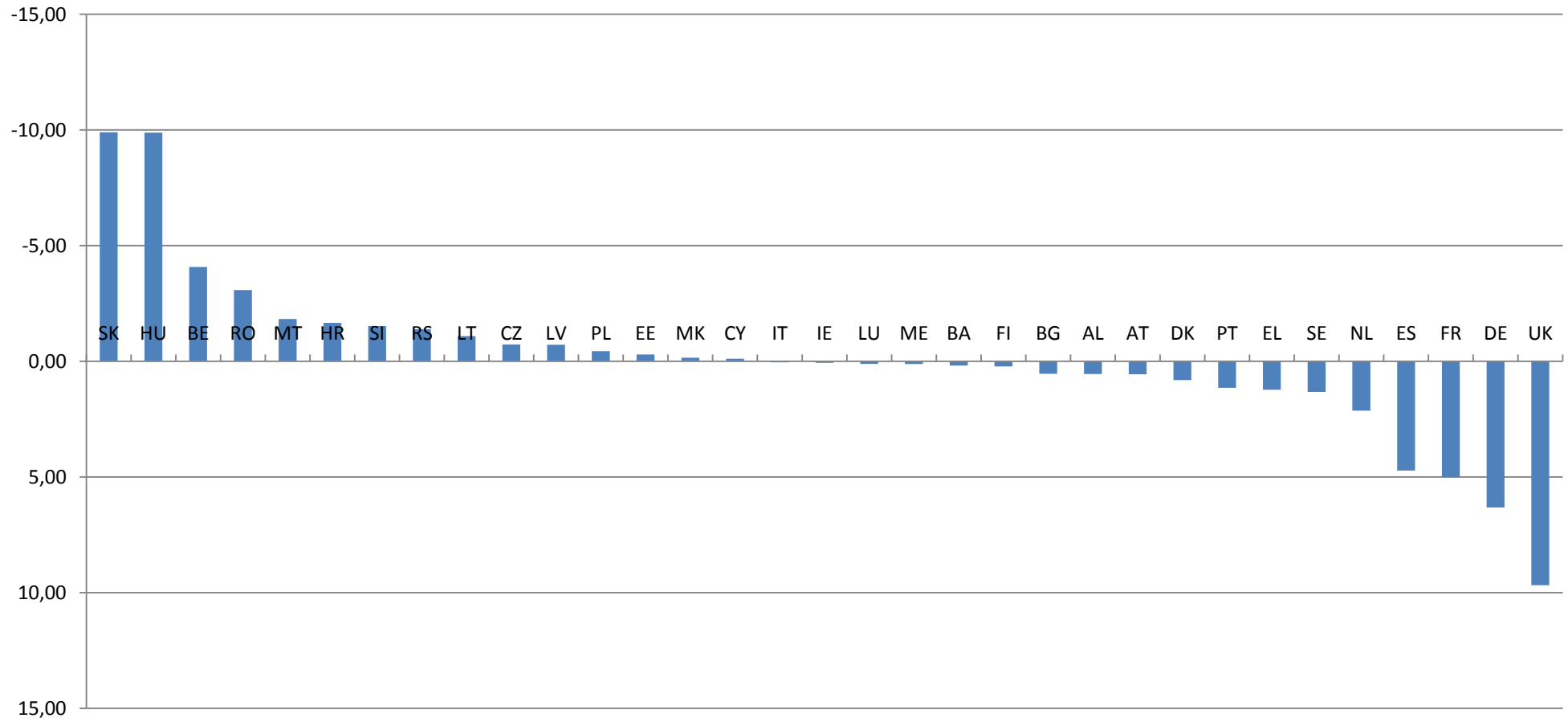
All Member States are beneficiaries. The combined outcome of the period 2015-2016 shows that **Hungary (101), Slovakia (85) and Italy (80)** are the countries with the most applications selected



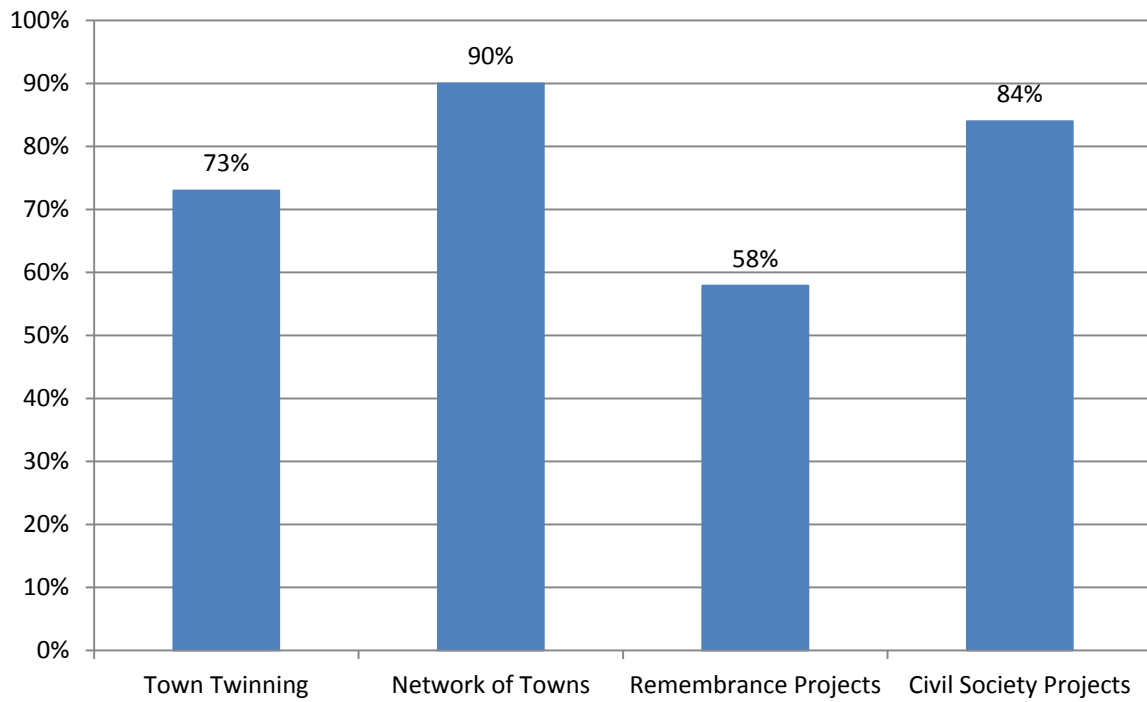
- **Variation of ratios: population rate vs. success rate**

Taking into consideration the ratio between the population of each eligible programme country and the success rate per country in 2016, equilibrium is achieved (with minimum variation +/-5) in 28 countries.

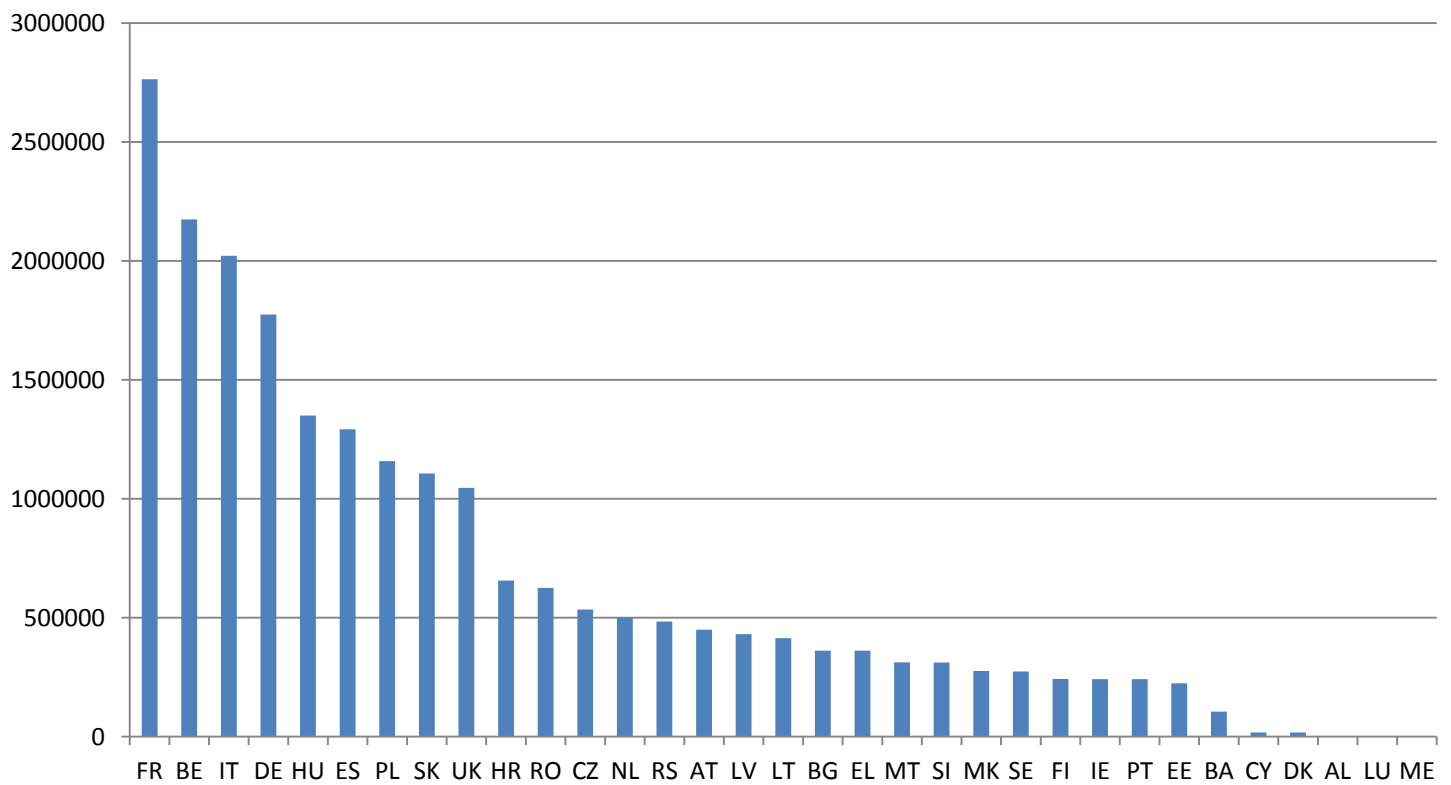
- Hungary and Slovakia are overrepresented
- The United Kingdom, Germany and France are underrepresented



- **New beneficiaries in 2016 per action**

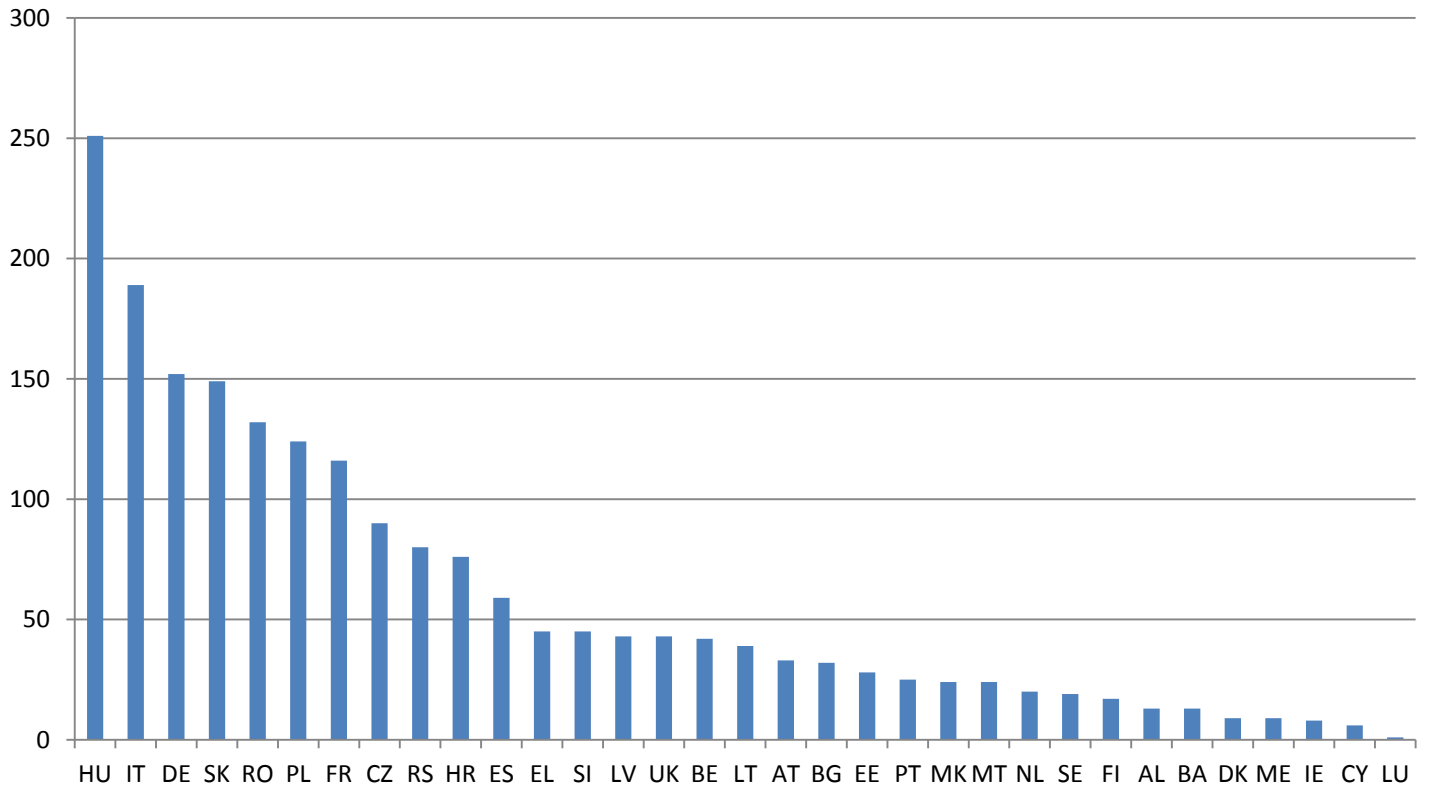


- **Amounts granted per country**

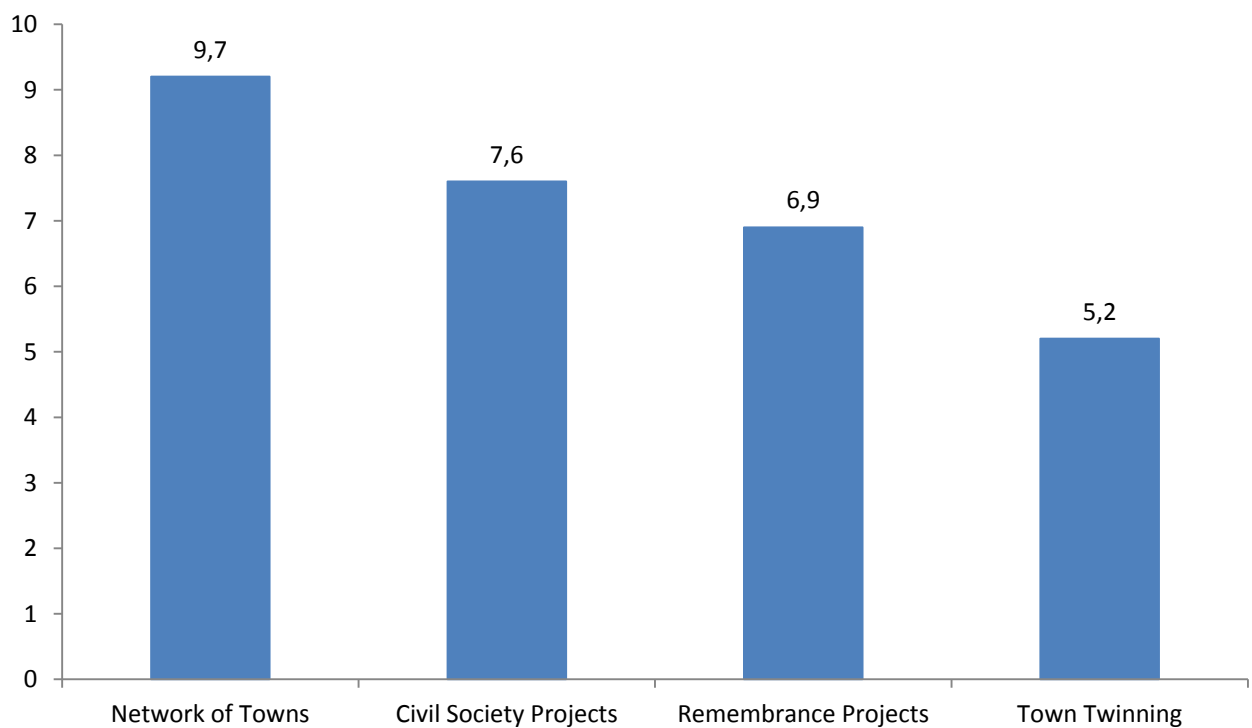


## Analysis of project partners

- **Overview per country:** number of partners in projects selected by country



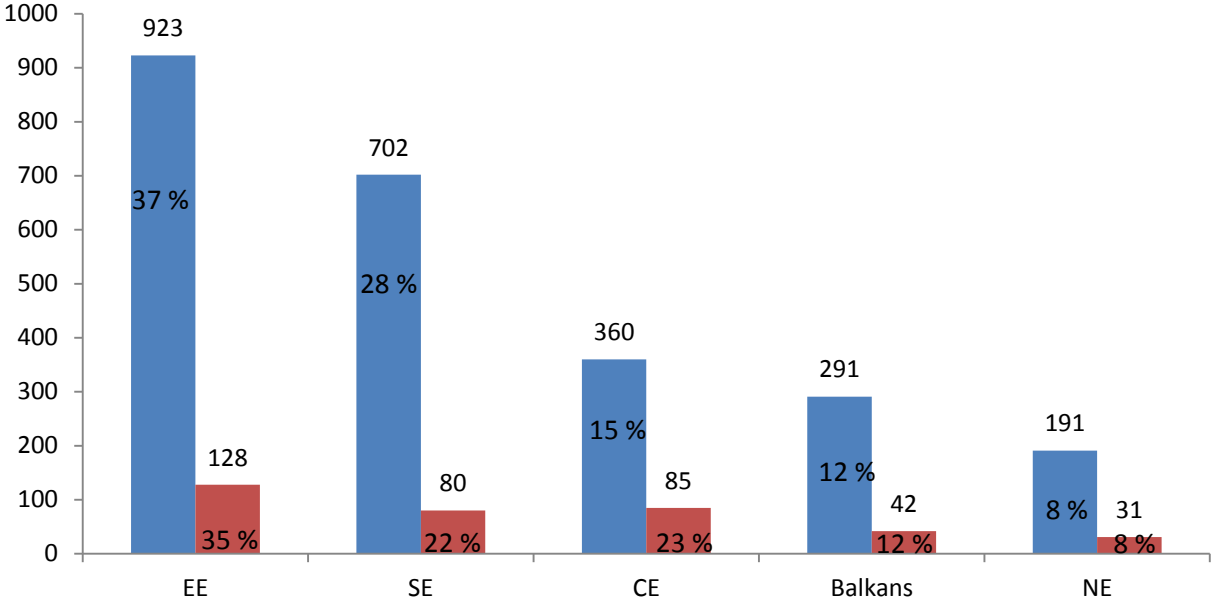
- **Overview per action:** average number of partners per action:



**Coverage in regional terms**

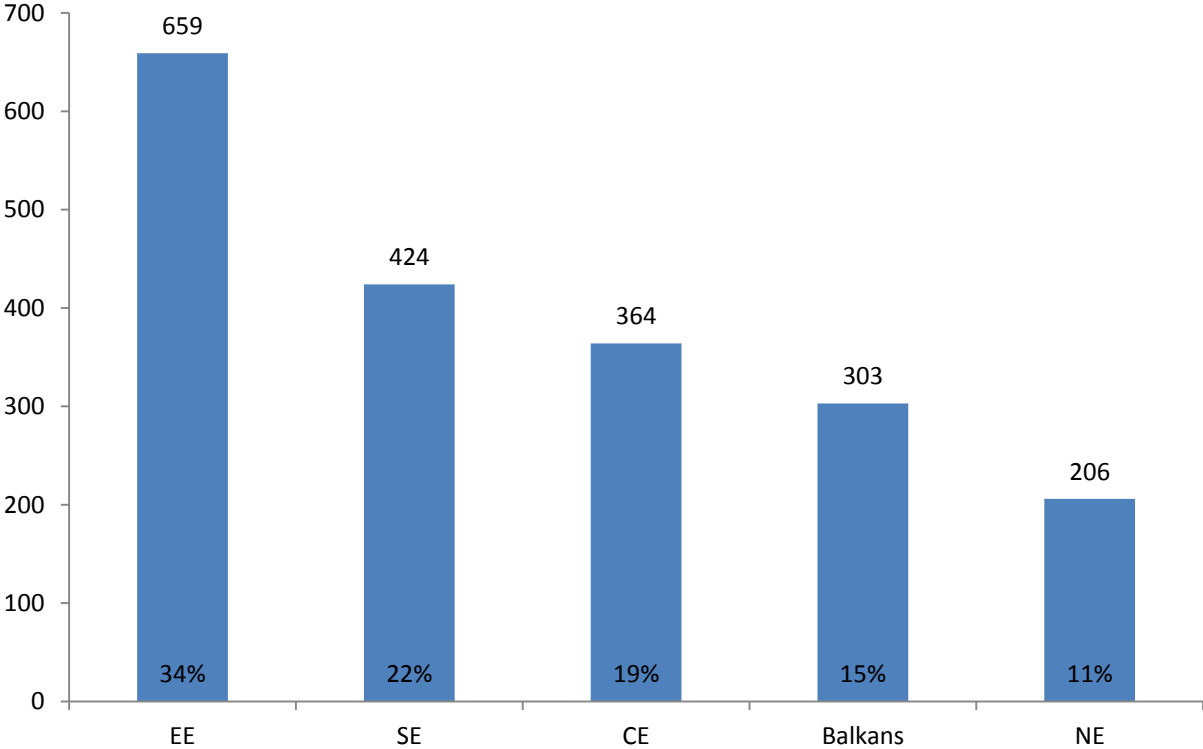
- **Applications submitted and selected per region**

In the year 2016, the majority of the projects submitted (37%) are from Eastern Europe (923).



- **Distribution of partners per region of selected projects**

In 2016, more than **30%** of the partners are coming from **Eastern European countries**, most of them from **Hungary (251 partners)**.



## Feeling of being a citizen of the EU

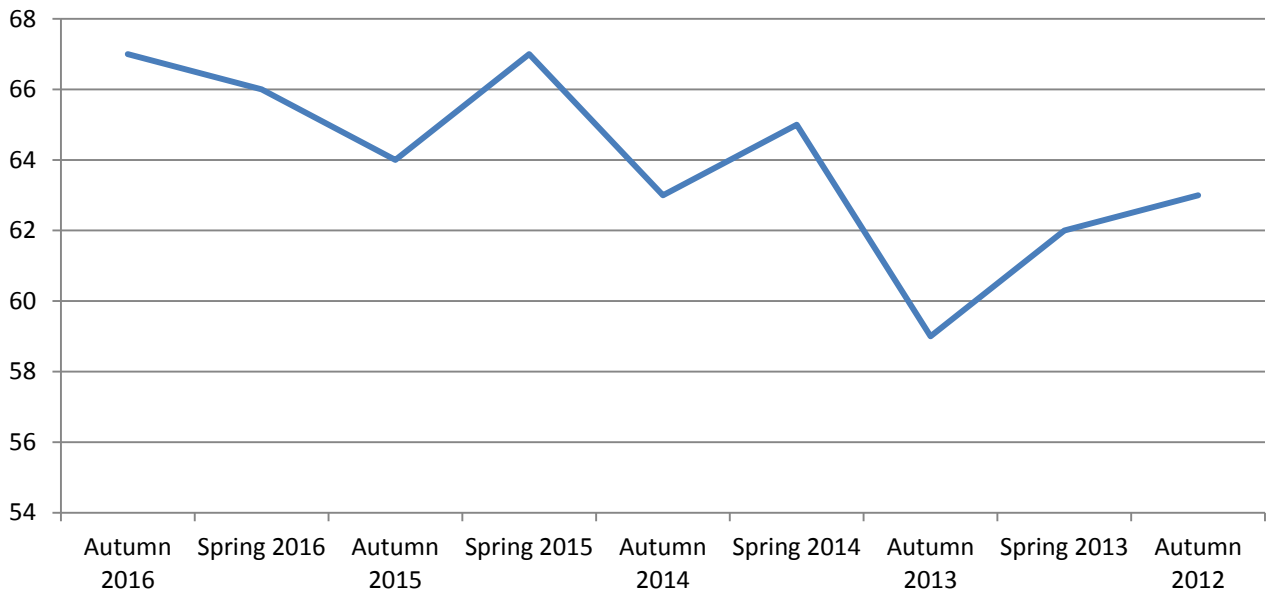
According to Standard Reports of the Eurobarometer, in terms of the European average, the feeling of being a citizen of the EU has remained stable over the last years (except a decrease in autumn 2013). There is a light tendency to a positive increase except for HR, CZ, EL, LT, DK, SI and BE.

According to the last data (autumn 2016)

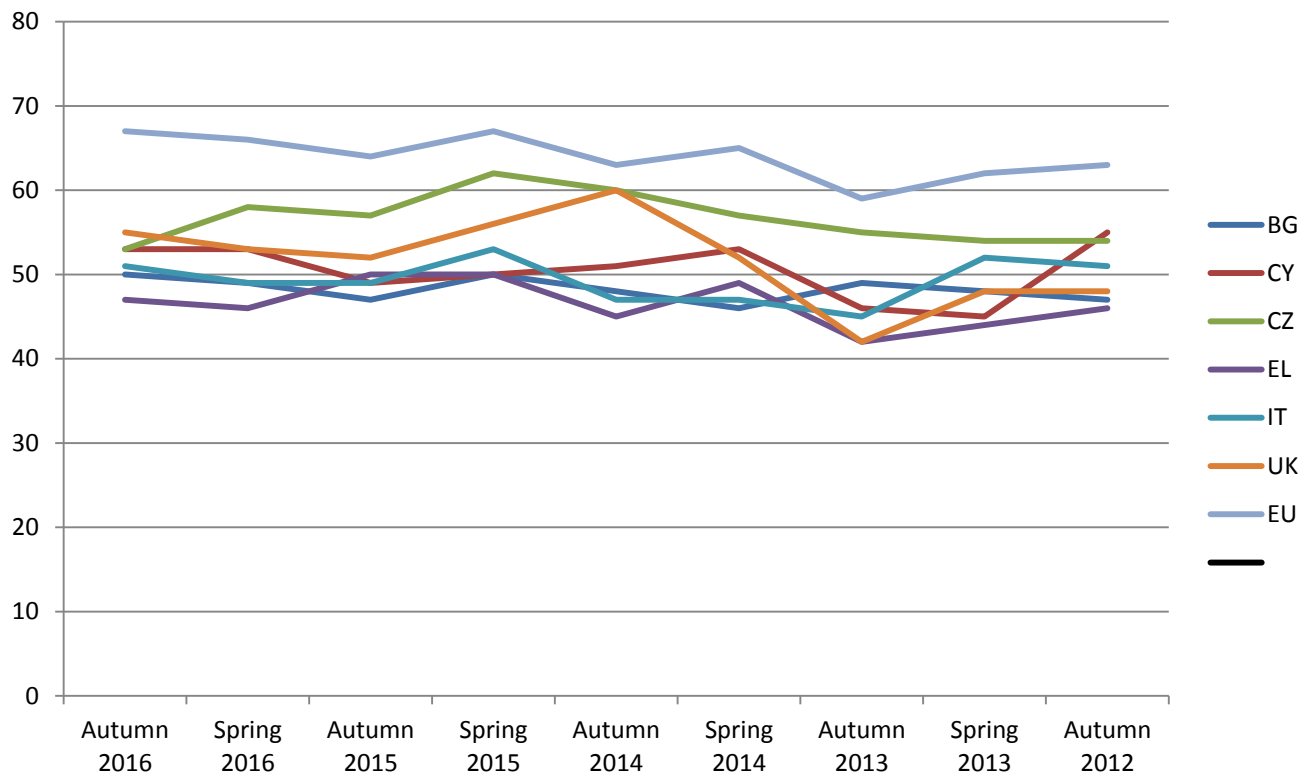
- LU, MT, FI, ES and PT are the countries where the feeling of being a European citizen is higher
- EL, IT, BG, CY and CZ are the countries where the sense of European citizenship is lower

	<i>Autumn 2016</i>	<i>Spring 2016</i>	<i>Autumn 2015</i>	<i>Spring 2015</i>	<i>Autumn 2014</i>	<i>Spring 2014</i>	<i>Autumn 2013</i>	<i>Spring 2013</i>	<i>Autumn 2012</i>	<i>Spring 2012</i>
<b>Country</b>	EB 86 p.32	EB 85 p. 38	EB 84 p. 32	EB 83 p. 17	EB 82 p. 29	EB 81 p. 7	EB 80 p. 30	EB 79 p. 23	EB 78 p. 23	EB 77 p. 22
<b>AT</b>	66	69	63	72	73	87	63	66	63	60
<b>BE</b>	71	71	72	70	69	71	70	71	68	69
<b>BG</b>	50	49	47	50	48	46	49	48	47	50
<b>CY</b>	53	53	49	50	51	53	46	45	55	62
<b>CZ</b>	53	58	57	62	60	57	55	54	54	52
<b>DE</b>	77	78	74	81	74	79	73	73	74	74
<b>DK</b>	74	77	76	74	74	73	71	71	74	75
<b>EE</b>	75	76	73	79	78	76	72	70	73	67
<b>EL</b>	47	46	50	50	45	49	42	44	46	50
<b>ES</b>	79	76	75	69	71	71	69	68	73	70
<b>FI</b>	79	82	75	81	76	79	73	73	78	71
<b>FR</b>	61	67	61	61	63	63	57	61	66	65
<b>HR</b>	60	61	66	63	56	55	58	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.
<b>HU</b>	69	65	69	67	67	59	59	59	54	51
<b>IE</b>	78	80	76	77	70	74	67	68	69	69
<b>IT</b>	51	49	49	53	47	47	45	52	51	45
<b>LT</b>	74	74	77	78	71	71	64	65	64	60
<b>LU</b>	92	93	85	88	89	85	85	88	87	85
<b>LV</b>	73	71	68	69	68	62	53	56	57	54
<b>MT</b>	82	84	82	84	85	87	74	81	76	72
<b>NL</b>	68	70	67	70	61	65	58	61	67	60
<b>PL</b>	78	76	71	74	74	77	67	70	74	67
<b>PT</b>	79	75	72	72	66	69	58	62	59	60
<b>RO</b>	67	59	62	65	68	61	56	53	51	60
<b>SE</b>	75	74	72	78	76	77	69	69	73	65
<b>SI</b>	73	70	75	65	69	69	61	64	68	66
<b>SK</b>	73	75	69	75	73	73	70	76	71	70
<b>UK</b>	55	53	52	56	60	52	42	48	48	42
<b>EU</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>61</b>

- **Feeling of being a citizen of the EU: average**



- **EU countries with EU feelings <60%**



## **D. ANNEXES**





## NOTE TO THE FILE

### **Subject: Analysis of the success rate of grant proposals received for Strands 1 and 2 of the Europe for Citizens Programme in 2016**

#### *1. Context*

One particularity of the Programme is the high number of proposals submitted, and its low success rate. The high interest for the Programme is due to different factors: its lifespan and popularity, its 'openness' to many types of potential applicants, the focus on topical priorities which corresponds to the citizen's needs. The budgetary constraints did not allow however to finance more than 16% of the proposals since the beginning of the programme, and this goes as low as 5% for the Civil Society measure.

We observe that many good quality projects (i.e. with high potential regarding the Europe for Citizens priorities) cannot be financed.

#### *2. Analysis*

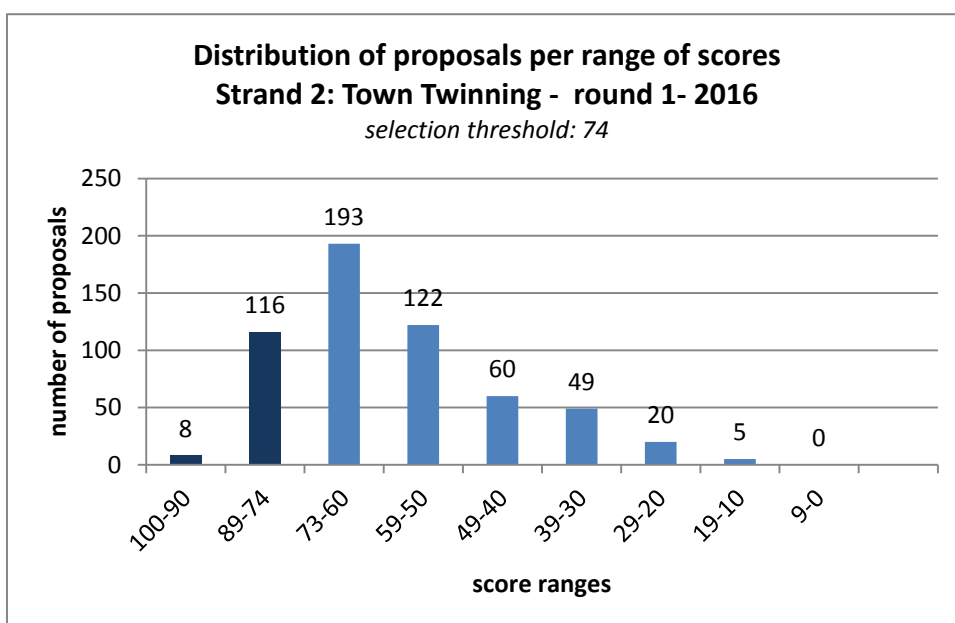
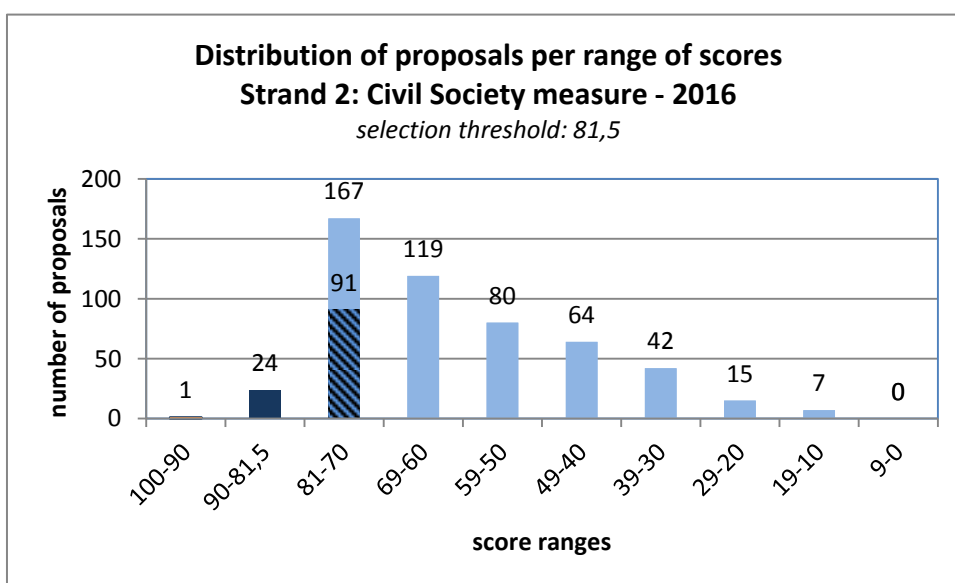
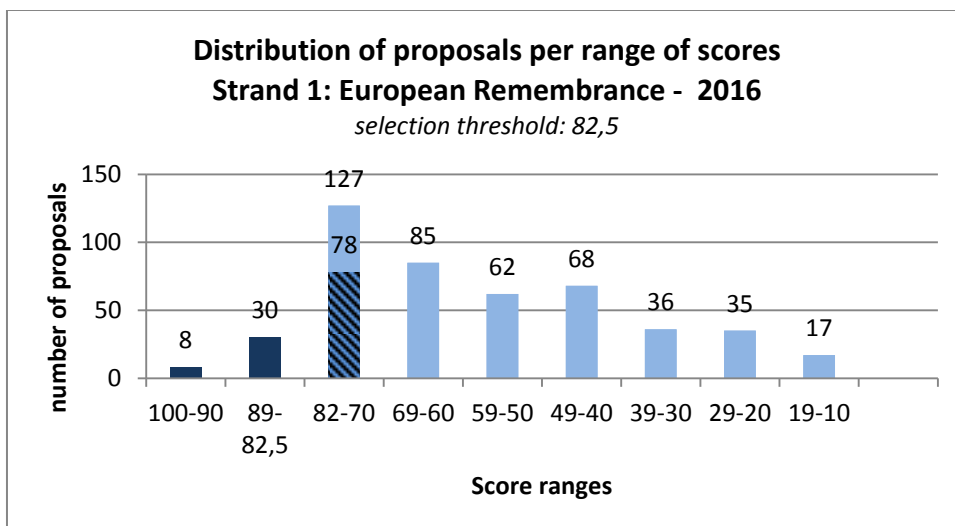
The tables below present the distribution of eligible proposals per ranges of scores per selection in 2016.

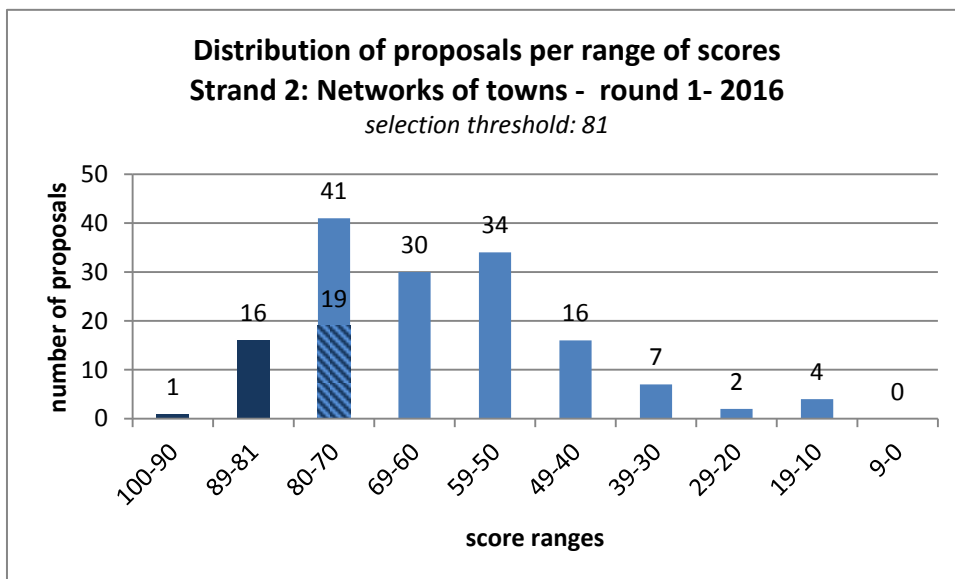
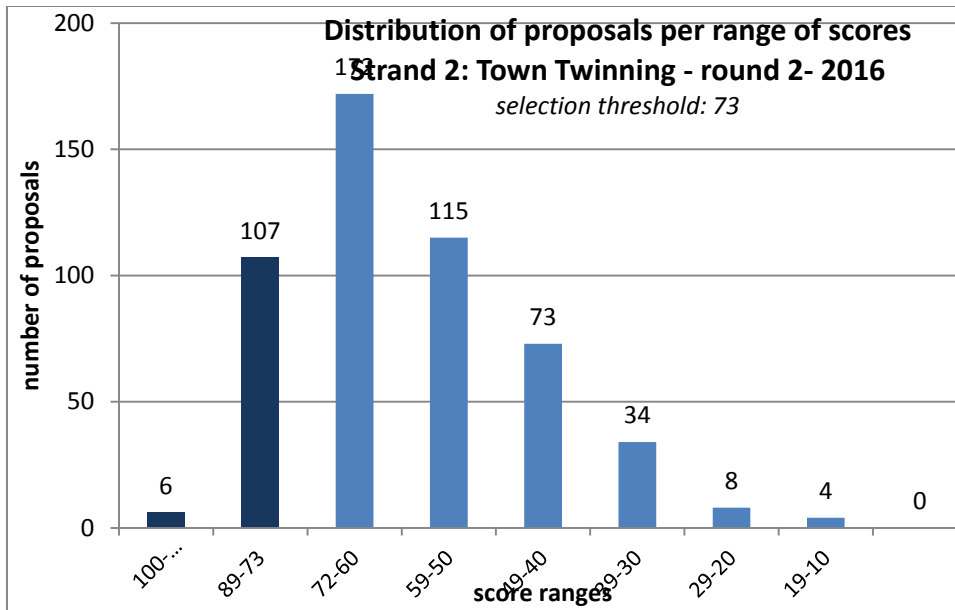
In all cases, the majority of proposals submitted have received 60 points or more.

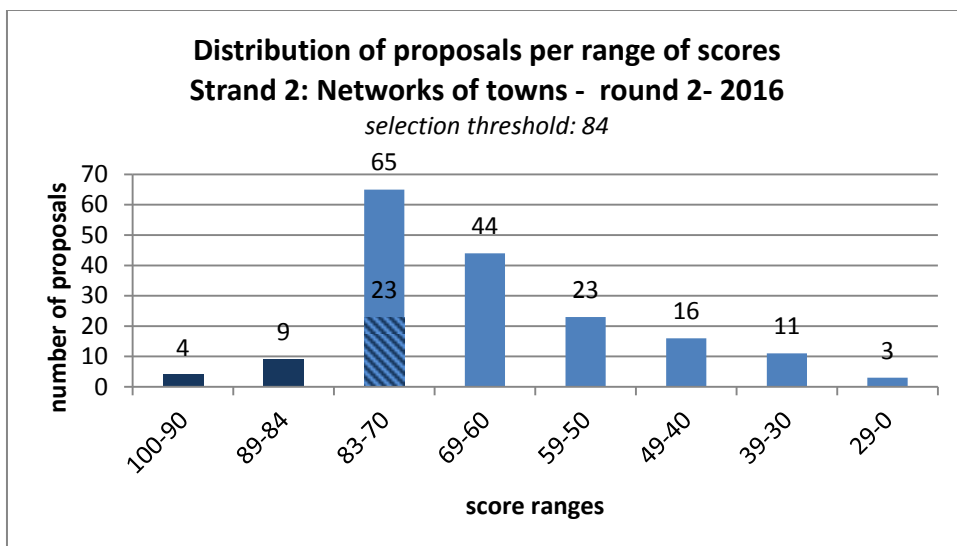
The first two darker columns in the tables show the selected projects.

As we can safely assume that proposals scoring 75 points or more are of good quality - would positively contribute to the priorities of the programme - we show them with the *stripped pattern* in the third columns of the charts (except for Town Twinning, phase 2, as the threshold was already fixed at 75 points).

It comes out from this exercise that in 2016 there are 211 good quality proposals (scoring minimum 75 points) which could not be supported by the Programme.







The table below shows all the selection thresholds since the beginning of the current Europe for Citizens Programme in 2014.

	2014	2015	2016
Remembrance	84	79,5	82,5
Civil Society	82,75	81,75	81,5
Town Twinning phase 1	53	78	74
Town Twinning phase 2	70,75	74,25	73
Network of Towns phase 1	67,5	80	81
Network of Towns phase 2	74	85	84

Below we present an overview of the results for all actions in the period 2014-2016

Index	actions and sub-actions	year	n°applications received	n° of applications funded	grant awarded (in Mio€)	funding threshold (incl. Reserve lists)	success rate
<b>Strand 1 - European remembrance</b>							
1.1	Remembrance projects	2014	472	36	3.104.000	84	8%
		2015	538	33	3.021.560	79,5	6%
		2016	468	38	3.342.500	82,5	8%
		2017					
		2018					
		2019					
		2020					
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>1478</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>9.468.060</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>7%</b>
1.2	Structural support for think thanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	2014	22	6	1.213.966	77,5	27%
		2015	6	6	1.213.466	n/a	100%
		2016	6	6	1.213.466	n/a	100%
		2017					
		2018					
		2019					
		2020					
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3.640.898,40</b>	<b>77,5</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>Strand 2 - democratic engagement and civic participation</b>							
2.1	Town twinning citizens meetings	2014	667	252	3.890.000	62,25	38%
		2015	1404	252	4.138.000	76,125	18%
		2016	1093	237	4.131.500	73,5	22%
		2017					
		2018					
		2019					
		2020					
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>3164</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>12.159.500</b>	<b>70,63</b>	<b>23%</b>
2.2	Networks of twinned towns	2014	224	35	4.522.500	70,75	16%
		2015	339	32	4.067.500	82,5	9%
		2016	328	30	4.120.000	81	9%
		2017					
		2018					
		2019					
		2020					
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>12.710.000</b>	<b>78,58</b>	<b>11%</b>
2.3	Civil society projects	2014	538	29	3.593.250	82,75	5%
		2015	440	27	3.322.750	81,75	6%
		2016	541	25	3.403.750	81,5	5%
		2017					
		2018					
		2019					
		2020					
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>1519</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>10.319.750</b>	<b>82,00</b>	<b>5%</b>
2.4	Structural support for think thanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	2014	139	29	5.474.702	77,5	21%
		2015	37	31	5.627.984	n/a	84%
		2016	30	30	5.549.678	n/a	100%
		2017					
		2018					
		2019					
		2020					
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>16.652.364,42</b>	<b>77,5</b>	<b>68%</b>
<b>Strand 3 - Valorisation</b>							
3.2	Information structures in Member States and participating countries	2014	24	24	694.025	n/a	100%
		2015	27	27	761.525	n/a	100%
		2016	28	28	780.000	n/a	100%
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>2.235.550</b>		
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7371</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>67.186.122,82</b>	<b>78,03</b>	<b>16%</b>

### 3. Findings

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)  
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What we can see from these tables is that:

- Many good projects (around 211 with a score of 75 and above) could not be financed in 2016;
- The success rate is particularly low for Strand 1 – European remembrance and Strand 2 – Civil Society projects
- To be noted: the particularly low selection threshold for the first round 2014 for Strand 2 – Network of Towns and Town Twinning: this is due to the late adoption of the Work programme in this first year of the new programme. Applicants had consequently little time to prepare applications in the challenging context of a new programme. Since then, things have settled.



## NOTE TO THE FILE

### Subject: Analysis of the population size per country versus the success rates

#### 1. Context

The aim of this document is to analyse whether equilibrium is achieved between the ratio of the population size per country and the projects selected.

This analysis is taking into consideration different groups of Programme countries according to their population size as well as the main geographical regions of Europe.

Considering that a variation of less than +/-5 % is not relevant for the macro analysis, most of the Programme countries show equilibrium of their population size versus the success rate.

There are a few exceptions which will be illustrated below. Notably:

- HU and SK overrepresented;
- UK, DE and FR underrepresented.

#### 2. Analysis of data according to the country size

##### a. Group 1 (DE, FR, UK, IT, ES, PL)

Among the group of the **six biggest countries** in terms of population, **Italy, Germany and Poland** are among the five countries with the highest overall programme success rate. In addition, **France and Germany**, together with Malta and Finland, are the Member States with the highest success rates in relation to projects submitted per country.

In other terms, taking Germany as an example, 34 applications were selected out of 139 submitted compared to 42 selected projects out of 362 submitted projects from Italy. While the ratio between the population rate and the applications selected of Italy and Poland is about the same, it is lower for Germany and France.

You find below the data related to the overall success rate per country and the population rate. However, this data – in absolute values – is not weighted by the specific impact of Operating grants.

**DE** → 9,3% applications granted vs. 15,6% population rate

**FR** → 7,7% applications granted vs. 12,7% population rate

In order to better understand those data and interpret the gap, it has to be noted that around 40% of operating grants were received by French and German organisations while no operating grants were awarded to Italian organisations. Operating grants – per their nature – imply a major impact on citizens, both at national and European level.

**UK** → 2,7% applications granted vs. 12,4% population rate

**IT** → 11,5% applications granted vs. 11,5% population rate

**ES** → 4,1% applications granted vs. 8,8% population rate

**PL** → 7,7% applications granted vs. 7,2% population rate

#### b. Group 2 (RO, NL, BE, EL, CZ, PT)

Considering that a variation of less than +/-5 % is not relevant for the macro analysis, all countries of this group are balanced.

#### c. Group 3 (SE, HU, AT, BG, RS, DK, FI, SK)

**Hungary** and **Slovakia** are among the countries with the highest overall success rate. Their number of applications selected is significantly higher than their population rate, mainly due to their important participation in Town Twinning.

Despite the notable decrease of applications from HU for Town Twinning, the geographical unbalance at submission level remains important considering that around 46% of the applications are submitted by 2 countries (HU and SK). Nevertheless, it is worth underlining that in comparison with the previous year **geographical distribution at submission level improved considerably**. Indeed, whereas in 2015, 53% of the applications were submitted by these two countries, in 2016, this ratio decreased to 46%.

**HU** → 11,8% applications submitted vs. 1,9% population rate

**SK** → 10,9% applications submitted vs. 1% population rate

#### d. Group 4 (IE, HR, BA, LT, AL, MK, SI) and Group 5 (LV, EE, CY, ME, LU, MT)

In these groups, all countries are balanced. In general, it has to be noticed that the smaller the country gets in terms of population, the more balanced the ratio between the applications granted and the population rate becomes.

### *3. Regional tendencies*

#### a. Northern Europe, Southern Europe and the Balkans

On average, in Northern Europe, Southern Europe and the Balkans, the ratio between applications selected and the population rate is balanced. Only exception is the **United Kingdom**.



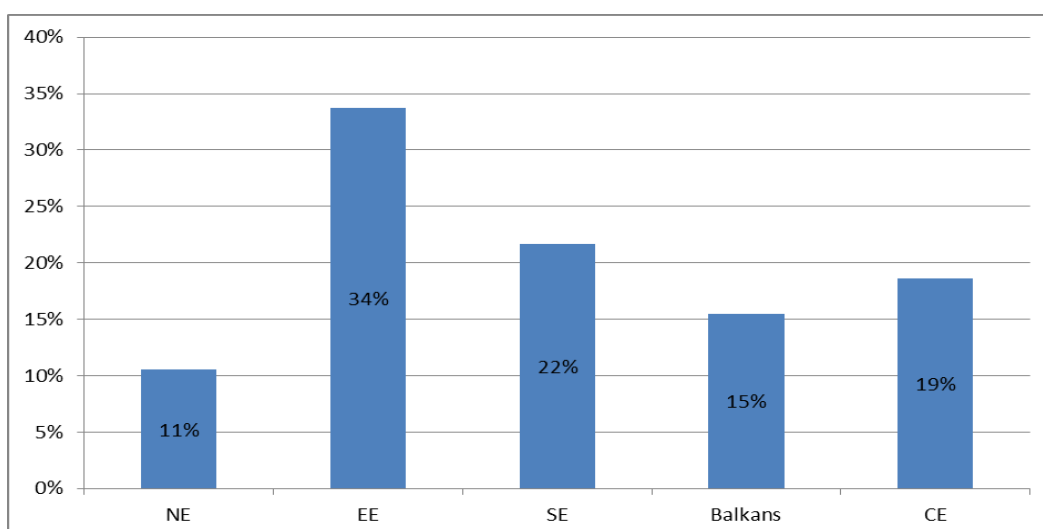
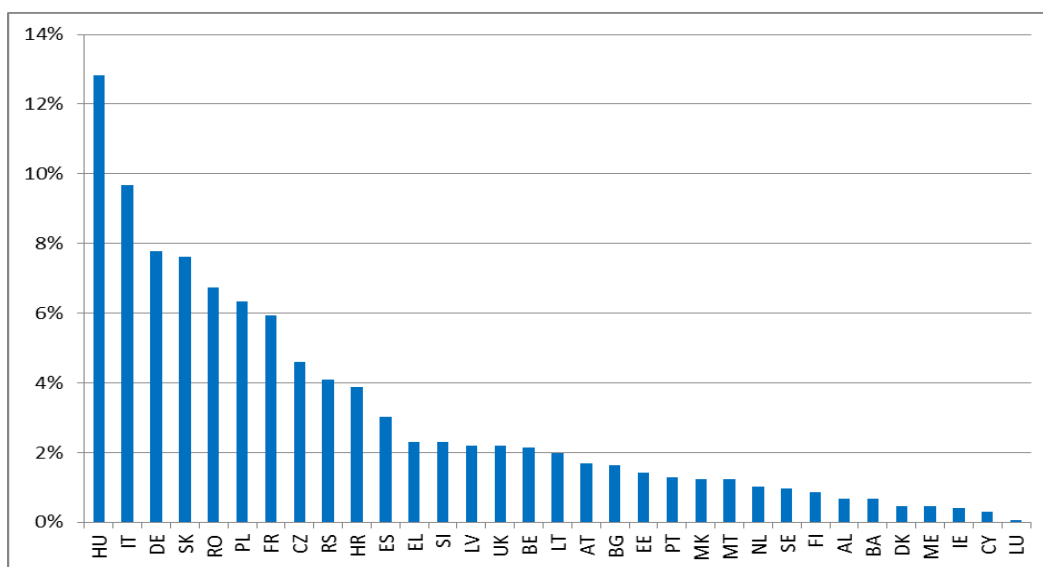
### b. Eastern Europe

Eastern Europe is on average overrepresented which is due to the high percentage of selected applications of **Hungary and Slovakia** in the framework of Town Twinning. However, as noted above, the geographical distribution at submission level within this action improved considerably.

### c. Central Europe

Central Europe is, on average, slightly underrepresented in terms of the ratio between applications granted and the population rate. Nevertheless, it has to be noted that almost 20% of the project partners were coming from Central Europe, 8% of which are represented by **Germany** and 6% by **France**.

More than 50 % of all project partners are coming from six countries, namely **Hungary (13%), Italy (10%), Germany (8%), Slovakia (8%), Romania (7%) and Poland (6%)**.



#### 4. Findings

Although five countries have a variation of more than +/-5 % regarding their ratio between population size and success rate, this fact does not preponderate taking into account that:

- **Germany** is among the five countries with the highest overall programme success rate
- **France and Germany** are among the Member States with the highest success rates in relation to projects submitted per country
- Almost 15% of project partners are coming from **Germany and France**
- Within Town Twinning, the geographical distribution at submission level is improving due to the decreasing number of applications from **Hungary and Slovakia**

- Overview of budgetary execution in 2016

Europe for citizens programme: follow up selection and contracts (2016)													
Index	Actions and sub-actions	Budget	Number of grants / contracts	Call	Deadline	Number of applications received	Number of ineligible application	Number of selected applications	Success rate	Decision date	Time to Decision (in months)	Amount of Decision	Amount of Commitment
	<b>Strand 1 - European remembrance and European citizenship</b>												
1.1.	Remembrance projects	3.328.140	43	Programme Guide	1/03/2016	468	0	38	8%	13/06/2016	3,5	3.342.500,00	3.342.500,00
1.2.	Structural support for think tanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	1.213.467	6	Call COMM C2/01/2013	16/11/2015	6	0	6	100%	11/01/2016	1,9	1.213.467,00	1.213.466,20
	<b>Strand 2 - Democratic engagement and civic participation</b>												
2.1.	Town twinning citizens meetings - phase 1	4.173.456	310	Programme Guide	01/03/2016	574	1	124	22%	2/06/2016	3,1	2.182.500,00	2.176.000,00
2.1.	Town twinning citizens meetings - phase 2				1/09/2016	519	0	113	22%	30/09/2016	2,9	1.949.000,00	1.949.000,00
					<b>TOT</b>	<b>1093</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>22%</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>4.131.500,00</b>	<b>4.125.000,00</b>
2.2.	Networks of twinned towns - Phase 1	4.084.669	44	Programme Guide	1/03/2016	151	0	17	11,3%	26/05/2016	2,9	2.312.500,00	2.300.000,00
2.2.	Networks of twinned towns - Phase 2				1/09/2016	177	0	13	7,3%	25/11/2016	2,8	1.807.500,00	1.807.500,00
					<b>TOT</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>9,1%</b>		<b>2,85</b>	<b>4.120.000,00</b>	<b>4.107.500,00</b>
2.3.	Civil society projects	3.104.605	34	Programme Guide	1/03/2016	541	1	25	4,6%	20/06/2016	3,7	3.413.750,00	3.403.750,00
2.4.	Structural support for think tanks, organisations at European level (framework partnerships)	5.627.984	31	Call COMM C2/01/2013	16/11/2016	31	1	30	97%	11/01/2016	1,9	5.549.678,42	5.549.678,42
	<b>Strand 3 - Valorisation</b>												
3.2.	Information structures in Member States and participating countries	900.000	33	art 190,1 d RAP no Call	13/11/2015 and 30/09/2016 at the latest	29	0	29	100%	18/01/2016	2,2	795.000,00	794.999,50
4.1.	Support to project selection	200.000	na	na								191.475,00	191.475,00
	Interest for delay in payments												490,92
	<b>TOTAL WP 2016</b>	<b>22.632.321</b>	<b>501</b>			<b>2496</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>16%</b>		<b>2,8</b>	<b>22.757.370,42</b>	<b>22.728.860,04</b>