

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
<b>Participant:</b>	4. STICHTING PLACEMAKING EUROPE (PLACEMAKING EU)
<b>PIC number:</b>	898831295
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	Placemaking for Citizen-led Missions in SE Europe (PLACE)

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
<b>Event number:</b>	18
<b>Event name:</b>	<b>Placemaking for Mission-led Community Development Lab 2</b>
<b>Type:</b>	Mutual Learning
<b>In situ/online:</b>	In situ
<b>Location:</b>	Strasbourg, France
<b>Date(s):</b>	26-29 September 2023
<b>Website(s) (if any):</b>	<a href="https://placemaking-europe.eu/pwe">https://placemaking-europe.eu/pwe</a>
Participants	
Female:	56
Male:	21
Non-binary	
From Austria	1
From Bulgaria	2
From Cyprus	1
From Croatia:	1
From Denmark:	1
From Finland:	1
From France:	4
From Germany:	7
From Greece	5

From Hungary	7		
From Ireland	1		
From Italy	9		
From Malta	1		
From the Netherlands	23		
From Poland	2		
From Portugal:	2		
From Romania:	1		
From Slovakia:	2		
From Slovenia	2		
From Spain	3		
Total number of participants:	77	From total number of countries:	20
<b>Description</b>			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<b>Placemaking for Mission-led Community Development Lab 2</b>			
<p>PLACE project event #18 - Placemaking for Mission-led Community Development Lab 2, was organised within Placemaking Week Europe 2023 - in Strasbourg, France.</p> <p><u>Placemaking Week Europe</u> is Europe's largest placemaking festival. In 2023, Placemaking Week Europe came to Strasbourg in France. Over 400 practitioners from at least 46 countries came together to share knowledge, learn and network (over 380 participants were from Europe).</p> <p>Within the Placemaking Week Europe larger learning and exchange event, for the purposes of PLACE project event #18 - <i>Placemaking for Mission-led Community Development Lab 2</i>, we are reporting a subset of activities organised within the overall Placemaking Week Europe 2023 festival. We are also reporting a subset of 77 Placemaking Week Europe participants coming from 20 EU member-state countries (56 identified as female and 21 as male).</p> <p>These activities meet our objectives for the <i>Placemaking for Mission-led Community Development Lab 2</i> event – ie. to provide an in-person opportunity for citizens to collaborate, share and learn together in a transnational collective space - celebrating successes, and also digging into hard questions on how to overcome issues, mistakes and barriers to change and effective placemaking. We brought into Placemaking Week the planned focus on examples from SE Europe, while welcoming participants from across the EU.</p> <p>As part of the overall Placemaking Week Europe, we hosted and focussed on the following sessions, which are further described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing Community Placemaking Movements and Civic Imagination: Co-creation Workshop</li> <li>• Disruptive Placemaking: Experiences from SE Europe</li> <li>• Sharing session on Regional Networks</li> <li>• Placemaking Europe Community Session</li> </ul>			

### **Background to Placemaking Week**

Since the inaugural global Placemaking Week in 2017, the European placemaking movement has evolved into a dynamic community, transcending boundaries and sectors to drive transformative change in Europe's urban landscapes. This year's event, hosted in Strasbourg represented an opportunity to consolidate gains, reflect on achievements, and collectively define the future of placemaking in a rapidly changing world.

In this article framing the beginning of the overall Placemaking Week Europe, Ramon Marrades (Director of PLACE project partner Placemaking Europe), framed a number of key themes and questions for Placemaking Week Europe They were:

- Triggering Change: How can placemaking be a catalyst for change? How can we create a sense of urgency and momentum for transformative placemaking?
- Equity in Placemaking: Is placemaking possible without equity? How do we ensure that our placemaking efforts are inclusive and benefit all members of the community?
- Community Expertise: Is the community truly the expert in placemaking? Do Placemakers see them as such? How can we empower local communities to take the lead in shaping their own environments?
- Balancing People, Place, and Profits: Can we reconcile the interests of people, the integrity of the place, and economic considerations? How can placemaking contribute to sustainable prosperity?
- Small Solutions for Big Challenges: Can small-scale placemaking initiatives address larger societal and environmental issues? How can we scale up placemaking efforts for maximum impact?
- Creating dialogue: How do we align the interests of different stakeholders? What are the synergies between different parties that can help strengthen placemaking processes?
- The State of Placemaking: What is the current state of the placemaking practice in Europe? How have we evolved, and where do we go from here?
- The Essence of True Placemaking: What does 'true' placemaking entail?

Ramon's challenge was that participants should work on collective efforts to create a virtuous circle, where public spaces, people, and the planet thrive together, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future for all. These are all key themes for the PLACE project.

### **Growing Community Placemaking Movements and Civic Imagination: Co-creation Workshop**

The grand challenge facing all communities is to quickly change tracks. To create radical enough change to ensure everyone can come to genuinely live and thrive within planetary boundaries. Widespread, high-quality community placemaking is on the critical path for such change. Because:

1. Every community should be benefiting from excellent placemaking in their neighbourhood
2. The process of placemaking helps communities to build the collaboration, confidence and imagination capacities that are vital for enabling the wider changes we need.

During this learning and exchange workshop, participants grappled together with what is needed to grow from current pockets of successful placemaking to movements of excellent community placemaking that enable radical change? Participants had the chance to:

- Share examples of their work to support community placemaking and civic imagination
- Explore together what is needed to grow from current pockets of successful placemaking to movements of excellent community placemaking that enable civic imagination and more radical change.
- Co-create an initial sketch of a common placemaking incubator approach that can be deployed at local and national scales to help achieve this next leap.

- Prioritise funding opportunities to pursue together to help turn ideas into action

This workshop was well attended and well received, with participants finding it a valuable learning exchange, and networking opportunity in the lead-in to the main Placemaking Week programme.

See the programme description for this session here: <https://sched.co/1Rc9d>



### **Disruptive Placemaking: Experiences from SE Europe**

On Wednesday 27 September, the PLACE project team also anchored a panel session focussed on experiences from SE Europe and the question of how placemaking processes can be excellent, sustained, and sufficiently disruptive to current systems to help create more radical, systemic and mission-led community change.

In this session we discussed cases of placemaking from Sicily, Croatia, Serbia, North Macedonia and Slovenia. Speakers highlighted learnings from their placemaking processes; the impacts these cases are having; and suggestions on how we can all do better in creating disruptive enough placemaking.

Speakers were:

- Milena Ivkovic - Co-founder and CEO, Placemaking Western Balkans
- Giulia Sala - Project Manager, PUSH
- Milosh Sokolikj - Service designer, SmartUp - Social Innovation Lab
- Maja Pegan - President, House! /Hiša! society for people and places
- Magdalena Makar - Project assistant, ODRAZ

The session was introduced and facilitated by PLACE project manager Tim Taylor from Korimako.

During the panel discussion, the speakers discussed the following key questions:

- Can you share an example of how you have seen placemaking processes get an individual thinking differently, bigger or more creatively? What was it about the placemaking process that unlocked this in them? What was their reaction?
- Can you share an example of how you have seen placemaking disrupt the current behaviour and operating mode of institutions, including municipalities, in a positive way? Again - what was it about the placemaking process that unlocked this in them and what was their reaction?
- Good placemaking will often lead to some conflict, otherwise it is not changing anything. Have you seen this happen? What happened and was it resolved in a way that was positive in the end?
- If you had a magic wish, what is the top thing you would wish for to expand placemaking in ways that you think would make the biggest difference in your community?

See programme description for this session here <https://sched.co/1Rb4b>



### **(PE1) Sharing session on Regional Networks**

This session aimed to facilitate mutual learning on how to start, grow and maintain regional placemaking networks. Recent growth of these networks at city, region or country level can be seen both globally and in Europe, and these local networks can be key in growing the placemaking movement across the globe.

This session was a chance for participants to learn from each other and explore questions like: why is it important to organise yourselves; how to start a regional network; how can you grow a community, which models or entities are fitting; what kind of partners would you need; should your network be inclusive or exclusive; can regional networks become part of the family of Placemaking Europe?

This session helped to spark further conversations about regional placemaking network development in SE Europe

This session was hosted by Minouche Besters - Managing Partner, STIPO along with colleagues from Placemaking Europe

See programme description for this session here <https://sched.co/1RcFI>

### **(PE3) Placemaking Europe Community Session**

During this open session Placemaking Europe sought feedback from the European placemaking community on the role of Placemaking Europe as an EU network. This was framed with questions such as:

- Who is our community and what do you need to feel included and part of the placemaking community?
- How do you find and support each other and how can Placemaking Europe facilitate this?
- If there would be a community leader in Placemaking Europe, what would he/she need to do or not do?
- Should we promote 'leaders' or 'advocates' within our community? If yes, how can someone become a leader or advocate?

This session was hosted by Laska Nenova - Board Member, Founder & Managing Director, Placemaking Europe and BG Be Active; along with colleagues from Placemaking Europe

See programme description for this session here: <https://sched.co/1RbaX>

*This EDS is published at [www.korimako.org](http://www.korimako.org) (see PLACE project page under 'Our Projects')*

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