

May
2020

Escape Room – What would life be without EU?

REscEU

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION PACK
MATTEO LOUIS CASLING
CHIARA MACCI

MOVIMENTO EUROPEO ITALIA

Overview

In the Report by Eurobarometer “Emotions and political engagement towards the EU” (2019), it is clear that 33% of the interviewees feel “doubt” as the first feeling associated to the EU. From the standpoint of political engagement, citizens declare that they are not inclined to participating in public events. That is why REscEU is aiming to contribute towards an increased civic and democratic participation at Eu level, involving them physically in an interactive experience to make them feel directly the possible consequences of the dissolution of the EU.

This is made possible by the creation of Escape Rooms roleplay games in every partner country. The game should help the participant to gain empathy and a sense of belonging by embodying characters while having to handle everyday problems and situations in the dystopian scenario they will have to escape, the dissolution of the European Union.

The experiences lead towards:

- 1) Improved knowledge of the European Union, with a particular focus towards younger generations.
 - a. The activity is structured towards practical learning of functions, processes and successes achieved by the EU. The immersive hands-on experience will ensure that knowledge will be well rooted in the participant's minds.
 - b. By the end of the game, the participants will have the opportunity to ask questions to experts.
 - c. Not only the participants will gain further knowledge about the EU, but also the volunteers, who will assist with the implementation of the activity,
- 2) Improve the awareness of citizens towards the functions of the EU.
 - a. The difficulties and problems the participants will face during the game will help to highlight the impact of the EU and its common values and programmes.
- 3) Tackle Euroskepticism
 - a. The situations created inside the escape room will be centred around the direct deterioration of the quality of life that could be produced by the dissolution of the European Union. Every element in the Escape room will be created around the analysis produced by partner organizations over the consequences of the dissolution of the EU.
- 4) Stimulate debate over the future of Europe.
 - a. The immersive experience will push participants to question the future of Europe.
 - b. By the end of the experience, participants will compile a survey answering questions regarding both the project and the European Union as a whole.

Mission and Vision

We remind people around Europe of the central role that the European Union plays in our everyday life. By making people play inside an Escape Room, we trust we can reinforce the importance of cooperation and union between people and states.

We believe that a game can have a great impact on someone's perception of the world, we want to promote the importance of union and cooperation in vision of a better and stronger European Union.

REscEU Project values, target and positioning

REscEU is an Escape Room game themed around the dystopian vision of the dissolution of the European Union. Players will have to face the difficulty of living without the European Union. Payers will have to face a series of tasks to complete the game, they will be able to choose how to complete them, with whom to collaborate and make choices to escape the room before the time runs out.

The purpose of REscEU is to allow young generations to gain consciousness over the importance of the European Union. Every day we take many advantages of the European Union for granted, without realizing how the dissolution of the European Union could affect our daily life.

We believe that a collaboration game is the best way to help people understand and reinforce the importance of the European Union. Our team of experts will evaluate the possible consequences of the dissolution of the EU. These core concepts will be transformed into riddles to allow a direct connection between the issue and the player.

Who's our Target?

Our main target group is composed of young people between the age of 16 and 25. The people within this age group have lived all their life with the advantages of the European Union and might end up not realizing its importance in our everyday life.

The targeted age group is also the one that might be keener in learning the most from a game with the escape room format.

A smaller group will be formed by people aged between 25-99.

This group will be harder to convince and play along inside the game, their ideas are already well-rooted and will be extremely hard to change. Nether less, an experience such as the escape room game could help them to improve their awareness towards the importance of the EU in their everyday life.

A possible option is to create two different game plans for different age groups. The complexity of the tasks and riddles can vary.

What do we want to achieve?

The project is aimed to raise awareness. The participants should be able to take away valuable lessons about the importance of a United Europe. These lessons learned should then be supported by a discussion with local experts and dissemination material.

The fun factor of the Escape room format should ensure the participants an experience that should help them to independently research further information regarding the importance of the European Union.

Long-lasting connections

REscEU as a project stimulate the creation of connections between participants as well as the organizations hosting the event in the country. The project should help the participants to feel part of a community and provide them with a better understanding of the core values of the European Union and the hosting organizations.

In addition, the project can greatly help to remove prejudice and misconceptions regarding the European Union.

Participants and other stakeholders

Participants

The main participants of the project will be young people in the age group between 16 and 25. The participants within that age group believe that most of the advantages of the European Union are normal and do not even realize how they might affect their everyday life. That is why using the Escape Room format might help them to better comprehend the advantages of a United Europe and how this union affects their daily life.

Within the participant's group, there should be quite a large percentage of people coming from disadvantaged groups, to whom should be reserved further encouragement and special attention by the partner organizations.

Online Participants

Many people will not be able to take part in the physical events, that is why the project plans to create online content as well as an online interactive game. The results of the surveys taken by participants during the events should help to better understand the required structure for the online game. The production of photographic and video content will ensure widespread dissemination to people of all age groups and categories. The dissemination platforms will be mainly composed of social media accounts and web sites of both REscEU and Partner Organizations.

Volunteers

All the volunteers will be selected by the partners based on their studies and previous work/volunteer/internship experiences. The main target is university students involved in the following studies: Languages, political sciences, history, law and economy.

The volunteer will gain wide visibility on social media thanks to their participation in the project.

Local Tutors

Local tutors will be selected with the above-stated selection criteria. Local tutors will be responsible for assisting local Escape Room activities. They will help to set-up the Escape rooms following the criteria established during the meeting held in November 2020 in Rome, Italy. Local organizations will not have a limit over the volunteers who can assist with the local events, but the number of volunteers participating in the training event in Italy, Rome will be limited.

European Solidarity corps

Two volunteers will be selected from the European Solidarity Corps portal by the *Movimento Europeo Italia* and *Društvo za razvijanje prostovoljnega dela Novo mesto*. Each volunteer will be responsible for assisting with the organization of one of the international events, The first one in Italy and the second one in Slovenia.

Monitoring

The activities have to be constantly monitored to ensure quality control and project outcomes. Surveys will be the main tool for monitoring project activities. Participants will be requested to fill in surveys at the end of their escape room experience. These surveys will serve the critical function of monitoring the outcomes of the projects.

The second tool will be composed by audio and video interviews taken at the end of the activity. These interviews can be used for monitoring purposes as well as for dissemination. More information will be provided with the communications toolkit.

A final report will be produced by the end of the project containing the results and findings of the project.

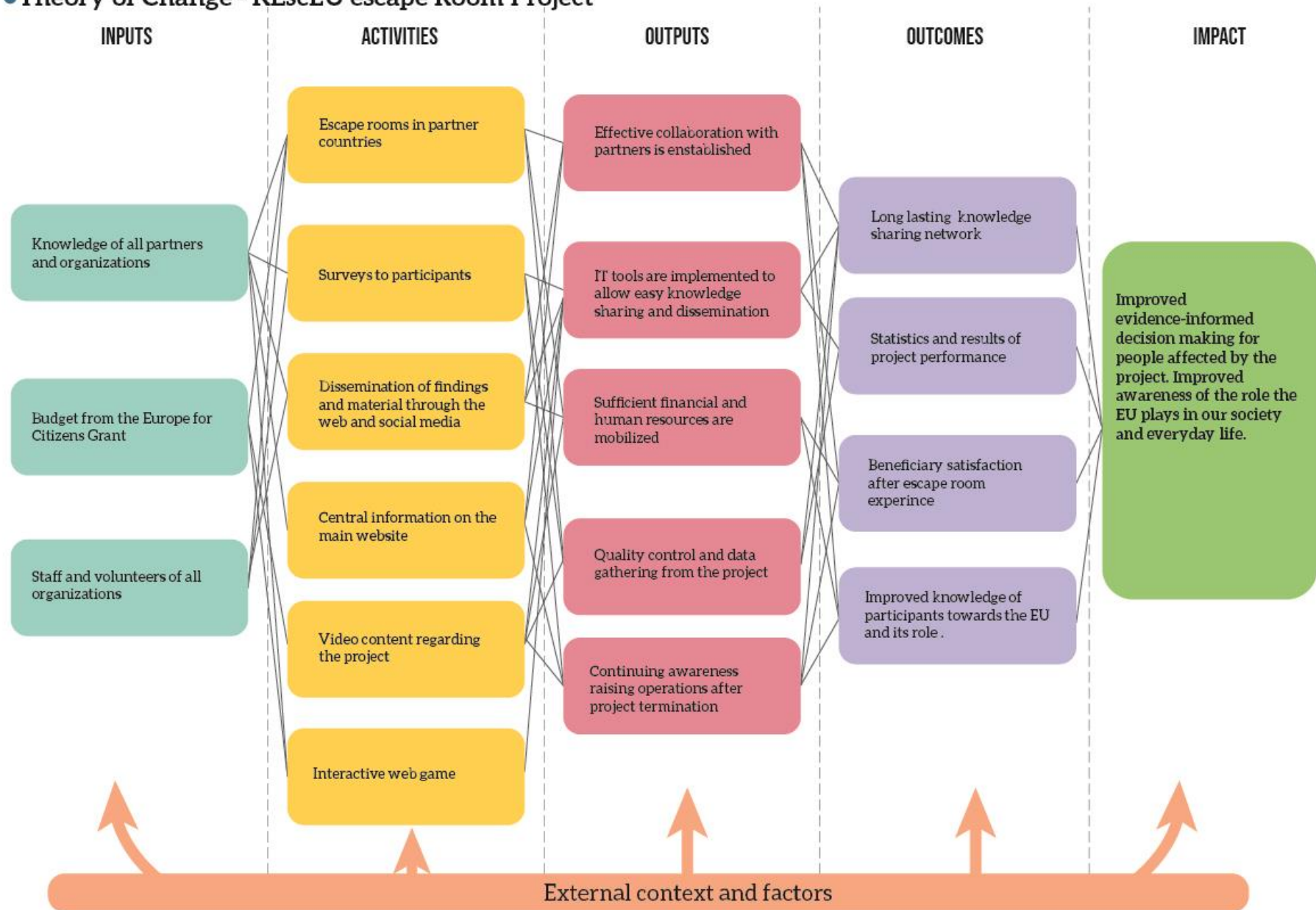
Reporting

Partner organizations are required to report back to *Movimento Europeo Italia* the results and progress of the project. These reports will serve the purpose of measuring implementation status as well as to provide guidance and necessary adjustments.

Partner Organizations are required to certify the presence of participants in local activities. ***Budget availability is tightly tied to the participation of at least 50 people for each partner.*** *Movimento Europeo Italia* will provide all partner organizations with the required module to certify participation. Participation will be verified by collecting the participants' general information and signature by the end of the activity. For the two international event participation must be higher.

Movimento Europeo Italia will also be responsible for providing partner organizations with a final survey for participants. Partner organizations will be required to translate the survey in their local language. The survey module is of utmost importance to produce a final analysis of the project.

● Theory of Change - REscEU escape Room Project



Partner Organizations

Lead Partner

Movimento Europeo Italia

The Movimento Europeo Italia is the leading “umbrella” organization for Europeanism in Italy, expression of parties, labor unions, organizations and associations aware of the relevance of the achievement of a United Europe as stated in the “Ventotene Manifesto” (approximately 50 associated organizations). It is a founding member of the International European Movement, composed of 39 national councils and 38 European adhering organizations.

The Movimento Europeo Italia promotes various activities: from advocacy towards national and European organizations towards political and cultural insight activities, sensitizations campaigns, information and training directed to citizens, especially young, towards the respect of the EU, stimulating debate, reflection and development of networks fighting Euro-skepticism. Identity, democracy, civic participation, active citizenship, human rights, equal opportunities, solidarity and integration between people are the most relevant themes to the organization.



**Movimento
Europeo
Italia**

<https://www.movimentoeuropeo.it/>

Partners

Agora CE

Agora CE is a Czech non-governmental and non-profit organization, its mission is to strengthen the process of democratization of the society. The long-term commitment of Agora CE is to improve communication and cooperation between citizens and town halls and encourage citizens to be interested in public affairs to increase active citizenship and strengthen democracy. Since its foundation in 1998, the organization manages diverse citizen participation projects on the municipal level and organizes international projects; since 2004, an important part of Agora’s work are projects and programs of civic education to promote active citizenship of youth.



<http://agorace.cz/en/about-us/>

Association Euni Partners

Association Euni Partners is a non-governmental organization, based in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, with over 80 members with different backgrounds and expertise. Euni Partners works primarily in the fields of education and training, social inclusion, culture and sustainable development. The association's primary target groups are youth and adults from rural areas, people with social and/or economic obstacles, from cultural/ religious/ ethnic communities facing challenges integrating into society; people with special learning needs and disabilities. The Association works in close partnership with the local and regional authorities, as well as the educational institutions in the region, providing training, workshops and consultancy in the field of social inclusion.



<https://eunipartners.com/>

Civic Alliance – Latvia

Civic Alliance-Latvia (CAL) is an umbrella advocacy organization for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the national level, representing more than 120 member organizations. The aim is to improve the legal and financial environment for the NGO sector in Latvia and to strengthen the capacity of the NGOs for efficient public advocacy performance. CAL has been the leading partner to conduct the creation of historically important turning points for the civic society, such as the Memorandum of understanding between the government and NGOs, Memorandum of understanding between the Riga City Council and NGOs, the declaration on Parliament cooperation with NGOs, and the initiation of the World NGO Day. CAL shapes the agenda on NGO and civil dialogue issues at the national level by monitoring legal acts and submitting opinions to the Latvian government and parliament.



<https://www.nvo.lv/>

*Društvo za razvijanje prostovoljnega dela Novo mesto
(Association for Developing Voluntary Work Novo mesto)*

Društvo za razvijanje prostovoljnega dela Novo mesto (Association for Developing Voluntary Work Novo mesto) is Slovenian non-governmental and humanitarian organisation, working in the public interest in the area of social care, youth and culture. Our mission is to contribute to a more inclusive and open society for all. Our two leading programs, therefore, deal with the inclusion of socially excluded groups and with the stimulation of the NGO development and civil dialogue. Our activities within the programs are performed by expert and voluntary work. We promote the values of solidarity, tolerance, voluntarism, active living, clean environment, citizenship awareness and inter-cultural dialogue, citizens participation...



<http://www.drustvospm.si/drustvo-za-razvijanje-prostovoljnega-dela-novo-mesto>

European Expression (Evropaiki Ekfrasi) (GR)

European Expression (Evropaiki Ekfrasi) (GR) is an NGO which was established in Athens in 1989, with the aim to carry out diverse projects and activities related to education, training and culture all of which are based on common European values of democracy, respect for human rights and equal opportunity. Consequently, in these last 31-years, the NGO has generated diverse projects several of which have been funded by European funding programmes like Citizens' Europe and Erasmus.

Currently, European Expression, within its remit it is working with refugees, specifically unaccompanied minors and providing diverse services to the Greek Ministry of Refugees formerly at Eleonas

Refugee camp and now at two hostels for unaccompanied minors aged between 13-17. These services include social services, such as education, psychiatric treatment, security, translation, physical maintenance and now the NGO aims to advance these services with a cultural dimension. Currently, Evropaiki Ekfrasi has approximately 35 staff members – ranging from managers, accountants, teachers, translators, psychologists, social workers, carers, and others. Later this year, Evropaiki Ekfrasi will open a third hostel. By the end of this year, Evropaiki Ekfrasi will be serving about 120 youths coming from diverse places (Afghanistan, Syria and other Arab countries, Africa, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and other countries). Indeed, since August 2017, the European Expression /



**EVROPAIKI
EKFRASI**

Evropaiki Ekfrasi has had a strong hand-on experience in working with 5migrants & refugees through providing social and psychological services. Moreover, it also carries out classes teaching Greek & English and implements activities aiming to assist refugees and migrants to integrate into society more effectively. This includes organizing trips and cultural exchanges within the Athens area, with visits and classes at museums and historic sites and monuments. Furthermore, European Expression has expertise in project management and working with partners at EU level. This includes:

- To coordinate project schedules and implementation of outputs with partners & target groups, & refine management procedures in order to guarantee timely fulfillment of activities with successful results;
- To provide administrative support including financial management, timely reporting of the project progress, communication linkage with and between partners and follow up & monitor implementation and report to the lead partner and all other partners;
- To foster a cooperative work environment, facilitate contacts between project partners, stimulate collaboration between them and stakeholders and target groups;
- To manage the visibility of the project to the public at large, media, authorities, relevant communities and other target groups.

It is important to add the European Expression / Evropaiki Ekfrasi has been involved in numerous EU funded projects., specifically the Erasmus Plus programme. Plus, funding programmes organized by the Greek state.

<https://www.ekfrasi.gr/html/page.asp?PageID=1&Lang=1>

Federalistes d'Esquerres

Federalistes d'Esquerres (Left Wing Federalists) was born on July 2013 being formally introduced in front of the civil society in an event that took place in the Ateneu Barcelonès on September 25th of 2013.

What do we want?

A reform of the Spanish Constitution that makes it possible to develop a federal system around the principles of cooperation, institutional loyalty and solidarity among the peoples of Spain.

A regeneration of the political and institutional model, making it more democratic and participative. And respectful of the self-government of the units and of the diversity of nationalities in Spain.

Progress in the construction of a borderless Europe, which becomes federal, fairer and with more solidarity. Only a common effort will make it possible to consolidate democracy and peace in our continent.

<https://federalistesdesquerres.org/>



Foster Europe Foundation for strong European Regions

Foster Europe Foundation for strong European Regions is an independent, non-partisan, private and charitable Austrian Foundation to promote European integration, democracy, regional decentralisation and federalism in Europe. While working in a Pan-European framework, Foster

Europe puts its main emphasis in the area of Central and Eastern Europe. Foster Europe has been promoting a European debate on federalism and sub-national decentralization since 2009. In close cooperation with European partners from the realms of science,



fostereuropa
Foundation for strong
European Regions

research as well as practical political implementation, Foster Europe is addressing the question of how to organize states and their institutions as well as the search for more and higher forms of democracy. In the framework of the EU macro-regional strategies (MRS), especially the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Foster Europe promote structural civic participation, networking of NGOs as a key component of the macro-regional governance

<https://www.foster-europe.org/en>

Jaan Tõnisson Institute

Jaan Tõnisson Institute (JTI) is a non-governmental organization established in 17th of April 1991. The mission of JTI is to contribute to the development of democracy and to consolidate civic society. The institute is named after Estonian statesman Jaan Tõnisson (1868 - 1941?) as one of the founders of the Republic of Estonia and an important developer of democratic values.

The institute collaborates with many partners both from Estonia and abroad and does not receive any funding from the government. JTI carries out several projects funded by the European Union and participates in international networks.



More information: <http://www.jti.ee/en/>

Ogólnopolskie Stowarzyszenie Dwujęzyczności Bilinguis

All-Poland Association of Bilingualism BILINGUIS (also a Polish branch of AEDE Association) is a nationwide, non-governmental body that unites teachers, scholars and other enthusiasts of bilingual education in Poland. The main principles of Bilinguis are to promote bilingual education in Poland, to liaise with the Ministry of Education on aspects regarding bilingualism, to organise and participate in various conferences, to help implement bilingual education in all stages of education (including primary schools), to consolidate the network of bilingual schools and to support bilingual teachers in any issues concerning their work. AEDE-Poland in particular deals with Improving citizens' knowledge on EU – Raising citizens' awareness of EU values and aims – Stimulating the debate on the future of Europe.



<http://bilinguis.pl/>

Stiftung Zukunft Berlin

The foundation “Stiftung Zukunft Berlin” is an independent forum for civic engagement. It aims to empower citizens to take up responsibility for the common good in Berlin but also in Europe. We support more than 30 initiatives and over 500 volunteers to organize, we offer resources and bring citizens together with politicians so that their voices get heard.

S T I F T U N G
ZUKUNFTBERLIN

<https://www.stiftungzukunftberlin.eu/>