

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).*

| PROJECT | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Participant: | [[[Razvojno informacijski center Bela krajina] ([RIC BK]) |
| PIC number: | [891209326] |
| Project name and acronym: | [Without the Schengen border, by creating cultural content, we would encourage stronger connections among the citizens of both countries across the border and create a shared cultural space] — [JURKA 24 - 25] |

| EVENT DESCRIPTION | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Event number: | [2] |
| Event name: | [Activity supporting cultural exchange in Črnomelj/Slovenia] |
| Type: | [workshop] |
| In situ/online: | [in-situ] |
| Location: | [Slovenia], [Črnomelj] |
| Date(s): | [Saturday, October 12, 2024] |
| Website(s) (if any): | https://ric-belakrajina.si/sl/aktualno/drugi-dogodek-v-okviru-projekta-jurka-24-25/ |
| Participants | |
| Female: | 56 |
| Male: | 42 |
| Non-binary: | - |
| From country 1 [name]: | Slovenia (total 49) |
| From country 2 [name]: | Croatia (total 49) |
| From country 3 [name]: | |
| ... | |
| Total number of participants: | 98 |
| From total number of countries: | 2 |
| Description | |
| <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i> | |
| | |

On Saturday, October 12, 2024, we held the second event within the JURKA 24–25 project, co-funded by the European Union through the CERV program (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values). The project is based on collaboration between partners from Slovenia and Croatia, including RIC Bela Krajina, the Municipality of Črnomelj, the City of Karlovac, and the Karlovac County Tourist Board.

The event was organized in the square in front of the Church of the Holy Spirit with presentation of typical food in the wine cellar in old town of Črnomelj (SLO). The event is organized during the European Heritage Days 2024.

The program began with the welcome speeches by Mr. Andrej Kavšek, Mayor of the Municipality of Črnomelj, and Mrs. Kristina Medarić, Vice President of CIOFF International and President of the Matija Gubec folklore group from Karlovac (Croatia). Mr. Kavšek emphasized the importance of cultural diversity and its unifying effect between the communities of Slovenia and Croatia. He expressed his joy over the successful collaboration between the partners and the importance of preserving and promoting cultural heritage through projects like JURKA 24–25.

Mrs. Kristina Medarić highlighted the richness of Croatia's intangible cultural heritage and the importance of passing it on to new and younger generations, as well as the exchange of cultural practices and traditions between the two countries.

Following the opening remarks, the Matija Gubec folklore group from Karlovac showcased their traditional dances, while Mrs. Medarić presented the intangible cultural heritage of Karlovac County, including folk customs and performances on traditional instruments. Mr. Miro Kirinčič demonstrated the local craft of embroidery on linen garments, and together with Mrs. Medarić, they also presented traditional Croatian folk costumes from the Karlovac County region. Visitors participated in a dance workshop, engaging more closely with Croatian folklore heritage.

In the second part of the program, there was a presentation and tasting of typical Croatian cuisines and wines, presented by the Pečaver winery in the Črnomelj wine cellar.

For all program participants, was organized a guided tour of the old town of Črnomelj. The event concluded with an analysis of the survey results conducted among the visitors. Initial results show that the presentation of Croatian cultural heritage, combined with the workshop, had a significant impact on the visitors' experience. The survey results will be published in the final report at the end of the project.

The second event of the JURKA 24–25 project was successfully carried out, further strengthening the bonds and cooperation between the partners. The next event will be organized in April 2025 in Vinica (Slovenia).

A survey was conducted for the visitors with the following content:

Dear visitors,

Thank you for attending the event "Celebrating Diversity – Folklore is our cultural DNA." To better understand how today's content impacted your experience, we kindly ask you to complete a short survey. Thank you for your time!

How would you rate your overall experience at the event?

- Satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Dissatisfied

Did you gain new knowledge about Croatian folklore heritage at the event?

- Yes, a lot
- Yes, some
- No, I didn't gain any new knowledge

Which part of the program impressed you the most?

- Demonstration of local crafts

- Presentation of Croatian folklore heritage and costumes
- Demonstration of playing traditional Croatian instruments
- Croatian dance workshop
- Presentation of typical Croatian cuisine
- All equally

Did today's presentation of Croatian heritage give you a better understanding of Croatian culture?

- Yes
- No

Would you like to attend similar events in the future?

- Yes, very much
- Maybe
- No

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for improving the event?

Key Findings from the Visitor Survey (Sharing of insights: Reflections on the experience):

The feedback from visitors to the event "Celebrating Diversity – Folklore is our cultural DNA" indicates a high level of satisfaction and engagement. Here are the key findings:

- The majority of visitors reported being very satisfied with the event, indicating a positive overall experience.
- A significant number of attendees stated that they gained a lot of new knowledge about Croatian folklore heritage, highlighting the educational value of the event.
- Visitors especially enjoyed the presentation of Croatian folklore costumes and the dance workshop. These elements of the programme were frequently mentioned as the most impressive parts of the event.
- Some visitors expressed a desire for more events like this one in the future. They also suggested more activities for kids, demonstration and participation of traditional games.

Description of the programme, Črnomelj (SLO), October 12 2024:

9.00 Participants arrival from CRO to Črnomelj (SLO) and registration, welcome coffee

10.00 Welcome speech and introduction of programme

- Mr. Andrej Kavšek, Mayor of Črnomelj

- Ms. Kristina Medarić, Vice President of CIOFF International and President of the "Matija Gubec", folklore group from Karlovac

10.15 Workshop: Importance of preserving cultural heritage and tradition as a means of safeguarding cultural diversity and fostering community pride

Programme »Celebrating diversity - Folklore is our cultural DNA«

- Sharing experiences by folklore group from Croatia:
- Presentation of Croatian dances - traditional folk dance and music demonstration,
- Demonstration of the local craft,
- Traditional folk costume presentation,
- Interactive activity – Dance Workshop,

- Presentation of typical food and tasting,
- Distribution of workshop materials,
- Old town guided tour

15.00 Lunch

17.00 Sharing of insights

Conclusion of the event

Topics of discussion and project outcomes

The second event of the JURKA 24–25 project successfully addressed several key priorities and objectives of the European Union's CERV (Citizens, Equality, Rights, and Values) programme.

Second event matches the general objectives of the call:

To promote exchanges between citizens:

The primary aim was to foster exchanges between citizens from Slovenia and Croatia, enriching their understanding and appreciation of the cultural heritage shared on the event. The event was attended by 98 participants, 49 came from Croatia. A positive atmosphere was created among the attendees, who actively participated in presentations, discussions, and networking activities.

To give citizens the opportunity to discover the cultural diversity of the European Union and to make them aware that European values and cultural heritage constitute the foundation for a common future:

The event served as valuable educational tools, including citizens, particularly the younger generation. It allowed them to appreciate the importance of preserving traditions while also respecting and learning from those of others. Cultural event provided opportunities for individuals to meet and build friendships with people from other country.

To guarantee peaceful relations between Europeans and to ensure their active participation at the local level:

By eliminating the Schengen border, project facilitating greater mobility and interaction between citizens. By bringing together citizens, the event encouraged cross-border cooperation and the exchange of ideas, which are essential for a well-functioning democracy within the European Union. By fostering cultural exchanges and interactions, event contributed to a more integrated and cohesive European community.

To reinforce mutual understanding and friendship between European citizens:

The event promoted opportunities for civic engagement. Cultural event provided a platform for citizens to actively participate in the workshop. Participants expressed their cultural identities through dance, music and art, contributing to a vibrant democratic culture, where all participant could participate and learn about and appreciate different cultures, fostering a sense of understanding and respect.

The event addressed gender equality. The event promoted the equal participation of women and men in cultural activities. The event emphasised the importance of cultural rights as fundamental human rights. It promoted inclusivity.

To encourage cooperation between municipalities and the exchange of best practices:

The partnership between Črnomelj and Karlovac on implementation of joint event is a powerful means of enhancing European unity and citizen connectivity. The event fostered collaboration between the partner municipalities as well as local and regional authorities.

Local citizens were actively involved in discussions throughout the JURKA 24–25 event, contributing their thoughts, insights, and personal experiences. Their involvement helped create a dynamic, inclusive atmosphere that encouraged deeper engagement and mutual understanding.

Ms. Medarić conducted an active presentation of cultural heritage, in which the event participants actively took part.

The main topic of the event was "The importance of preserving cultural heritage and tradition as a means of safeguarding cultural diversity and fostering community pride," based on which participants discussed specific topics related to the presentation of Karlovac County's cultural heritage:

Geographic and historical framework

Participants gained insight into the geographical and historical framework of Karlovac County, as well as the diverse influences that have shaped the region's identity and traditions.

Cultural framework

Presentation had covered the diversity of Karlovac's local culture, which was influenced by different cultures, something that participants linked to similar influences in Slovenian communities.

Customs of Karlovac County

Mrs. Medarić presented the customs, traditions celebrations and religious holidays of Karlovac County. Slovenian participants linked the similarities to the Jurjevo festival, which takes place in April.

Musical heritage of Karlovac County

Mrs. Medarić introduced traditional instruments unique to Karlovac, like the tamburica or the diple, discussing their significance in local music and the musical expression known as *guci* has been preserved through independent string ensembles. Originally, according to records from the 19th century, they included one or two violins and a three-stringed bass. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia has declared the *guci* of Karlovac County an intangible cultural heritage. She introduced *rozganje* - a term for singing characterized by a trembling of the voice.

Costumes of Karlovac County

Mrs. Medarić's presentation on traditional costumes included discussions on the symbolism in colours, embroidery, and materials, reflecting local identity, status, and community pride. Attendees compared these designs with Slovenian folk costumes. Participants discussed the importance of preserving the craftsmanship skills required to make traditional costumes, such as embroidery and weaving. Participants gave idea about cross-border workshops where participants from Slovenia and Croatia could exchange techniques and best practices.

Interactive workshop participation

The dance workshop involving Croatian folklore dances gave participants, including locals, a hands-on opportunity to experience another culture. The workshop made it easy for citizens to ask questions and exchange thoughts, deepening their understanding of Croatian cultural practices.

Informal conversations during activities

During the activities, participants from both countries engaged in informal discussions. Participants discussed similarities between Slovenian and Croatian customs, dishes, about the regional recipes and culinary traditions passed down through generations.

The guided tour of the old town of Črnomelj allowed participants to engage in discussions about the town's historical significance. Local guide shared stories and insights about the historical sites.

Survey participation and reflection

Citizens were asked to complete surveys about their experience at the event, which included questions on how they perceived Croatian cultural heritage and the workshop's impact. This feedback process allowed participants to contribute their thoughts on what they learned and how the event influenced their understanding of cultural diversity and community connection.

Participants played an essential role in making the JURKA 24–25 event an enriching and inclusive experience. Through their active involvement in discussions, workshops, tours, and feedback sessions, they contributed their unique perspectives and ideas on preserving and promoting cultural heritage. This active participation reflected the project's goals of fostering mutual understanding and building a sense of shared European identity.

The JURKA 24–25 project engaged local citizens extensively, promoting active participation and inclusive dialogue through various activities. Second event provided a platform for Croatian and Slovenian citizens to engage with each other. By involving partner municipalities and regional organizations, the project promoted best practices in organizing cultural events that foster mutual understanding among all participants.

About project: <https://ric-belakrajina.si/sl/projekti/>;

About second event with photos: <https://ric-belakrajina.si/sl/aktualno/drugi-dogodek-v-okviru-projekta-jurka-24-25/>

Črnomelj Municipality: <https://www.crnatelj.si/sl/o-obcini/projekti-in-investicije/2024070210202912/jurka-24-25>

City of Karlovac: <https://www.karlovac.hr/grad-karlovac/eu-projekti/projekti-u-tijeku/>

Jurjevanje festival (slo): <https://www.jurjevanje.si/sl/novice/drugi-dogodek-v-okviru-projekta-jurka-24-25/>

Jurjevanje festival (eng): <https://jurjevanje.si/en/novice/the-second-event-within-the-jurka-24-25-project/>

Press articles:

TV "Vaš Kanal" 24. October, from 5:56sec – 11.11sec <https://vaskanal.com/belokranjski-obzornik-24-oktober-2024/>

Local media: <https://www.radio-odeon.com/novice/praznovanje-raznolikosti-folklor-a-je-v-nasi-dna/>
<https://www.facebook.com/share/K7efN7B31Hj6HKAJ/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

Local newspaper : Belokranjec, september 2024 in november 2024

Social Media:

Facebook RIC Bela krajina: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1AttcQw1Sf/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

Facebook Matija Gubec and Karlovac County:

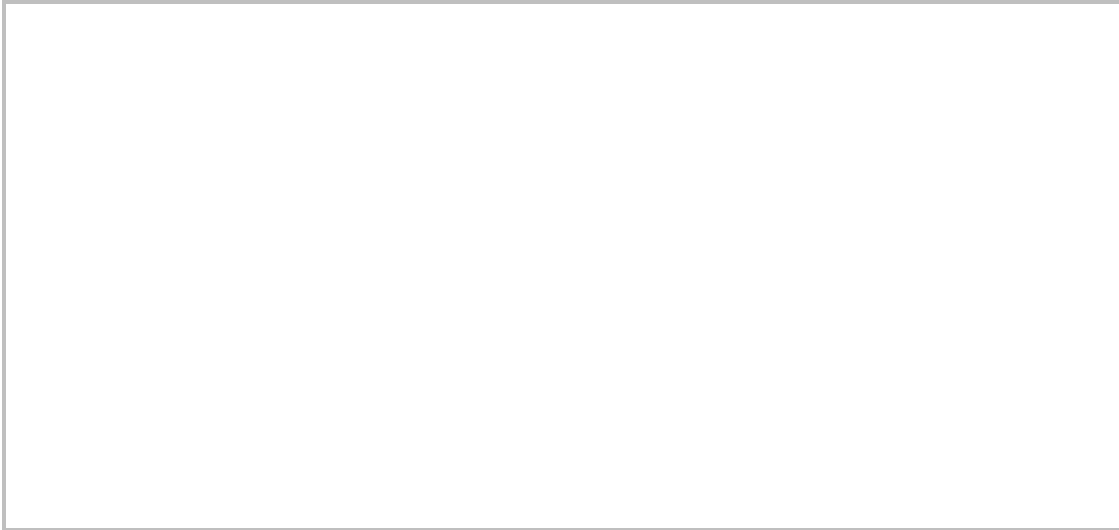
https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1085773273548345&id=100063470470071&mibextid=WC7FNe&rdid=9IFAQAu0UG7MpDr6

Instagram Matija Gubec:

https://www.instagram.com/p/DBCLuVmNuBt/?igsh=MWJ6eHVueWRoZHhsYg%3D%3D&img_index=1

Karlovac County :

<https://www.facebook.com/100068025044870/posts/875604058050421/?mibextid=WC7FNe&rdid=dspc5UQCXOzjSubz>



| HISTORY OF CHANGES | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| VERSION | PUBLICATION DATE | CHANGE |
| 1.0 | 01.04.2022 | Initial version (new MFF). |
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