

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	Câmara Municipal de Pinhel
PIC number:	905477444
Project name and acronym:	GREENgaged Citizens: European Network for Local Climate Action - GREENGAGED

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	5th Event
Event name:	Energy Democracy for an Active European Participation
Type:	Seminar
In situ/online:	<i>In-situ</i>
Location:	Zugló District, Budapest, Hungary
Date(s):	28 th April – 01 st May 2025
Links:	https://www.cm-pinhel.pt/areas-de-acao/servicos-online/projetos-europeus/
Participants	
Female:	25
Male:	30
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Bulgaria]:	2
From country 2 [France]:	3
From country 3 [Greece]:	1
From country 4 [Hungary]:	35
From country 5 [Italy]:	1
From country 6 [Latvia]:	2
From country 7 [Lithuania]:	2
From country 8 [Malta]:	2
From country 9 [Netherlands]:	1
From country 10 [Portugal]:	2
From country 11 [Slovakia]:	1

From country 12 [Slovenia]:	1		
From country 13 [Spain]:	2		
Total number of participants:	55	From total number of countries:	13

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The V event of the GREEngaged Citizens Project, titled "Energy Democracy for an Active European Participation," took place in Zugló, Budapest, Hungary, from April 28 to May 1, 2025. Organized under the European Union's CERV Programme, this event emphasized the democratization of energy resources, local climate action, and the promotion of sustainable energy practices across Europe.

The gathering brought together 55 participants, including 20 international representatives from 12 countries—Portugal, Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Italy, France, Malta, Greece, Slovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Lithuania, and Latvia—as well as 35 local Hungarian attendees comprising policymakers, environmental experts, educators, NGO representatives, and community leaders. This diverse assembly facilitated extensive exchanges on innovative practices, energy community initiatives, and active citizen participation in energy democracy.

The event officially commenced on Monday, April 28, with the arrival of participants and an initial networking opportunity through a welcome dinner at Vakvarjú restaurant.

On Tuesday, April 29, Mayor András Rózsa of Zugló and Gábor Szabó, Head of the Climate and Environment Committee, officially welcomed participants. This was followed by a keynote presentation by Márton Fabók from the Solidarity Economy Center - Transzformátor on Hungary's energy community framework. Representatives from Portugal, France, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, and Slovakia then shared best practices from their regions, focusing on community-led renewable energy projects and local governance strategies. The afternoon included a visit to Európa 2000 Secondary School, where students presented sustainability projects, and a guided tour of the SIEMENS facility to explore EU energy policy and energy community promotion challenges.

Wednesday, April 30, featured additional presentations on best practices in energy democracy from the Netherlands, Italy, Slovenia, France, Greece, and Spain. The participants engaged in rich discussions about local energy solutions, policy implications, and citizen participation. Cultural enrichment was provided through optional visits to iconic sites such as Széchenyi Baths and the Museum of Ethnography. The day concluded with an evaluative session and farewell dinner, enhancing participants' understanding and fostering stronger connections.

The event culminated on Thursday, May 1, with a closing breakfast and transfer of participants to Budapest airport.

Key outcomes of the event included:

- Creation and dissemination of the fifth chapter of an E-Book documenting best practices on energy democracy.
- Enhanced transnational networks among municipalities, NGOs, and citizen groups dedicated to renewable energy and sustainability.
- Strengthened understanding and active engagement regarding democratic energy governance and community resilience.
- Practical insights into policy frameworks and community-led energy initiatives, promoting replication and adaptation across Europe.
- Comprehensive dissemination through media outreach, radio interviews, social networks, and local community involvement, ensuring a broad impact and ongoing dialogue.

Additionally, the event fostered a strong sense of intercultural exchange and European solidarity. Informal discussions during cultural visits and shared meals allowed participants to learn about each other's local challenges and creative solutions, inspiring new collaborative ideas for the democratization of energy and the advancement of the European Green Deal objectives.

Zugló event effectively advanced the goals of the GREEngaged Citizens initiative, reinforcing European solidarity, sustainable practices, and active citizen involvement in the critical transition towards a more democratic and sustainable energy future.

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