EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	European Institute for Diplomacy and Policy (Hellenic Institute for Diplomacy and Policy Haringvliet 76, 3011 TG, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
PIC number:	892023641
Project name and acronym:	"Empowering YOUth Citizenship for EU Future" (YOUth for EU)

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	5	
Event name:	EU 4 YOUTH EVENT IN THE NETHERLANDS	
Туре:	Event	
In situ/online:	In-situ	
Location:	Schiedam/Rotterdam, The Netherlands	
Date(s):	11 th -15 th December 2023	
Website(s) (if any):		
Participants		
Female:	96	
Male:	84	
Non-binary:	0	
From country 1 [Poland]:	4	
From country 2 [Greece]:	5	
From country 3 [Spain]:	5	
From country 4 [Italy]:	5	
From country 5 [Portugal]:	5	
From country 6 [Netherlands]:	156	
Total number of participants:	180 From total number of countries: 6	

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities

The fourth "YOUth for EU event" was held in The Netherlands in Schiedam and Rotterdam from 11th to ^{15th} of December 2023.

From the 11th to the 15th of December, we were honored to participate in the fourth iteration of the "YOUth for EU" event held in Schiedam and Rotterdam. This gathering served as a platform to augment the understanding of active citizenship among young individuals, foster an appreciation for Europe's history and values, and underscore the significance of diversity within European society. Central to our discussions was the exploration of EU values, rights, and freedoms, alongside strategies for enhancing civic engagement through the utilization of technological advancements and the resources afforded by the Union in areas such as employment, societal integration, education, and volunteering.

Commencing on the 11th of December, the event commenced with the arrival of delegations in Rotterdam around 9 p.m. Following check-in at our accommodations, we convened for a welcome dinner, providing an opportunity for participants to acquaint themselves with peers from diverse cultural backgrounds and outline their expectations for the forthcoming proceedings.

The subsequent day commenced with welcoming addresses and presentations from each participating country, elucidating the nature of their respective organizations and detailing ongoing initiatives. Concurrently, interludes such as a spirited rendition of the Spanish national dance, the Macarena, injected energy into the proceedings. Subsequently, participants engaged in a role-playing exercise, envisioning the future of the EU through personas representing various social archetypes. This exercise facilitated discussions on the opportunities afforded by the EU to young, active citizens, culminating in presentations of the group's findings. Networking opportunities followed, fostering cross-cultural dialogue over tea and coffee.

Post-lunch, delegates indulged in local delicacies before undertaking a knowledge assessment spanning European citizenship, environmental conservation, public health, cybersecurity, and media literacy. A guided tour of the port of Rotterdam provided insights into the city's industrial landscape, concluding with a convivial dinner in the city center.

Wednesday commenced at the European Institute for Diplomacy and Policy, where participants engaged in an Oxford-style debate titled "Tomorrow's Europe, Your Europe," focusing on the impending European Elections. Divided into factions advocating for and against EU actions, delegates deliberated on pertinent issues ranging from environmental stewardship to economic stability. Concurrently, presentations showcased EU initiatives and youth-led projects, enriching the discourse with practical insights.

A highlight of the day was the Erasmus from Rotterdam tour, where teams embarked on a scavenger hunt across the city, unraveling clues to iconic landmarks such as the Erasmusburg drawbridge. Capturing testimonials on the EU's impact, participants reflected on the significance of European cohesion amidst cultural diversity. The day culminated in a gastronomic exploration of local cuisine.

The concluding day was dedicated to acquainting ourselves with youth policies in Schiedam, encompassing a visit to the Municipality and the National Jenever Museum. An immersive cultural excursion through the picturesque town further deepened our understanding of Dutch youth governance. The evening's evaluation dinner provided a forum for reflections on the project's outcomes and facilitated the exchange of perspectives among participants.

In retrospect, the "YOUth for EU" event served as a catalyst for intercultural dialogue, fostering a deeper appreciation for European unity and the imperative of active citizenship in shaping the continent's future.