

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Reinforcing European citizenship through building up the conditions for civic and democratic participation - RECup
Participant:	ASOCIATIA ASEL RO
PIC number:	897346807

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number :	11		
Event name:	Final European Conference: “e-Participation and edecision making as a tool for unemployed citizens' participation"		
Type:	Final Open Conference		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Bucharest, Romania		
Date(s):	25.11.2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://recup-project.eu/		
Participants			
Female:	98		
Male:	76		
Non-binary:	2		
From country 1 [Romania]:	112		
From country 2 [Malta]:	2		
From country 3 [Greece]:	16		
From country 4 [Croatia]:	18		
From country 5 [Italy]:	4		
From country 6 [Slovenia]:	16		
From country 7 [Spain]:	8		
Total number of participants:	176	From total number of countries:	7
Description			

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The Final European Conference on e-Participation and e-Decision Making gathered policymakers, digital governance experts, social policy analysts, and unemployed citizens to explore how digital participation tools can enhance civic engagement and influence employment policies. The conference served as a culmination of the RECup project, aiming to provide actionable insights and strategies for fostering digital inclusion and participatory democracy for unemployed individuals.

Participants arrived at 09:30 AM and were welcomed with coffee and networking opportunities. Attendees included representatives from government institutions, academia, civil society organizations, and unemployed citizens seeking to engage with digital governance initiatives.

At 10:00 AM, the Opening Remarks officially launched the conference. The organizers provided an overview of the day's agenda and objectives, emphasizing the importance of e-participation as a tool for employment advocacy. The session set the stage for a day-long discussion on policy innovation, digital transformation, and participatory democracy.

The first speech, delivered by a Policy Expert on Digital Transformation and Empowerment, introduced the concept of e-participation and its potential to democratize decision-making processes. The speaker highlighted how digital tools, online petitions, and e-consultation platforms can be leveraged to amplify the voices of unemployed citizens, ensuring that their concerns are heard in policymaking spaces.

A discussion followed, where participants shared their perspectives on digital inclusivity and the challenges they face in engaging with policymakers.

Following this, at 11:00 AM, a policy analyst facilitated a discussion on the challenges and opportunities in e-Decision Making. Participants examined the barriers preventing unemployed individuals from fully engaging with digital governance tools, including digital literacy gaps, limited access to technology, and trust issues regarding the transparency of decision-making platforms. The conversation also addressed possible solutions, such as expanding digital education programs, increasing public awareness campaigns, and implementing user-friendly e-participation platforms that encourage greater engagement from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

At 11:30 AM, a coffee break provided attendees with opportunity to reflect on the morning's discussions and engage in networking. After the break, at 12:00 PM, a workshop on practical tools for implementing e-Participation strategies took place. This session introduced participants to existing digital platforms used at the local, national, and European levels to facilitate civic engagement. Experts demonstrated how these tools could be integrated into employment policies, allowing unemployed citizens to contribute directly to policy discussions, provide feedback on labor market initiatives, and access training and employment resources through digital means.

At 12:30 PM, a local authority representative and a political scientist presented a case study on successful e-Participation models from across Europe. This session presented examples of EU member states that had successfully implemented digital participation initiatives aimed at unemployed citizens. The examples underlined how governments could create accessible and effective online platforms to engage citizens in employment policymaking, foster digital inclusion, and promote collaboration between public institutions and job seekers. Participants engaged in discussions on how these models could be adapted and replicated in their own regions.

At 1:00 PM, a thematic speech on the future of e-Decision Making in social policy explored how digital platforms could shape policies related to unemployment benefits, job training programs, and social security systems. The session examined the potential for data-driven policy recommendations, AI-powered decision-making tools, and digital monitoring systems to improve the efficiency of employment policies. Participants reflected on how the increasing digitalization of governance could either support or hinder inclusive policymaking, emphasizing the need for policies that protect citizens' rights while promoting technological innovation.

A lunch break from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM allowed participants to continue their discussions informally while networking with other attendees. The afternoon session resumed at 3:00 PM with a debatable discussion on policy recommendations for e-Participation and employment initiatives. A policy expert presented recommendations on how governments and institutions could promote digital engagement as a tool for shaping employment policies. The discussion covered ways to integrate e-Participation into national labor market strategies, the potential role of AI and big data in analyzing employment trends, and the ethical considerations of digital governance in employment-related decision-making. Participants engaged in an open debate, exchanging ideas on how to improve digital inclusion and ensure that e-Participation mechanisms genuinely benefit unemployed citizens rather than creating additional barriers.

As the conference drew to a close, the discussions and presentations reinforced the importance of integrating digital participation mechanisms into employment policies. The event concluded with a networking dinner at 7:30 PM, providing opportunities for participants to establish professional relationships and explore potential collaborations. The informal setting allowed attendees to reflect on

the day's key takeaways, share their insights, and discuss future initiatives to enhance digital democracy and employment policies across Europe.

By the end, participants gained feedback into the role of digital tools in employment policymaking, shared best practices from different regions, and developed concrete policy recommendations for improving e-Participation. The conference underscored the need for continued efforts in expanding digital inclusion, ensuring that unemployed citizens are not only beneficiaries of employment policies but active contributors to their development. The discussions emphasized that e-Decision Making should be transparent, accessible, and designed to empower citizens, making it a vital component of democratic governance in the digital era.

REcup Final European Conference: "e-Participation and edecision making as a tool for unemployed citizens' participation" Agenda

Date: 25 November 2024

Venue: – – Pullman Bucharest World Trade Center, 10 Montreal square, District 1 011469 Bucharest, Romania

Session Day : 25 November 2024

09:30 – 10:00

Registration and Welcome Coffee

10:00 – 10:30

Opening Remarks provided an overview of the day's agenda and objectives.

10:30 – 11:00

The Role of e-Participation in Empowering Unemployed Citizens

Speech delivered by a Policy Expert on Digital Transformation and Empowerment, followed by discussion on the impact of digital tools in fostering inclusive decision-making processes for unemployed individuals.

11:00 – 11:30

Challenges and Opportunities in e-Decision Making

Discussion facilitated by a Policy Analyst on barriers to digital participation and how e-decision platforms can be designed for inclusive engagement.

11:30 – 12:00

Coffee Break

12:00 – 12:30

Workshop on Practical Tools for Implementing e-Participation Strategies

Session for participants to learn about available tools for implementing e-participation at the local, national, and European levels.

12:30 – 13:00

Case Study Presentation from a Local Authority Representative / Political Scientist on Successful e-Participation Models from Europe

Presentations from various EU member states that have successfully implemented e-participation platforms for unemployed citizens.

13:00 – 13:30**The Future of e-Decision Making in Social Policy**

Thematic speech addressing the potential for e-decision platforms to shape social policies, particularly in the areas of unemployment benefits, training, and social security.

13:30 – 15:00

Lunch Break

15:00 – 16:00**Debatable Discussion on Policy Recommendations for e-Participation and Employment Initiatives**

A policy expert will provide actionable recommendations for governments and institutions to promote e-participation as a tool for employment policies.

19:30

Networking Dinner

Dissemination:

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0qaBEaH5FvrVR7CxrsQsAzKDrYi5bMQhMzHjGyJHHDzzvK7piBoJThFFZ1FdW4uqcl&id=100068303142528

HISTORY OF CHANGES

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