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:	InCo Molfetta APS
PIC number:	922855576
Project name and acronym:	Poetry for Participation: European Dialogue Beyond Words — [Poetry4Participation]

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	3
Event name:	Local Poetry Workshops – Poetry for Participation: European Dialogue Beyond Words
Type:	Local workshops, creative writing sessions, poetry evening and participatory cultural events
In situ/online:	*[*in-situ*]*
Location:	Cyprus (Athienou); Belgium (Antwerp); Italy (Molfetta); Poland (Łódź and Kielce); Finland (Raahe and Liminka); Spain (Santander); Slovakia (Svinica and Košice).
Date(s):	6 September–5 November 2026. Activities took place on: 6 September (Slovakia); 22 September, 1 October and 21 October (Spain); 25 September, 13, 14 and 28 October (Finland); 9 and 15 October (Belgium); 19 October (Italy); 27 October (Slovakia); 30 October (Cyprus); 5 and 6 November (Poland).
Website(s) (if any):	Project: https://poetry4participation.eu/
Participants	
Female:	193
Male:	105
Non-binary:	2
From country 1 [Cyprus]:	47
From country 2 [Belgium]:	39
From country 3 [Italy]:	41
From country 4 [Poland	53
From country 5 [Finland	38

From country 6 [Spain]	42		
From country 7 [Slovakia]	40		
Total number of participants:	300	From total number of countries:	7

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

1. Target groups:

The local activities reached a diverse range of participants, including young people and students; local community members and citizens; amateur and experienced poets, writers and literature enthusiasts; migrants, refugees and people learning the local language; people with visual disabilities and their families; volunteers; educators and cultural actors; civil society representatives; and people interested in active citizenship, community participation, social inclusion, intercultural dialogue and European values.

2. Description of the event and its activities/ context.

Between September and November 2026, seven partner organisations implemented local poetry-based activities in seven countries as part of Poetry for Participation: European Dialogue Beyond Words. Although the formats and target groups differed, all activities explored poetry and creative expression as accessible tools for giving people a voice, encouraging participation, strengthening dialogue and connecting personal experiences with community life and European values.

The activities included open calls and public recitations; facilitated creative-writing workshops; word-association and free-writing exercises; collaborative poem-making; poetry inspired by visual art and colour; haiku writing; playful question-and-answer exercises; language-learning activities; and group discussions about local communities, neighbourhoods, identity, migration, inclusion and civic engagement.

In Athienou, Cyprus, the Municipality organised a Poetry Evening following an open call that received 12 poems from 11 writers. A three-member jury anonymously evaluated the submissions, and five selected poems were recited and will represent the municipality in the project anthology. Participants received participation or distinction certificates.

In Antwerp, Belgium, CODEC vzw held the two-part workshop “Ode aan het Woord”, led by city poet Esohe. Young people explored word association and free writing before creating a shared group poem from texts about their experiences of school.

In Molfetta, Italy, InCo Molfetta APS organised a creative-writing workshop facilitated by Professor Daniele Giancane. After an introduction to the project and an ice-breaker, participants used linguistic games and collaborative exercises to reflect on Europe, rights, equality, European values and active citizenship. The workshop resulted in five collectively written poems.

In Poland, LEVEL UP Association delivered “Słowa w działaniu” (“Words in Action”) in Łódź and Kielce on 5–6 November. Guided by Ukrainian artist and art therapist Halyna Rabchevska, participants moved between poetry and visual art: they selected poems, interpreted them through colour and painting, and then created new poems inspired by their artworks.

In Finland, Nouseva Rannikkoseutu organised four “Omat/samat/runot/sanat” (“own/same/poems/words”) workshops in Raahe and Liminka for different audiences, including hobby writers, young people, immigrants and an open group engaging with professional poets’ use of language. Participants selected meaningful words, composed poems individually and in small groups, and discussed their texts together.

In Santander, Spain, Asociación Ser Joven organised activities with members of ONCE, the Spanish National Organization for Blind People, local volunteers and Spanish-language learners from diverse backgrounds, including people with migration experience. Activities were adapted to participants’ needs and included oral poetry-making, acrostics, playful paired writing and an introduction to haiku. One activity also enabled online participation. Poetry supported accessible self-expression, intercultural exchange and Spanish vocabulary learning.

In Slovakia, Youth for Youth held “Stretnutie komunity” (“Community Meeting”) in rural Svinica and “Nechaj zaznieť svoj hlas” (“Let Your Voice Be Heard”) in Košice. Young people wrote poems about their communities, local needs, neighbourhoods, the future and Europe. The events combined creative work with group discussion, community cooking, shared presentations and conversations about ways to participate through youth organisations and NGOs.

As a key outcome of these local activities, the project partners jointly contributed to the production of a poetry booklet featuring five selected poems from each of the seven participating countries, bringing together a total of 35 poems. The collection presents each poem in the national languages of the partner countries with English translation, making the different voices, experiences and cultural perspectives accessible to a wider European audience. The booklet represents a tangible result of the local workshops and events, preserving participants’ creative contributions and promoting intercultural dialogue, linguistic diversity and European exchange through poetry.

3. Agenda of the event.

As the local activities were organised independently by the project partners and adapted to different target groups, each partner followed its own programme and methodology. The agendas combined introductions to the project, creative writing and poetry activities, group sharing and reflection, with specific formats tailored to the local context.

Cyprus – Athienou | 30 October 2026 – Poetry Evening

- 19:00 – Registration and Welcome: Registration of participants and welcome by Maria Touloupi, Head of the European Programmes Department of the Municipality of Athienou.
- 19:05 – Opening Speeches and Greetings: Welcome addresses by the Mayor of Athienou, Kyriakos Kareklas, and members of the evaluation committee.
- 19:20 – Presentation of the Project: Introduction to Poetry for Participation, the open call for poems and the anonymous evaluation and selection process.
- 19:30 – Presentation and Recitation of Selected Poems: Presentation and reading of the five selected poems by their authors.
- 19:45 – Additional Poetry Recitations: Reading of two further poems submitted by a participant in the open call.
- 20:10 – Awarding of Certificates: Presentation of participation certificates and distinction certificates to the authors of the selected poems.
- 20:20 – Open Discussion: Exchange of views on poetry, creative expression, active citizenship and European values.

- 20:30 – Closing Remarks: Acknowledgements to the participants, evaluation committee and audience.

Belgium – Antwerp | 9 and 15 October 2026 – “Ode aan het Woord”

The two-day workshop, led by city poet Esohe, introduced young people to poetry through accessible and playful writing exercises.

- Day 1 – Writing without Thinking: Participants explored word associations to generate ideas and images, followed by free-writing exercises in which they wrote down their thoughts without judging or correcting them.
- Day 2 – Writing Together: Participants worked in pairs to write a paragraph about school based on their personal experiences. Their texts were then combined into a collective group poem.
- Sharing and Reflection: The activities encouraged participants to share their work, discover different perspectives and explore poetry as a form of self-expression.

Italy – Molfetta | 19 October 2026 – “Parla l’Europa”

The local workshop, facilitated by Professor Daniele Giancane, PhD, combined creative writing, linguistic games and collaborative exercises.

- Welcome and Project Introduction: Presentation of Poetry for Participation by InCo Molfetta APS, followed by welcome remarks from the Deputy Mayor for Culture.
- Ice-breaking Activity: Introductory exercises designed to encourage interaction and create a welcoming atmosphere.
- Creative Writing Workshop: Linguistic games and participatory writing exercises exploring European rights, equality, values and active citizenship.
- Collective Poem Creation: Participants developed short poems expressing their ideas and perspectives on Europe.
- Sharing and Reflection: Presentation of the creative outcomes and reflection on poetry as a tool for participation, dialogue and interpersonal connection.

The workshop resulted in five collectively written poems.

Poland – Łódź and Kielce | 5–6 November 2026 – “Słowa w działaniu” (Words in Action)

Led by Ukrainian artist and art therapist Halyna Rabchevska, the workshop explored the relationship between poetry, visual art and emotions.

- 17:00–17:20 – Welcome and Introduction: Introduction to the workshop, the facilitator and the creative process, with an exploration of the connections between poetry, colours and emotions.
- 17:20–17:45 – Reading and Selecting Poems: Participants read and selected poems that resonated with them and could inspire their artistic work.
- 17:45–18:45 – Painting Poetry: Participants translated the emotions, images and meanings of their chosen poems into visual artworks using colour and painting.
- 18:45–19:00 – Short Break.
- 19:00–19:40 – From Image Back to Words: Participants reflected on their paintings and wrote new poems inspired by the images they had created.
- 19:40–20:00 – Sharing and Closing Discussion: Presentation of artworks and poems, group reflection and discussion of the creative experience.

Finland – Raahe and Liminka | 25 September, 13 October, 14 October and 28 October 2026 – “Omat/samat/runot/sanat”

Four workshops with a similar structure were organised by Nouseva Rannikkoseutu in collaboration with library staff experienced in literacy and community engagement. The

sessions were adapted to different target groups, including hobby writers, young people, immigrants and a wider audience interested in professional poetry.

- Introduction to Words and Their Impact: Participants explored how words communicate meanings, emotions and personal experiences.
- Selecting Meaningful Words: Participants chose words and expressions that were significant to them.
- Individual and Group Poetry Writing: Participants used their selected words to compose poems individually and in small groups.
- Reading and Sharing: Participants were invited to read their poems to others, according to their preference.
- Group Discussion and Reflection: The poems were discussed collectively, focusing on word choice, meaning and the impact of language.

The workshops provided space for dialogue and language practice while recognising the different linguistic backgrounds and experiences of participants.

Spain – Santander | 22 September, 1 October and 21 October 2026, as reported by the partner

Asociación Ser Joven organised poetry activities for members of ONCE, local volunteers and Spanish-language learners from diverse backgrounds. The methodology was adapted to participants' accessibility needs and language skills.

- Introduction to the Project and Workshop: Presentation of the project and introduction to the activities.
- "I Am…" Poetry Activity: Participants created short poems about themselves. In the Spanish-language learning group, participants also worked on acrostic poems.
- Poetry with Humour: Participants worked in pairs to create questions and statements without knowing in advance how their partners would respond. The resulting combinations encouraged spontaneity, humour and interaction.
- Introduction to Haiku: Facilitators introduced the origins and characteristics of Japanese haiku and explored connections with poetic traditions in the Spanish language.
- Haiku Writing and Language Practice: Participants created their own haiku, using vocabulary related to nature, seasons, the senses and emotions. Activities for language learners also focused on discovering and practising new Spanish words.
- Sharing and Closing Reflection: Participants shared their creations and impressions of the experience.

For the ONCE group, poems were created orally and recorded rather than written on paper. One of the Spanish activities also included online participation.

Slovakia – Svinica and Košice | 6 September and 27 October 2026

Youth for Youth organised two activities addressing young people's relationship with their local communities and opportunities for civic participation.

Event 1 – Svinica, "Stretnutie komunity" (Community Meeting), 6 September

- Welcome and Introduction: Presentation of the programme and short interactive activities linked to previous Youth for Youth projects.
- Project Presentation: Introduction to Poetry for Participation, its objectives, activities and opportunities for further involvement.
- Team Poetry Writing: Participants worked in small groups to create five poems in Slovak on community, the future, participation and Europe.
- Community Cooking and Poem Sharing: While preparing a shared meal inspired by Greek cuisine, each team presented its poem to the others.

- Shared Meal and Informal Closing: Participants continued exchanging ideas and experiences in an informal setting.

Event 2 – Košice, "Nechaj zaznieť svoj hlas" (Let Your Voice Be Heard), 27 October

- Discussion about Local Surroundings: Participants discussed what they valued in their neighbourhoods, what they would like to change and how they experienced their local environment.
- Neighbourhood-Based Poetry Writing: Participants worked in three groups representing Staré Mesto, Nad jazerom, and Furča with Ťahanovce. Each group wrote poems reflecting the issues and ideas raised during the discussion.
- Poem Presentations and Joint Reflection: Groups read their poems to one another, compared their experiences and identified similarities and differences between neighbourhoods.
- Active Participation Discussion: Participants explored how young people can influence their communities through youth organisations, NGOs and civic activities.
- Networking and Closing: The event concluded with informal networking and the exchange of information about local initiatives and opportunities for involvement.

4. Main take aways/ findings from the event

Poetry can make participation accessible. Participants who had little or no previous experience with poetry were able to contribute when activities were playful, collaborative and free from pressure to produce a perfect text. Several groups found that poetry opened up discussion in ways that a conventional discussion alone might not.

Creative expression helps people find and share their voice. Writing and reciting poems gave participants space to express emotions, concerns, identities and hopes. Themes included belonging, family, childhood, migration, language, local identity, community needs and the future.

Shared creative work supports dialogue and connection. Group writing, paired exercises and the sharing of poems helped participants listen to one another, compare perspectives and discover common experiences across generations, backgrounds and neighbourhoods.

Local contexts make European values tangible. Participants connected broad ideas such as equality, democratic participation and European values to everyday experiences, including transport and meeting spaces in rural areas, differences between urban neighbourhoods, and the wish to have a voice in community decisions.

Inclusion requires adaptable methods. The Spanish and Finnish activities particularly demonstrated the importance of adapting methods to participants' language skills, age, accessibility needs and experience. Oral creation, alternative feedback methods, small groups and low-pressure exercises supported wider participation.

Poetry can support language learning and intercultural exchange. Participants learning Spanish or Finnish explored new vocabulary and experimented with language without the pressure of perfect grammar. Introducing haiku and comparing poetic traditions also encouraged cultural curiosity.

There is interest in continuing this kind of work. Feedback across the activities was generally positive. Participants expressed enjoyment, increased confidence, interest in further poetry activities and appreciation of opportunities to meet others and learn about experiences in other places.

Lessons for future activities include allowing sufficient time for informal interaction and group work; using direct, personal outreach to reach young people in rural areas; ensuring clear instructions and practical examples for language learners; and offering accessible ways to collect feedback, including oral or paper-based methods where online forms are not suitable.

5. Graphical elements and photos of the event

Partner photo and documentation folders:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_tZbcdUfuZdYUeu__DGDjf82KzJWUjtd?usp=sharing



6. Feedback from participants (from the form)

Feedback was collected through different methods, depending on the audience and local format. These included online forms, paper questionnaires, informal conversations, oral

responses, WhatsApp messages and follow-up visits. As the tools and response rates differed between partners, the findings below are a qualitative synthesis rather than a single comparable statistical evaluation.

Enjoyment and satisfaction. Feedback was generally positive. Participants described the activities as enjoyable, interesting, educational, inspiring and well prepared. In Spain, respondents to the reported forms gave high satisfaction scores overall; the Košice activity in Slovakia received the highest score from every respondent.

Confidence and accessibility. Participants noted that poetry could be written by anyone, not only professional writers, and that playful exercises helped ease fears about creating poems. Participants with visual disabilities valued the inclusive format, while some suggested Braille materials and further sessions.

Learning and language. Spanish-language learners reported learning new vocabulary, practising communication and discovering that they could write poetry in Spanish regardless of their proficiency. Finnish workshop feedback also highlighted the value of working with words and discussing their meaning.

Community and participation. Participants valued meeting new people, teamwork, exchanging perspectives and learning about local initiatives. Slovak participants highlighted that their voices could be heard and that they could contribute through youth organisations and community activities.

Suggestions for improvement. Suggestions included starting on time, promoting activities more widely in nearby rural areas, offering more sessions or activities, providing more practical examples and clearer structure, increasing interaction for online participants, and collecting feedback in formats accessible to all participants.

Overall, participant feedback supports the value of poetry as a flexible, inclusive method for creative expression, language practice, intercultural dialogue and civic participation. The varied feedback methods also underline the importance of adapting evaluation tools to the needs and circumstances of each target group.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	16.11.2026	Initial version (new MFF).