



Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union



Europe
for Citizens

The project «The 4TH European Rural Parliament – ERP 2019» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"

Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

Strand 1 – "European Rememberance"

... events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1 – The 4th European Rural Parliament – ERP 2019

Participation: The project involved **335** citizens, representing 38 countries, and among them with notably participation as follows: 9 participants from **Germany**; 16 participants from **Latvia**; 13 participants from **Ireland**; 12 participants from **Romania**; 8 participants from **Sweden**; 105 participants from **Spain**; 8 participants from **Czech Republic**; 23 participants from **United Kingdom** (Northern Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales); 10 participants from **Finland**, etc.

Location/ Dates: The event took place in **Candás** in the region of the Principality of Asturias, Spain, from 06/11/2019 to 09/11/2019.

Short description:

The day of **06/11/2019** was dedicated to welcome the Asturian culture and Official Registrations at the registration desk located at the Ortiz Old Factory, the ERP 2019 central hub for the whole week. There was a cultural evening with activities and music with some performance – regional music groups, typical dancing, popular chorus, etc. with an 'Amagüestu' and 'Espicha (Asturian traditional meals).

The day of **07/11/2019** was dedicated to learn and disseminate with Field Visits. The host organisation gave the official welcome to Candás and to the 4th European Rural Parliament. ERP 2019 Field Visits took place throughout the day from 9.45 to 18.000 and there were 6 in total around all regions of Asturias according to the zone and location. Each Field Visits had a leader who explained the content and two reporters who took notes from the visits and projects. After the 'Visit Day', there was a Gala Dinner in a big restaurant with all the ERP delegates and official speeches to liven up the super.

The day of **08/11/2019** was dedicated to working and networking with the 1st plenary 'Opening and introduction to the 4th European Rural Parliament' with the host intervention and ERP Co-Initiating Partners, followed by the Opening Speech from the Government of the Principality of Asturias, and the introduction of the ERP with the explanation of the work and conclusions since the last gathering. Then there was an intervention from the DG AGRI, and some inspirational speakers to set the context of the discussions. The plenary culminated with 5 inspirational speakers who talked about local examples of rural development, and the directions for the workshops. The networking lunch took place at the Ortiz Old Factory. This day also took place the Workshops and Market of Initiatives at the Multipurpose Center 'La Baragaña', and some of them run two sessions. There was also the official ERP Partners Meeting. At the beginning of the evening some intercultural activities took place in the central hub, i.e. National Exhibitions with big stands per country, group discussions, etc. It took place a big international networking dinner with a mixture between Asturian food and local produce from different countries, and some musical performances were organised to set the cultural exchange and tasting of international products.

The day of **09/11/2019** was dedicated to giving rural people a voice with the last two plenaries. The 2nd plenary 'The future of European Rural Policy' was dedicated to talk about the environment as the best guarantee for the future of rural territories with the first speech, and the second part consisted in a Panel Discussion 'The future of European Rural Policy' run by EU experts from some important entities and bodies, i.e. MEPs, Policy Officers from DG AGRI, CoR, and EESC. This panel was chaired by the president of ARC2020. The 3rd plenary 'Results, discussion and message' started with the main message from the ERP, followed by the speech from the ERP Co-Initiating Partners (ERCA, ELARD, PREPARE) about building the future of the ERP, and ended with the official signing of the Candás Declaration by ERCA, ELARD, PREPARE and the host organisation READER. There was a 'Thank you!' session after the plenaries and the official closing of The 4th ERP 2019 with a speech from the Government of the Principality of Asturias, followed by the Asturias and Europe anthems. The ERP concluded with an excellent and big networking lunch at the 'Ortiz Old Factory', the central hub of the week and gathering.