

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:	3 – Elliniko Idryma Evropaikis kai Exoterikis Politikis (Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy) - ELIAMEP
PIC number:	997802238
Project name and acronym:	EUact2- Towards Democratic and Inclusive Europe: EP Elections and Active Citizens Participation and Contribution

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	19
Event name:	Artificial Intelligence and Societal Digitalization: Great Expectations and Challenges to Social Justice
Type:	Small Debate Event 1, Greece
In situ/online:	<i>In situ</i>
Location:	Patras, Greece
Date(s):	18/03/2023
Website(s) (if any):	Project website: https://www.globsec.org/what-we-do/events/artificial-intelligence-and-societal-digitalization-great-expectations-and ELIAMEP event webpage: https://www.eliamep.gr/en/event/%cf%84%ce%b5%cf%87%ce%bd%ce%b7%cf%84%ce%ae-%ce%bd%ce%bf%ce%b7%ce%bc%ce%bf%cf%83%cf%8d%ce%bd%ce%b7-%ce%ba%ce%b1%ce%b9-%cf%88%ce%b7%cf%86%ce%b9%ce%b1%ce%ba%cf%8c%cf%82-%ce%ba%cf%8c%cf%83%ce%bc%ce%bf/
Participants	
Female:	15
Male:	15
Non-binary:	N/A
From country 1 [Greece]:	25
From country 2 [Germany]:	3
From country 3 [Romania]:	1
From country 4 [Italy]:	1

Total number of participants:	30	From total number of countries:	4
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>As part of the EUact2 project ELIAMEP organised on 18 March 2023 a small scale debate titled 'Artificial Intelligence and Societal Digitalization: Great Expectations and Challenges to Social Justice' in Patras, Greece. The aim of the event was to create an environment where participants could gain valuable insights from institutional and business perspectives, as well as exchange their own views on emergic topic. Three experts shared their knowledge and opinions: Stelios Kymbouropoulos, a Member of the European Parliament; Martin Ulbrich, a Senior Expert in Artificial Intelligence, Policy Development & Coordination at DG CNECT; and Vassileios Velkos, Co-Founder and CEO of Code.Hub. The discussion was moderated by the journalist Kostas Giannakidis from Protagon.</p> <p>The advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other technologies is causing a revolution across all areas of modern society. While this presents opportunities for societal improvement, it also poses significant challenges in terms of social justice and ensuring a fair transition to a digitalized world. One speaker noted that the term "artificial intelligence" should not be associated with the term "threat." Artificial intelligence, with the proper legal framework set by the European institutions, should prioritise human well-being, ensuring that nobody is left behind. Another contributor highlighted that soon it will be possible to predict various scenarios, such as one's health status or a potential traffic accident but in the meantime, these developments raise concerns about personal data protection. The AI revolution will transform the job market and emphasis need to be placed on lifelong learning, as it will be necessary to change professions frequently in the forthcoming years. Anticipation of an enormous proliferation of artificial intelligence around 2040-2050 was put forward, indicating the potential danger for jobs with the replacement of human labour with machines.</p> <p>The young participants took upon the discussion towards social justice and the socioeconomic ramifications of the tremendous technological advancements. Much concern was advanced in relation to AI technology being concentrated in the hands of a few and to leaving some people behind, especially the elderly. Thus, several recommendations were advanced, including: regulation with a human approach (AI as a public good), training/upskilling/reskilling in a meaningful manner with relevant hard and soft skills, EU-driven regulation and roadmap with critical funding for just transition.</p> <p>To ensure maximum outreach, ELIAMEP published the call on its website and distributed it to youth organizations in Attica and Patras, as well as to various universities. The outreach process proved to be successful receiving thirty-nine (39) applications. All participants from Athens having confirmed their attendance were provided with free transportation from Athens to Patras. The total number of participants was thirty (30). A gender balance among the participants was achieved with 50:50 ratio, and the participants represented 4 EU countries (Greece, Germany, Italy and Romania). The predominant age group was 18-22 years old with 56.6% of all in attendance. The event lasted ninety (90) minutes, with the first twenty (20) minutes dedicated to the experts' statements, followed by an open dialogue with the audience that lasted for seventy (70) minutes. This format allowed for a dynamic and engaging conversation that was highly informative for all participants.</p>			

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