



Cofinanziato dal programma dell'Unione europea "Europa per i cittadini"



# TWINNING FOR PEACE

## GEMELLAGGI PER LA PACE

NEWSLETTER n° 3

### TWINNING FOR PEACE: A SUCCESSFUL EXCHANGE

*Opinions, ideas, experiences, traditions, proposals: 5 days of fruitful cooperation*

More than 250 persons attended the Conference the 5<sup>th</sup> of December in Colle Umberto. More than 150 persons participating the study visits in the “places of memory” the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> of December. More than 30 among decision makers (at local, regional or international level), experts and stakeholders involved in the exchange. And a dedicated Facebook page, 4 newsletters and a significant number of newspaper articles, accompanied by 2 videos (a documentary realized by the National TV of Malta and a promotional video realized by IAM in Colle Umberto).

The TWINNING FOR PEACE project satisfied both the organizers and the citizenship of Colle Umberto as well as the participants of the 3 other partner countries (Malta, France and Croatia).

“I didn’t expect this participation at the conference – said **Mr. Angelo Altoè**, the President of the Association for Twining of Colle Umberto – maybe the high quality of the conference’s agenda and of the speakers attracted much more people than expected”. And the “guest list” was really interesting indeed: 4 mayors (La Balme de Sillingy, St. Lawrenz, Colle Umberto and Conegliano Veneto), 1 ex Croatian ambassadors in Italy, 1 vice mayor (Buje), 1 county councillor (Treviso



The great view of the Conference hall (5<sup>o</sup> of December 2015)

Province) and 1 local councillor (Vittorio Veneto) and several “representatives” of associations / twinning committees (La Balme, Buje, St. Lawrenz).

A great success!

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### VISITING THE MEMORIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

*Vittorio Veneto, Nervesa della Battaglia, Pederobba, Levico, Sesto Pusteria, Dolomiti: with the young CT's eyes!*

FIRST DAY – December 6, 2015

*By the Colle Umberto's Communication Team*

Sunday December 6, 2015 in the early morning we met up with our Maltese, French and Croatian friends to spend together the second day of the program presented in the European project "Twinning For Peace". The day began with the visit of the Memoriale di Nervesa della Battaglia and the cemetery/memorial monument of Pederobba. These two places have made all the attendees reflect about a past that is not too far. It has been a moment that have united us all although we were from different countries. Because everyone remembered the pains felt during the war and this is still a deep grief in our hearts, no one excluded. After we moved to Levico Terme, a city in Trentino Alto Adige, where the atmosphere was different: the town park had been transformed into a huge Christmas village. Here we spent many beautiful moments with our international friends; an afternoon full of joy and happiness. Finally we moved to Castelbrando where we take place in a big hall with large tables. While we were having dinner, we had had the occasion to make our friendships be deeper. Also we had the opportunity to film some people's interviews on their opinion about the twinning.

The most surprising thing was that ***although we had met together the day before it seemed like we have ever known each other.*** This demonstrated us that with motivation and open-mind towards other people's thoughts, cultures and opinion it's possible to take on projects like this one. Also we can try to achieve our best goal: to create a truly united Europe.



Visiting the Battle Museum in Vittorio Veneto (WWI)



Visitor's book with T4P signatures in the Memorial of the WWI in Nervesa



T4P participants in the French Memorial in Pederobba





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### VISITING THE MEMORIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR – PART II

*Vittorio Veneto, Nervesa della Battaglia, Pederobba, Levico, Sesto Pusteria, Dolomiti: with the young CT's eyes!*

SECOND DAY – 07 December 2015

By Debora & Laura (IAM Progettazione)

A sunny winter day follows us on the visit of Sesto, a town on the border between north-eastern Italy and Austria. At the arrival surprise and joy for the first time on the snow of some people from Malta. We visited the Great War Museum where the surviving testimony of this tragedy is saved from oblivion.

Without doubt these events changed this area, but also Europe itself, and today – in a European perspective, enabling the age-old tensions issuing from the war to be overcome – **to preserve these memories can help us in the construction of our common future.**

A hundred years ago, during the First World War, Sesto and Dolomites saw a great deal of military conflicts. Almost all battles took place at high altitudes and soldiers tried to survive at bloody battles under the most atrocious conditions. Fortunately today a peaceful and special atmosphere is surrounding the centre of Sesto with the traditional Christmas market.

On the way back we stopped at the Misurina Lake near Cortina, the “pearl of the Dolomites” before the evening dinner gala.



Visiting the WWI Museum in Sesto Pusteria



Difficult transit during the visit in Dolomites



The Mayor of St. Lawrence speaking during common dinner in Colle Umberto





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