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:	[No 101081445] ECIT Foundation (ECIT)	
PIC number:	899041591	
Project name and acronym:	Inclusive Europe for mobile EU citizens — MobileCIT	

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	WP6: D6.1.	
Event name:	Final conference in Brussels	
Туре:	Conference	
In situ/online:	In-situ	
Location:	Belgium, Brussels	
Date(s):	03 July 2024	
Website(s) (if any):	Event programme, background document: https://ecit-foundation.eu/annual-conference/ Description in the project website: https://open2vote.eu/projects/mobilecit	
Participants		
Female:	18	
Male:	11	
From country 1 [Denmark]:	1	
From country 2 [Belgium]:	17	
From country 3 [France]:	3	
From country 4 [Germany]:	1	
From country 5 [Italy]:	1	
From country 6 [Latvia]:	3	
From country 7 [Netherlands]:	1	

From country 8 [Portugal]:	1		
From country 9 [other]:	5		
Total number of participants:	29	From total number of countries:	9

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The final conference in the framework of the MobileCIT project took place on the 3rd July in Brussels, at the European Economic and Social Committee its 9th Annual Conference on European Citizenship.

The conference was organised just after the European elections held from June 6-9, 2024 and, within this political contest, the conference aimed primarily to reflect on the implications of the elections on the development of EU citizenship, assessing what has been achieved so far while also looking forward to what could be done in the next legislative period. The conference featured discussions and informal brainstorming sessions, building on the wake-up call highlighted in the Conference Background Document prepared by the ECIT Foundation.

This event marked the conclusion of the EU-financed 'Inclusive Europe for Mobile EU Citizens' (MobileCIT) project, organised by Europeans Throughout the World, MyVoice, Open Knowledge Sweden, and ECIT Foundation. The project aims to enhance political rights and the participation of all EU citizens in everyday EU political life focusing on the mobile EU citizens. This report will review the project's outcomes.

Finally, the conference was an occasion to examine a new version of our European citizens' initiative (ECI), now called "Teach Me Europe" – which calls for European citizenship education and Erasmus for all in order to raise awareness of the Statute and make European Citizenship a citizenship for everyone and not only for the most privileged.

See the description and agenda of the event in Annex 1 of this deliverable and the MobileCIT presentation in Annex 2.

The event was attended by 29 participants (in-situ), mainly scholars, democracy and political rights activists, and policymakers. There were also 19 online participants. The event succeeded in bringing together different points of view on EU citizenship, its function and its potential of further development.

Organisational activities:

Mailings:

- Event invitation (May 2024 newsletter):

https://preview.mailerlite.io/preview/382394/emails/122762569944401190

- Event reminder (dedicated email):

https://preview.mailerlite.io/preview/382394/emails/123927906719106302

Event reminder and Zoom link details (June 2024 newsletter):

https://preview.mailerlite.io/preview/382394/emails/125106319326709306

Social media publications:

- Registration open:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C7o1eS0IY6V/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZ_A==

- Event announcement video:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C8M1plqs4P7/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZ A==

- Proposals reel:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C8W6qM7MljP/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

https://www.facebook.com/reel/1941269389642236

Spotlight reel on key issues:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C8b034PMsxl/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

- Last chance to register:

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=478249014854725&set=a.167309885948641

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ecit-foundation-european-citizens%E2%80%99-rights-involvement-and-trust-_program-and-registration-httpsInkdin-activity-7213572874731728898-3uuZ?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

- Event follow-up:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C9KHNDysPrG/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

Other promotional activities:

News story on website spotlighting the project with links to individual pages, each dedicated to one of the 14 questions: https://ecit-foundation.eu/mobilecit-project-an-opportunity-for-european-mobilecitizens-to-participate-in-shaping-e-democracy/ -> linked to from the website footer and was spotlighted on the homepage at the time

Instagram post focusing on questions 1 to 8:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C0ecyDnMDLM/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

Facebook post focusing on question 1 to 8:

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=355784257101202&set=pcb.355797357099892

Instagram post focusing on questions 9 to 14:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C1_0WfSN2v5/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZ_A==

Facebook post focusing on questions 9 to 14:

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=377106554968972&set=pcb.377107788302182

Agenda:

10:30-11:00 AM - Official Release of the Symbolic Vote Report.

ECIT Foundation officially presented the Symbolic Vote Report (see more at https://ecit-foundation.eu/symbolic-vote/), which detailed the results of a symbolic vote held on April 26, 2024. This initiative aimed to demonstrate to EU policymakers the strong support among citizens for electoral reforms and the expansion of political rights within the EU. The symbolic vote focused on three critical questions regarding voting rights: lowering the voting age to 16, allowing EU citizens to vote in all elections in their country of residence, and extending political rights to third-country nationals residing in the EU.

11:00-12:30 AM - Question Time with policy-Makers.

Panel: Chaired by Suzana Carp, ECIT Board Member

Speakers:

- Andris Gobiņš, Member of the EESC, Rapporteur on the defence of democracy package
- Marie Helene Boulanger, Head of Citizenship Unit, DG Justice
- Dora Kostakopoulou, Professor of European Union Law, KU Leuven

Main Conclusions

- Enhanced citizen involvement in EU policy-making is crucial.
- Strengthening the link between EU citizenship and fundamental rights within EU treaties is essential.
- Improving education on citizenship rights is necessary to foster a more informed and engaged electorate.
- Effective implementation and harmonization of policies are needed to ensure that EU citizenship works in practice.
- EU institutions must maintain a strong commitment to advancing citizenship rights, especially during times of crisis.

 The concept of EU citizenship should be inclusive and benefit all residents, including third-country nationals.

2:00-3:00 PM - Discussion on mobile citizens rights

Panel: Chaired by Gatis Pāvils, MobileCit Coordinator

Speakers:

- Cecilia Borglin, Secretary General, Swedes Worldwide.
- Elina Pinto, Senior advisor, Europeans Throughout The World (ETTW)
- Dejan Valentincic, Europeans Throughout The World (ETTW)

Main Conclusions:

- The MobileCit project effectively highlighted the opinions and challenges of mobile EU citizens through its Open2Vote platform.
- Digital reforms are often seen as immediate solutions, but the complexities of mobile citizens' rights require more comprehensive and nuanced approaches.
- Addressing mobile citizens' rights at the EU level is essential for effective resolution of their issues.
- There is a significant need for better representation and political coordination among mobile citizens.
- The importance of ongoing support and advocacy for mobile citizens was emphasized, particularly as a new generation with a European identity emerges.

15:00-16:00 PM - Discussion on mobile citizens political participation and belonging to the EU

Panel: Chaired by Tony Venables, Founder of ECIT Foundation

Speakers:

- Julian Culp, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Fellow of the Center for Critical Democracy Studies, The American University of Paris
- Kalypso Nicolaidis, Chair in International Affairs, School of Transnational Governance at EUI
- Pablo Luongkhan-Garcia, Associate in Antitrust and Competition Law in Latham & Watkins
- Francesco Zatelli, Public Impact Lawyer at Pro Publico
- Gosia Wochowska, PhD, Project Manager of Networks of Towns, and Evaluator (CERV, Horizon Europe)
- Nora Siklodi, Lecturer in Politics and EU Studies at University of Portsmouth
- Alejandro Peinado Garcia, Former APA for Domenec Ruiz Devesa

16:00-17:00 AM - Final debate with recommendations to the new EU legislature

Speakers:

- Raquel Garcia Hermida-Van Der Walle, MEP
- Tony Venables, Founder of ECIT Foundation
- Niccolò Milanese, European Alternatives
- Suzana Carp, ECIT Board Member

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 29

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