

## ***SANTA TERESA DI RIVA (Italy)***

### ***Town Twinning “European Citizens for Solidarity”***

The Committee of Town Twinning of Santa Teresa di Riva, in cooperation with the Municipality of S. Teresa di Riva, promoted a Town Twinning with the title “European Citizens for Solidarity”.

The activities were held from 7 to 13 March 2022 in Sicily with the participation of different European municipalities coming from Italy, Slovakia, Latvia Spain, Portugal and Poland.

The thematic Focus of the project, with a strong reference to the program guidelines and considering the annual priorities, focused on Solidarity in times of Crisis, animating the debate among citizens on these issues, encouraging them to take part in activities through actions that they support solidarity, guiding them, to reflection on the values of cooperation and Volunteering.

Solidarity is one of the founding principles of the European Union, it is a shared value, which guarantees social cohesion, responds to the challenges of an increasingly multi-ethnic and constantly changing society, also in relation to pandemic and war.

The activities plan has been created with the suggestion to support the different target group and it was organized through public workshops, round table, exchanges of best practices, meeting at school, discussions and debates, visits of the territory to develop an active citizenship and to foster interactions between the citizens’ involved.

Through these activities, the citizens and local entities shared their knowledge and their awareness of the role of EU policies.

In the Town Twinning has been involved a huge number of participants, direct and indirect participants, also citizens who had never been involved in action of this kind of project to ensure the widest possible public participation.