

## 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:	21 Research Center
PIC number:	885105407
Project name and acronym:	RevivEU

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	3.1		
Event name:	Citizens' consultation on Covid-19 and Rule of Law in Hungary		
Type:	Public citizens' consultations		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Regions of Hungary based on the NUTS 2 distinction		
Date(s):	1.4. – 15.4.2023		
Website(s) (if any):	<a href="http://reviveu.net/activities/research/citizens-attitudes-towards-rule-of-law-and-the-covid-19-pandemic/">http://reviveu.net/activities/research/citizens-attitudes-towards-rule-of-law-and-the-covid-19-pandemic/</a>		
Participants			
Female:	212		
Male:	188		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Hungary]:	400		
From country 2 [name]:			
From country 3 [name]:			
...			
Total number of participants:	400	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>In April 2023 we conducted the second phase of the citizens' consultations in Hungary, on the topic of Covid-19 and rule of law. The chosen methodology for the consultations consisted of in-person one-on-one scripted interviews with citizens, led by professional interviewers with the help of a pre-prepared and pre-agreed set of questions, which were the same for all the project countries. An average interview lasted about 28 minutes, with around 19 minutes spent on the scripted questions</p>			

and the remaining time dedicated to questions and comments of the participants, though these times naturally varied between the participants

Though the inclusion of covid-19 might at first glance seem- a bit delayed and/or not reflecting the current driving topics, the chosen questions, answers and feedback from the citizens prove otherwise – the pandemic had a far-reaching influence on the EU and the member states and their societies, the citizens’ response to a large extent also reflect their attitudes toward other political/societal questions, and, not in the least on the perception of EU powers in the health sectors. The topic of rule of law is naturally important for the Hungarian citizens, and their feedback answers during the citizen consultations reflected that.

The consultation took place in line with the methodology of the first phase – in-person scripted interviews with professionals with prepared set of questions to ensure that the results can be compared with the results from the other rounds of consultations. The interviews took place in the Hungarian regions (31% in the Central Hungary, 11% in Central Transdanubia, 10% in Western Transdanubia, 9% in Southern Transdanubia, 11% in Northern Hungary, 15% in the Northern Great Plain region, 13% in the Southern Great Plain region), making sure to approach a varied group of citizens based on their municipalities, gender, age and levels of education.

We researched the attitudes of the Hungarian population towards rule of law matters and the recent covid19 pandemic. Our main findings were that a relatively narrow majority of Hungarians perceive the rule of law deficit that is present in the country; only around 40% of Hungarians perceive that the 2022 elections were free and fair; the media environment and the judiciary are seen as highly politicized and unable to function independently from the government.

Most Hungarians have been vaccinated, but are not necessarily willing to repeat it in case of a future pandemic. Vaccinated people feel slightly more influenced by the pandemic than the unvaccinated. The most common areas include everyday activities, whereas the least common areas involve health, finances, and parenting. There is wide-spread support for the NGEU among Hungarians and on a general level, there is also a wide agreement that the EU should have the power to withdraw funding from recalcitrant member states in the rule of law domain.

**HISTORY OF CHANGES**

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