EU for ALL

Parlamento Europeu

Evaluation Report

30th of June 2022

EU *for* **ALL**

Parlamento Europeu

DEPARTMENT | AXIS OF ACTION

Training

PARTNERS

N/A

AUTHORSHIP

APROXIMAR, Cooperativa de Solidariedade Social

CONTRIBUTIONS

N/A

RECOGNITIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Aproximar acknowledges all participants for their contributions and for the commitment and dynamism shown in the Awareness-raising Workshops. We acknowledge, specifically, to:

1) Direção-Geral de Reinserção e Serviços Prisionais
2) APPACDM de Évora
3) ACASO- Centro Comunitário AL-HAIN
4) ACASO- CACI
5) ACASO- Centro Comunitário Acampamento Azul
6) Salão Polivalente Nossa Sra. Fátima

PUBLICATION DATE: June 30th, 2022

aproximar
COOPERATIVA DE SOLIDARIEDADE SOCIAL, CRL

🌐 www.aproximar.pt
@ contacto@aproximar.pt

📞 + 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224
f /Aproximar   /aproximar_

2

EU *for* **ALL**

Parlamento Europeu

Index

aproximar
COOPERATIVA DE SOLIDARIEDADE SOCIAL, CRL

www.aproximar.pt

@ contacto@aproximar.pt

+ 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224

/Aproximar   /aproximar_

Introduction

This report aims to present the results of the Awareness-raising Workshops organized under the initiative "EU4ALL- *Information for all, without boards*", held in a presential format, and to identify opportunities for improvement within the scope of this awareness-raising activities.

This report is organized into 6 chapters:

1) **Recommendations for improvement,** where the recommendations, comments and suggestions presented are analyzed;

2) **Characterization of the awareness-raising activities**, where the awareness-raising activities and data associated with its implementation is identified;

3) **Characterization of the participants**, where the profile of the participants is described, in terms of qualifications, activity sector and motivations, when the information is known;

4) **Results from the participants perspective**, where the evaluation of the participants satisfaction results regarding the awareness-raising activities are analyzed;

5) **Occurrences**, where the problems or alterations that occurred during the awareness-raising activities are analyzed;

6) **Recommendations and suggestions to the European Parliament.**

www.aproximar.pt
@ contacto@aproximar.pt
+ 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224
/Aproximar   /aproximar_

4

1. Improvement recommendations

The improvement recommendations identified are related to the contributions collected from the participants, but also from the perception of Aproximar regarding the achievement of expectations and objectives. They will be considered in future awareness-raising activities to ensure the continued satisfaction of participants and the fulfillment of their needs.

Overall, the results of the training were very positive and with a high satisfaction rate from the participants. The planned objectives, to inform, communicate and create strategies based on the democratic values of the European Parliament (EP) in a more accessible way to communities in situations of information vulnerability, were successfully achieved, with participants from both samples expressing interest, motivation, and adherence to the proposed activities.

Given the short duration of the session, the only suggestion for improvement was to increase the duration of the session, in order to increase and improve the depth of the issues and debates.

2. Characterization of the awareness-raising activities

2.1. Target Groups

EU4ALL was designed with the goal of creating strategies based on Human-Centered Design (HCD) approach to communicate the democratic values of the European Parliament (EP) in a more accessible way to communities in situations of information vulnerability.

The target groups of the awareness-raising activities included elderly people from the Salão Polivalente Nossa Sra. Fatima- Aveiro; people with disabilities from APPACDM de Évora and the Associação ACASO-CACI; people in vulnerable situations from the Associação ACASO- Centro Comunitário AL-HAIN; and the gypsy population from the Associação ACASO- Centro Comunitário Acampamento Azul, and people deprived of liberty from the following prison stablishments: Carregueira; Sintra; Covilhã; Castelo Branco; Bragança; Izeda; Vale de Judeus; Alcoentre; Caxias; Tires; Vale do Sousa; Coimbra; Leiria; Paços de Ferreira; Viana do Castelo; Beja; Évora; Santa Cruz do Bispo; Pinheiro da Cruz; and Setúbal.

The dissemination of the awareness-raising activities was under the responsibility of Aproximar, through digital communication channels (e.g*., Facebook*, *Instagram*, *LinkedIn*, *E-mail*). After dissemination and communication of the awareness-raising activities, the inscriptions were managed by the receiving entities and, for the purposes of agility and information confidentiality, the participants only indicated their names. It should be pointed that there were groups in the community (e.g., individuals with physical and/or mental illness) that, being a group with certain specificities and difficulties in terms of vision, writing and/or verbal articulation, required a redoubled assistance from the trainers. Therefore, some the awareness-raising activities were adapted to the specificities of the target group, and, for that reason, it was not possible to fill in some satisfaction evaluation questionnaires.

2.2. Awareness-raising activities modality

Instructor-led activities.

2.3. Organization form

The training action was held face-to-face, through a theoretical-practical component. In relation to the theoretical component, there was a brief explanation of Aproximar and the EU4All project. Afterwards, the history and objectives of the European Union (EU) was introduced, as well as the roles and objectives of the EP.

In the practical component, dynamic and participative activities that promoted debate were carried out, with the objective of identifying the participants' understanding of the topics addressed and empowering them to create a proposed strategy for greater involvement of European citizens in the democratic values of the EP. The dynamics used were: soup of letter with the 10 most relevant democratic values; 2 videos (each about 5 democratic values, explained through examples) and a group activity (forming groups to select 4 democratic values relevant to them, for analyzing and explore as a group).

At the end, participants filled out an attendance list.

2.4. Objectives

The awareness-raising activities aimed to communicate the democratic values of The EP in a more accessible way, focusing on groups in situation of greater marginalization, vulnerability, and difficulty of access to information. The aim of the project was to design accessible communication materials, development of awareness-raising activities to present the 10 most relevant democratic values and for participants to get involved in this sense, contributing to increase citizens' awareness about the role and values of the EU.

3. Participants´ profile

The awareness-raising activities included **418 participants**, of whom **320 were people deprived of liberty,** and **98 people in situations of social vulnerability.**

4. Results from the participants's perspective

The satisfaction evaluation of the participants attempted to understand their level of satisfaction regarding the awareness-raising activities in the following parameters: organization of the training, programmatic contents, recommendation or not of the action and theory/practice relationship. **Out of 418 participants, 282 completed the satisfaction evaluation questionnaire.**

4.1. Awareness-raising activities Organization

The awareness-raising activities (Figures 1 and 2) was evaluated taking into consideration the following dimensions: *the folder was useful for the action*; *the soup of letters was easy to fill out*; *the duration of the session was sufficient*; *the contact with the trainers was effective*; and *throughout the action, there was space to ask questions*. The participant's evaluation is globally positive, in both samples, with the majority of the results between "Agree" and "Totally Agree".

In the community, in one of the parameters we can see the evaluation "Disagree" from 1 participant, who evaluated "*The soups of letters received was easy to fill*" (Figure 1).

In the Prison Establishments it is important to highlight that 39 participants (16%) evaluated "Disagree" regarding the parameter "*The duration of the action was sufficient*" (Figure 2).

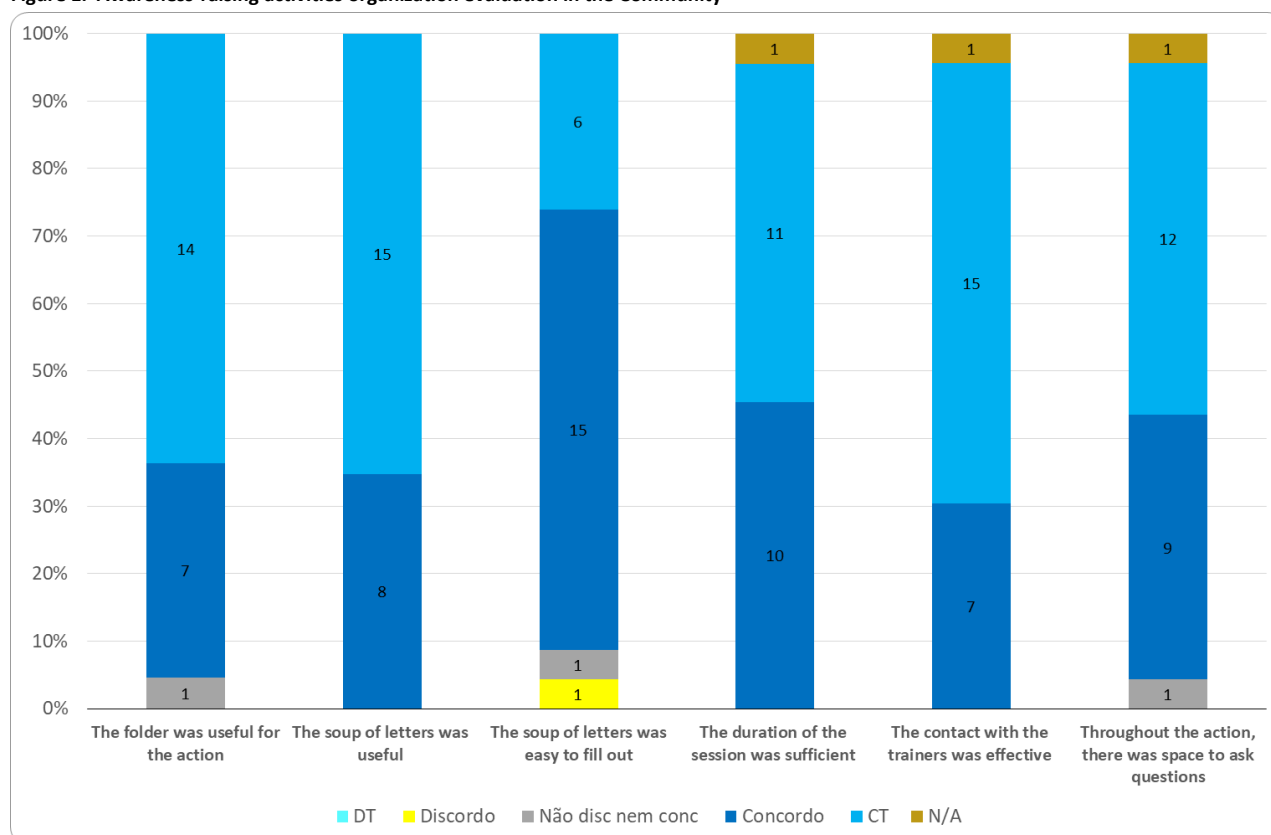**Figure 1. Awareness-raising activities organization evaluation in the Community**

Legend: DT · Discordo · Não disc nem conc · Concordo · CT · N/A

Figure 2. Awareness-raising activities organization evaluation in the Prison Establishments

Legend: DT · Discordo · Não disc nemm conc · Concordo · CT · N/A

www.aproximar.pt

contacto@aproximar.pt

+ 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224

/Aproximar

/aproximar_
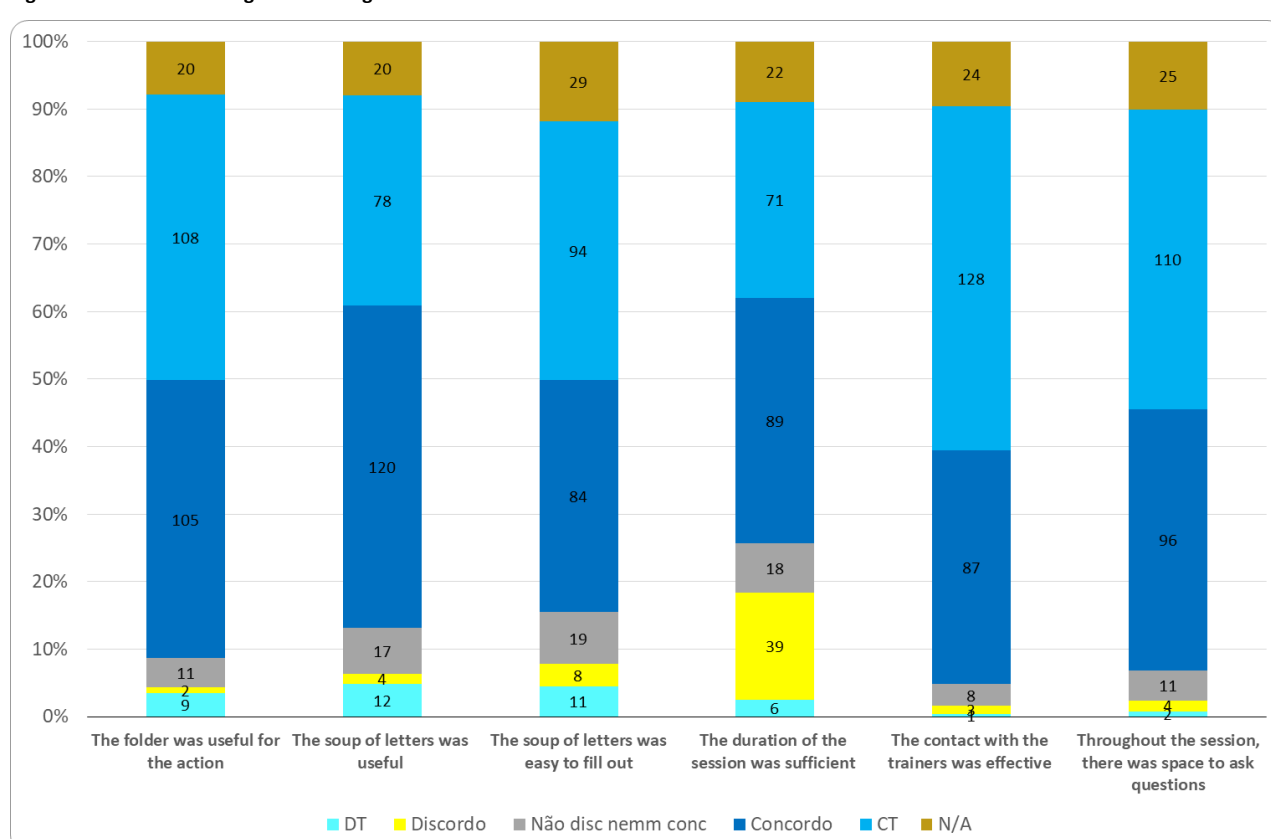
4.2. Programmatic Contents

The programmatic contents were evaluated taking into consideration the following dimensions: *I have learned more about the history of the European Union*; *I have learned more about the objectives of the European Union*; *I have learned more about the work of the European Union*; *I have learned more about the objectives of European Parliament*; *I have learned more about the values of the European Parliament*; *The action increased my curiosity to learn more about the Democratic Values of the European Parliament*; *and The activities done during the action were appropriate to the topic discussed* (Figures 3 and 4).

The results are quite positive in both samples, where all the answers were concentrated between "Agree" and "Totally Agree".

In the Community only one response rated "Disagree" concerning "*The action increased my curiosity to learn more about the Democratic Values of the European Parliament*". Similarly to the community and also in Prison Establishments**,** only one answer rated a negative assessment "Totally disagree" on the same dimension: "*The action increased my curiosity to learn more about the Democratic Values of the European Parliament*" (Figures 3 and 4).

In Prison Establishments there were three less positive responses to the programmatic contents. In the dimension "*I have learned more about the work of the European Union*", two participants evaluated "Totally disagree" and in the dimension "*I have learned more about the history of the European Union*"*,* there was one participant who shared the same assessment "Totally disagree". The three evaluations mentioned above correspond to a percentage of 1% and 0% of the sample, respectively (Figure 4).

Figure 3. Programmatic content evaluation in the Community
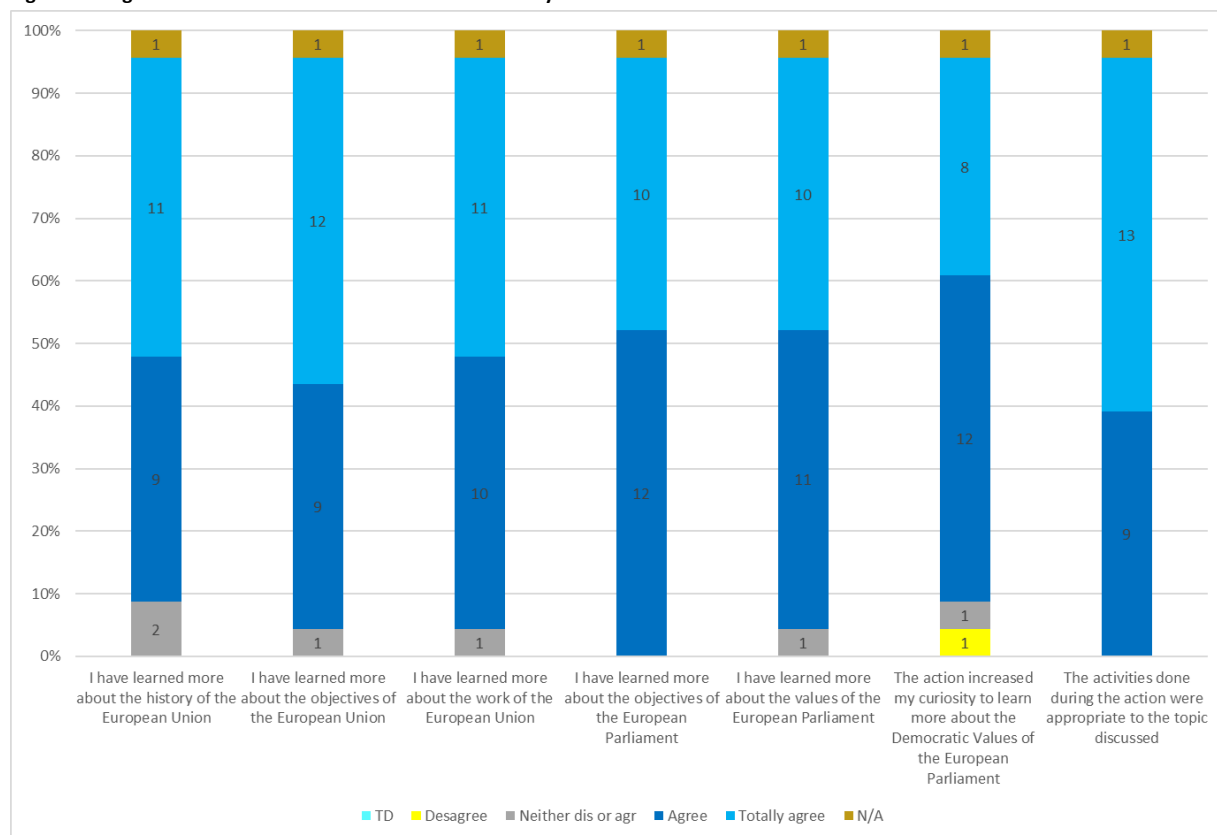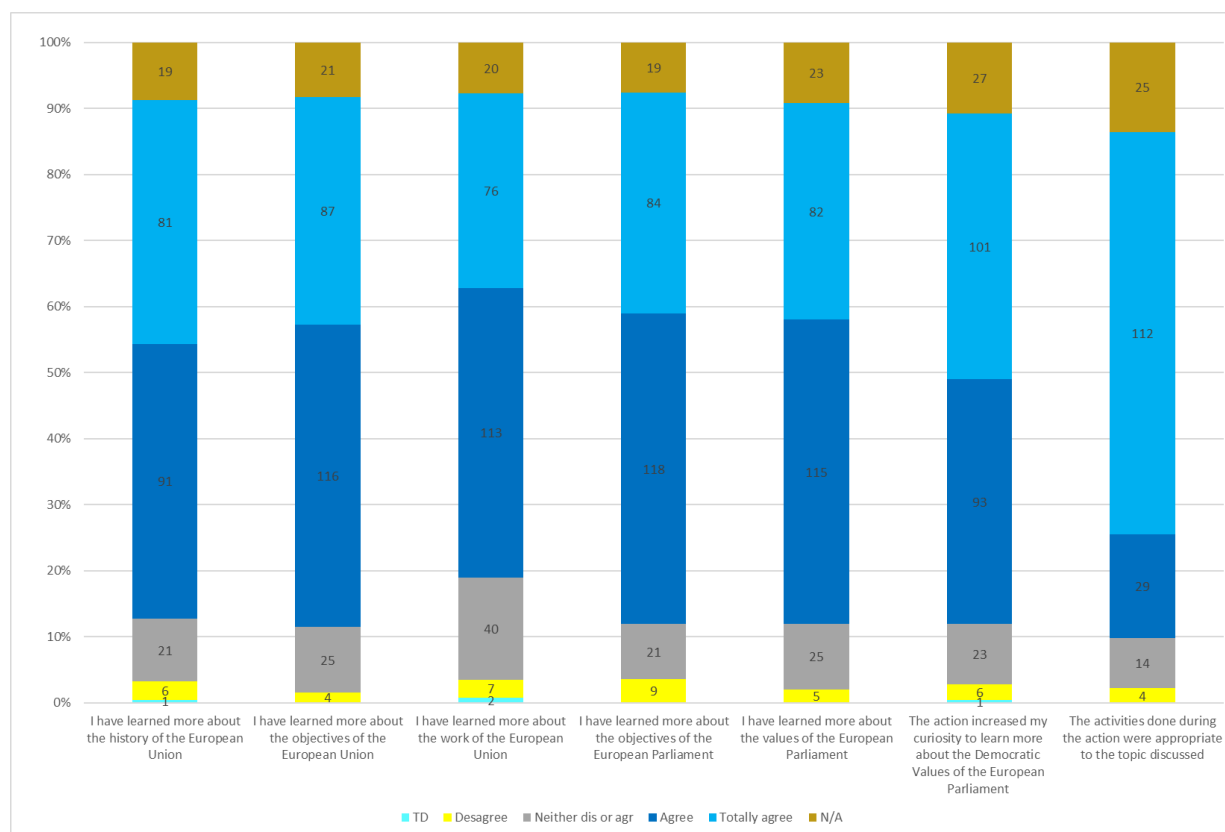

Legend: TD · Desagree · Neither dis or agr · Agree · Totally agree · N/A

Figure 4. Programmatic content evaluation in Prison Establishments

Legend: TD · Desagree · Neither dis or agr · Agree · Totally agree · N/A

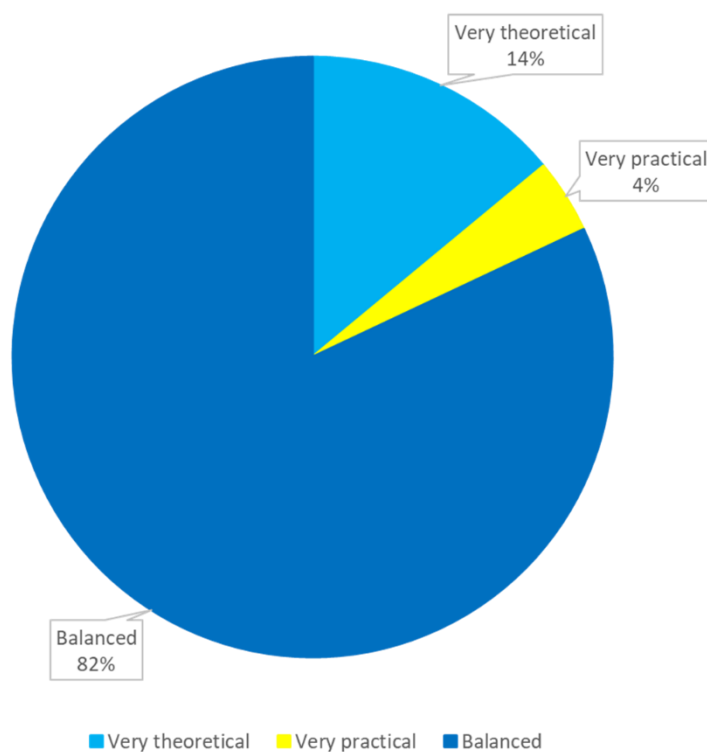### 4.3. Recommendation of frequency of awareness-raising activities

Regarding the community all participants who answered the satisfaction evaluation questionnaire indicated that they would recommend the frequency of this awareness-raising activities.

In Prison Establishments only three participants answered that they would not recommend the frequency of this awareness-raising activities.
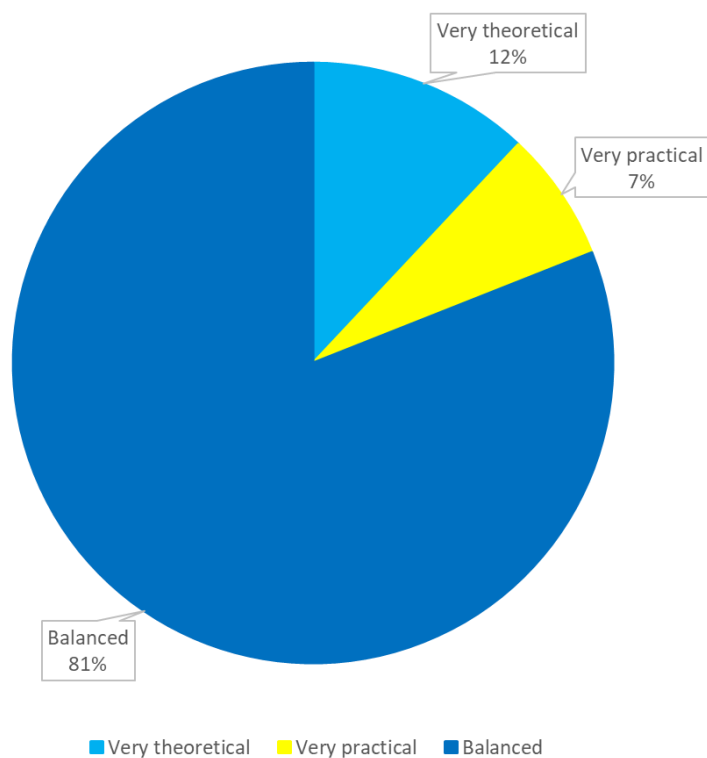
4.4. Theory/practice relation

Regarding the relationship and balance between theory and practice, we can observe (Figures 5 and 6), in both samples, that the vast majority of participants who completed this satisfaction evaluation questionnaire considered that there was a good balance between the two components.

Figure 5. Results related to the theory/practice relationship in the Community

Very theoretical 14%
Very practical 4%
Balanced 82%

■ Very theoretical ■ Very practical ■ Balanced

6. Results related to the theory/practice relationship in the Prison Establishments

Very theoretical 12%
Very practical 7%
Balanced 81%

■ Very theoretical ■ Very practical ■ Balanced

14

5. Results of the participants' knowledge evaluation

Not applicable.

6. Results from the perspective of the facilitators

Not applicable because the awareness-raising activities were prepared and organized by internal facilitators.

7. Occurrences

There were no occurrences to report.

8. Recommendations and suggestions to the EP

It is common knowledge that the 21st century is the society of information, knowledge, and learning. Today, and considering social vulnerability, the predisposition to locate information, assimilate and incorporate it, whether in the professional and/or personal sphere has an inestimable value (Muriel-Torrado, Righetto, & Vitorino, 2018). In this regard, information empowers people, making them able to find, evaluate, and use information in decision making or problem solving (Muriel-Torrado, Righetto, & Vitorino, 2018). When we look at communities in situations of information vulnerability, we quickly realize that their access to information is limited and/or, in many situations, non-existent. Being alphabetized does not mean being literate (Muriel-Torrado, Righetto, & Vitorino, 2018). Access to information constitutes a basic human right and presents itself as a right of fundamental importance (Menocal, 2007). Here are the following recommendations/suggestions:

1) Volunteer programs targeting communities in situations of information vulnerability that, in addition to other valences, aim to communicate the democratic values of the EP in a more accessible way, promoting active citizenship

2) New policies and strategies that promote not only access to information, but also seek to give voice to the most vulnerable communities through knowledge dissemination, workshops/training actions

3) Involvement of local organizations that work directly with these communities, allowing their access to communication, information and the creation of strategies based on the democratic values of the European Parliament

4) Improving access to information in communities in vulnerable situations, through, for example, the distribution of informative flyers (explicit, intuitive, and accessible: graphic and appealing designs, information schemes) in order to promote social inclusion by fighting literacy constraints

5) Expanding the contents covered to different aspects and actions of the European Parliament

6) Extending the initiative by creating an information and discussion session after the workshops, thus responding to the two suggestions for improvement made by the trainees: increasing the duration of the training and increasing the time reserved for discussion

9. References

Menocal, R., A. (2007). Analysing the relationship between democracy and development: defining basic concepts and assessing key linkages. *Wilton Park Conference on Democracy and Development*.

Muriel-Torrado, E., Righetto, G., G., & Vitorino, V., E (2018). Competência em Informação no Contexto da Vulnerabilidade Social: conexões possíveis. *Informação e Sociedade: Estudos*, 28(*1*), p. 77-90

EU *for* **ALL**

Parlamento Europeu

10. ATTACHMENTS

www.aproximar.pt

contacto@aproximar.pt

+ 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224

/Aproximar   /aproximar_

aproximar
COOPERATIVA DE SOLIDARIEDADE SOCIAL, CRL

EU *for* **ALL**

Parlamento Europeu

www.aproximar.pt
contacto@aproximar.pt
+ 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224
/Aproximar
/aproximar_

aproximar
COOPERATIVA DE SOLIDARIEDADE SOCIAL, CRL

Dissemination project videos: *https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1112348559626739*

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=423067536536429

www.aproximar.pt

contacto@aproximar.pt

+ 351 211 336 681 | 911 939 224

/Aproximar   /aproximar_