

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SUSTAINABLE FUTURE NETWORKING

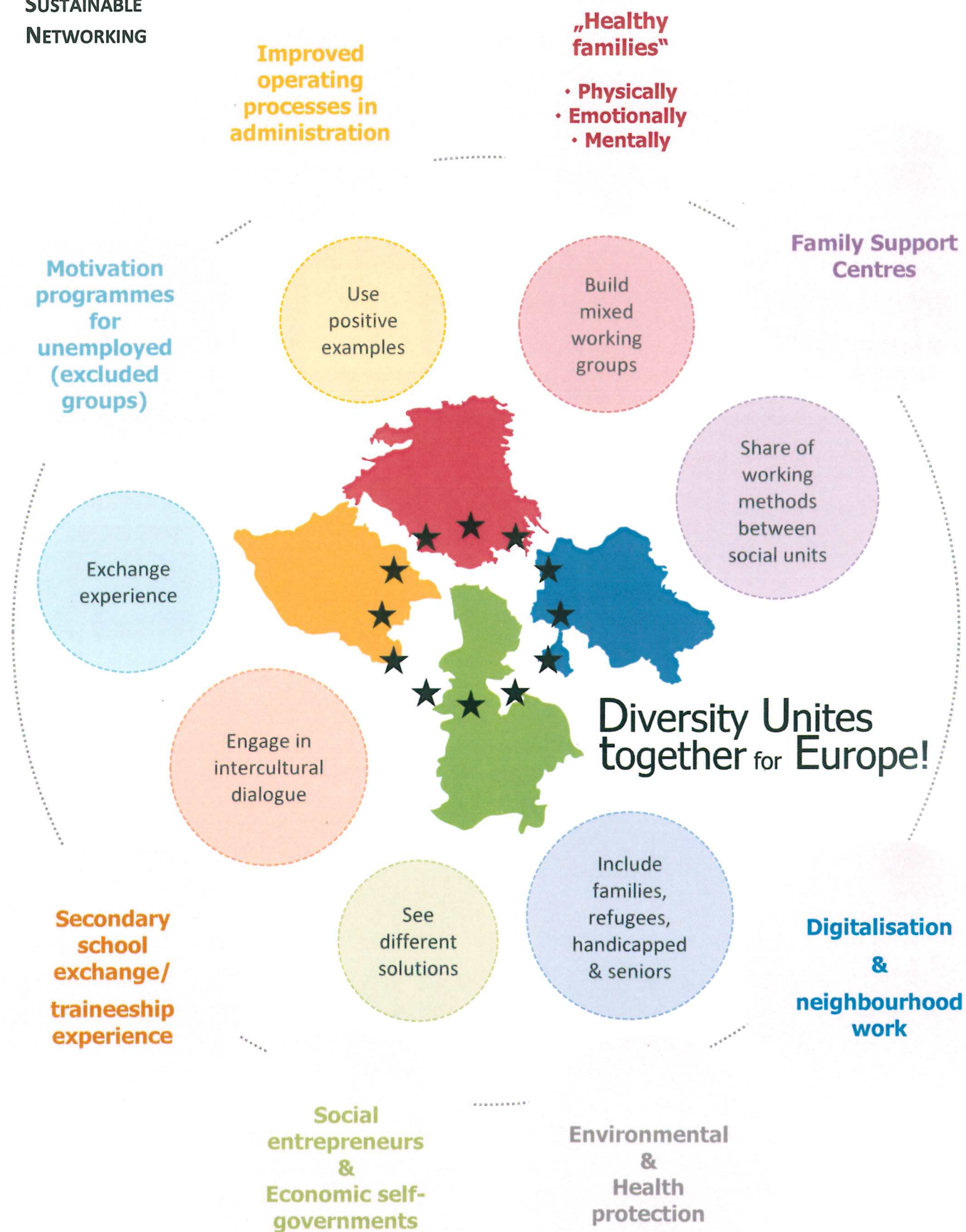
PREAMBLE

The project partnership between Jelgava Local Municipality in Latvia, the County of Sörmland in Sweden, the District of Wodzisław in Poland and the District of Recklinghausen in Germany is a very positive occurrence, determined by a number of factors which we consider as substantial not only for the implementation of the project "Diversity Unites – together for Europe!" but also for the future of our cooperation. Such determinants are among others: the political consolidation process of reciprocal international contacts, the continuous cooperation between the project partners and the growing role of intercultural dialogue.

For the successful functioning of the network it is necessary to recognise not only the need for international cooperation, but also the meaning 'why' the bond is created: The future European unity is crucial!

The process of European integration has been characteristic and visible since the end of World War II. The integration of Europe is a very dynamic process, which has involved and still involves a lot of new challenges. In that sense partnership requires knowledge of ourselves and our partners. Respect of diversity expresses openness and readiness to take advantage from the wealth of other cultures and it becomes an important element of shaping and implementing European regional policy.

The openness of all four members of this network promotes the creation of a strong integration, able to stand up to numerous processes in Europe and in the world. In the cooperation of our four districts, in European integration, close relations and using positive experiences, we see a great opportunity for the development of each single district and our network as a whole. Our regionalism creates reciprocal trust and our international network shows an example of the effective functioning of the regional policy in the European Union.



In order to sustain the fruitful cooperation between the four project partners and to strengthen the European integration and European citizenship the parties

Landstinget Sörmland, Jelgavas novada pašvaldība

Powiat Wodzisławski, Kreis Recklinghausen

hereby agree on a sustainable future networking amongst the four of them.

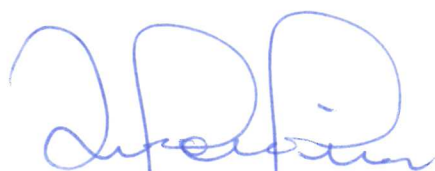
The illustration above provides a graphic representation of the topic range the future international network wants to engage in. Essential cornerstones of future actions are pictured in the centre. The network interaction may be realised in the framework of common projects, working meetings, exchange of methods, vocational traineeships and any matching course of action.

The parties agree to include one another in the preparatory process of new network activities. Due to the topic range and different fields of work and responsibilities the implementation phase may however take place between two, three or all four partners. Where it is needed it may also include the participation of a district town, taking on the part of the respective district/ county/ municipality. This designates the flexibility of the sustainable network. The network will follow the principles of Multilevel Governance in Europe.

Recklinghausen 29th of August 2017

On behalf of

**Landstinget
Sörmland**



**Ingrid Jerneborg
Glimne**

LANDSTINGSFULLMÄKTIGES
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