



European Local Democracy Week

ANNUAL CO-ORDINATION MEETING

5 February 2018

Paris, France

Edremit Municipality (Turkey)

2017 ELDW Activities Presentation

Speaker: Mr. Kamil Saka – Mayor of Edremit





European Local Democracy Week

9-15 October 2017

*Edremit Municipality celebrates ELDW for
the first time*

“Citizen participation, consultation and
commitment for a thriving local
democracy”.





Meeting with European Citizens from Edremit

The meeting, held in the Mayor's office, was attended by over 30 foreign citizens from German, France, Bulgaria, Greece which came together to discuss and share their opinion, ideas and suggestions with the Mayor, about the city of Edremit and its management.





ELDW Press Meeting

On the 5th of October we announced with a special press meeting the participation of the city of Edremit to the celebrations of the 10th edition of the European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) with a full agenda of activities between the 9th and 12th of October, explaining the meaning of this European recurring event, celebrated every year at the same time by several local authorities all around Europe.





*Chania and Lesvos Deputy Mayor visited
Mayor's Office*



Deputy Mayor of Lesvos (Greece) Mr. Taksiarhis Verros and the Deputy Mayor of Chania (Greece) Mrs. Eleftheria Alifieraki have been the special foreign guests of our celebrations for the European Local Democracy Week 2017. The visit has been the occasion to discuss about Town-Twinning protocols with Chania and Lesvos which will be realised in the near future.



StreetBall Tournament

18 teams of students under 17 years, coming from 14 High Schools of Edremit, took part to a 4 days tournament of Street Ball. This has been the first time that the young population of Edremit had been directly involved in a so beloved and popular basketball event organized by the Municipality.





Opening Concert of ELDW “TatavlaKeyfi”

“Rembetiko” songs represent a significant cultural heritage of shared traditions between Greek and Turkish culture and it represents a pleasant occasion of communal entertainment beyond cultural differences and language barriers. The opening concert was performed by the Greek music group "Tatavla Keyfi“. The concert has been preceded by the video message of Ms. Gudrun Mosler-Törnström, President of the Congress of the European Local and Regional Authorities.





Opening of the Photograph Exhibition “Ataturk: a Democracy Pioneer”

Ataturk's exhibition, with a total of 40 photographs, including photographs depicting the first democratic elections, the rising of women's right in Turkey and visits to Edremit was very much appreciated by the visitors.





Children Experience Democracy



Students of Edremit Primary School have been invited to take place at the Council Chamber where they elected representatives within themselves to run the meeting. The agenda of the council was to decide about the color to paint a cross-over bridge in the centre of the city. All the children members of the council expressed their preference among 4 candidate colors throughout a secret ballot. The purpose of this activity was to acquaint children with the election mechanism of a democratic system showing them how democracy can be efficient and crucial in a decision process.



Before



After





Visiting Outdoor Weekly Market

During the European Local Democracy Week, Mayor of Edremit decided to pay his monthly visit to the outdoor market of the town handing warm soup to the stallholder and farmers who had been up since the crack of dawn, bringing their farm products to the market.





Antandros “Open Day”

A local authority who aims to engage and foster the participation of its citizens shall also ensure to involve them actively in developing and protecting the local richness and the territorial cultural heritage.

The Antandros Open Day has been an occasion to illustrate to the citizens the **Aeneas Route project**.

An international project aimed to turn the journey of Aeneas narrated by Virgil in an archaeological cultural route with the support of the Council of Europe.



“Judgment of Paris” Drama Performance



Mount Ida is one of the most important natural attractions of Edremit for its variety of endemic plants and natural landscaping which offers different kind of alternative touristic itineraries. Mount Ida was a very famous locality even in the past. The “Judgment of Paris” drama performance is one of the methods with which Antandros Association tries to involve young and elder citizens to acquaint them to mythology legends in enjoyable and pleasant way.



Visiting Senior Care Centre



Edremit Municipality organized a concert of Turkish Traditional Music in “Kızılay (Red Crescent) Senior Care Home” in Edremit to involve the eldest citizens of Edremit in the celebration of the European Local Democracy Week. Mayor of Edremit Mr. Kamil Saka, his wife Mrs. Günseli Saka, and Deputy Mayor of Chania Mrs. Eleftheria Alifieraki also participated. Before the concert a traditional dessert “Aşure” (Noah’s Pudding) was served to the residents of the senior care centre, prepared with a special sugar-free recipe by the cooks of the Edremit Municipality.



Seminar about “Sensory Analysis of Olive Oil”

Olive growing and olive oil production are the most important commercial sectors in the local economy of Edremit. For this reason Edremit Municipality is often involved in projects aimed to develop European olive oil quality and purity standards among the olive oil producers. The purpose of the Municipality is to encourage the implementation of EU productions criteria aimed to preserve the organoleptic properties of the olive oil and its nutrition facts together with its health benefits. Mr. De Rienzo participated to the European Local Authority Weeks celebrations with his seminary.



Colouring for Democracy

Students of the 4th class of the primary school and Down's syndrome, mentally and physically disable children have been invited to paint together wooden birds houses using their imagination and creativity. Bird houses, painted by children were hanged up to the trees of the Edremit Park in the city centre.





European Local Democracy Week

I thank You all for your kind attention on behalf of
myself and my fellow citizens.
You are always welcome to Edremit.



Kamil Saka
Mayor of Edremit

