

**ULYSSES European Odyssey**  
**Contemporary Theme Symposium**

ACT I - 2022

Athens

Youth, citizenship & democracy

TELEMACHUS

ONASSIS Stegi

**PARTNER:**

<b>1. Organisation name</b>	Onassis Stegi (ARIONA)
<b>2. <i>Ulysses</i> episode</b>	Episode 1 – Telemachus
<b>3. Name of individual who led on organising symposium</b>	Electra Karatza

**MARKETING:**

<b>1. How was your symposium marketed?</b>	The mini symposium of the Ulysses project in Athens was realized in the framework of the event “On the Move: Mediterranean Futures” organized by Onassis Stegi in collaboration with the Syrian & Greek Youth Forum. The symposium was marketed as part of the program of the event “On the Move”.
<b>2. What do you feel it achieved in terms of reach?</b>	Diverse community and ethnicity groups living in Athens

**SYMPOSIUM EVENT(S):**

<b>1. Title (if any)</b>	“On the Move: Mediterranean Futures”
<b>2. Day and date held</b>	12/11/2022
<b>3. Duration (e.g. 2 x symposia x 2 hours, 1 symposia x 1 day etc.)</b>	2 hours
<b>4. Form of symposium (e.g. guest speakers, conference, meal, workshop etc.)</b>	The symposium had the form of an open round table discussion and a listening session.
<b>5. Venue</b>	Municipal Market of Kypseli, Athens

**LEADERSHIP:**

<b>1. How was the symposium led / conducted?</b>	By the Syrian & Greek Youth Forum
<b>2. Name of moderator(s)</b>	Abdulkareem (Kareem) Alkabbani

**ATTENDEES:**

<b>1. Number of attendees</b>	Approximately 20 people attended the symposium
<b>2. Breakdown of attendees in terms of gender, ethnicity and age group.</b>	12 Male, 8 Female Ethnicity: 8 Greek, 6 Syrian, 1 Afghan, 1 Pakistan, 2 Albania, 2 Egypt Average Age: 35
<b>3. Professional or other background info re: every attendee (names not required).</b>	Artist, academic, researcher, sociologist, political scientist, youth organization representative, journalist
<b>4. What sort of geographic spread across your city was achieved by the attendees present?</b>	Mainly the participants come from different neighborhoods from the center of Athens
<b>5. What percentage were arts attendees</b>	50%

**QUESTIONS:**

<b>1. How many questions were collated?</b>	22
<b>2. How many questions on the partner's principal theme?</b>	22

## RESPONSES:

*Although the attendees are only expected to address questions on their city's themes, if there are also responses concerning how the arts could help to improve the relationship between society and the theme discussed it would be good to include this in your report in the space below.*

One of the main practices of the Syrian & Greek Youth Forum is the archive of field recordings in Athens and beyond that it strives to achieve new ways of citizenship, to record soundscapes that prove that – on the micro level more inclusive, more democratic citizenships are possible when communities and collectives strive to fill in the gaps left by formal institutions.

The mini symposium included a listening session of one of these field recordings, focusing on the neighbourhood of Kypseli which have been recorded in 2020 during lockdown. The sound piece was a nuanced and subtle documentation of what it means to “live together” in the public space, an affectionate portrait of a neighbourhood, an example of how gradual and daily processes of belonging steadily build the infrastructure for active citizenship and more democratic, inclusive futures. Listening to the sounds of the neighbourhood, overlapping discussions and shared spaces, are also valuable tools towards understanding how space and rights are negotiated on a day to day basis within the city. Additionally the element of the lockdown was very important, showcasing that in times of crisis – be it health or otherwise – democracy prevails and is not only a political practice to be exercised within formal institutionalised environments, but involves a steady and slow osmosis between citizens themselves. This resulted to a politically charged discussion between all the participants – people from different backgrounds – that concluded in certain questions mainly regarding the citizenship issues faced by people with a refugee status which pose actual threats to people that come to the European Union seeking brighter futures. It also examined the role of the state in building inclusive democratic processes by coming closer to its historical roots which are organised at a community level.