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D5.5 – FIRST PUBLIC EVENT IN ESTONIA (AMANITA)

WP5 – PUBLIC AWARENESS AND DISSEMINATION

COMBATHATE

COMBATING HATE SPEECH AND HATE CRIMES AGAINST INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL DISABILITIES.

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

PROJECT NAME
COMBATHATE (Combating Hate Speech and Hate Crimes Against Individuals with Mental Disabilities)

PROJECT NUMBER
101205522

EU PROGRAMME
Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV)

WHY THIS PROJECT?
Individuals with mental disabilities frequently face hate speech and hate crimes that undermine their dignity, safety, and well-being. COMBATHATE seeks to address this challenge by developing tailored support systems, raising public awareness, and strengthening cooperation between civil society and public authorities (including law enforcement).

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PROJECT CONSORTIUM

1. Purpose and Scope of the Deliverable

Deliverable D5.5 documents the first public event in Estonia organised by Amanita within Work Package 5 of the COMBATHATE project. The deliverable provides an electronic English-language public report on the event conducted on 16 May 2026 at Haapsalu mnt 39, Pärnu, Eesti (Villa Amanita).

The event was designed to present the COMBATHATE project and to discuss the outputs developed under Work Package 2, including the support systems, training materials, legal rights framework, reporting tools and practical support pathways. The activity also aimed to increase public and stakeholder awareness of hate speech and hate crimes against individuals with mental disabilities and to strengthen dialogue between local stakeholders.

The report consolidates the implemented agenda, public attendance summary, description of the materials and presentations delivered, evaluation results based on participant feedback, lessons learned and follow-up recommendations. In accordance with the public dissemination level of this deliverable, personal data, individual signatures and identifiable participant information are not reproduced in the report. The original signed presence list is retained by the host organisation and can be made available to the coordinator or granting authority under the applicable confidentiality and data protection rules.

2. Event Overview and Public-Data Note

Item	Description
Event title	COMBATHATE - Introducing the Support Systems and Awareness Raising
WP / Deliverable	WP5 - D5.5 First public event in Estonia (Amanita)
Date	16 May 2026
Duration	1 day
Location	Haapsalu mnt 39, Pärnu, Eesti (Villa Amanita)
Host organisation	Amanita
Number of participants	50 participants
Participant profile	Local community members, NGOs, educators, health and social service professionals, law enforcement representatives, public authorities, students and other stakeholders
Main objective	To present COMBATHATE and the WP2 support systems, and to discuss how local institutions and communities can improve reporting pathways and support people with mental disabilities.

2.1 Public-data note

The deliverable is public. For this reason, signed presence lists and photographs containing identifiable persons are not annexed to the public version. The signed attendance documentation confirms the participation of 50 people and is archived internally by Amanita. The public report presents only aggregated attendance and evaluation data, in line with data minimisation principles and GDPR-sensitive handling of personal information.

3. Implemented Agenda

The agenda was implemented as a one-day public awareness and stakeholder dialogue event. The structure combined project introduction, awareness raising, presentation of WP2 support tools, open dialogue and evaluation. The agenda is reproduced below as text only; no agenda image is annexed or embedded in this public deliverable.

Time	Session / content
09:30 - 10:00	Registration and welcome coffee: registration of participants and informal networking.
10:00 - 10:30	Opening session: introduction of event objectives and expected outcomes; introduction to the COMBATHATE project.
10:30 - 11:30	Understanding hate speech and hate crimes: discussion of hate speech, hate crimes and how discrimination affects persons with mental disabilities.
11:30 - 11:45	Coffee break.
11:45 - 12:45	Presentation of support systems: introduction of practical tools developed by the project and explanation of how they support victims and improve access to help.
12:45 - 14:30	Open discussion and dialogue: discussion on how institutions can cooperate better, improve reporting pathways and offer more support.
14:30 - 15:00	Closing session and evaluation form: summary of the event, final reflections and completion of the evaluation questionnaire.

4. Event Report and Content Delivered

4.1 Opening and project introduction

The opening part of the event introduced participants to the COMBATHATE project, its European context, objectives, partnership and expected contribution to the prevention of hate speech and hate crimes against individuals with mental disabilities. The presentation underlined the project's focus on practical support mechanisms, awareness raising and stronger cooperation between civil society, public authorities and community-level services.

Participants were informed that the project is implemented under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme and aims to develop a safer and more inclusive environment by combining needs assessment, support-system development, staff training, stakeholder engagement and public awareness activities.

4.2 Awareness session: hate speech, hate crime and discrimination

The awareness session provided a common conceptual basis for participants. The discussion clarified the difference between stigma, discriminatory treatment, hate speech and hate crime. Particular attention was given to how hate speech may appear in everyday community settings, public spaces, schools, services and digital environments, and how it can contribute to exclusion and psychological distress.

The session connected the topic to the lived realities of persons with mental disabilities. Participants discussed how discriminatory language, stereotypes and social exclusion can affect confidence,

participation, access to services and trust in institutions. The discussion was designed to be accessible and practical rather than legalistic, allowing participants from different backgrounds to contribute.

4.3 Presentation of COMBATHATE support systems

The central part of the event focused on the support systems developed under WP2. Amanita presented the purpose of the support system as a practical bridge between a person experiencing distress or hate-related harm and the support actors who can provide psychological, legal or social assistance. The session explained how the support system can reduce confusion, improve reporting and ensure that vulnerable individuals are not left alone after incidents.

The presentation used practical examples and plain-language explanations to help participants understand how the tools may be applied in local settings, including day centres, community services, schools, social care contexts and public institutions.

4.4 Open discussion and stakeholder dialogue

The open dialogue session gave participants the opportunity to discuss local challenges and opportunities for cooperation. Key themes included the need for clearer reporting pathways, more accessible information for persons with mental disabilities, stronger inter-institutional communication and better awareness among professionals and community members.

Participants exchanged views on how local services, public authorities, social workers, educators and civil society organisations can cooperate more effectively. The discussion also highlighted the importance of warm referrals, respectful communication and practical support rather than simply giving information to vulnerable people without follow-up.

5. WP2 Deliverables and Materials Presented

The public event was directly linked to the outputs developed under WP2. The deliverables and materials were presented in a non-technical way to support understanding and discussion among a mixed public and stakeholder audience.

WP2/WP5 material	How it was presented and discussed
D2.1 - Needs Assessment Report	Presented as the evidence base showing barriers faced by persons with mental disabilities, including low reporting, lack of accessible tools and the need for better support pathways.
D2.2 - Support System Development	Presented through the practical support system components: Psychological First Aid approach, icon-based reporting form, evidence bundle, legal flowcharts, template letters, help maps and digital reporting concept.
D2.3 - Training Materials	Presented as the capacity-building package used to train staff in Psychological First Aid, legal rights and support protocols.
D2.4-D2.7 training outputs	Referenced as the validation process through which staff learned to apply the support tools and collected feedback for improvement.
WP5 campaign materials	Presented to show how public awareness, communication and dissemination activities support the visibility and long-term uptake of the project results.

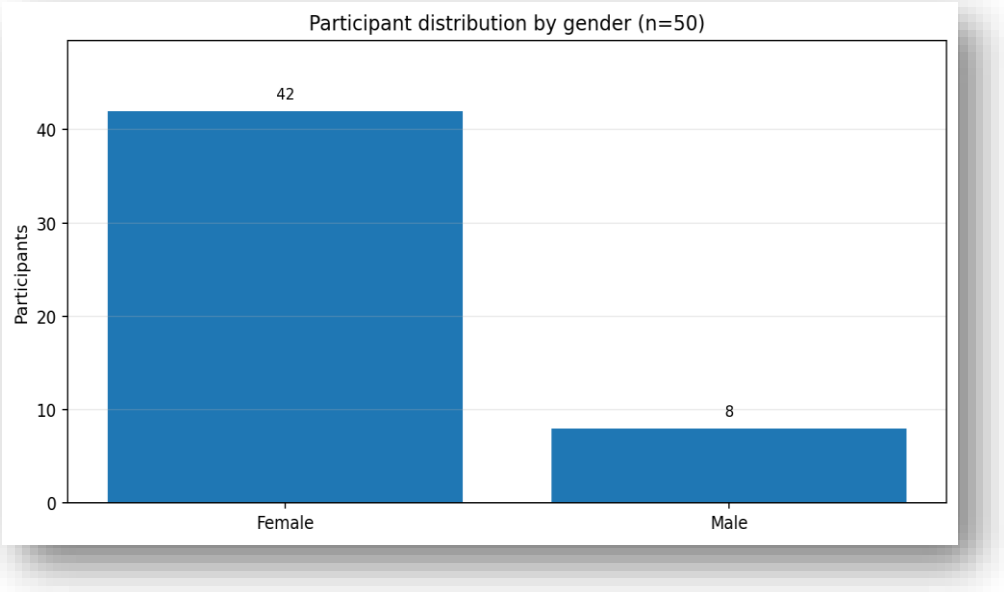
5.1 Support-system components highlighted

- Psychological First Aid (PFA) principles for first supportive response after distressing incidents.
- Icon-based incident reporting tools designed to make reporting more accessible and less intimidating.
- Proxy reporting logic to support people who may need assistance from a trusted person.
- Evidence bundle guidance to help structure information without overburdening the person affected.
- Legal flowcharts and template letters to clarify options and next steps.
- Help maps and referral logic to connect people to local services and reduce drop-out.
- Training materials and practical exercises developed for staff and support workers.

6. Participants and Stakeholder Profile

The signed attendance list confirmed 50 participants. The event reached the target number foreseen for the public event. The participant group included a broad range of local stakeholders, including social and health service professionals, educators, students, community members, public authority representatives and law enforcement-related profiles.

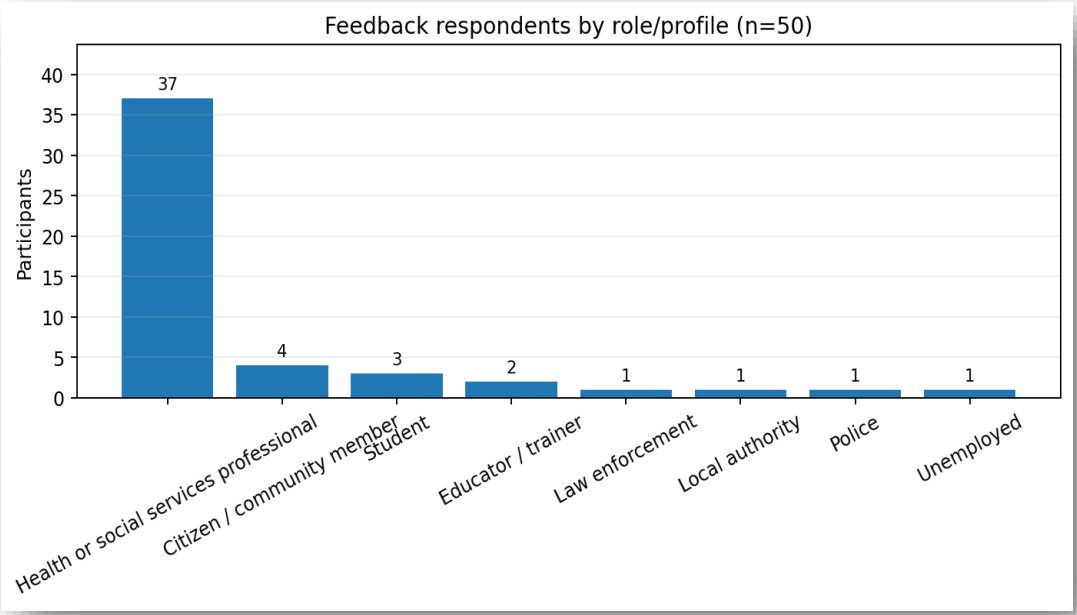
Indicator	Value
Total participants	50
Female participants	42
Male participants	8
Country represented	Estonia
Main stakeholder groups represented	Health and social services, educators/trainers, students, community members, local authority, law enforcement/police and other local stakeholders



6.1 Feedback respondents by role/profile

The feedback questionnaire collected 50 valid responses. The largest group of respondents identified as health or social services professionals, reflecting the relevance of the event for local actors who work directly with vulnerable groups and support needs. The presence of community members, students, educators and institutional actors added diversity to the dialogue.

Role / profile reported in feedback form	Number of respondents
Health or social services professional	37
Citizen / community member	4
Student	3
Educator / trainer	2
Law enforcement	1
Local authority	1
Police	1
Unemployed	1



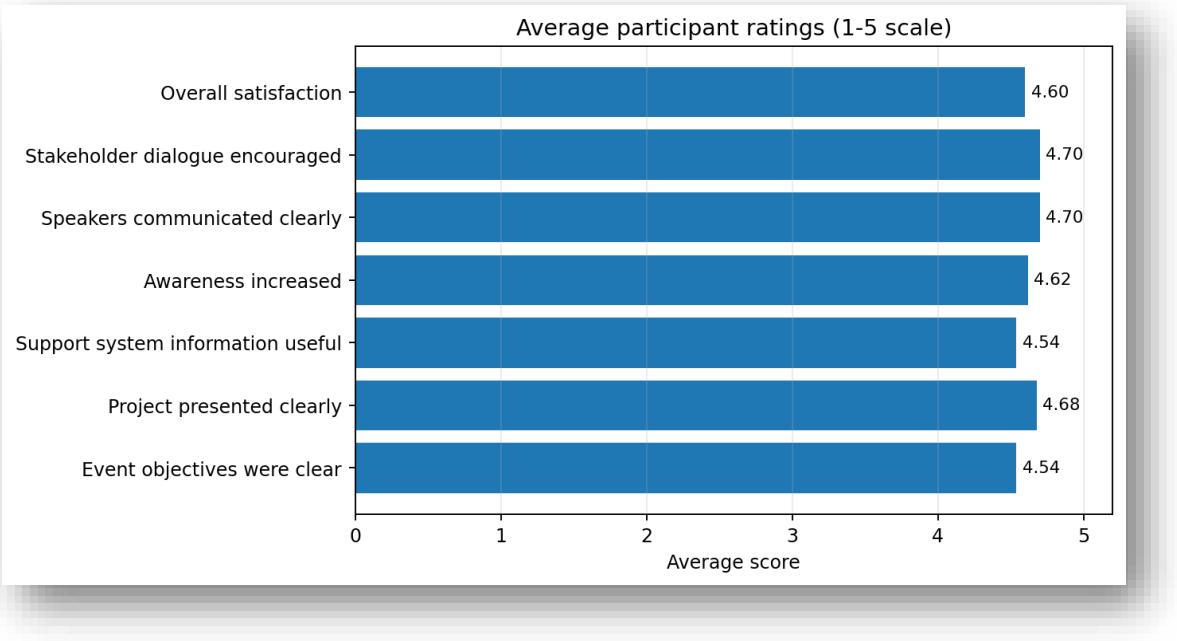
7. Evaluation Framework and Feedback Results

Participant feedback was collected through a structured evaluation questionnaire at the end of the event. The questionnaire measured clarity of objectives, clarity of the COMBATHATE presentation, usefulness of support-system information, increased awareness, clarity of speakers, dialogue between stakeholders, overall satisfaction and interest in future collaboration or follow-up activities.

All 50 participants completed the feedback questionnaire. Results are presented below in aggregated form only. The scoring scale used for the main questions was 1 to 5, where 5 indicates the most positive rating.

7.1 Quantitative feedback summary

Evaluation item	Mean	Median	% ratings 4-5	Distribution
Event objectives were clear	4.54	5.0	92.0%	3: 4; 4: 15; 5: 31
Project presented clearly	4.68	5.0	94.0%	3: 3; 4: 10; 5: 37
Support system information useful	4.54	5.0	92.0%	3: 4; 4: 15; 5: 31
Awareness increased	4.62	5.0	92.0%	3: 4; 4: 11; 5: 35
Speakers communicated clearly	4.70	5.0	98.0%	3: 1; 4: 13; 5: 36
Stakeholder dialogue encouraged	4.70	5.0	96.0%	3: 2; 4: 11; 5: 37
Overall satisfaction	4.60	5.0	94.0%	3: 3; 4: 14; 5: 33



7.2 Interpretation of feedback results

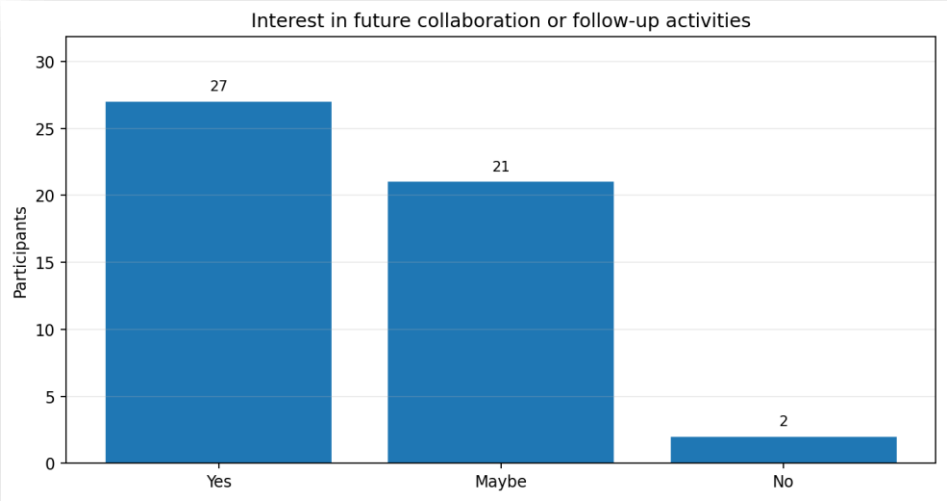
The aggregated results show a very positive evaluation of the public event. Average scores ranged from 4.54 to 4.70 on a 1-5 scale. The highest-rated dimensions were clear and effective communication by speakers and the encouragement of dialogue between stakeholders, both rated at 4.70 on average. The presentation of the COMBATHATE project also received a strong average score of 4.68.

The results indicate that participants found the event clear, useful and relevant. The support-system information received an average score of 4.54, confirming that participants considered the WP2 tools understandable and applicable. Awareness of hate speech and hate crimes against people with mental disabilities increased significantly, with an average score of 4.62.

Overall satisfaction was also high, with an average score of 4.60 and 94.0% of ratings at 4 or 5. These results confirm that the event met its public awareness and dissemination purpose and created a constructive environment for dialogue.

7.3 Future cooperation and follow-up interest

Response	Number of respondents
Yes	27
Maybe	21
No	2



The feedback shows strong potential for continued stakeholder engagement. A majority of respondents indicated interest in future collaboration or follow-up activities, while many others selected “Maybe”, suggesting openness to further involvement depending on the format and timing of future actions. Only two respondents indicated “No”.

8. Key Findings, Lessons Learned and Recommendations

8.1 Key findings

- The event reached the planned public-event target of 50 participants and included a broad set of local stakeholder profiles.
- Participants responded positively to the practical presentation of WP2 support systems and appreciated the focus on accessible reporting and support pathways.
- The event created meaningful dialogue between social services, community members, students, educators and institutional actors.
- Feedback results indicate high clarity, high satisfaction and strong perceived relevance of the event content.
- The stakeholder discussion confirmed the importance of practical tools, local cooperation and simple pathways for reporting and support.

8.2 Lessons learned

- Public awareness events are most effective when technical project outputs are translated into plain-language examples and concrete scenarios.
- Mixed stakeholder groups support richer discussion because participants can compare experiences from services, education, community settings and public institutions.
- Participants are particularly interested in how support tools can be used in real situations, not only in the conceptual background of the project.
- Evaluation questionnaires should remain short and easy to complete, as this supports full response coverage.

8.3 Recommendations for follow-up

- Continue disseminating the WP2 support system through local services and partner websites in accessible formats.
- Use the feedback from this event to refine future public awareness sessions, particularly by including more examples of reporting pathways and local service contacts.
- Maintain contact with stakeholders interested in future cooperation and invite them to subsequent project activities where appropriate.
- Strengthen the link between public events and WP3 implementation by encouraging local actors to test and discuss the support tools in practical contexts.
- Ensure all future public deliverables continue to use aggregated data only when attendance lists include signatures and identifiable personal information.

9. Conclusions

The D5.5 First Public Event in Estonia organised by Amanita successfully contributed to the WP5 objective of raising awareness about hate speech and hate crimes against people with mental disabilities while disseminating key outputs developed under WP2. The event reached the planned number of participants and created an accessible space for discussion of support systems, training materials and stakeholder cooperation.

The evaluation results demonstrate strong participant satisfaction and clear perceived value of the event. Participants reported that the project was presented clearly, that the support system information was useful and that the event increased their awareness of hate speech and hate crimes. The event also encouraged dialogue between stakeholders and generated interest in future cooperation.

Overall, D5.5 confirms that the COMBATHATE support systems and awareness messages are relevant for Estonian stakeholders and that further dissemination and stakeholder engagement can build on this positive first public event.

Annex 1. Feedback Questionnaire Used

The feedback questionnaire was completed at the end of the event. The following questions were used. Rating items used a 1-5 scale, where 1 indicates the lowest rating and 5 indicates the highest rating.

No.	Question
1	Your country
2	Your role/profile
3	The event objectives were clear.
4	The COMBATHATE project was presented clearly.
5	The information provided about support systems was useful.
6	The event increased my awareness of hate speech and hate crimes against people with mental disabilities.
7	The speakers communicated clearly and effectively.
8	The event encouraged dialogue between stakeholders.
9	Overall satisfaction with the event.
10	Would you be interested in future collaboration or follow-up activities?

Annex 2. Public Evidence and Document Archive Note

The following supporting documents were used to prepare this deliverable and are archived in the project documentation:

- Public-event agenda for 16 May 2026, Haapsalu mnt 39, Pärnu, Eesti (Villa Amanita).
- Signed attendance list confirming 50 participants, including gender and stakeholder category fields.
- Evaluation questionnaire spreadsheet containing 50 valid participant feedback responses.
- COMBATHATE WP2 support-system and training materials presented during the event.

Because this deliverable is public, the signed attendance list is not annexed to the report. The attendance list contains personal data and signatures and is therefore retained by Amanita in the project archive. It can be provided to the coordinator or EACEA if requested through the appropriate confidential channel.