

## DIARY Urbact visit IASI- Romania, The Mid Term- Peer review meeting

From 18 -20 November 2019 Marcel, Nathalie and I visited Iasi for the mid-term peer review meeting of the Urbact program.

On the night of the 18<sup>th</sup>, we had a lovely welcome dinner. It was good to see everyone from the Urbact Project again and catch up on experiences in our home cities.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> we met at the City Hall for a warm welcome from both the lead partner, lead expert and representatives of the city of Iasi. We started with discussions on the urban policies that we are drafting which can make a difference in governing our cities. We used a canvas, prepared by the lead partner, to structure the efforts. Questions we pondered were 'What principles and values



should bear the commons?', 'Which institutional arrangements are needed?', 'What kind of dialogue is in favor?', 'How do you monitor en evaluate the projects?'. It was interesting to see how each participating city had different views and responses on the questions. It helped us to think outside our boxes and take useful examples from each other. As the canvasses serve as a foundation for the legal framework each city is drafting, the session was very inspiring and useful.

*Nathalie and Marcel, excited to get started on day 1*

In the afternoon, we reflected on the Urbact project as a whole, with the lead partner leading the session. It was good to reflect together on project management and progress. It keeps all the cities aligned. One of the subjects we paid attention to was communications. We could be more communicative about the hard work we do on this project, and we made some agreements on how to do this through the website, the Twitter account video diaries.



On day 2 we shared the progress each city has made so far. See below the picture of Nathalie presenting on Amsterdam canvas an progress.

In the afternoon a project visit was planned, but this was unfortunately cancelled last minute. In return, we got a tour of the city centre with some more information about the history of Iasi and Romania. Although not necessarily related to the Urbact project, it was still very interesting!

Find below some pictures of the dinners and tour through the city.

