



Youth Exchange
**CULTURES
IN ACTION**

Brochure



Līdzfinansē
Eiropas Savienības programma
“Erasmus+”

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About our project...

interested in promoting culture and traditions through non-formal education. In our work together with our partners we wanted to connect the youngsters with the traditions in order to help them be more inventive and innovative in terms of keeping the traditions alive.

It is very important for the youngsters to be aware of the importance of traditions and cultural heritage. We work with these themes through creative promotion of culture and traditions. 28 young people from 5 different countries (Latvia, Italy, Spain, Romania and Netherlands) came together in Saulkrasti, Latvia to promote Europe through street art, music and street performances.

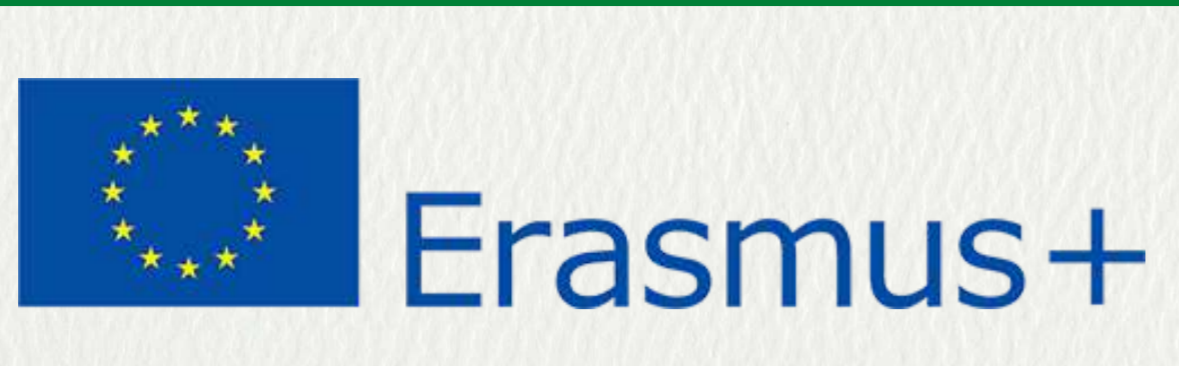
Youth Exchange "Cultures in Action" drove in directions towards public places to perform for locals and also spread information about different programs and projects that European Union is implementing in Latvia and in other promoters' countries. Overall, the participants had couple of performances coloured with different games, quizzes, competitions, etc.

For this, we have set the following objectives:

- To create a space where young people from different countries will bring color to the local daily routine;
- To support the development of their common European identity;
- To help youth to understand and embrace the idea of common Europe;
- To have a strong local impact by involving young people from the local neighbourhood;
- To encourage their active participation in decision making and shaping processes;
- To make the efforts of European Commission visible;
- To inspire local youth to be engaged in similar youth activities and to learn about Erasmus+ programme.

If we talk about current situation in European Union, the level of cultural traditions is getting lower and lower. This on long term have a very strong effect on life of EU citizens, making them loose their feeling of identity. We believe that this situation needs to be discussed and the effects of this to be presented in a more interesting way in order that people pay attention and put in practice what they learn.

In our project we wanted to promote the traditions by using a more interesting method and we will welcome young people looking for uniqueness,



Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe.

It has an estimated budget of €26.2 billion. This is nearly double the funding compared to its predecessor programme (2014-2020).

The 2021-2027 programme places a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life.

It supports priorities and activities set out in the European Education Area, Digital Education Action Plan and the European Skills Agenda.

The programme also

- supports the European Pillar of Social Rights
- implements the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027
- develops the European dimension in sport



This Erasmus+ project was funded by JSPA (Latvian National Agency).

JSPA provides opportunities for young people to write projects, disseminates interesting and useful information to young people about their opportunities in Europe, promotes the exchange of experiences and provides advice on writing projects.

Find more: <https://jaunatne.gov.lv/>

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Results worth sharing

A practical tool in form of a brochure "Cultures in Action" created by the participants of the project that contain information about the Youth Exchange, Erasmus+ Programme, Results and Impact. You are reading it now.

The participants of the project implemented 3 decent performances related to their cultures, their own skills in dancing, singing, art and street performances. It was done in 3 different locations. One of them was the concert hall with "Grand Show" where participants designed a program and prepared amazing presentation of themselves, then it was Saulkrasti Saules laukums (Sun Square) and the third one was Saulkrasti Beach. They interacted directly with local and foreign people and talk with them about their task, Erasmus+ programme and project "Cultures in Action". The audience was encouraged to visit the pages of YStreet, group of the project. In this way the audience had a direct chance to see the results and implementation of the project.

The participants created a song, including text and music, about Erasmus+ project "Cultures in Action". During the project days they invested all their effort to this task and in the end each verse was sung in each national language. Thus, the song was sung in 5 different languages.



Impact of the Project

Local level:

At the local level was increased communication between youngsters, partner organizations and non-formal educational institutions, increased communication between dissimilar followers in order to ensure qualitative results, and increased involvement of young people of different nationalities interested in youth organizations and activities related to creativity and culture. They increased awareness on the importance of keeping traditions and the importance of globalization as a tool used by non-profit organizations and youngsters to resolve societal problems, to empower youth and to reduce the different sort of issues affecting youngsters of nowadays, including youth unemployment.

Local community:

- benefited from the initiatives of young people, since we are convinced that our participants will further use their gained skills in their local actions;
- increased their overall touristic attraction in different web portals which were used by participants to advertise their events;
- benefited in terms of development of local crafts and trade which served as an additional plus of tourism development,
- gained economic benefits due to organized touristic trails and increasing flow of tourists;
- got a lower level of youth unemployment;
- had a deeper understanding of European development policies due to the involvement of participants in the social activities of the community.

Regional level:

We spread the good practices in working with youths in local communities and international partners, our pattern in good practices was used by all the organizations working with different communities and international projects. All partners had the task to send e-mails to several other organizations from their countries, in order to share the results of the project and develop similar projects together, for the benefit of their communities. Due to the visibility and dissemination plan, more organizations from the participating countries followed our example of good practices and developed similar projects, targeting even more youngsters from rural areas.

Impact on European and/or international levels:

- higher inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in local and international initiatives;
- fostered mutual understanding between young people;
- European cooperation in the field of youth;
- more international and intercultural projects are operated by the project partners on a European level;
- more young people from the local communities of the project partners are informed about international projects under the EU co-funding (ex. Erasmus+ Programme) and have the chance to take part in those activities;
- developed quality of support systems for youth activities and the capabilities of civil society organizations in the youth field;
- positive thinking and breaking of the prejudices, stereotypes, enmity towards people from other countries.



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