

The Project “Cultural Archery”



The project "Cultural Archery Strengthens Unity and Security in Europe" aims to highlight the enduring connections, unity, and security among the Latvian, Lithuanian, and Polish communities through cultural collaboration. The project connects the towns of Cēsis (Latvia), Rokiškis (Lithuania), and Suwałki (Poland) via the universal language of culture, ensuring that these ties remain

active and strong in the face of any challenges.

“Cultural Archery” symbolizes how the geographic alignment of Cēsis, Rokiškis, and Suwałki resembles a bow on the map, with the towns located along the external border of the European Union forming a united front against external geopolitical threats.

This project aims to fortify the bonds of unity, trust, and security among the communities of Cēsis, Rokiškis, and Suwałki through a series of cultural exchanges and collaborative events involving citizens – participants from local amateur groups and representatives from each municipality's administration. This initiative demonstrates the resilience of our connections, transcending geopolitical challenges by fostering a diverse, yet shared cultural identity.

The project's main objective is to promote European unity by showcasing the rich cultural heritage of these border communities. It creates a platform for citizens to connect through shared traditions via events such as performances, workshops, and exchange visits. These activities provide opportunities for intercultural dialogue, bringing together participants from different nationalities and languages in common cultural experiences.

Three twinning events will be organized during the project, each hosted in one of the participating cities. The first event, a Summer Solstice celebration, will take place in Rokiškis (Lithuania) from 23 to 24 June 2025, followed by a Folklore and Taste Festival in Suwałki (Poland) from 26 to 27 July 2025, and concluding with an event in Cēsis (Latvia) from 23 to 24 August 2025 to commemorate the anniversary of the political demonstration “Baltic Way.” These gatherings will feature cultural performances, workshops, and public discussions that celebrate the diverse cultural heritage of the region and strengthen the feeling of European belonging.

In addition to cultural events, the project will facilitate constructive dialogue through workshops and discussions, exploring the role of culture in promoting unity and security. Participants will engage in conversations on how their cultural traditions contribute to regional stability and will identify shared strengths and opportunities for long-term collaboration. A Cultural Cooperation Map will be developed, serving as a lasting result of the project and symbolizing an enduring commitment to cultural solidarity and future collaboration.

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(CERV-2024-CITIZENS-TOWN-TT). The implementation period is from 1 June to 30 November 2025. It is implemented by Cēsis Municipality (Latvia) in partnership with Rokiškis District Municipality (Lithuania) and Suwałki City Municipality (Poland). It is co-funded by the European Union, with a grant amounting to EUR 50,730.

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EU programme The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV)

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme was launched in 2021 and will run for seven years until 2027. It was created along with the 2021-2027 Justice programme under the Justice, Rights and Values Fund.

The CERV programme seeks to support and develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies based on the rule of law. That includes a vibrant and empowered civil society, encouraging people's democratic, civic and social participation and cultivating the rich diversity of European society, based on our common values, history and memory.

The CERV programme has four pillars:

- Equality, Rights and Gender Equality - promoting rights, non-discrimination, equality (including gender equality), and advancing gender and non-discrimination mainstreaming
- Citizens' engagement and participation - promoting citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union, exchanges between citizens of different Member States, and raising awareness of the common European history
- Daphne - fight violence, including gender-based violence and violence against children
- Union values - protect and promote Union values