NGO
International and sustainable NGO activities

Erasmus+

Sustainable activities in the Latvian civil society

6-day study visit to Latvia, Sunday – Friday, 24 – 29th of September 2023



Riga

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The study visit will be supported by the Danish National Agency of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union

1. The frame of the study visit

Study visit title:

Sustainable NGO activities in the Latvian civil society

Time and places

The 6-day study visit takes place from Sunday to Friday, 24th – 29th of Sept. 2023. The 4-day course programme takes place from Monday morning to Thursday evening, 25th – 28th of September.

2. Summary of the Erasmus+ mobility plan

Context

The study visit is part of the Erasmus+ Mobility project: "International and sustainable NGO activities", with more study visits that takes place in the period: Aug 2023 – July 2024.

The mobility project is coordinated by NGO-Netværket for internationalt projektarbejde

Aim and objectives

The overall aim for this Mobility Project is to transfer new experiences and competences with social and green sustainability to our members from the Danish civil society.

The objectives are:

- to transfer experiences and good practice examples from other EU member states and to gain new inspiration and increasing innovativeness in our own activities, and
- to present good practices and methods in combining social and green sustainability, and thereby putting the green words into action without leaving no one behind.

Number and profile of participants

Max 8 participants.

The target groups are staff and volunteers that are active in the civil societies in the Danish Kingdom, and who have become members of the NGO-Network.

3. The host organisation and the sending organisations

The host association

The host organisation is Rite Folk High School - see https://ritestautskola.org/
Rites pagasts, Jekabpils novads, Latvia, LV-5228

Contact: Jolanta Albrehta, chairperson - ritestautskola@inbox.lv

Rite Folk High School is a private independent institution, which is located in Rite municipality, Viesite region, Latvia.

The purpose of the institution is to support a system of adult education in Latvia by creating a Folk High School inspired by the Danish tradition of Grundtvig Folk High Schools. This means that the overall goal of the school must always be enlightenment of people in order to give the students the opportunity to develop authority, openness, energy and a strong commitment to democratic governance and values.

The operation of the school is financed by voluntary contributions from members of the support circles in Denmark and Latvia, payment for courses and support from national, regional and local Latvian and Nordic governments. In addition, support from private funds.

The school building is a former primary school, which has been converted into a folk high school with 11 rooms, where it can accommodate from 2 and up to 8 people per. room. Max occupancy is 35-40 people, in addition there are classrooms, dining room and institution kitchen.

Course & travel leaders:
Lis Hazel Nielsen, board member: (+45) 23 44 41 79 * lishazel18@gmail.com

The sending associations

The sending organisation is the NGO Network for International Project Work (NGO-Netværket for internationalt projektarbejde) - see https://ngo-netvaerk.dk/

The NGO Network was founded in March 2021 as an ideal and voluntary association. The purpose of the association is to develop a forum where active members of Danish civil society can exchange experiences, disseminate knowledge and support each other in developing transnational activities that can strengthen free and democratic associational life in the Nordic and European civil societies.

The association's activities may include knowledge sharing and exchange of experience, mentoring, courses and conferences, debate activities, publications and development work, both in the Commonwealth, the Nordic area, the Baltic Sea region, the European Union and wider international contexts.

In the first years, the NGO Network for international project work will offer:

- A series of short 1-hour online webinars for Danish NGOs with knowledge and experience exchange about developing the international project activities.
- More onsite theme meetings and events on the development opportunities with international networks and collaborative projects.
- International events, such as study tours, contact meetings and theme conferences.
- Counselling on finding foreign partners, preparing applications and coordinating international projects.

4. Day-to-day programme for the Latvian study visit

Period:

A 6-days trip from Sunday to Friday, 24th – 29th of September 2023. The 4-day course programme takes place from Monday morning to Thursday evening, 25th – 28th of September.

Flights to Riga, Sunday 24th of September:

- From Copenhagen Airport (CPH) to Riga Airport (RIX):
- From Billund Airport (BLL) to Riga Airport (RIX):
- Return flights, Friday 29th of September: From Riga Airport to Copenhagen Airport and to Billund Airport

We rent a 9-persons Ford Transit minibus in Riga Airport to handle the local transport, and we deliver it again at the airport.



Sunday, 24th of September

Afternoon:

- Departure from Copenhagen Airport and Billund Airport to Riga Airport, and travel by minibus to Hotel in the centre of Riga:

Evening:

- Dinner in Riga city and a walk and talk tour in the old centre.

Monday, 25nd of September

Morning:

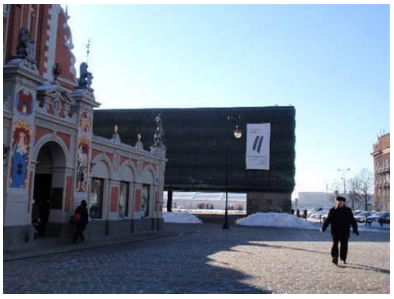
- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visiting The Danish Culture Institute in the National Library
- Visiting Riga Market

Afternoon:

- Lunch at Lido in the city
- Visiting Occupations Museum
- Walk and talk in in Alberta iela, which is a famous street for art nouveau construction.
- Private visit to a gallery

Evening:

- Dinner in Restaurant Pargrabs



Occupation Museum behind the House of the Black Heads



Art Nouveau House in Alberta Iela



Outdoor restaurant in the old town

Tuesday, 26th of September

Morning:

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Meeting with the new Danish ambassador in Latvia

Afternoon:

- Lunch in the city
- Departure by minibus to Rite Folk High School (140 km)

Evening:

- Dinner at Rite Folk High School
- Guided tour at the Folk High School

Wednesday, 27th of September

Morning:

- Breakfast at the School
- Visit to a local entrepreneur with organic products

Afternoon

- Lunch at local restaurant
- Round trip in the area including a visit to a local inn.

Evening

- Dinner at Rite Folk High School
- Introduction to the activities of the Folk High School



Front of Rite Folk High School



Creativity at the Summer School



Creativity at the summer school

Thursday, 28th of September.

Morning:

- Breakfast at the School
- Visit to a bee farm and a trip around Nereta

Afternoon

- Lunch in in Nereta
- Visit to a small apple orchard
- Visit to a local cemetery

Evening

- Festive dinner with board members and other local NGOs
- Course conclusion with hand over of Certificate of Attention



Life Role Play for young people at Rite Folk High School



Woman course at the summer school



Painting course at the school

Friday, 29th of September

Morning:

- Breakfast at the School
- Departure by minibus to Riga Airport

Afternoon

- Lunch in the airport, self-payment
- Flight back to Copenhagen Airport and Billund Airport

5. Practical information

Price

The study visit is free. The mobility grant can cover the travel costs, beds, and meals as well as the study programme and fee for the hosts. The Erasmus+ mobility grant will cover the following costs:

- The administration costs of proving the Erasmus+ application and reporting, planning the programme, preparing Mobility Agreements with all participants, booking travels and accommodation, providing Course Certificate and course evaluation.
- The participants' course fee for the 4 days programme which we must pay to our Latvian host organisations.
- The costs of a basic return flight ticket incl. hand baggage and up to 20 kg suitcase, but not extra costs for specific seat reservation, travel insurances, drinks, and meals during the flight.
- The rent of a minibus for local transport from the Airport to and from the hotel as well as local transport during the visits Tuesday – Friday.
- Booking of beds for two nights from Sunday to Tuesday in single room (or double room if wished) in Riga, and three nights from Tuesday to Friday in single or double rooms at Rite Folk High School.
- Provision of main meals as breakfast, lunch, dinner, and coffee breaks all days, from Monday to Friday.

The participants shall only bring pocket money to cover their possible café visits in the free time, extra drinks during the common meals, costs of souvenirs, presents, etc.

Visa card can be used most places in Latvia, and it is easy to find cash machines in Riga Airport or in Riga city.

Tour leader and contact person

Lis Hazel Nielsen, board member: (+45) 23 44 41 79 * lishazel18@gmail.com