

Project idea form - small projects

Version 2.1

Registration no. (filled in by MA/JS only) _____

Project Idea Form

Date of submission 03/06/2025

1. Project idea identification

Project idea name	Port of Our Times: In the Footsteps of Cnut the Great – The Shared Heritage of the Piasts and Scandi
Short name of the project	Port of Our Times
Previous calls	yes <input type="radio"/> no <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Seed money support	yes <input type="radio"/> no <input checked="" type="radio"/>

2. Programme priority

1. Innovative societies

3. Programme objective

1.1. Resilient economies and communities
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4. Potential lead applicant

Name of the organisation (original)	Stowarzyszenie Przyjaciół Harcerskiego Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca "Dzieci Płocka"
Name of the organisation (English)	The Association of Friends of the Scout Song and Dance Ensemble "Children of Płock"
Website	www.dzieciplocka.pl
Country	PL



Type of Partner	NGO
	Non-governmental organisations, such as Greenpeace, WWF, etc.

Contact person 1

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Which organisation(s) in the planned partnership take part in a project within the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme for the first time? Please list the respective partners.

Currently, discussions are underway with a scouting organization in Kiliavy, Finland, as well as with an organization from Flekkefjord, Norway. In addition, efforts are being made to find partners through the platform <https://matchmaking.interreg-baltic.eu>.

5.1 Specific challenge to be addressed

The inspiration for developing this project stems from recent scientific findings regarding Płock as the largest known necropolis of the Piast dynasty, making the city a symbolic cradle of Poland's first royal house. These findings were confirmed by an interdisciplinary team of researchers and presented at the national conference entitled "In Search of Our Roots." The Cathedral Basilica in Płock is the resting place of many Polish rulers, including Bolesław III Wrymouth and Władysław I Herman. It is from this very Piast dynasty that the mother of Cnut the Great descended — the most powerful Viking in European history, King of England, Denmark, and Norway. He was the grandson of Mieszko I and the nephew of Bolesław the Brave, whose support, according to historical sources, enabled him to conquer England.

Referring to the life of one of the most prominent figures of early medieval Europe, the project aims to explore and jointly promote the historical heritage of Poland and the Scandinavian countries, highlighting their shared dynastic, cultural, and political roots within the context of 11th-century history — a transformative period for shaping European identity.

The year 2025 marks the 1000th anniversary of the coronation of Bolesław the Brave — the first King of Poland — as well as the great expansion of Cnut the Great, whose mother was a Polish princess. The project is based on this unique, shared history, symbolized by an international educational voyage along the route Gdynia – Visby – Helsingborg, tracing ancient Viking and Piast trade and travel routes. Visby and Helsingborg have been chosen as historical points of contact between Nordic and Central European cultures.

The lead partner of the project will be a non-governmental organization from Płock — the Friends of the “Dzieci Płocka” Scout Song and Dance Ensemble Association.

The project aims to create space for reflection and dialogue on shared values, regional history, and the future of the Baltic Sea region. The voyage will become a symbolic “time machine,” connecting the past, present, and future from the perspective of young participants.

The initiative is open to youth from all countries of the Baltic Sea region, encouraging broad international participation and cooperation.

During the voyage, young people will take part in onboard workshops, meetings, and integration activities. Key themes will include peace and cooperation, Baltic cultural heritage, climate change, solidarity, civic en

5.2 Focus of the call

Compliance with the Call and Support for Local Communities

The project supports the goals of the Interreg Baltic Sea Region small projects call by fostering the cohesive development of small towns and local communities. It draws on shared heritage linking the Piast dynasty and Cnut the Great, a Viking king with Polish roots, to highlight deep historical ties between Central and Northern Europe.

By involving young people and NGOs from smaller cities like Płock, Visby, and Helsingborg, the project strengthens local identity and civic engagement. Through an educational voyage and non-formal learning activities, it empowers youth to reflect on common values and become active in shaping their communities.

The initiative also promotes lesser-known historical sites, supporting cultural tourism and raising awareness of regional heritage. Study visits, workshops, and a documentary will bring attention to places outside major tourist routes.

Moreover, the project builds cross-border cooperation between grassroots organizations from Poland, Sweden, Finland, and Norway, including via the Interreg matchmaking platform. This helps create long-term partnerships and stronger regional networks.

In essence, the project brings together local actors and young people to explore shared history and address today’s challenges, contributing to a more connected and resilient Baltic Sea region.



6. Transnational relevance

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7. Specific aims to be addressed

Building trust that could lead to further cooperation initiatives

The project creates opportunities for young people and local organizations from different Baltic Sea countries to meet, collaborate, and learn together. Through shared historical exploration, workshops, and intercultural dialogue, participants build mutual understanding, respect, and trust. These foundations are essential for long-term cooperation between partner institutions and communities. By establishing strong people-to-people connections, the project encourages future joint initiatives beyond its duration, laying the groundwork for sustainable partnerships in education, culture, and civic engagement across the region.

Initiating and keeping networks that are important for the BSR

The project initiates and strengthens networks among youth organizations, cultural institutions, and educators across the Baltic Sea Region. By working together on common historical themes, participants establish lasting links that can be activated for future educational or cultural projects. The use of digital platforms, joint outputs (such as a documentary and publications), and continuous communication ensure that these networks remain active and relevant. The project serves as a platform for long-term cooperation, reinforcing transnational ties and promoting shared identity within the BSR.

Bringing the Programme closer to the citizens

The project involves citizens directly, especially young people and local communities, by engaging them in meaningful, inclusive, and accessible activities. By focusing on shared history and common

values, the project makes EU cooperation tangible and relevant to everyday people. Public events, outreach campaigns, and digital content such as films and educational materials allow broad access to the project's results. It turns abstract EU objectives into concrete, personal experiences, fostering a stronger sense of connection between citizens and the Interreg Programme's goals in the Baltic Sea Region.

Allowing a swift response to unpredictable and urgent challenges

By involving youth and grassroots organizations, the project builds a flexible and agile cooperation model that can quickly respond to emerging challenges. Themes such as peace, climate change, and civic engagement are integrated into the program to ensure relevance in the face of urgent regional or global developments. The transnational character allows for diverse perspectives and shared problem-solving. By equipping young people with tools for critical thinking and cross-border collaboration, the project enhances resilience and readiness to tackle unpredictable future challenges affecting the Baltic Sea Region.

8. Target groups

The project focuses on engaging young people aged 14–20 from small and medium-sized towns in the Baltic Sea region, especially those with limited access to international opportunities. Youth participants will come from Poland, Sweden, Finland, and Norway, and will be involved in workshops, study visits, and onboard activities during the educational voyage. They represent a new generation of Europeans who are open to dialogue, curious about history, and eager to shape their communities.

Teachers, youth workers, and educators are also a key target group. Their role is essential in preparing, guiding, and supporting young participants throughout the project. Through their involvement, the project promotes new educational approaches and strengthens the capacity of local educational institutions to implement intercultural, history-based, and civic education.

Local NGOs, cultural institutions, and community leaders form another important group. By participating in project planning and implementation, they contribute local knowledge and ensure the project remains grounded in real community needs. These partners help foster connections between youth and their heritage and create a supportive environment for follow-up actions at the local level.

Lastly, the broader public—including families, local residents, and online audiences—will be reached through public events, awareness campaigns, and digital dissemination. Their engagement is key to ensuring the long-term impact of the project and to building broader recognition of shared Baltic heritage.

By targeting both youth and the adult stakeholders who influence their development, the project ensures wide, sustainable impact across different sectors and generations in the Baltic Sea region.

Please use the drop-down list to define up to five target groups that you will involve through your project's activities.

Please define a field of responsibility or an economic sector of the selected target group

Specify the countries and regions that the representatives of this target group come from.



1. NGO	Youth education, cultural heritage promotion, non-formal education, civic engagement, and international cooperation within the Baltic Sea region.	Non-formal youth education and cultural sector. Representatives come from Płock (Poland), Visby and Helsingborg (Sweden), Flekkefjord (Norway), and Kiliavy (Finland).
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9. Contribution to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Please indicate if your project idea has the potential to contribute to the implementation of the Action Plan of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (<https://eusbsr.eu/implementation/>).

yes ☒ no ☐

Please select which policy area(s) of the EUSBSR your project idea contributes to most.

PA Culture

PA Education

PA Tourism

The MA/JS may share your project idea form with the respective policy area coordinator(s) of the EUSBSR. You can find contacts of PACs at the EUSBSR website (<https://eusbsr.eu/contact-us/>).

☐ If you disagree, please tick here.

10. Partnership

Non-formal youth education and cultural sector. Representatives come from Płock (Poland), Visby and Helsingborg (Sweden), Flekkefjord (Norway), and Kiliavy (Finland).

11. Workplan

The project will be implemented in the form of a cultural and educational voyage, blending historical exploration with youth engagement and digital communication. The project will follow a structured



timeline that includes preparatory workshops, the voyage itself, and post-voyage dissemination activities. Methods include non-formal education, intercultural dialogue, creative expression, and participatory learning.

Pilot Activities A pilot cruise will serve as the centerpiece of the initiative, sailing from Gdynia (Poland) to Visby (Sweden) and Helsingborg (Sweden), tracing historical routes once traveled by Piast and Viking envoys and merchants. This cruise will involve a group of 40 young participants (ages 16–25) from at least five Baltic Sea countries. Prior to departure, local workshops will be held in Płock, Gdynia, and partner cities to prepare the youth for their journey, including sessions on history, intercultural communication, and sustainable travel.

Onboard Programming During the cruise, the program will include: Interactive lectures and storytelling sessions on medieval history and dynastic ties. Thematic workshops on Baltic cooperation, climate awareness, civic engagement, and peacebuilding. Group projects including podcast recording, digital journaling, and short film production.

In-Port Study Visits In each port city, youth will engage in guided tours, expert talks with historians, and cultural exchange activities with local young people. These will foster cross-border understanding and historical awareness rooted in place-based learning.

Key Deliverables and Results A 30-minute documentary film co-produced by the participants, capturing the journey and shared heritage narratives. A public awareness campaign titled “Cnut the Great – King of Three Kingdoms, Grandson of Mieszko I,” featuring an online exhibition, interactive timeline, and social media content. A bilingual (Polish-English) popular-science book on Cnut the Great, designed for youth and schools, accompanied by teacher-friendly educational toolkits and lesson plans. Increased recognition of shared Scandinavian–Slavic heritage among youth and educators. Strengthened regional cooperation among civil society organizations.

Target Group Engagement The primary target group is youth from the Baltic Sea region, with emphasis on inclusivity and equal gender representation. Secondary target groups include teachers, youth workers, cultural institutions, and local authorities. Participants will be recruited through NGOs, schools, and regional youth networks.

Use of Results and Sustainability The project’s outputs will be used beyond the voyage through: Integration into school curricula in partner countries. Free online distribution of educational materials and documentary content. Continued cooperation among partners to organize annual heritage voyages or exchanges. Establishing a digital platform dedicated to shared Baltic heritage, maintained by the lead partner. Through these actions, the project will

12. Planned budget

ERDF budget (planned expenditure of partners from the EU)	EUR 500,000.00
Norwegian budget (planned expenditure of partners from Norway)	EUR XXX
Total budget (including preparatory costs)	EUR 500,000.00

13. Project consultation

Please indicate if you wish to have a consultation (online meeting) with the MA/JS to discuss your project idea

yes ☒ no ☐



14. Questions to the MA/JS

Questions related to the content of the planned project *(max.1.000 characters incl. spaces)*

Questions related to budgeting and expenditure Are translations of all project-related documents required, and can the potential costs of a sworn translator be included in the project budget?

Any other questions *(max. 1.000 characters incl. spaces)*

15. Additional information

(max. 1.000 characters incl. spaces)

Your account in BAMOS+

Please remember that to officially submit your application you need to access our electronic data exchange system BAMOS+. More information about the process of applying for your account in BAMOS+ you will find here:

<https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/bamos-account>