

**EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS
FUND FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS**

INITIATIVE PROPOSAL

Title of the initiative: Community cooperation development between Tartu and Bodø folklore groups

Implementing entity (*beneficiary state entity*): MTÜ Tartu Folk (Eesti)

Partner(s) (*minimum one donor state entity*):

- BUL Bodø (Monika Vågan, Ingebjørg Vestrum)
- Nuorisoseura Matora (Eveliina Pilke)
- Latvijas Nacionālais kultūras centrs (Katrīna Feldmane)

Bilateral priority area identified by the JCBF beyond the programmes:

- ☐ promotion of core European values, such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and the respect for human rights for all people, regardless of their racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity;

Allocation (*total sum*): 3160

(*A more detailed project budget description in the activity plan*)

Short description of the initiative:

(*background, aim, participants, activity plan, budget outline, communication and dissemination*)

Participants

Folklore Club Maatasa is an ensemble based in Tartu dedicated to studying and sharing the traditions and folklore of Southern Estonia through song, dance, music, folk tales, national costumes and traditions. The ensemble connects people from the ages of 7 to 30. The ensemble features both widespread instruments, such as the violin, Jew's harp, bagpipes, guitar and mandolin, as well as instruments that are representative of Southern Estonia, such as the karmoška (garmon) and kannel (zither).

An umbrella organization for Maatasa is the Tartu Christian Adolescent Home. Tartu Christian Adolescents' Home was established in 2000 as an NGO to help children who cannot grow up with their families for various reasons by providing substitute and aftercare services.

BUL Bodø is a group from Bodø in Nordland in the northern part of Norway. The members are between 13 and 22 years old. The group specialises in traditional folk music with violins and traditional dance, mainly from northern Norway. BUL Bodø's repertoire includes traditional Norwegian dances and tunes, such as Walz, Reinlender, Polka, Pols, and Halling. The group performs in the Norwegian National Costume.

Background of collaboration

Tartu and Bodø have been chosen as the European Capital of Culture 2024. The two cities' folklore music communities desired to meet each other. Tartu Folklore Club Maatasa received an invite and proposal for collaboration in November 2023. Folklore Club Maatasa's trip to Bodø took place from 28 May until the 2nd of June. The trip was very fascinating and inspiring. The two ensembles became good friends. The Norwegian tunes learned from the trip are still part of Maatasa's repertoire.

Read more: <https://tartufolk.ee/en/news/folklore-club-maatasa-and-bul-bodo-collaboration-2/>

Folklore Club Maatasa awaits BUL Bodø musicians and dancers to visit Tartu for the duration of **14.-17 November**, during which an international **folklore festival, Tartu Folk**, will take place. The festival will be hosted for the 9th time. It will offer the chance to share and perform traditional dances and songs at school concerts and a collective folklore concert, where there will be about 250 dancers and musicians. The festival's final concert will take place at the Estonian National Museum, allowing room for a grander audience. The concert will also be broadcast live on the YouTube channel of Tartu Folk.

The folklore festival **Tartu Folk's primary goal** is to offer young people interested in folklore the chance to participate in an international culture exchange project to raise awareness of the diversity of folklore traditions from all around Europe. The festival will host folklore groups from Norway, Finland, Latvia, and Estonia, including various workshops and concerts. The festival is organised by Folklore Club Maatasa, with members ranging from ages 7-30.

Tartu Folk is a festival focused on community. The festival's goal (besides the exchange of cultures) is to host a gathering place for Tartu youth interested in folklore to come together, but the connection to the guest performers will always be there. Numerous visits and collaborations, including hosting workshops, will hold the communities together.

Read more: <https://tartufolk.ee/en/event/tartu-folk-2024/>

Performers: <https://tartufolk.ee/en/news/ix-tartu-folk-bridges-the-gap-between-two-european-capitals-of-culture/>

Communication and dissemination and reason for necessity:

UNESCO: Respecting cultural diversity and dialogue between cultures is the best way to ensure peace.

The festival Tartu Folk aims to offer a way for a dialogue between cultures to prosper in the best way possible. Because of this, the festival hosts a relatively limited number of foreign guests to ensure that one can genuinely deepen their understanding and focus on a country's culture and make interacting between groups more accessible and more natural. The festival shines a light on communities focusing on unarranged, traditional folklore who study folklore through numerous ways: song, dance, traditional instruments, costumes, food, culture, etc. Folklore groups are one of the best sources of information for introducing their local, unique culture to a broader audience.

BUL Bodø and Tartu Folklore Club collaboration necessity

The project offers an invaluable learning opportunity for both parties. Both groups have the same mission - to learn and preserve and teach on the culture of their regions. Working in the same field but coming from different backgrounds, there have already been many in-depth discussions to learn from each other's experiences and knowledge that have helped with the work.

Both groups work with children and teenagers, offering a chance to be involved in music and dance in a very accessible way as no prior experience is needed to join the group. The groups help found strong communities and friendships and give a sense of belonging and meeting with like-minded people of a similar age but from a different country has been a very enriching experience for both parties and the members have kept in touch regularly after the trip in May.

Budget outline

Tartu Folk's main sponsor and partner is Tartu City, where the quality of the living environment is of great importance, as is maintaining sustainability. Tartu Folk also deems the developments in environment, education and social politics important, which is also one of the EMP's principles.

We are applying for monetary support from the EMP Programme to host the Norwegian group BUL Bodø in Tartu Hotel (cost 2140.00) and transport between Tartu and Luunja (11 km) and others concert places (cost 1020.00). Whole budget: 3160

All festival's budget is ca 30000.00.

All supporters here: <https://tartufolk.ee/event/tartu-folk/#toetajad>

	Activity	Time	Location	Cost	Participants
	<u>Tartu Folk, pre-day:</u> Guest performers arrive in Tartu; Settling in hotel; Concert at the German Cultural Institute dedicated to the Year of Cultural Diversity	14.11. 2024	Tartu	Tartu Hotel rooms: 2140.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUL Bodø group • Performers from different Tartu ensembles
	<u>Tartu Folk, I day</u> School concert in Tartu Waldorf School; Festival opening in the Luunja Culture and Leisure Centre	15.11.2024	Tartu, Luunja	Transport: Tartu Hotel- Tartu Waldorf School -Tartu Hotel and Tartu Hotel- Luunja - Tartu Hotel – 420.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUL Bodø group • Nuorisoseura Matora (Soome) • Tarkški (Läti) • Sörvema sörmitsejad (Saaremaa, Eesti) • Folklore Club Maatasa (Eesti)
	<u>Tartu Folk, II day</u> Folklore dance and music workshops in the Luunja Culture and Leisure Centre; Grand concert of the festival with main performers and Tartu ensembles; International dance evening – Estonian, Latvian, Finnish, Norwegian dances	16.11. 2024	Luunja	Transport: Tartu-Luunja- Tartu - 420.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUL Bodø group • Nuorisoseura Matora (Soome) • Tarkški (Läti) • Sörvema sörmitsejad (Saaremaa, Eesti) • Folklore Club Maatasa (Eesti) • Tartu folklore groups and folk musicians
	<u>Tartu Folk, III day</u> Festival final concert with main performers in Estonian National Museum; Ending the festival; Collective dinner with Tartu Folklore Club Maatasa and BUL Bodø at Christian Adolescent Home	17.11. 2024	Tartu	Transport: Tartu Hotel- Estonian National Museum-Tartu Hotel - 180	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUL Bodø group • Nuorisoseura Matora (Soome) • Tarkški (Läti) • Sörvema sörmitsejad (Saaremaa, Eesti) • Folklore Club Maatasa (Eesti)

OUTPUT	INDICATOR	TARGET
Collective concerts and workshops	It is interesting for young people to study different nationalities' dances and songs. A sense of respect will be developed for the other country	Bul Bodø activities at Tartu Folk: 3 concerts *Schoolconcert – ca 300 people *Main Concert – ca 300 people *Final Concert – ca 400 people *Final Concert ülekanne veebis -ca 1000 people 3 workshops *Songs and song games a cappella (ca 100 people, participants) *Instrumental tunes and traditional dances (ca 100 people, participants) *International dance evening (ca 300 people, participants and audience) * 6 events and learning opportunities for all participants
Strengthening communities	Mutual communication motivates the young people from Tartu and Bodø to further participate in folklore. The inspiring collaboration will positively impact the hometown's culture, which is experienced by hundreds.	5 communities strengthened: Bul Bodø (Norra) Nuorisoseura Matora (Soome) Tarkški (Läti) Sõrvemaa sõrmitsejad (Saaremaa, Eesti) Folklore Club Maatasa (Eesti)

