

VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY



PORTUGALETE

JULY 2-12, 2026

Key Action 1: Learning Mobility of Individuals | Erasmus +

From 2nd to 12nd July 2026
Portugalete (Basque Country – Spain)



Cofinanciado por
la Unión Europea

<https://www.labur.eus/VOICESFORDEMOCRACY>

PROJECT DETAILS

Project name: VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY

Project dates: 2nd to 12nd of July

Project code: 2025-1-ES02-KA151-YOU-000305122

Place: Portugalete (Basque Country - Spain)

Organization : Federacion Portugaleteko Aisialdi Sarea

OID: E10009922

Participants : 24 persons from EU countries in groups of 3 to 5 people per entity

THE ORGANIZERS

Portugaleteko Aisialdi Sarea (*Portugalete Leisure Network*),

better known as PAS, brings together several Leisure Time and Scout groups in Portugalete. Through the Network, we offer support, guidance, and referrals to volunteers within these groups through activities, training, and various projects. We also manage different programs and services, addressing the needs of our primary beneficiaries: the children and young people of Portugalete. All of this is achieved through non-formal education, with a commitment to the social transformation of the municipality and community strengthening.



These are the **organization's challenges:**

- **Networking**, streamlining the work of the groups, providing them with assistance, **strengthening the associative fabric**, and reaching those they cannot reach. We are the leading organization for leisure time activities with **children and young people at the municipal level**, contributing our experience, resources, and networking expertise to **local community development**. We are connected with other **networks in the area and surrounding region** for mutual support and reference.
- To be a pressure group, **acting as an intermediary with government bodies**, thus becoming a benchmark for **local community development**, presenting ourselves as a unified force, taking on responsibilities and projects, and ensuring that we are taken into account when decisions are made both locally and in coordination and networking spaces at other levels: the Basque Country, the Basque Autonomous Community, the national level, and even Europe.
- To be a forum for encounter and exchange, a way to step outside of our own groups **to learn about other realities**, to share ideas and experiences that enrich us with diversity, **weaving a network of people**. This results in mutual benefit, both personally, by fostering relationships and providing opportunities to cultivate formal and informal connections (through meetings, celebrations, etc.), and as a community, by connecting with and learning about other realities.
- To improve and **contribute experience in the management and consolidation of social and community projects**, expanding from our initial focus on working with children and young people to broader areas: co-

education, youth participation, feminist empowerment, Basque language, etc.

READ THE COMPLET PIF: https://labur.eus/PIF_PAS

SUMMARY

Democracy and Youth Participation

VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY youth exchange will bring together young people over the age of 21 from different countries in Portugalete, with democracy and youth participation at the centre of the project. Through discussions, simulations, debates, creative workshops and reflection sessions, participants will explore topics such as active citizenship, inclusion, and the role of young people in society. The activities are designed to create spaces for open dialogue and exchange, encouraging participants to better understand how they can contribute to positive change within their own communities and at international level.

Informal Education Activities Discovering Basque Country and Culture

The project is based on non-formal education, where learning happens through participation, experience and intercultural exchange. Participants will have the opportunity to discover the Basque Country through local visits and cultural activities, while also learning about its history, traditions, and language. Euskera workshops, traditional music and dance experiences, and encounters with local culture will allow participants to connect more deeply with the place hosting the exchange.

Experiences and Fun

An important part of the exchange is the shared experience of living, learning, and enjoying time together. Through European nights, team-building activities, sports, beach days and games, participants will have the chance to connect with each other. These moments will help create friendships, strengthen group dynamics and make the exchange a meaningful and memorable experience for everyone involved.

Working Methods Participant countries and partner organizations

Our Youth Exchange will be non-formal learning. It means that learning is based on your experience, your motivation and your needs. During the Exchange, non-formal education methods and methods that assure balance between theory and practice will be used such as presentations, group works, workshops, games, role plays, exercises etc.

NEEDS

3-5 participants group per country (24 in total):

- Young people aged 21-30.
- One person from each group will act as leader and contact.

Your tasks during the exchange:

Before the project:

- Please prepare tasks that will be specified when the final group is made

During the project:

- Presentation of your country and your organization.
- Information about the situation of your country on the main topic.

Traditional foods and drinks for the cultural night.

- Flag of your country would be great.

After the project:

- Final evaluation

TRANSPORTATION

Arrival: Bilbao Airport, 2th of July (before 6:00 p.m, please confirm your flight details).

Departure: Bilbao Airport, 12th of July (after 12:00 please confirm your flight details).

You should take a flight to Bilbao airport because it is the main airport near our town and you will find planes from your country easily. About transportation from the airport we will inform you regarding the possibility of transfers to Portugalete by public transport, depending on the group and schedules, a private transfer may be possible.

Additional information about the flights: Try to find flights to/from Bilbao. If you this option would be impossible (eg. too expensive or too complicated for you) you may consider looking for flights to/from Santander or Vitoria airports. If you are in this situation please contact us to discuss more details.

TOWN AND ACCOMMODATION

Portugaleta covers an area of 3.2 km², with half a square kilometre taken up by the Ría. Portugaleta is one of a group of five municipalities in Bizkaia with an area of fewer than 5 square kilometres. Nonetheless, it stands in first place in terms of population density, with 15,000 people per square kilometre.



The municipal area matches with an elongated ridge that runs in a NW-SE direction, limited by the Ría and the River Ballonti. This ridge consists of a series of gentle hillocks whose heights are: Los Hoyos, 102m; Campanzar, 103m; San Roque, 85m. The line of hilltops has an approximate length of 1,200 m.

Located on the Biscayan coast on the left side of the Nervion estuary, it borders to the north with Santurtzi, Getxo and the sea; to the south with Trapagaran/Valle de Trápaga and Ortuella; to the east, with Leioa and Sestao; and, to the west, with Ortuella and Santurtzi.

It is situated on a hill whose slopes run down to the river estuary, the Ría, on one side, and to the River Ballonti on the other, with both waterways acting as its boundaries.

Part of the district of Greater Bilbao, it is 13 km away from the city itself.

The town was founded in 1322 by Dona María Díaz de Haro. The foundation charter was lost years later, and subsequently ratified in 1432 by means of a confirmation of the privilege granted by John II of Castile.

Given its geographical situation, Portugaleta shares the same climate as the rest of Spain's northern coastline.

It belongs to the group referred to as temperate climates, and specifically to the variety known as temperate oceanic, which is characterised by a fairly even distribution of rainfall throughout the year, with no clearly defined dry summer season.

The curve depicting temperatures shows that the



highest average temperatures are recorded in July and August, and the lowest in January and February, without there being major temperature variations between the seasons, whereby the winters are wet and relatively mild. Its very proximity to the sea tempers the heat in summer and takes the edge off the cold in winter.

In short, it can be said that it has a damp, temperate climate with an even distribution of rainfall throughout the year and with the warmest month recording an average temperature that does not exceed 22°C.

ACCOMODATION

For the **accommodation** of all the participants we will use one schools sports center. This accommodation is used by our activity for all ERASMUS+ exchange activities. It is conditioned as a hostel.



You will have to bring a towel. In the rooms we have bunk beds, you need to bring your sleeping bag, we put the pillow. Try to also bring a small backpack for travel as well as a swimsuit. The meals will be in a restaurant near the accommodation. In case of any need or food intolerance do not forget to tell it in the registration form.

Many of the activities and workshops will be held at the city's youth service or culture center service outside on the streets.



You can check the different venues on this map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=16yXGuUvzJ6OttP5gYgimJh29EQcV9II&usp=sharing>

Accommodation, local transportation and other activity costs are recovered by the hosting organization only during the project's dates (**2nd to 12nd of JULY**)

COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENT

VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY will be a Youth exchange Project implemented with financial support from the European Commission . Accommodation, food, as well as activities costs will be covered from the project budget. It is recommendable to get travel insurance but it will not be covered by the project budget.

Travel expenses will be covered after collecting travel documents on condition that the participants use the cheapest ways of transportation and submitted original invoices for plane tickets, boarding passes, train and bus tickets. Private cars, Taxi and first class tickets will not be reimbursed. Please keep the boarding passes from your airport check in as well. Reimbursement will be done in EURO, regardless of the currency indicated on your ticket and receipt/invoice. Please note if you bought your ticket in your local currency which might be different than EUR, we will calculate your travel costs according to the exchange rates from official European Commission web-site, on the day of the purchase

<http://ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro/index.cfm?Language=en>

Note!!! Please make the copies (better scan or take photographs) of your tickets and invoices before coming to Spain and send us all your travel documents to this email address:

europa@aisialdisarea.org, as soon as you buy them. If you have tickets and invoice, make sure that you

e-mailed copies of both.

You can't buy any air ticket or any travel cost before the 23rd of JULY and without authorization from the organization. If this happens, NO amount will be refunded to these participants.

All participants must consult with the organizers the suggested prices & routes before purchase.

Please contact the sending organization of your country (or directly the receiving organization on the email europa@aisialdisarea.org), before buying any tickets.

TRAVEL COSTS

This travel budget per participant is different for each country and shouldn't be exceeded. In case of exceeding the maximum allowed, the refund will be made with the maximum amount fixed for each person by country, never larger. In case the travel cost is higher than the travel budget for the specific country the participant is responsible to pay the rest by his/her own expenses.

We will inform you about your travel limit costs once the Project is approved and the countries will be participants. Mileage calculated with the official program tool.

http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus_plus/tools/distance_en.htm **These are the cost official the new program detailing the maximum cost per participant, but the obligation of the participating associations according to the criteria of the program is to find the cheapest flight at the right time**

For the reimbursement of the money, you have to bring us all these original documents:

- invoices,
- e-tickets,
- proof of payment (if you pay in cash you have to bring us the receipt, but if you pay online . you have to bring us the bank statement)
- original boarding passes

We strongly encourage you to buy flights that have the possibility to do online check-in and in this way you will be able to give us the return boarding passes before coming to Spain, without having to send it to us by post mail when you will return home. Of course, if for your airline company is not possible to perform it, you still need to send us the boarding passes by post mail after the project.

It is very important to have all your travel and financial documents with you (for every person of the

team), otherwise the reimbursement is NOT possible!

No Visa is required for EU citizens, participants will need to have only valid ID card (for some countries only) or international passport. **THERE IS NO VISA BUDGET FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THIS PROJECT.**

Please, check the VALIDITY of the passports before the departure – Passport must be valid at least for 6 (six) months.

We **RECOMMEND** bringing your **PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CARD FROM YOUR COUNTRY** and **PASSPORT** if you have it.

If you want to stay 1-2 days before/after the project in order to visit our capital city or other places please keep in mind that all your expenses during these extra days will be on your site and not paid by the project budget.

INFORMATION NEEDED

- List of participants and complete the form personal application of each participant (APP) **through the link we will send you once we accept your application**
- The arrival and departure details in order to prepare participant transport from airport of Bilbao to Portugalete
- One contact person in your home country (just in case) (e.g. family member); full name and telephone.

If any participant have any special diet or another special needs that affects your health or have a different alimentary option, must communicate in the personal application before coming to Spain.

HEALTH AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

Health insurance will NOT be provided or reimbursed by the organizers. All participants are required to purchase health insurance individually, or get the free of charge formulary E-111 from your national social security that covers medical costs around EU member states (European Health Insurance Card).

RULES

You are expected to participate fully in all activities. Unauthorized absence from activities and workshops won't be allowed. We would really appreciate energetic and active participation.

By applying to this project the participant agree to participate in all its phases: the preparatory, project itself and evaluation phase.

Smoking is prohibited inside of the buildings, so all smokers will have to leave the building in case they want to smoke a cigarette.

CULTURAL NIGHT

Don't forget to **bring some traditional food, drinks and music for the intercultural evenings**. We will have one cultural night per country where you can expose your customs, traditional dances and culture.

Please !!! **All the teams must prepare a presentation of your country in a creative way** (try to avoid PowerPoint and movies from tourist agencies). We hope that your culture means something more than national food and drinks. Also bring the flag of your country. It would be nice if you also bring some small souvenirs with you (costs are not covered).

PRACTICAL INFORMATION – IMPORTANT!

Please keep in mind that Portugalete is situated in the north of Spain so we have an oceanic climate here. A rainy day can appear and also even if it is summer time the temperature might get chilly especially in the nights.

YOU NEED TO HAVE YOUR OWN SLEEPING BAG. We provide a pillow and a bed sheet to each participant.

YOU NEED TO HAVE YOUR OWN TOWEL AND TOILETRIES.

It is recommended that you take your swimsuit with you as a beach time is planned.

Contact Us!



Project Coordinator in Lithuania

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Join with Tavo Europa

Explorer Pass 2026. You are welcome to join our new educational programme for 2026!

Dive into non-formal learning exploration for a 75 euro fee that will unlock your potential to join all training courses, professional study visits, events in Lithuania and abroad until the end of the year, and also supports us to find new exciting and exclusive opportunities for community members!

Please do not pay any fee until you receive a confirmation letter to join the programme. If you want to join the project, please fill the application form, whether you have already participated or not.

Bear in mind that Tavo Europa keeps the right to send the most suitable and motivated participants to all of our projects.

For more projects:

Explore the world and learn together with the help of Tavo Europa. Join the group with more opportunities:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/186132221744993>