[FOLK IT Youth Exchange 20/05-28/05/2022](https://www.facebook.com/groups/684640625996462/)

**Murzasichle, Poland**

**The organizers:**

Stowarzyszenie Inicjatyw Europejskich “ACTIVE” (European Initiatives Association “ACTIVE”) is a non-profit NGO organisation. It was founded in June 2010 in Kielce. It is composed of young people, mostly students from various parts of central Poland, which is the main area of organisation’s activities. At the moment there are about 15 active, registered members and many supporters. The main goals of the association are: organizing european youth exchanges, improving co-operation of young Europeans and their organizations, creating and carrying out various local and regional initiatives, assisting in the process of European integration, working with youth from poor, defavourised regions, co-operating with cultural and scientifical institutions in Poland and abroad, promoting: democracy and citizenship development, tolerance, free market economy, cultural heritage, sports, healthy lifestyle and ecology. During regular meetings the members discuss current domestic and foreign issues concerning politics, economy, social matters, youth problems, etc.

**The project:**

The aim of the project is the joy of learning traditional dances, cultural exchange in this area and understanding and increasing the effectiveness of the learning process, which is defined, monitored and ordered by the participants themselves and with the support of mentors - group leaders.

Participants will learn how to dance and learn how to dance the other participants. We expect a very dynamic group process, many challenges, great motivation and fantastic results of group work, all in the dynamics and joy of traditional dance. We want to refer to the best traditions of our societies and look to the future, i.e. internationality and access to technology.

Youth Exchange FOLKit! is an educational meeting of 30 young people from eight countries: Poland, Romania, Grecce, Estonia and Italy who are aged 18-30.

Within 8 days, 30 people from 5 countries will present their traditional dances that will be taught to others. Each partner was obliged to comply with a gender parity of 50 per 50. In this situation, we will be able to ensure a relatively even division of the group based on sex and age. We hope that younger people can learn from older people and that it can also work the other way round.

All participants are people who have expressed a desire to create a project from the very beginning. Part of the group comes from an environment described as marginalized and difficult. They are young people who have difficult access to basic needs such as education, work, entertainment, sport and knowledge.

At the micro level, of course, it's dance competences and a greater level of social awareness. Through the dynamics of joint work and online platforms and tools, it also develops key competences. It is also worth mentioning intercultural elements (openness, dialogue, expression, foreign languages, cultures, stereotypes and prejudices, cooperation, respect and understanding, support, empathy) and soft skills (public speaking, presentations, workshops, effective communication, body language, feedback , group work, initiative and entrepreneurship, activity and commitment, reflectiveness, organization of own time).

At the organizational level - better quality international cooperation through the use of effective online tools in both planning and execution and promoting this project. We have the impression that each partner was strongly involved in this project, proposing many interesting solutions and improvements. We have the impression that this is a chance to create a lasting partner network of educational and cultural projects.

**Transport:**

The arrival day to Murzasichle must be 20 05 2022(closest airport it is Krakow – Balice, Katowice Pyrzowice around 100 km).

The departure back will be on 28 05 2022 in the morning,

If you need any help with tickets or transfers please let us know we can arrange it so before you will buy ticket please contact us to be sure that this is best option.

We will reimburse your travel expenses in the last days of the project, in cash (euro). Please bring with you all original receipts, invoices, e-tickets, proof of payment and 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 as well, without having to send it`s to us by post when you return home! Of course, if for your airline is not possible, you still need to send us the boarding passes by post after the project.

It is very important to have all your travel and financial documents with you for each person, otherwise the reimbursement is not possible.

**We can arrange all the travel for you as buses, planes etc. for that please ask your team leader.**

**The group:**

We need 6 participants (5+1 leaders) from each of the country. Age limits for the participants are 18-30 years old and 18-35 for leaders.

**Rules:**

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

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

**The location:**

The venue of our project is Murzasichle, a village in Polish Mountain area, 100km away from Krakow.

Basic information about accommodation place - U Toski http://utoski.pl/

- 2/3/4/5 people in one room

- Rooms have their own bathrooms

- The restaurant will serve all meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) and in some days we will have lunch packs;

- The area is very beautiful and surrounded by nature

**What to bring:**

- All your travel documents and financial statements/proofs of payment;

- Typical food and drinks from your countries! We will have traditional evenings during the project and basically every evening will belong to a different country. Unfortunately we don’t have budget to reimburse you the expenses made for the things that you are bringing. All things that we can buy in Poland we can refund for your evening. Try to be creative and funny! You can bring typical costumes, ornaments, leaflets, posters, flyers, food, sweets, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks… and so on!

Also, you can show videos, photos, sing music and dance traditional dances from your countries! We are counting on you to make these evenings as interesting as possible and promise to help you in any way that we can!!!

- Clothes: going to have some swimming session, so prepare your swimsuit!

- Towels and whatever you need for taking shower, washing, etc;

Our currency is the Polish Zloty (PLN): 1 Euro = 4.7 PLN

If you have any questions for us please contact Jacek Kubicki (jacekkubicki@op.pl), Project Manager.

We are looking forward to see you in Poland!

Regards from Stowarzyszenie Inicjatyw Europejskich ACTIVE!