

How can Erasmus+ and Epale support cultural centers as places for adult education, active citizenship and inclusion

MAIN INFO

SALTO E&T link:	https://salto-et.net/events/show/BE01_0894_TSS_2025		
Sector:	AE	Priority:	Inclusion and Diversity (2021-27)
Scope:	Transnational		
Type of presence:	Face-to-Face	Venue country:	Belgium
Venue city:	Louvain-la-Neuve	Working language:	English
Key Action:	Not applicable	TCA documents:	
Postponed:	No	E+ Academy:	No
Start date:	24.11.2026	End date:	27.11.2026
Subtopic:	democracy		

TCA DESCRIPTION

Themes and goals: The Right to participate in cultural life is part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 27). However, participating in cultural life is still a challenge, especially when it comes to inclusion, and access to all adults to culture. In Belgium (FR), a decree on Cultural Centers aims to develop and support the work of cultural centers in order to help people exercise their right to culture, with a focus on equality and empowerment. This decree specifies that cultural centers activities have to :increase people’s ability to analyze, discuss, imagine, and take action, especially through participatory methods, seek to involve cultural actors from their local environment in designing and carrying out medium- and long-term cultural projects, be part of local or sector-based cooperation networks. The decree also clearly links the missions of cultural centers to education and lifelong learning. The decree defines lifelong learning as “an approach that aims to encourage critical thinking about society, support democratic and collective initiatives, develop active citizenship, and promote social, cultural, environmental, and economic rights. It seeks both individual and collective empowerment, with a focus on active participation and cultural expression”. Cultural centers exist all across Europe but the way they are called, or their scope and their role can vary depending on the country. They can be called cultural centers or houses, sociocultural centers, community art centers, ... Depending of the countries: Cultural centers focus on community participation and social projects whereas in other countries they are more focused on heritage and local identity. Cultural centers have more structured policies linked to cultural rights and public funding whereas in other countries they are more dependent on project funding and partnerships. However, despite differences, most European cultural centers share common values: access to culture for all, participation and inclusion, support for creativity, democracy and citizenship. In link with these common values, these centers play an important role in the adult

education landscape as places for formal, informal and non formal adult education. European collaboration can play an essential role with regard to these missions and challenges. Indeed, Erasmus+ program and Epale platform can help in improving knowledge, motivation and inspiration for the staff working in cultural centers, acquiring new experience abroad, testing new materials and developing cooperation with European partners.

Expected results:

Participants at this TCA will have the opportunity to: Network with pairs working in cultural centers all around Europe. Discuss common challenges faced nowadays by cultural centers, as places for adult education. Discover what Epale and Erasmus+ can offer in terms of European cooperation and continuous training. Get inspired by good practices examples implemented by cultural centers from different countries. Discover the role of cultural centers in Belgium and Europe and visit local projects. Make links between their work/missions and two main priorities of the Erasmus+ program: Inclusion & Diversity - Participation

Additional information:

Please note that the seminar will focus on cultural centers as places for Adult Education (formal, non formal, informal) and activities/strategies implemented in that regards. Through workshops, participants will have the opportunity to discuss a wide range of topics, such as: What are cultural rights? Cultural centers as a place of participatory action and empowerment. How to work in partnership with local organisations? How to foster the right to culture and access (economic, physical, geographic, time-related and intellectual) to culture for all? Cultural action as a tool to reduce inequalities. How to launch a cultural action project that answers social challenges. Freedom of creation and expression. Strengthening active, responsible, critical, and supportive citizenship. How to maintain cultural centers work in a context of economic crisis.

PARTNERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Organiser NA:	BE01 - Agence francophone pour l'Education et la Formation tout au long de la vie
Number of participants:	75
Target group:	Other
Erasmus+ Programme experience level:	Newcomers and Experienced beneficiaries
Profile of participants:	Any participant working in a cultural center or any stakeholder involved in a cultural center, interested in the role of cultural centers as places for adult education, and willing to initiate Epale and/or Erasmus+ projects in his/her center.
Participants per country:	

LT01 - 3 | DE02 - 4 | ES01 - -

**Sending Partner(s) -
Booked application(s)
- Booked places:**

 BE01 - 15 | EE01 - 4 | NL01 - 4 | PL01 - 4 | PT01 - 2 | LV01 - 4 | BE03 - 2
 IE01 - 2 | IT02 - 5 | EL01 - 4 | RS01 - 2 | SE01 - 2 | CZ01 - 4 | TR01 - 3
 DK01 - 2 | HU01 - 3 | SK01 - 2 | IS01 - 2 | FI01 - 3 | NO01 - 2 | RO01 - 2

**Accepted Sending
partner(s) - Accepted
places:**

 BE01 - 15 | EE01 - 4 | NL01 - 4 | PL01 - 4 | PT01 - 2 | LV01 - 4 | BE03 - 2
 IE01 - 2 | IT02 - 5 | EL01 - 4 | RS01 - 2 | SE01 - 2 | CZ01 - 4 | TR01 - 2
 DK01 - 2 | HU01 - 3 | SK01 - 2 | IS01 - 2 | FI01 - 2 | NO01 - 2 | RO01 - 2
 LT01 - 3 | DE02 - 4 | ES01 - 2

**Pending booked
places:** 0

Accepted places: 80

TCA PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

**Start date of TCA
Participant
Application:** 18.05.2026

Application deadline: 19.06.2026

**Confirmation deadline
for Sending NAs:** 26.06.2026

**Confirmation deadline
for Organiser NAs:** 03.07.2026

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