

Cross-border Youth Democratic Festival (CBYDF) in Kretinga

Agenda

The Cross-border Youth Democratic Festival (CBYDF) in Kretinga is an international youth democracy festival organized within the framework of the D-EFFECT project, aiming to strengthen youth civic engagement, foster dialogue with decision-makers, and promote cooperation in the South Baltic region.

The festival will bring together young people and partners from Lithuania, Poland, Denmark, Germany, and Sweden. During the event, participants will discuss relevant societal issues, generate ideas, take part in creative workshops, and present their proposals to policymakers, municipal representatives, and youth organizations.

Festival programme:

May 13, 2026 (Wednesday)	
Individually scheduled arrival	Arrival and accommodation
18:00	Travel to Klaipėda (transportation to Klaipėda will be arranged by bus)
19:00	Group dinner at the restaurant
20:00	Evening walk in Klaipėda
21:00	Return to the accommodation
May 14, 2026 (Thursday)	
09:00–10:00	Reception and registration of participants Venue: Kretinga District Municipality M. Valančius Public Library J. K. Chodkevičiaus St. 1B, Kretinga
10:00–10:15	Opening of the festival and welcome remarks: representatives of Kretinga District Municipality leadership, members of the Committee on Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs, the Youth Coordinator, representatives of the Lithuanian Youth Affairs Agency, and project partners Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor
10:15–11:00	Keynote presentations: Director of the Youth Personal Development Centre, lecturer Aidas Gedminas: “Democracy in the Age of Social Media: How Can Young People Make a Real Impact?” (20 min) Non-formal education specialist, youth worker, project coordinator, and educator in global education and sustainability Paulius Pakutinskas: “Is the Youth Voice Heard? How Can Young People Influence Politics Today?” (20 min) Q&A session (5 min) Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor
11:00–12:00	Workshops

	<p>Mid-term meeting (Part I): discussion of project activities Moderated by Karolina Pawlak and Marcin Żuchowski (LP) Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor</p>	<p>Youth group work sessions (moderated by NGO “Socialinis sufleris”) Task for youth groups: to identify the most relevant issue for young people and develop a clear direction for discussion, including key questions. Main theme: Europe 2050 Possible sub-themes: youth and future politics; the impact of social media on democracy; youth voice in local governance; the future of Europe from a youth perspective Group locations: Group 1: Youth Education Space, 2nd floor Group 2: Local History and Information Reading Room, 2nd floor Group 3: Periodicals Reading Room, 1st floor Group 4: Meeting Space, 2nd floor</p>
12:00–13:30	<p>Lunch break Venue: Library foyer, 1st floor</p>	
13:30–16:00	<p>Group work sessions: discussions, idea generation, and preparation of solution presentations. Project partners join the groups. Group locations: Group 1: Youth Education Space, 2nd floor Group 2: Local History and Information Reading Room, 2nd floor Group 3: Periodicals Reading Room, 1st floor Group 4: Meeting Space, 2nd floor</p>	
16:00–17:00	<p>Presentation of group work results Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor</p>	
17:00	<p>Evening reflection: discussion of the day’s activities and summarising experiences Dinner and informal networking Venue: Library foyer, 1st floor</p>	
May 15, 2026 (Friday)		
9:00–10:30	<p>Mid-term meeting (Part II): project activity planning</p>	<p>Open training session for youth: improvisation methods for self- expression, expressing opinions,</p>

	Moderated by Karolina Pawlak and Marcin Żuchowski (LP) Venue: Meeting Space, 2nd floor	and active participation in society Led by Elžbieta Latėnaitė, founder of the art studio “Fraktalai”, actress and director Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor
10:30–11:00	Project partners’ evaluation session: led by PP10 youth event evaluation meeting based on the established CBYDF methodology Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor	
11:00–11:30	Workshop D-effect Learning and engagement cycle: led by PP6 and PP8 – engagement and empowerment of cross-border communities and stakeholders (3 workshops) Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor	
11:30–12:30	Youth organisations and initiatives fair: presentation of activities, services, and opportunities for engagement Venue: Library foyer, 1st floor	
12:30–14:00	Guided tour of Kretinga led by Antanas Jonaitis, member of the Lithuanian Riflemen’s Union	
14:00	Lunch <i>(venue to be confirmed)</i>	
15:00–15:15	Farewell to participants	

Note: the events will be held in English