



Full legal name	Fundacja Cooperacja
Full legal name (English)	Foundation Cooperacja
Acronym	Cooperacja
Address	17 Stycznia 115/8
City	Leszno, 64-100
Country	Poland
Region	Wielkopolska
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ID	E10227693

Type of Organization	NGO
Is the partner org. a public body?	No
Is the partner org. a non-profit?	Yes
Activity level	Local, National, International
Has the organization received any type of accreditation before submitting this application?	No
Short deescription of the organization	The Cooperacja Foundation was born out of the friendship and shared passions of its founders, combining their knowledge and experiences. Founded on 14.11.2019, our work is based on trust, mutual support and the pursuit of integration. We believe in the power of education and culture as key tools for integration and intercultural understanding. Our main goal is to create an open and inclusive society in which every person, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to find their place and to grow.

Vision

We envision a world where socio-cultural integration and education are major forces shaping global communities. As the Cooperative Foundation, we aspire to be a leader in creating such a world. We continually work to build bridges between diverse cultures and communities. Our goal is to create a community where education and culture become universal tools to connect people and nations.

Mission

Our mission is to build bridges between diverse communities through education, culture and support. We focus on integrating people with migrant and refugee experience, promoting social and cultural diversity, and social and civic activism. We work both locally and internationally, creating networks that strengthen our work.

Objectives

1. community integration - to promote the integration of people from diverse backgrounds, especially those with migrant and refugee experience and from rural areas, into local and international communities.
2. Access to culture and education - to provide broad access to cultural and educational resources, with an emphasis on promoting diversity and intercultural understanding.
3. promotion of diversity and tolerance - working to build a more open and tolerant society, with respect for different cultures and traditions.
4. Social and civic activism - supporting social and civic participation across groups, with an emphasis on democratic values and participation.
5. Supporting mental health and well-being - focusing on promoting mental health and well-being, especially among children and young people, through educational initiatives and support.
6. Developing international collaborations - building and maintaining international partnerships and networks that support the foundation's goals and expand its global impact.

How do we achieve our goals?

Our activities are based on engagement and collaboration. Central to us is the organisation of workshops, language courses and integration projects that support the integration and adaptation of people with migrant experience. We undertake cultural and historical initiatives that highlight the importance of local traditions and heritage. We engage people from different age groups and communities in community and democratic activities, encouraging active participation in community life. We offer psychological and educational support for children and young people, and we maintain and develop partnerships with both local and international actors, thereby strengthening our work and increasing our impact.

Our motto

"We open minds, we abolish borders." This motto reflects our belief in the possibility of broadening horizons and breaking down cultural, geographical, political and social barriers through our actions. It is our inspiration and guide in every endeavour, motivating us to constantly strive to build a more open and inclusive world.

What are the activities and experience of the organisation in the areas relevant for this application?

We are a young organisation but our team is experienced in developing many local and international projects. Our latest activity was concentrated on our local society, especially people in danger of social exclusion, as well as NEET youth. Our aim was to introduce the culture to them and bring it closer, out of museums and other formal institutions. All those activities were taken in order to promote inclusion using different, creative methods. Our team is extremely motivated to work and wills to involve people in getting as much as possible from international cooperation and from it have a real impact at local level. Our experience gives us some background of the reality faced nowadays in the community, but more than that we believe this cooperation can give us more ideas and strategies to face the problems from different and creative approaches.

In the local community in Leszno, as well as in different places in Europe, there is the need to constantly adapt to the labour reality, being constantly updated and developing. This is a crucial point our foundation works with. We are very focused on developing creativity and creative ways of doing the old things (keeping the traditions and the background which is important) better. By that we mean, investing in personal development of people as well as in the society itself, by developing it through different ideas and methods.

Foundation Cooperacja's team consists mostly of young, educated and creative specialists in international relations, involved and motivated to promote active participation and constant personal development. The foundation has an experienced team in mobility projects such as youth exchanges, EVS, seminars and training courses (in topics such as creativity, healthy lifestyle, leadership, cultural exchange, environment and civil protection, social communication, human rights, etc).

What are the skills and expertise of key staff/persons involved in this application?

Our Foundation is composed of two permanent members, with different background experiences.

The President is a very experienced person in the field of non-formal education, working for many years as a local animator and project developer. Our vice-president professionally works in public administration, but also has a big knowledge about non-governmental environments. Both of them speak English fluently and have well developed management skills. All our members and people involved in the foundation have extensive professional experience in international environment, conflict resolution and monitoring projects.

Monika Pawlak – President of Fundacja Cooperacja – graduate of the department of sociology on direction Social Work and of the Department of the Educational College to directions adult education and Gerontology of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. Coordinator of social-educational projects promoting the education of adults and youth. Coordinator of a social project about animation of the local environment and the local community. She has 10 years experience in the coordination long-term, of partner international projects of the Erasmus+ programme KA2 and KA1. Experiencing conducting consultation of technical and professional preparing participants in the training cycle for undergoing practical actions in the environment local. 9 years experience in carrying actions of the Erasmus+ programme - the participant and the leader of Polish groups of participants for trainings and youth exchanges among others. 4 years experience as a coordinator POWERVET projects and promoting international internships for students. 2 years involved in PISOP local

NGO as a consultant, supporter with project management, keeping quality in NGO. From January – June 2015 she was a Youth Worker in Bologna employed in the Education Against Racism project in order to check the phenomenon of racism in Italy and make some tools for teachers and youth workers how to deal with the problem. From October- December 2019 she took part in the EVS programme. As a volunteer conducted classes about human rights by non formal education as a method of working with students in University API Madiun in Indonesia. Nowadays thanks to cooperation with different partners she is a coordinator of different projects: program Erasmus+ K2 about sexual exploitation of children and K3 about youth policy.

Ewelina Lasota – Vice President of Fundacja Cooperacja – Master's degree in Sustainable Tourism (AWF Poznań), Bachelor's degree in English philology (business English) (PWSZ Leszno), graduate of postgraduate studies in Public Administration (University of Wrocław) and Cultural Management (Poznań University of Economics). Since 2011 experience in coordination of long-term international partnership projects such as LLP Grundtvig and KA2 partnerships within the Erasmus+ programme. In the years 2012-2013 she took part in a long-term EVS project in Istanbul, Turkey, where she worked for different local NGO's, such as Sulukule Çocuk Sanat Atölyesi (as a facilitator of Roma children in a Youth Centre), Doğa Derneği (as a coordinator of "Spring Alive" project), Toplum Gönüllüleri Vakfı (as an office worker, promoting European programmes), Beyoğlu Belediyesi (as an English Speaking Club leader). Specializes in promotion and dissemination of project results. Main areas of interest: gender equality, migrants' integration, promoting social diversity and supporting groups at risk of social exclusion, especially LGBTQI+.

Radosław Polsakiewicz – a certified Outdoor Education trainer, having successfully completed the Advanced Training for Trainers course – Level 1 at Outward Bound Romania. Engaged in youth work and leader of the ESC "Forest Buddy" project for Polish and Ukrainian youth integration through bushcraft. Participant in Erasmus+ programs focusing on migrants and refugees. Professionally, an interior designer with a creative and functional approach. Leader of "Faceci do lasu" at Fundacja Cooperacja, promoting outdoor learning, nature contact, and bushcraft. Focused on outdoor education, Radosław uses nature as a platform for social inclusion, environmental awareness, and community integration. He advocates for connecting individuals with nature to support marginalized groups and promote diversity. Radosław Polsakiewicz contributes significantly to environmental education and social inclusion through innovative outdoor programs. His work emphasizes the importance of nature in overcoming social barriers and fostering a sense of community and personal growth.

Paulina Drzazga is a graduate of Applied Computer Science from Wrocław University of Technology. She's a programmer skilled in JAVA, Python, XJO, SQL, and has been coordinating the "Girls Code" program at Halpress in Leszno for three years. She leads Halpress's developer team and has developed several mobile apps for iOS and Android. Paulina co-creates programming courses on UDEMY.COM, teaches programming basics, and runs CodeMeet meetings for youth in the Wielkopolska and Lower Silesia regions. She's a board member of the KaczawskieKlimaty.pl foundation, promoting the Kaczawski Mountains and tourism in Lower Silesia, and has organized numerous car rallies.

Dominik Sieciński holds a master's degree in Programming Engineering from the Zielona Góra University of Technology. With 20 years of experience in teaching computer science, he is proficient in Python and Xojo, and has developed many projects, tools, and videos for teaching programming basics, along with several mobile apps. He co-founded Halpress and Halpress Edukacja, is the president of the KaczawskieKlimaty.pl foundation, and leads the Leszno Technology and IT Cluster based in the Leszno Business Centre.

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Has the organisation participated in a European Union granted project in the 3 years preceding this application?

L.p.	Programme or initiative	Year	Reference number	Beneficiary organisation
1.	Erasmus+ KA3	2020	2020-2-PL01-KA347-082636	Fundacja Cooperacja
2.	Erasmus+ KA1- TC	2020	2020-3-PL01-KA105-094641	Fundacja Cooperacja
3.	Erasmus+ KA2	2020	2020-1-UK01-KA205-078252	GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE
4.	Erasmus+ KA2	2021	2021-1-PL01-KA210-YOU-000031086	Asociación Parkerí

5.	Erasmus+ KA2 Youth small scale	2021	2021-1-PL01-KA210-YOU-000031086	Fundacja Cooperacja
6.	Erasmus+ KA2 Youth small scale	2021	2021-1-BG01-KA210-YOU-000033854	Association of Ruse
7.	Erasmus+ KA2 Youth small scale	2021	2021-2-PL01-KA210-YOU-000048166	Fundacja Cooperacja
8.	Erasmus+ KA2 Adults small scale	2021	2021-2-PL01-KA210-ADU-000048191	Fundacja Cooperacja
9.	Erasmus KA122-ADU - Short-term projects for mobility of learners and staff in adult education	2022	2022-1-PL01-KA122-ADU-000079291	Fundacja Cooperacja
10..	Erasmus+ KA220- SCH	2022	2022-1-FR01-KA220-SCH-000085607	Lycee Clement Ader
11.	Erasmus+ ESC30-SOL - Solidarity projects	2023	2022-3-PL01-ESC30-SOL-000099195	Fundacja Cooperacja
12.	Erasmus+ ESC30-SOL - Solidarity projects	2023	2023-1-PL01-ESC30-SOL-000139421	Fundacja Cooperacja