

## BRIDGING BORDERS: EXPLORING INTERCULTURAL DIFFERENCES IN LANGUAGE USE AND CULTURAL NORMS

### Blended Intensive Programme

This BIP invites students from four countries for a cross-cultural exploration of language and cultural norms. It offers practical research experience, development of intercultural communication skills, and understanding of language use and cultural norms.

The programme consists of 6 days of online lectures followed by a 5-day visit to Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. Students will be awarded 4 ECTS for completing this programme.

<b>Partner institutions including institutions of all participants</b>	University of Alicante, University of Primorska, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Vytautas Magnus University
<b>Type of participants (learners) targeted</b>	Bachelor students
<b>Field of education targeted</b>	O230: Languages, not further defined (08.0 - 2, 22, 220)
<b>Subject</b>	<p>The programme will delve into various aspects of language and culture, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Linguistic landscape (languages used in public signs and notices)</li><li>• Culture-specific items in gastronomy</li><li>• Languages used in popular culture</li><li>• Politeness &amp; etiquette in language</li><li>• Languages in education</li><li>• Languages used in Social media</li></ul>
<b>Learning and teachings methods and expected learning/training outcomes</b>	<p>Students will conduct individual research on these topics within their respective cultures, followed by group work to compare findings across the three cultures. The culmination of the project will be a joint student conference where groups will present their comparative findings. This conference will serve as the formal assessment of BIP completion.</p>

<b>Start and end dates of physical mobility part</b>	08/04/2024 - 12/04/2024
<b>City of the venue</b>	Kaunas, Lithuania
<b>Virtual component description</b>	Virtual component will consist of a series of online lectures delivered by experts on languages and intercultural communication from the three participating universities. The students will get theoretical input on the topic they will later explore through individual and group research.
<b>Virtual Component Duration</b>	6 days (19/02/2024–31/03/2024)
<b>Virtual Component Timing</b>	Before physical mobility
<b>Number of ECTS credits</b>	4 ECTS
<b>Number of participants</b>	30–35 in total, 20 coming from abroad
<b>Number of teachers</b>	4–6
<b>Main teaching/training language</b>	English
<b>Coordinator's name, function, and email</b>	Monika Lipské, Transform4Europe Project Administrator, monika.lipske@vdu.lt