

## Trento European Volunteering Capital Candidate 2024 Jury Feedback | Brussels, 10 December 2022

Trento was rated an excellent candidate by the judges and scored very highly on all aspects of the criteria based on the Blueprint for Volunteering 2030 (BEV2030). **Their innovative video captured succinctly so many qualities, values & spirit of volunteering in the city. They have evidenced their exceptional credibility to be the European Volunteering Capital 2024.**

**The strategy for future growth in volunteering focuses on measuring the value of volunteering to the municipality in economic terms and the societal impact.** The application states that this impact can be measured in collaboration with the University of Trento which represents an **excellent example of cross-sector collaboration**. The municipality is investing in creating an enabling environment for volunteering for maximum social impact and are continually looking at new and innovative ways to facilitate funding schemes to strengthen the sector.

In terms of its collaboration with other stakeholders, **the volunteering centre has strong links to a wide variety of NGOs and civil society in general in the area.** The explanation about the relationships with the private, for profit sector was however lacking. Concerning the European Solidarity Corps Flagship project of the EU, there are clear plans to expand involvement, and have founded an organisation running ESC in cooperation with other municipalities.

**There is good collaboration between the municipality and the volunteer centre as regards promoting volunteering.** It is clear that great efforts have been made to increase volunteering access for minority groups in the area, inclusion in volunteering is an obvious priority. **The application also provided a strong response to what actions the municipality takes to ensure volunteer tasks do not replace paid jobs; there is a clear distinction between municipality responsibilities and those taken on by civil society and included in the tasks of local volunteers.**

### ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

**CEV launched the European Volunteering Capital Competition to strengthen, inspire and celebrate volunteering** and the impact made by volunteers at the local level by giving recognition to municipalities that support and strengthen volunteering, especially through partnerships with stakeholders from different sectors such as volunteer centres, volunteer-involving organisations and the for-profit sector.

The judging criteria are the extent of their strategies, policies, and programmes in connection to the Blueprint for European Volunteering 2030 and to the CEV Volunteering Policy Statements. Evidence about their engagement with, and support for, the European Solidarity Corps when the applicant comes from an EU member state is also required. Applicants are also asked to indicate if they are signatories of the Integrating Cities Charter.

The awarded municipality is chosen from the candidates by an **international jury of key personalities** connected with volunteering, representing civil society, the private, for-profit sector, as well as the EU institutions: Michel Lefranc (CEV Board), Jan Verdée (CEV Board), Lena Karnalova (CEV Board), George Thomson (CEV Board), Kieran McCarthy (Cork City Councillor & EU Committee of the Regions member), Krzysztof Pater (EESC Member, Rapporteur Opinion "Volunteering - Citizens Building the Future of Europe"), Maria Walsh (MEP, EPP Volunteering Interest Group member), Barbara Eglitis (Coordinator, European Solidarity Corps Resource Centre), Piotr Sadowski (Member of the Standing Committee the Conference of INGOs, Council of Europe), Begona Barbera Garcia (Iberdrola Social Projects Manager, Employee Volunteering European Network (EVEN)), Monika Chabior (Gdansk Vice Mayor).



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**The previous winners are:** Trondheim 2023 - Gdansk 2022 - Berlin 2021 - Padova 2020 - Košice 2019 - Aarhus 2018 - Sligo 2017 - London 2016 - Lisbon 2015 - Barcelona 2014.

The Centre for European Volunteering (CEV) is the European network of over 60 organisations dedicated to the promotion of, and support to, volunteers and volunteering in Europe at European, national or regional level. Through our network we work together to ensure that: the value of quality volunteering as an expression of Solidarity and European values is understood, supported and celebrated; policies & programmes, together with the European social environment, inspires, encourages and supports quality European Volunteering; Individuals and organisations that are active in the volunteering and civil society sphere share, learn and are inspired from one another in the framework of CEV . In this way we reach out to the many thousands of volunteers and volunteer organisations in Europe as a source of support bringing the European dimension to their work.