

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

 Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

| PROJECT | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Participant: | Viljandi, Ternopil, Kretinga, Valmiera |
| PIC number: | 892554134 |
| Project name and acronym: | How to manage local municipality during crisis and war and preserve EU values and democracy - Together stronger |

| EVENT DESCRIPTION | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Event number: | 1 |
| Event name: | Meetings in Ternopil |
| Type: | workshop |
| In situ/online: | in-situ |
| Location: | Ukraine-Ternopil, Estonia - Viljandi |
| Date(s): | 23.-29.08.2025 |
| Website(s) (if any): | Valmieras novada civilās aizsardzības speciālisti pieredzes apmaiņā Ukrainā - Valmieras novads UAB Pajūrio naujienos ЧАСОПИС — До Тернополя завітала делегація з країн Балтії в межах проєкту ЄС «Разом сильніші» До Тернополя завітала делегація з країн Балтії в межах проєкту ЄС «Разом сильніші» Video Facebook Instagram |
| Participants | |
| Female: | 52 |
| Male: | 34 |
| Non-binary: | 0 |
| From country 1 [Estonia]: | 20 |
| From country 2 [Ukraine]: | 56 |
| From country 3 [Lithuania]: | 5 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|---|
| From country 4 [Latvia]: | 5 | | |
| Total number of participants: | 86 | From total number of countries: | 4 |

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

Study visit to Ternopil (23/24–28/29 August 2025)

Overall objectives of the visit

- Understand how a municipality functions in conditions of war and major crisis, while safeguarding human dignity and EU values.
- Observe civil defence infrastructure and arrangements to protect civilians.
- Analyse how key municipal sectors (education, health, housing and utilities, water, emergency services) continue to operate and remain accountable and transparent.
- Reflect on how these practices can inform Baltic municipalities and support Ukraine's approximation to EU standards, particularly in the areas of good governance, fundamental rights, equal treatment and citizen participation.

Day 1 – 24.08.2025

Arrival and contextualisation

- Arrival of delegations from Viljandi, Valmiera and Kretinga in Ternopil.
- Informal welcome and orientation (practical information, safety and security briefing).
- Short introduction round among participants (municipal leaders, youth representatives, seniors' representatives, educators, CSO and NGO activists, volunteers).

This day sets the foundations for cross-border civic dialogue and trust-building, enabling participants from different countries and generations to work together in a safe and inclusive environment.

Day 2 – 25.08.2025

Seminar – theoretical framework: managing a city during war while upholding EU values

1. Opening and project presentation
 - *Janika Gedvil (Viljandi City Council)* presents the project objectives, expected results and links to CERV priorities (democratic participation, citizen engagement, EU values and fundamental rights).
 - Introduction of delegations and target groups (youth, elderly, municipal leaders, educators, CSOs).
2. Welcome by Ternopil leadership
 - *Mayor Serhii Nadal* delivers a welcome speech:
 - Presentation of Ternopil and its long-standing cooperation with Viljandi and Baltic partners.
 - Reflection on how local authorities protect democracy, transparency and citizen trust during war.
3. Education in wartime conditions
 - *Representative of the Education Department (Olha Pohliak)* presents how schools and kindergartens function under crisis conditions, including:
 - Ensuring the right to education for all children, including those with special needs;
 - Use of shelters in schools and distance education tools;
 - Psychosocial support to pupils and teachers;
 - Measures to ensure non-discrimination and equal access for girls and boys.
4. Housing and utilities sector in wartime

- *Representative of the Housing and Utilities Department* and a water utility representative explain:
 - How water, heating, electricity and other essential services are maintained;
 - Civil defence requirements for residential and public buildings;
 - Citizen communication and complaint mechanisms (transparency and anti-corruption aspects).
- 5. Health sector in wartime- *Oleh Kobrin*
 - *Representative of the health care sector* presents:
 - Organisation of medical services in crisis conditions;
 - Rehabilitation services for military personnel and civilians;
 - Protection of vulnerable groups (elderly, disabled persons, women, children) and non-discrimination in access to health services.
- 6. Emergency services and civil protection- *Yuriy Deineyka*
 - *Representative of emergency services* presents:
 - Response systems for attacks and emergencies;
 - Cooperation with local communities, volunteers and NGOs;
 - Public awareness and training of citizens.

This day addresses democracy and good governance, fundamental rights (education, health, safety), non-discrimination, and citizen participation in crisis management. It deepens understanding of how EU values can be upheld during conflict.

Day 3 – 26.08.2025

Field visits – education and health

1. Visit to School No. 14- *Oksana Dobrovolska*
 - Observation of daily school life in wartime conditions.
 - Visit to the school shelter and discussion on:
 - Safety protocols and children's rights;
 - Inclusion of children with special needs;
 - Civic education and democratic participation in the school community.
2. Visit to Hospital No. 2
 - Focus on treatment and rehabilitation of military personnel and civilians.
 - Exchange on:
 - Ethical principles and human dignity;
 - Equal access to healthcare for women and men, young people and elderly;
 - Cooperation between hospital, municipality and NGOs/volunteers.

The day showcases protection of fundamental rights in crisis and inclusive access to services, while highlighting the role of public institutions and civil society in safeguarding human dignity and equality.

Day 4 – 27.08.2025

Field visits – housing, utilities and emergency facilities + reflection

1. Visit to a housing and utilities facility
 - On-site introduction to infrastructure management and civil defence requirements for residential and public buildings.
 - Discussion on citizen participation in decision-making (e.g. housing associations, communities) and transparent use of public funds.
2. Visit to an emergency facility
 - Demonstration of emergency protocols and cooperation with citizens, volunteers and NGOs.
 - Discussion on risk communication and involvement of youth and active citizens.
3. Summary of results in Ternopil
 - Joint reflection session with all delegations:

- Key lessons learned about managing municipalities in war and crisis;
- Identification of practices that promote transparency, accountability and citizen trust;
- First ideas on how Baltic partners can support Ternopil's European integration and institutional strengthening.

This day allows participants to connect practical observations with CERV objectives on good governance, anti-corruption, transparency, citizen involvement and the protection of EU values in times of crisis.

Day 5 – 28–29.08.2025

Departure and individual follow-up

- Departure of delegations.
- Each city team starts internal reflection (short debriefs, notes for follow-up and input to the Viljandi activities and mini-hackathons).

3. Study visit and mini-hackathons in Viljandi (19–21 September 2025)

Overall objectives of the visit

- Share Baltic best practices in open governance, education, social services and participatory democracy.
- Show how youth, elderly and NGOs are systematically involved in local decision-making.
- Organise mini-hackathons to co-create practical solutions for Ternopil and for all partner municipalities.
- Strengthen intergenerational and cross-border cooperation in line with CERV priorities on democratic participation, equality, non-discrimination and EU values.