

## JTE in Latvia, February 2020



On February 10-14, the first Joint Staff training event of the ROCHIL project took place in Mālpils, at premises of the Municipality council, local schools, library and Kindergarten. This training was attended by all partners' groups and local project participants - seniors (project working group, cultural heritage researchers, masters of cooking master classes) and Mālpils Secondary School students who are actively involved in the project, carrying out research, participating in cooking and handicraft workshops and also acting as interpreters for guest delegations during this training.

We started the first day of the meeting with communicative games and mutual acquaintance. The partners had prepared and ran various country-specific ice breaking games. Representatives from each country then spoke about what they had done with the ROCHIL project since its inception. We were able not only to get to know their experience, but also to get interesting ideas for our future work.

In the afternoon, the guests went to the Bread House in Priekuli district, where, while practicing themselves, they got acquainted with the traditions of baking pies at the farm and Latvian folk songs.

We started the next day with the opening of the exhibition "Flowers in My Album" created by Daiga Fridberga, and then the guests participated in creative workshops led by Māra Klintsone and Guna Petrevica, offering to learn traditional handicrafts and ceramic skills and discover few of the most popular lifelong learning activities in Malpils.

In the afternoon, theoretical lessons were held by the relevant responsible partners on topics such as:

- Digitization of cultural heritage for further use in adult education.
- Experience and opportunities of cross-sectoral cooperation.



- Volunteers in adult education and society - problems and opportunities, partners' experience in this field.
- Local and international adult education activities, their evaluation methods.

At the end of this mutual learning partners shared their impressions and told how they are going to use the interesting experience/new methods they learned about during the training.

On the third day of the meeting, the guests went to PII "Mällēpīte" to work with the children in four groups, where the educators had prepared various tasks, as well as to show the small Mällēpīte -children the games and songs of their countries.

We evaluated the activities of this training using the visual evaluation methods prepared by the Polish partners and also asked the participants to write a more detailed feedback.

This international meeting was enriched by the performance of the folklore group "Mālis", during which our guests not only got to know Latvian folklore, but also learned the basic steps of Latvian folk dances.