



DAUGAVPILS
IS DIVERSITY



Co-funded by
the European Union

Experience with Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils city

Landkreis Kassel, Germany
2022



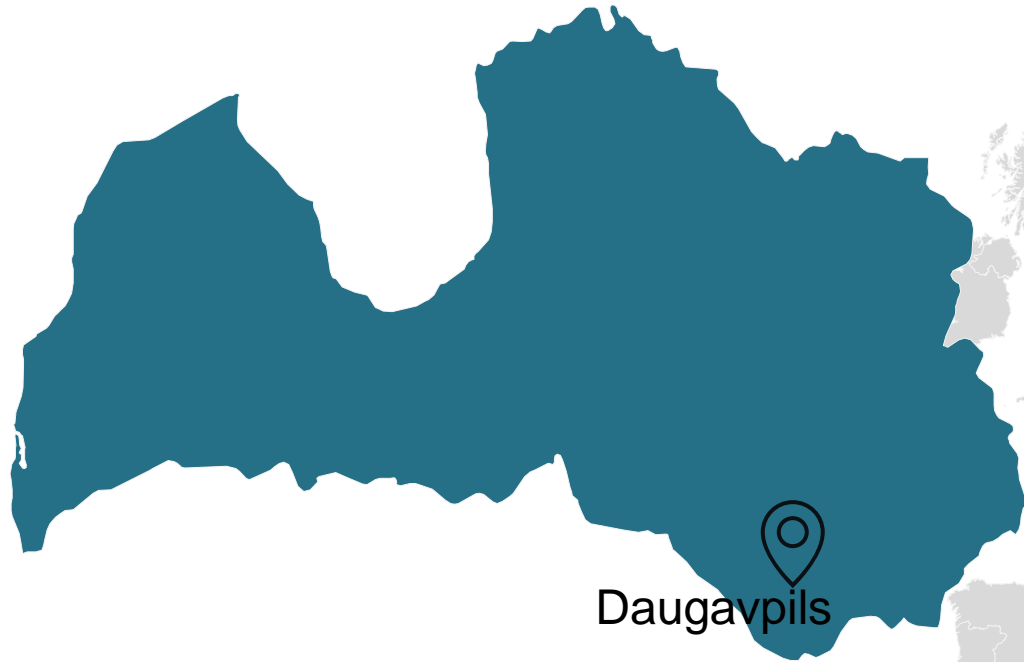
Daugavpils is
located in cross
point of East
Baltic



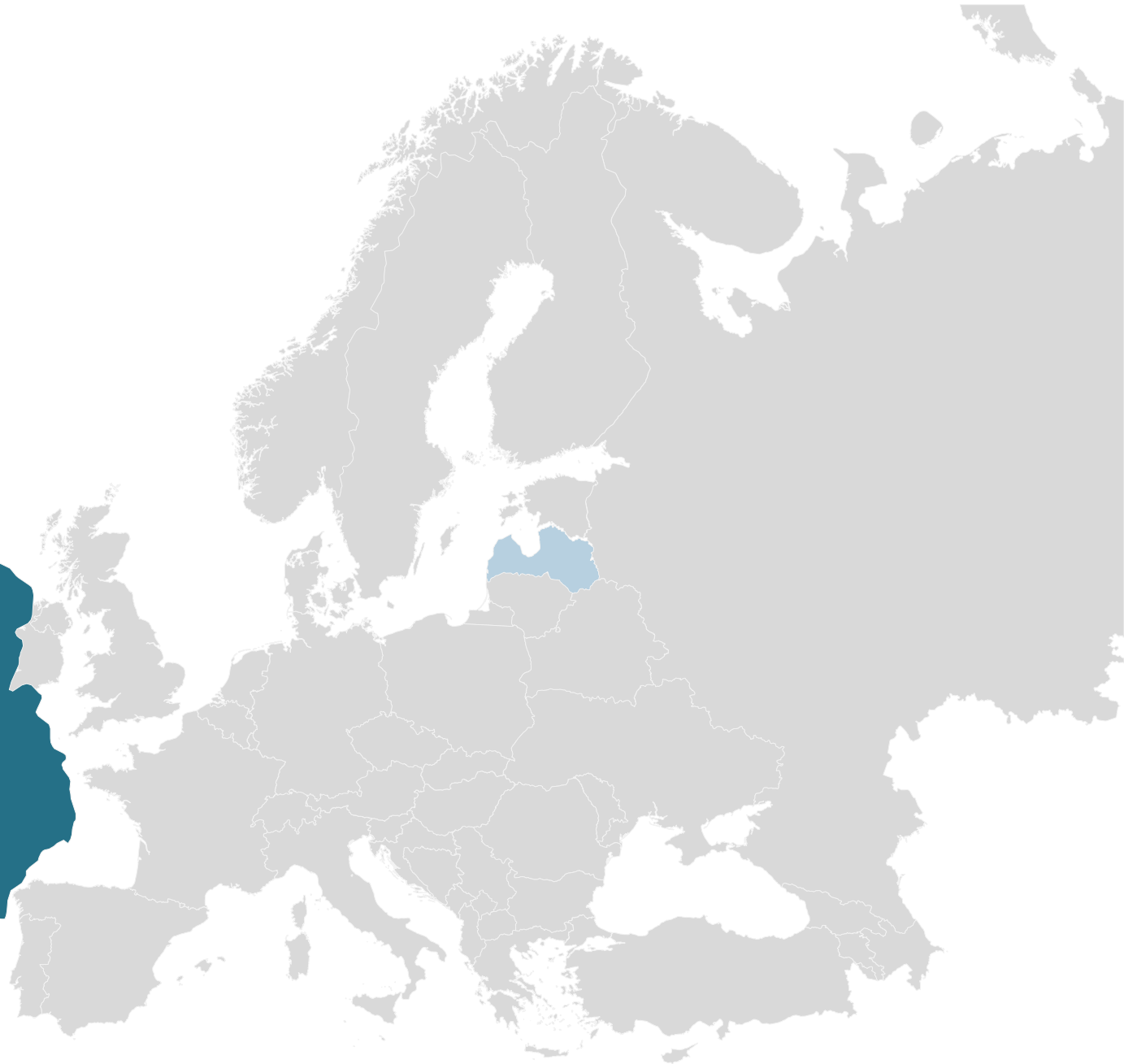
Our neighbours:



Lithuania – 25 km
Belarus – 35 km
Russia – 120 km



Daugavpils



Daugavpils – home city for people of more than 70 nationalities

Рэхим итегез безгэ!

Laipni lūdzam!

Sveiki atvykę!

Vasals Latgolā!

Добро пожаловать!

Вітаємо!

Vitam Was!

Калі ласка!





POPULATION. EDUCATION. LABOUR POOL.



City population – **79 120**

City agglomeration – **106 554**

Latgale region – **252 682**



Daugavpils labor pool – **40 000**



Students – **5600**/ Pupils - **8413**

5 professional schools/ **3** colleges

Daugavpils University



Language skills:

Latvian/ Russian/ English/ Polish/

German/ Swedish/ French/ Spanish

Daugavpils City Municipality



Leaders Structure

**City Council
chairperson**

**City Council 1st vice-
chairman**

**City Council vice-
chairman**



Administrative Structure

Executive director

Vice-Executive director

Vice-Executive director

10 departments and divisions

71 municipality institutions

11 companies

5 private companies

15 deputies elected for 4 years



Responsible for Art Events in Daugavpils city

- ❖ Culture Department
- ❖ Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre
- ❖ Daugavpils City Municipality Tourism Development and Information Agency
- ❖ Daugavpils Engineering and Industrial Design Center “Engineering Arsenal”
- ❖ Daugavpils Design and Art Secondary School «Saules skola»
- ❖ Daugavpils City Kids and Youth Centre «Jaunība»
- ❖ Culture Centres (Vienības nams, etc.)
- ❖ NGOs





DAUGAVPILS MARK ROTHKO ART CENTRE



Mark Rothko –
world famous abstract expressionist

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

THE DISCHARGE-RECHARGE WALL

The Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre courtyard has been temporarily transformed with a Discharge-Recharge Wall – a **custom-made site for an interactive self-performance open to anyone willing to join**



**DAUGAVPILS
MARK ROTHKO
ART CENTRE**

Concerned for the mental state of its colleagues and the general public, the Rothko Centre team has prepared a targeted and controlled anger management tool – an interactive Discharge-Recharge Wall.

With this art site for interactive self-performance, the Rothko Centre celebrated its eighths birthday and heralded the Latvia Ceramics Biennale scheduled for the upcoming summer.

2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5YeT2eBH6w>



Smash against the wall chipped, unwanted, or downright irritating **mugs, plates** or other ceramic objects!



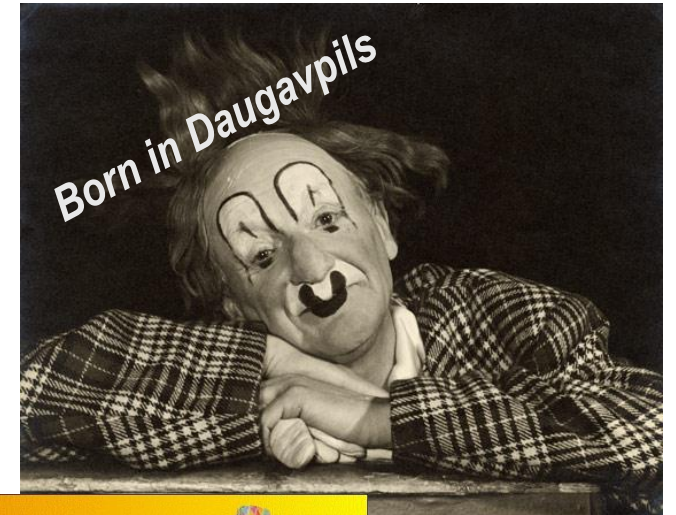
Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF STREET THEATRE AND CLOWNERY IN DAUGAVPILS (2019)



Granddaughter of
Poliakoff
presented to
Daugavpils his
clown shoes.



**COCO
THE
CLOWN**



Nicolai Poliakoff
(1900-1974)

Coco the Clown, awarded with
the «**Order of the British
Empire**» in 1959

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF STREET THEATRE AND CLOWNERY IN DAUGAVPILS



Interactive communication with people during the festival – everyone gets to feel included, this helps to feel connected and included in the society.

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF STREET THEATRE AND CLOWNERY IN DAUGAVPILS



Only positive feedback from the people at the moment of festival. As it was street event, everybody was able to join – even just walking by.

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

NGO «Erfolg» organized graffiti event «LET'S BREAK STEREOTYPES – DRAW GRAFFITI»

Organized within ERASMUS+ project «STREET ART»



Youth from different European countries made graffiti art objects on walls on the streets of Daugavpils (city centre). Project is aimed to encourage openness and learn more about other countries. Each participant drew something that is important in their culture.



Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

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Organized within ERASMUS+ project «STREET ART»



Graffiti and street art can be controversial, but can also be a medium for voices of social change, protest, or expressions of community desire.

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

Civil participation on a way to become the European Capital of Culture 2027

Daugavpils was shortlisted in the competition for the title of European Capital of Culture 2027 in Latvia

Everybody were invited to look for common language!!!

2027
Ä Ö Ç
L R
DAUGAVPILS

European Capital of Culture 2027
Candidate



Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

Decorating of Concrete Tree

Everybody were invited to participate – to draw or right on this concrete «tree» what does it mean for them – common language?

<https://fb.watch/ephb7HyShN/>



Daugavpils was shortlisted in the competition for the title of European Capital of Culture 2027 in Latvia



Ä Ö Ć
20 Ľ Γ R 27
DAUGAVPILS

European Capital of Culture 2027
Candidate

It was 10 tonnes.

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

Decorating of Concrete Tree

2027
Ä Ö Ç
L R
DAUGAVPILS

European Capital of Culture 2027
Candidate



FEEDBACK – a lot of positive feedback.

At the same time there were people who did not appreciate this art object, especially at the beginning before it was decorated by locals (they said that its too dark, grey and depressing).

Also swear words were written on it – some locals complained.

Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

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DAUGAVPILS

European Capital of Culture 2027
Candidate

Photography Art to Support Sphere of Culture During Pandemic



Participatory Public Art in Daugavpils

Example

Art at Bruģu Promanade



Daugavpils City Council finished construction project of a new promanade along the river. Along the promanade there is a wall – **local artists were invited to propose what to draw on it** – something that would **represent history** if this particular part of the city.

This way sense of belonging was encouraged.



Thank you for your attention!



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Olga Tolmačova
Head of Office of International Cooperation and Investments,
Development Department of Daugavpils City Municipality
Olga.tolmacova@daugavpils.lv