

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	
Project name and acronym:	Sound of Diversity – Network of Towns
Participant:	Kileler
PIC number:	896332963

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	9
Event name:	Traditional Rhythms, Modern Narratives in Europe: Dance Fest in Kileler
Type:	Cultural event, workshops, discussions
In situ/online:	in situ
Location:	Municipality of Kileler, Greece
Date(s):	21-23/08/2026
Website(s) (if any):	https://aleksandrow-lodzki.pl/sound-of-diversity/
Participants	
Female:	78
Male:	48
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Poland]:	2
From country 2 [Slovenia]	2
From country 3 [Germany]:	2
From country 4 [Italy]:	4

From country 5 [Romania]	3	
From country 6 [Portugal]	3	
From country 7 [Hungary]:	1	
From country 8 [France]	1	
From country 9 [Czechia]	3	
From country 10 [Serbia]	2	
From country 11 [The Netherlands]	1	
From country 12 [Albania]	1	
From country 13[Greece]	101	
Total number of participants:	126	From total number of countries: 13

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

1. Target groups:

City practitioners, civil society organizations, cultural activists, local activists, youth, ethnic and national minorities, community members, local actors, organizers of community events, policy makers.

2. Description of the event and its activities/ context.

The event “Traditional Rhythms, Modern Narratives in Europe: Dance Fest in Kileler” was organised by the Municipality of Kileler from 21 to 23 August 2026, within the framework of the Sound of Diversity – Network of Towns project. The event aimed to explore how local history, cultural heritage, traditions and traditional dance contribute to contemporary cultural and social identities, while promoting diversity, inclusion, intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding at European level.

The programme combined cultural, educational and participatory activities. Participants attended a traditional dance parade in Larissa, visited the archaeological site of Ancient Krannonas, took part in a workshop on diversity in modern European narratives and the Sound of Diversity Guidebook, and joined a historical tour of Kileler.

A central activity was the open-air Sound of Diversity Stage in Chalki, organised as a roundtable discussion on the role of traditional dances in shaping cultural identity

and strengthening communication, coexistence and acceptance of diversity. The discussion brought together academics, cultural professionals, artists, dancers and people actively involved in folk and traditional dance.

The panel addressed themes such as tradition as a tool for communication and coexistence, the balance between preservation and cultural evolution, and the transformation of collective memory into contemporary artistic expression.

The event was closely connected with the Cultural Meeting Festival, an international folk-dance event organised in the Larissa region, allowing project participants to experience cultural diversity in practice through performances and direct interaction with local communities and international dance groups. The programme concluded with a feedback session among Sound of Diversity partners, supporting reflection, exchange of experiences and further development of the project's inclusion and diversity objectives.

3. Agenda of the event.

It can be consulted at: [WP 9 - Greece August 2026 - Google Drive](#)



SOUND OF DIVERSITY

21.-23.08.2026**Kileler Municipality, Greece**

Traditional Rhythms, Modern Narratives in Europe: Dance Fest in Kileler

„Sound of Diversity” is a large-scale Network of Towns initiative aimed at strengthening the role of local authorities in advancing diversity, combating discrimination, and fostering the inclusion of minorities. The network brings together municipalities that host prominent community events, including the Gaming Village Festival in Óbidos (Portugal), the Khamoro Romani Festival in Prague (Czechia), the Multitude Festival in the County of Seine-Saint-Denis (France), the Festival of Various Arts in Aleksandrów Łódzki (Poland), the Festival of Tolerance in Croatia, the Cultural Days of Bârlad (Romania), the People’s Feast in Molfetta (Italy), the Greek Dance Fest in Kileler (Greece), and the Epicentrum Festival in Poland. These events will go beyond traditional town network formats—such as conferences, training sessions, seminars, study visits, and capacity-building workshops—by introducing the „Sound of Diversity Stage”. This open-air community space is designed to engage directly with local residents, youth, activists, minority representatives, and experts. It will serve as a dynamic platform to explore key issues related to diversity management, anti-discrimination, inclusion, and the broader EU policy context. The project also supports locally hosted Sound of Diversity actions aligned with existing events such

as the Cultural Municipal Days in Budapest and Novi Sad, and the „Play with Me” International Inclusive Festival in Ljubljana. Among the expected outcomes of the project are a practical Guidebook on diversity, inclusion, and belonging, as well as tangible improvements to local policies in the participating towns.

The main objective of this international SoD event is to expand the knowledge on how history, architecture and traditions shape current cultural and social space, and how they impact wider, transnational narratives of Europe. It is hosted by the Municipality of Kileler, and organised in collaboration with an international community event dedicated to traditional dances: the Cultural Meeting in Larissa: <https://www.culturalmeeting.gr/>

The Cultural Meeting has taken place in Larissa’s region since 2016 and since then it has been introducing the citizens of the region to the various traditional dances around the world. The festival takes place for five nights in different municipalities of the region including Municipality of Kileler and specifically Chalki where our Sound of Diversity Stage will be set up introducing the connection of folk/traditional dancing and its role to inclusivity and communication.



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21.-23.08.2026

Kileler Municipality, Greece

Traditional Rhythms, Modern Narratives in Europe: Dance Fest in Kileler

Agenda

21.08.2026 | Arrival and Welcome

Bus from Thessaloniki airport at 16:00 (tentative)

18:30 – Arrivals

Hotel Grand, Larissa

19:00 – Welcome dinner in a restaurant nearby from the Hotel

**20:30 – 21:30 – Cultural Meeting Festival event:
Parade of Dancing Groups in Larissa**

22.08.2026

09:00 – Departure from the hotel

09:30 – Visit to Ancient Krannonas

A tour guided by a lecturer of the University of Thessaly and the of University of Crete (tbc) on how the local archeological findings impacted the area

10:30 – 11:30 – Welcome by the Mayor of Kileler and a workshop on the topic of diversity in modern narratives of Europe and in the SoD Guidebook
facilitated by Eliza Gaust and Gosia Wochowska



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SOUND OF DIVERSITY

12:00 – Historical Tour of Kileler

A tour guided by the Director of the Organisation and Programming of the Municipality of Kileler

13:00 – Lunch

15:00 – Departure

15:30 – Arrival in Larissa

Free time (quiet time in the Hotel)

17:30 – Departure for Chalki

18:00 – 19:30 – Sound of Diversity Stage (open air)

A roundtable on how traditional dances impacted the cultural integrity in the area.
The participants of the SoD Stage will be academics, professionals, dancers and/or people involved in the folk dancing industry

19:30 Dinner

21:30 Cultural Meeting Festival event: International Event with folk dances in Chalki (the main part of the Festival)

22:30 and 24:00 – Busses departing to the Hotel

23.08.2026

9:00 – 10:00 – Feedback round for SoD partners

Bus for Thessaloniki airport at 10:00

Departures



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Contact of the host:

Maria Koutiva +306974611551

Christos Genitseftsis +306944742079

The SoD participants will be accommodated in hotels in Larissa:
<https://www.hotelgrand.gr/en/>

All meals—breakfast, lunch, and dinner—along with transport from the airport and to any needed locations, will be organized by the hosts, so you can fully focus on the festival and exploring the city's sights.



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4. Main take aways/ findings from the event

The event highlighted the important role of traditional culture and folk dance as tools for communication, inclusion and intercultural dialogue. Participants explored how local traditions can strengthen a sense of belonging while also creating

opportunities for exchange between different generations, communities and cultural backgrounds. Agenda

A key finding was that cultural heritage should not be treated only as something to be preserved, but also as a living and evolving form of expression. The discussions emphasised the need to balance the protection of cultural identity with openness to contemporary influences, social change and new forms of artistic creation.

The Sound of Diversity Stage also demonstrated that festivals and community cultural events can serve as effective spaces for dialogue on diversity, coexistence and acceptance. Bringing together academics, professionals, artists, dancers and people involved in traditional dance created opportunities to exchange different perspectives and connect theoretical discussions with practical cultural experiences.

Another important takeaway was the value of linking local history, archaeology and cultural traditions with broader European narratives. Visits to Ancient Krannonas and Kileler, together with the workshops and festival activities, helped participants understand how local heritage contributes to contemporary social identity and to a shared European cultural space.

Overall, the event confirmed that traditional cultural practices can act as a bridge between the past and the present, supporting mutual understanding, participation and a stronger sense of belonging within diverse local and European communities.

5. Feedback from participants

How satisfied are you with the event?

"The hospitable host introduced us to a celebration of Kileler's micro-community, which proved beneficial for the representatives of the participating countries. The cultural event, the workshops, and the conversations among us were all wonderful".

"I was very satisfied with the event. In addition to being well organized, with diverse activities and logistical conditions that ensured the well-being of all participants, the festival was truly beautiful and succeeded in involving the entire community. Participants felt welcomed and fully integrated throughout the experience".

What are your main take-aways from the event? Which parts/elements were particularly useful and interesting?

"The main cultural attraction on Saturday evening brought not only the local villagers closer together but also connected the participants of the SOD event. From the afternoon cultural meeting, I took home to Hungary the ideas shared by Andreas Albanis regarding dynamic and static concepts of culture".

"One of my main take-aways from the event was the roundtable held before the festival, which for me was the highlight of the entire programme. The discussion was extremely engaging, and the sociologist's perspective on culture and traditions was particularly insightful. It offered a deep and thought-provoking reflection that enriched the whole experience and added meaningful context to the festival's themes".

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).