



# The European Institute Foundation

Promoter	
OID	E10156767
Full Name	FUNDACJA INSTYTUT EUROPEJSKI
Legal address	ul. Grzybowska 87
Postal code	00-844
City	Warszawa
Country	Poland
Region	Mazowieckie
Web site	<a href="http://www.instytuteuropejski.pl">www.instytuteuropejski.pl</a>
Email	uhma@post.pl
Telephone	+48505035393
Type of Organisation	Foundation
Is your Organisation a public body?	No
Is your Organisation a non-profit?	Yes

## The Most Relevant Project in the Context of This Grant Application (Past Years)

Erasmus+	2025	2024-1-PL01-KA151-YOU-000202951 Youth, Rights and Europe	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2025-2026	101196248-CERV Born in 1989 – Democracy tales for young Europeans	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2022-2024	2022-1-PL01-KA220-YOU-000086769 INTEGRA – Fostering migrantS intEGRAtion with crowdfunding	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2023	2023-1-PL01-KA151-YOU-000141392 Erasmus+ (KA1 accreditation): Youth Voice Europe	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2023	2023-1-PL01-KA155-YOU-000145816 Discover EU	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2022	D-60170-22 Memory and Postmemory	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2021 - 2022	D-50056-21 Memory and Totalitarianism,	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2021	UKR/2021/U/0203 Lessons of Leopoldis	Fundacja Instytut Europejski
Erasmus+	2020	2020-1-PL01-KA105-080705 The Mythical Europe project	Fundacja Instytut Europejski

**Among these projects, the following are the most relevant for this application:**

**2023-1-PL01-KA151-YOU-000141392 (accreditation in the field of youth for KA1 projects)**

## **Organization presentation**

**The European Institute Foundation**, which was known up to 2020 as the European Institute “Pro Futuro Europae” is an initiative created by people interested in European and international affairs and supporting the development of Poland within the European Union. We have been active in the youth sector for 20 years. Currently we work across three Erasmus+ sectors – Youth (YOU), Adult Education (ADU) and Vocational Education (VE/VET) – which allows us to design cross-sectoral projects that connect young people, adult learners and labour-market stakeholders. Our main thematic priorities are youth civic participation and democracy, digital and media literacy, entrepreneurship and employability, as well as intercultural dialogue, European remembrance and green transition.

The initiative to establish the European Institute in 2004 was a follow up of its key staff involvement in the Polish National Youth Council, an umbrella organization of major youth and student NGOs from Poland in 2003- 2005. Educational programmes are of great importance to the Institute. They rely on non- formal education activities, since one of the Institute's intentions is to enhance civic engagement of young people in Poland, in Europe and beyond. The Institute is established under Polish law on NGOs as a Foundation, and registered in the Polish Court Registry KRS no: 0000239605. It has its headquarter in Warsaw and also branches in Kraków and Katowice, where also our staff lives and works. During the years of existence the Foundation realized over a few dozen projects, co-funded mainly from the EU financial mechanisms, as well as Visegrad Fund and others. Nearly a thousand people, especially the young, have benefited from the trainings organised by us. We have been assessed by the Erasmus+ National Agency as an experienced applicant. We have developed a know-how and a vast network of reliable partners.

The Foundation has a network of international contacts and partnerships developed over many years of activity. The most important partners come from Italy, Bulgaria, Greece, Germany, Romania, Spain, Portugal, Lithuania and Cyprus. We also have partners in the Czech Republic, Turkey, Croatia, and - outside the EU - in Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Russia, and Israel. This is a huge potential for future projects in the field of international cooperation and the opportunity to share experiences, as well as to promote the Polish and European point of view abroad.

In Poland, the European Institute has established very good relations with organizations activating citizens in social and entrepreneurial areas. These are, for example, the Academic Business Incubators or the Association of Regional Initiatives in Tarnów, but also smaller entities such as the Artistic Institute for the Development of Children and Youth. We also cooperate with local governments: previously, together with the city of Imielin in the Śląskie Voivodship, we implemented a project under the Obywatel.IT program, which aims to raise the digital competences of adult people (over 25 years of age) residing in the Śląskie and Opolskie voivodships. Our partner in the implementation of projects in Silesia was also the Craft Chamber and Small and Medium Enterprise in Katowice. Together with the Municipality of the City of Krakow in 2022, we organized a 10-month grassroots project to activate the local community under the name “Being Active”. Thanks to this network of

municipalities, schools, universities, youth councils, business-support institutions and cultural organizations, we can effectively reach diverse target groups: school students, NEET youth, adult learners, teachers, youth workers and young entrepreneurs.

## **Key expertise**

The Foundation has received several grants from EU programs in the field of education and youth: "Youth", "Youth for Europe", "Erasmus", "Erasmus +". The International Visegrad Fund was also our donor.

Within Erasmus+ we are active as an accredited organization in the Youth (YOU) sector and as an experienced applicant in Adult Education (ADU) and Vocational Education (VE/VET), which enables us to build integrated learning pathways and transfer good practices between sectors. Among the implemented projects it is worth mentioning projects focusing on the participation of young people in public life, including local government and regional: for example the "Youth Participation in Local and Regional Life" project and the activation of young citizens up to 35 years of age: "Architects of change", "Entrepreneurial Skills Academy" "Video and social media for youth participation".

Other international projects are also important achievements in the Foundation's portfolio: "Education in peace through sport", "Let's meet again" (with Israel), "Open yourself to dialogue" (with Ukraine), "Green culture", "3 x Yes!", "Ecopower", "Languages of cultures", "Tell me your story", "Language and cooking", "Mythical Europe", "Democracy without borders", "Memory and totalitarianism", "Memory and postmemory", "From zero to the entrepreneur hero!", "Until you laugh", "For the love of film". The Foundation is also the coordinator of projects implemented under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme, including "Born in 1989 – Democracy Tales for Young Europeans" and "Participatory EU Enlargement (PEN)". All of the above-mentioned projects involved dozens of participants, including from European Union countries and Eastern Partnership countries. We are also a partner in Erasmus+ KA2 project on education for entrepreneurship. Moreover, our Foundation realized projects from the Polish Ukrainian Youth Exchanges programme. We estimate that during the Foundation's existence over a thousand people were recipients of our activities, and this number is certainly higher when it comes to indirect beneficiaries. We have the necessary competences in the preparation of a grant and conducting projects financed from public funds, as well as reporting and accounting in accordance with standards.

The Foundation is also the successful applicant and coordinator of a large scale KA2 project in the field of youth: INTEGRA (FosterINg migrantS intEGRAtion with crowdfunding).

## **Expertise in youth participation**

The European Institute Foundation has established itself as a key architect in promoting youth participation in civic and democratic life across Poland and Europe. Our expertise is rooted in a deep understanding of youth policy evolution: established in 2005 as a continuation of the Polish Youth Council, the Foundation was founded by former leaders of the Council. This historical background gives us a unique perspective and credibility in bridging the gap between grassroots youth movements and institutional frameworks.

Since its inception, the Foundation has implemented numerous projects aimed at increasing youth civic engagement and participation in democratic life. Notable among these initiatives are the youth exchange programs "Democracy Without Borders" (2021) and "The Power in Youth" (2019), which provided young people with the tools and knowledge to actively engage in social and political issues. Additionally, the Foundation has been awarded accreditation in the Erasmus+ Youth sector, enabling it to continuously develop and support initiatives that empower young people to take an active role in shaping their communities and futures.

At the local government level, the European Institute Foundation has successfully implemented three major projects in collaboration with the Kraków City Office, including "Aktywni na Plus" (2022, 2024) and "Aktywni w Krakowie" (2023). Recognizing the Foundation's good practices in civic participation at the local and municipal levels, it has been invited as a partner in the National Scientific Conference "Participation in Local Government", scheduled for 10–11 March 2025. This year's edition will focus on cross-sectoral cooperation, particularly exploring how non-governmental organizations contribute to the implementation of public tasks.

The European Institute Foundation is also the coordinator of the CERV project "Born in 1989 – Democracy Tales for Young Europeans," an initiative designed to increase young people's understanding of democratic transitions in the former communist bloc. The project focuses on individuals born after 1989, the first generation without a direct memory of the democratic transitions, and helps current generations connect with the past.

The project consortium consists of organizations from six countries (Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Estonia, and Germany), each contributing expertise in democratic transition research, history education, youth mobilization, exhibit curation, and EU integration.

## **Key Staff**

### **Piotr Uhma, President**

Lawyer. Doctorate of Laws, Chair of Public International Law, Law School of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. Holder of the Postgraduate Diploma of Company Law in the Law School of Warsaw University. 2004 Masters of Law, Graduated from the Law School of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. Completed a special course in Law of Public Administration and Corporate Law, with the final paper on „Contracting out procedure as an example of privatisation of state”. Currently nominated a Senior Good Governance Advisor in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission to Skopje. From 2012-2014 Senior Human Rights Officer in the OSCE, Mission in Kosovo. Previously Director, Legal and Corporate Communications Office of the Polish Electric Power Grid company, PSE Operator S.A. (2008-2010). Consultant and Officer at the OSCE (2004-2008). Worked on legal and policy issues for the German Development Agency (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit - GTZ GmbH) and UNICEF. Advised the Ministry of Home Affairs of Kenya and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Kosovo. General Rapporteur at the UNDP Training Seminar on National Youth Policy in Central and Eastern African Countries, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in September 2003. Guest speaker at the Youth Employment Summit (YES) 2nd sitting in Veracruz, Mexico, 2004. Delegate to the YES Summit in Alexandria, Egypt in 2002. Speaker and participant at many international conferences (including in Prague, Sydney, Jakarta, Strasbourg, Vienna, Amman, Nairobi, Denver, Seoul, etc.). Vice-President of the International Council on National Youth Policy (ICNYP) in Vienna, Austria.

### **Sabina Klimek, President of the Supervisory Board**

Doctor of Economics. Vice President of the Polish-American Chamber of Commerce North-East with headquarters in New York, owner of New York company Klimek Consulting LLC, former consul, commercial counsellor, head of the Trade and Investment Promotion Department of the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York. Earlier, a journalist from the foreign editorial office of Polsat News, a reporter from Panorama on TVP2, as well as a negotiator of international trade agreements cooperating with Middle Eastern companies as well as a trainer and trainer - she specializes in training in negotiation, marketing, sales techniques and business communication.

A graduate of doctoral studies at the Socio-Economic College at the Warsaw School of Economics, the University of Economics in Katowice, the Mikkeli University of Technology in Finland and the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Co-founder and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of The European Institute Foundation, member of the Business Forum and Food Forum at the European Commission, expert on NORMAPME standardization organization at the European Commission. Author of many scientific publications in the field of entrepreneurship, including the book 'Entrepreneurship without secrets'. Recognized by Dziennik Zachodni as the Leader of the Year 2014 of the Bieruń-Lędziński powiat from which it comes.

She is passionate about traveling, she is also a great animal lover, actively supporting dog and cat shelters.

### **Zofia Dźwigala, Project Manager**

Graduate of European Studies at the University of Warsaw and Management with a specialization in Project Management at SGH Warsaw School of Economics. Certified AgilePM Foundation Project Manager accredited by APMG International.

At the European Institute Foundation, she manages Erasmus+ projects within KA1 and KA2 actions. She coordinates educational mobilities, partnerships, and initiatives supporting the development of youth and organisational competences. She cooperates with partners from several European countries and represents the Foundation at international events. She is also responsible for the organisation's strategic development and identifying new opportunities for cooperation.

Professionally, she specializes in project development and securing EU funding. She works with companies, organisations, and research institutions on projects financed through programmes such as the European Funds for Modern Economy, Horizon Europe, and the European Regional Development Fund.

As a youth worker, she works directly with young people by facilitating workshops and non-formal education activities.

### **Alicja Janczewska, Promotion Specialist**

Graduate of Psychology at the Jagiellonian University. Passionate about creating video content using modern technologies and video editing. At the Foundation, she is responsible for external communication and managing the Foundation's social media channels.

<b>The person authorized to legally commit the promoter (legal representative)</b>	
<b>The contact person is the same !</b>	
Title	Dr.
Family name	Uhma
First name	Piotr
Position	President
Email telephone	<a href="mailto:uhma@post.pl">uhma@post.pl</a> +48505035393

<b>Second person to contact</b>	
Title	Ms.
Family name	Dźwigala
First name	Zofia
Position	Project Manager
Email telephone	<a href="mailto:zofia.dzwigala@instytuteuropejski.pl">zofia.dzwigala@instytuteuropejski.pl</a>