



Avatud Eesti Fond
Open Estonia Foundation

Iceland
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Norway



**Active
citizens fund**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Regional civil society initiative

Shaping the future: innovative and effective projects on engagement and participation

August 9-10, 2024, Paide, Estonia

Event Description

The ACF Estonia (Open Estonian Foundation) is organizing a two-day event that will combine the Active Citizens Fund's regional gathering for project promoters and fund operators from ACF countries with ACF Estonia's project promoter, the Estonian Opinion Festival. [The Opinion Festival](#) aims to revitalize democracy by strengthening the connection between the political system and citizens, fostering spaces for dialogue and participation. This inclusive event features discussions and ideas across various stages, representing nearly all societal layers and worldviews. Similar events in other countries are often called "democracy festivals" due to their goal of encouraging genuine democratic discussion and participation. Both the ACF seminar and the Opinion Festival will be held in the small town of Paide in central Estonia.

Objectives

The main objective of the event is to promote networking and mutual learning by sharing best practices in citizen engagement and introducing the Opinion Festival format to all participating countries.

Agenda

August 8	Arrivals, accommodation in Tallinn Reception at the residence of Ambassador of Norway to Estonia (Sihi 31)
August 9	09:00 Departure from Tallinn to Paide 10:00 Arrival to Paide, accommodation at the guesthouse 11:00-14:00 Workshop “ Shaping the future: innovative and effective projects on engagement and participation ” at Paide SPA hotel (Pärnu street 6). Each participating organization/country is expected to introduce best practices and projects of their country that fosters citizen engagement and participation. Facilitator: Margo Loor, lead consultant-trainer, moderator and development manager at SpeakSmart 14:00-15:00 Lunch 15:00 - Free time to visit Arvamusfestival , several English language discussions will also take place 20:00 Joint dinner/drinks in Paide 21:00 Evening programme of the festival
August 10	10:00-12:00 Free time at the festival 12:00-13:30 Open Estonia Foundation and Active Citizens Fund discussion (in English) at the Festivaliklubi area “ Tackling Disinformation: Challenges and Opportunities for Civil Society in Europe ”, speakers TBC. All ACF participants are welcome to attend and engage in the discussion. 14:00 Lunch 15:00 Departure to Tallinn 16:00 Arrival to Tallinn, accommodation in Tallinn Free time in Tallinn/departures
August 11	Departures

Open Estonia Foundation contacts

Jete Aljasmäe, Project and Communications Manager, jete@oef.org.ee, +372 56849979

Mall Hellam, Executive Director, mall@oef.org.ee

www.oef.org.ee www.acf.ee