

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	
Participant:	Ateneo de Jerez (Spain)
PIC number:	PIC 876606946
Project name and acronym:	Culture PIE Project — Promotion of Inclusion and Equity through Culture

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	2
Event name:	[Cultural Activities an Events in Gozo – Jerez–Gozo Town Twinning on Culture, Inclusion and Equity]
Type:	Activities and Event
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Gozo (Malta)
Date(s):	14-15 November 2025
Website(s) (if any):	https://soloist.ai/culturepie www.ateneodejerez.es https://regjunghawdex.com/ https://rabatghawdexlc.gov.mt/en/ https://www.jerez.es/
Participants	
Female:	83
Male:	67
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Spain]:	59
From country 2 [Malta]:	91
From country 3 [name]:	
...	
Total number of participants:	150
From total number of countries:	2

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

1. Introduction

The cultural activities and events held in Gozo on 14 and 15 November 2025 were carried out within the framework of the Culture PIE Project (Promoting Inclusion and Equity through Culture), co-funded by the European Union under the CERV-2024-CITIZENS-TOWN-T programme, and implemented by the Ateneo de Jerez and the Gozo Regional Council. This meeting forms part of the twinning process between the cities of Jerez de la Frontera (Spain) and Victoria (capital of Gozo, Malta), both candidates for the European Capital of Culture 2031, and aims to ensure that inclusion and equity are central elements in the selection of these cities.

The implementation of these cultural activities and events in Gozo involved the participation of institutional representatives and civil society organisations from both regions, with the aim of strengthening mutual understanding, promoting social inclusion and developing shared cultural strategies that reflect the values of equality, diversity and European cooperation. Approximately 150 participants from both cities took part in the activities (250 in the twinning event), attending the meetings and events held in Gozo within the scope of the project.

2. Objectives

The meeting was designed with the following main objectives:

1. To strengthen cultural ties and mutual understanding between the communities of Gozo and Jerez.
2. To celebrate and exchange cultural traditions, heritage and artistic expressions as a means of fostering European identity and unity.
3. To increase participants' knowledge of the cultural heritage of Gozo (in this phase) and of Jerez (in future activities).

3. Development of the programme of cultural activities and events in Gozo

The Gozo Regional Council offered activities aimed at sharing Gozo's natural and cultural heritage with the people of Jerez, as well as other initiatives focusing on intangible heritage that promote inclusion and the integration of the migrant population living on the island. In particular, the project made use of traditional Gozitan musical and folkloric activities, addressing issues such as gender equality, women's empowerment and the integration of migrants.

The activities and meetings fostered cultural expression and brought both communities closer together, reinforcing inclusion and equity as core values not only of the twinning process, but also as fundamental principles in the selection of European Capitals of Culture.

In addition, the official twinning ceremony between the City of Jerez and Rabat Città–Victoria (Gozo) was held, laying the foundations for future cultural cooperation. A reciprocal event will take place in Jerez in February.

3.1 First day – Friday, 14 November 2025 – Shared heritage and tradition

The first day focused on exploring Gozo's cultural identity and heritage, together with its intangible gastronomic, musical and folkloric heritage. The Gozo Regional Council and several cultural and social associations organised visits to significant sites across the island.

09:30 – Welcome and reception of the delegation from Ateneo de Jerez

10:00 – Cultural and Heritage Identity of Gozo

Visits to:

- Ġgantija Temples, considered among the oldest monuments in the world (c. 3600–2500 BC).
- Ta' Pinu Shrine, a national sanctuary begun in 1920, noted for its neo-Romanesque style and monumental scale.
- Dwejra Natural Park, a unique geological site with cliffs, rock formations and the Inland Sea connected to the open sea through a natural tunnel.

13:00 – Lunch at Teatro Astra Restaurant

16:00 – Cultural and Heritage Identity of Gozo (continued)

Visits to:

- Calypso's Cave and Ramla Bay, associated with the legend of Ulysses.
- Xlendi Bay and fishing village, on the west coast.

21:00 – Intangible heritage: gastronomy, music and folklore

- Dinner at Teatro Aurora Restaurant with traditional Gozitan folkloric show.

3.2 Second day – Saturday, 15 November 2025 – Twinning ceremony and cultural exchange

The second day focused on discovering the historical and cultural heritage of Victoria, the capital of Gozo, and on holding the official twinning ceremony. The mayors and municipal authorities signed the agreement in a public space, allowing for wide citizen participation. The institutional act was accompanied by a cultural performance by the students of the Municipal Band's Music School La Stella, an inclusive project involving both Gozitan and migrant residents.

During visits to the Astra and Aurora Theatres, participants learned about the work of various social and cultural organisations, especially those focused on migrant inclusion: Scout Groups of Victoria; football clubs (S.K. Victoria Wanderers, Oratory Youth F.C., Victoria Hotspurs F.C., Shamrock Stars); Oratory Don Bosco; Victoria choirs (Laudate Pueri, Gaulitanus, Urbanus); and four folkloric groups based in Victoria.

The programme strengthened community ties and enabled an analysis of inclusive practices developed by local associations.

09:00 – Walking tour of Victoria (Rabat Città-Victoria)

Visits to:

- Historic old town: St George's Basilica, The Citadel, Cathedral of the Assumption

11:30 – Visit to Teatru Aurora

Presentation by representatives of the main artistic organisations.

12:30 – Visit to Teatro Astra

- Presentation by representatives of the main social organisations.

13:00 – Lunch at Coffee Break (Victoria)

17:30 – Official reception by Jerez City Council

- Visit to the administrative headquarters of Rabat Città-Victoria.

19:00 – Official twinning ceremony

- Signing of the twinning charter, followed by a reception, cultural event in Independence Square and closing reception.

4. Main conclusions

4.1 A cultural exchange process in progress

The Gozo meeting is a strategic stage in the Culture PIE Project and part of a dynamic and progressive cooperation process. It follows the inclusion seminar previously held in Jerez.

4.2 Achievement of objectives for this phase

The programme strengthened cultural ties, fostered exchange of traditions and boosted knowledge of shared heritage. Best practices in equality, migrant integration and participation were highlighted.

4.3 Strengthening civil society

The active participation of associations confirmed the importance of civil society in local inclusion policies and citizen engagement around European values.

4.4 Twinning as a cooperation tool

The signing of the agreement marks the start of a stable institutional relationship, to be continued in Jerez in February, reinforcing both cities' ECoC 2031 candidacies.

5. General conclusion

Following this stage in Gozo, the Culture PIE Project is consolidating as a significant example of European cultural cooperation centred on inclusion, equity and culture as drivers of social transformation. The activities carried out and those planned for the coming months confirm both cities' commitment to building a lasting cultural partnership based on cooperation, exchange of good practices and shared European values, opening new opportunities for collaboration between organisations in Jerez and Victoria.

7. Links to News

<https://gozo.news/121911/gozo-friendship-agreement-signed-between-victoria-and-jerez-de-la-frontera/>

<https://www.jerez.es/webs-municipales/cultura-y-fiestas/detalle-noticias-cultura/jerez-y-victoria-malta-ya-son-ciudades-hermanas-con-un-proyecto-centrado-en-la-inclusion-y-el-objetivo-de-ser-las-dos-capitales-europeas-de-la-cultura-2031>

<https://jerez2031.com/jerez-y-victoria-ya-son-ciudades-hermanas-con-el-objetivo-de-ser-capitales-europeas-de-la-cultura-en-2031/>

<https://www.europapress.es/andalucia/jerez-al-dia-01408/noticia-jerez-cadiz-victoria-malta-hermanan-fin-ser-dos-capitales-europeas-cultura-2031-20251116195714.html>

https://www.diariodejerez.es/jerez/jerez-victoria-malta-ciudades-hermanamiento_0_2005246181.html

<https://jerezsinfronteras.es/216720-jerez-y-victoria-oficial-hermanamiento-en-malta/>

8. Social Media

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10236862479609166&set=a.10217088830840305>

<https://www.facebook.com/Jerez2031/posts/estamos-de-enhorabuena-jerez-y-victoria-celebran-el-acto-de-hermanamiento-con-el/122156508956395734/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AyuntamientodeJerez/videos/jerez-y-victoria-malta-ya-son-ciudades-hermanas-con-un-proyecto-centrado-en-la-i/1955084791705116/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AteneodeJerez/posts/-el-ateneo-de-jerez-en-gozo-un-hermanamiento-hist%C3%B3rico-una-delegaci%C3%B3n-de-59-pers/1240149248141897/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DRCBquwiFAk/>

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).
1.1	23.11.2025	Event 2
1.2	16.02.2026	Event 2 rectification
1.3	10.06.2026	Event 2 correction