

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:	3
Event name:	Twinning ceremony in Jerez de la Frontera
Type:	Activities and Event
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Jerez de la Frontera (Spain)
Date(s):	20-21 february 2026
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:	71
Male:	117
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Spain]:	125
From country 2 [Malta]:	63
From country 3 [name]:	
...	
Total number of participants:	188
From total number of countries:	2

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

1. Introduction

The cultural events and official twinning ceremony in Jerez de la Frontera took place on 20–21 February 2026. Working sessions were held on 20 February at the Alcázar of Jerez and the Ateneo de Jerez, while the official ceremony was held on 21 February at the Cloisters of Santo Domingo.

These activities were part of the Culture PIE Project (Promotion of Inclusion and Equity through Culture), co-funded by the European Union and promoted by the Ateneo de Jerez and the Gozo Regional Council.

The events form part of the twinning process between Jerez de la Frontera (Spain) and Victoria (Gozo, Malta), aiming to promote inclusion and equity through culture.

They brought together institutional representatives and social and cultural associations from both regions to strengthen mutual understanding, foster inclusion, and develop shared cultural strategies aligned with European values. Around 300 people attended the ceremony, while the association meetings gathered 150 participants in the morning and over 120 in the afternoon.

2. Objectives

The meeting aimed to strengthen cooperation and mutual understanding between Jerez and Gozo, promote inclusion—especially among Roma and migrant communities—and foster cultural exchange to develop joint initiatives aligned with European values of diversity, identity, and unity.

3. Development of the programme of cultural activities and events in Jerez de la Frontera.

Jerez de la Frontera hosted activities focused on how to promote inclusion and equality through culture within the framework of European Union objectives. In addition, activities were carried out to share the valuable cultural and historical heritage of Jerez with the delegation from Gozo.

The programme also included initiatives linked to the city's intangible cultural heritage, aimed at fostering social inclusion and the integration of the Roma population, especially through musical and folkloric proposals. These actions focused on key priorities such as gender equality, women's empowerment, and the integration of diverse groups.

The activities and dialogue spaces created during these days sought to strengthen cultural ties between both territories and promote participation, inclusion, and equity as fundamental values within this twinning framework, in line with the principles that inspire Europe.

The programme was developed over two days, combining presentations by participating associations from Jerez and Victoria—including testimonies and practical experiences—with cultural activities aimed at fostering interaction between the delegations of both countries and enhancing knowledge of Jerez's tangible and intangible heritage.

Programme Summary

The programme was carried out over two days, combining institutional events, cultural activities, and collaborative sessions between associations from Jerez de la Frontera and Victoria (Gozo).

20 February 2026 – Cultural Events and Working Sessions

The day began with the official استقبال (reception) of the Gozo delegation at the Alcázar of Jerez, including welcome speeches by representatives of both municipalities, the Ateneo de Jerez, and the Gozo Regional Council. This was followed by presentations from cultural and social associations of both territories, allowing participants to share their work and experiences.

Midday activities included a guided visit and reception at the Cayetano del Pino winery. In the afternoon, participants attended the flamenco performance “*Desde la Raíz*”, featuring Roma artists, highlighting intangible cultural heritage and inclusion through art.

Later, the programme continued at the Ateneo de Jerez with networking sessions between partner associations from both cities, organised into thematic areas: music, dance and folklore, theatre, scouts, sports, culture and heritage, and volunteering. The day concluded with an institutional dinner.

21 February 2026 – Official Twinning Ceremony

The second day focused on the institutional dimension of the programme. It began with a guided tour of Jerez's historic centre, followed by the official twinning ceremony at the Cloisters of Santo Domingo, where the agreement between the City Councils of Jerez and Victoria was formally signed.

The ceremony, attended by over 300 participants, included speeches by both mayors and concluded with a concert by the Camerata of the Ateneo de Jerez. The programme continued with a reception, a guided visit to Jerez Cathedral, and a closing dinner with flamenco entertainment.

Participation and Working Dynamics

The programme brought together 63 participants from Victoria and around 120 from Jerez, representing a wide range of cultural, social, and sports organisations. A total of 25 associations presented their work during the sessions.

Collaborative work was further developed through thematic working groups focused on scouts, volunteering, sports, heritage, music and dance, and theatre, fostering dialogue, exchange of good practices, and the creation of future partnerships.

4. Main conclusions

From the presentations, discussions, and contributions, the following conclusions were drawn:

Firstly, the meeting highlighted the fundamental role of culture as an effective tool to promote social inclusion, equity, and understanding between diverse communities. The experiences shared demonstrated that cultural practices—especially those linked to intangible heritage—provide a key space for integrating vulnerable groups such as Roma and migrant populations.

Secondly, the event significantly strengthened institutional, social, and cultural ties between Jerez de la Frontera and Victoria (Gozo), creating a climate of trust and cooperation that lays the foundation for future joint initiatives.

The working groups identified key lines of action, including:

- Cultural exchange programmes
- Inclusive educational and artistic projects
- Promotion of volunteering
- Sports and cultural activities as tools for social cohesion

These align fully with European Union values regarding citizenship, equality, and diversity.

Furthermore, the official twinning ceremony represented a major institutional milestone, reinforcing both cities' commitment to European cooperation, social inclusion, and the promotion of culture as a pillar of coexistence. The emotional impact of the ceremony further strengthened bonds of friendship and interpersonal relationships. The high level of public participation reflects strong civic engagement.

Finally, the Culture PIE Project is consolidated as a reference initiative for promoting inclusion and equity through culture, demonstrating the positive impact of partnerships between European territories. The need to continue this process through new joint actions, monitoring collaborations, and expanding the network of participating entities was highlighted. The final meeting, to be held in Victoria in May, will define these future strategies.

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.

6. Links to News

https://www.lavozdelsur.es/ediciones/jerez/jerez-en-batalla-por-ser-capital-europea-cultura-hasta-victoria_352113_102.html

<https://www.elmira.es/articulo/jerez/jerez-refuerza-hermanamiento-ciudad-maltesa-victoria-encuentro-previo-acto-oficial/20260220124307549473.html>

<https://www.portaldecadiz.com/mas-de-cadiz/cultura/152127-jerez-activa-un-encuentro-internacional-para-consolidar-su-hermanamiento-con-victoria>

https://cadiznoticias.es/jerez-y-victoria-formalizan-su-hermanamiento-con-un-acto-oficial-en-los-claustros-de-santo-domingo/#google_vignette

<https://www.jerez.es/webs-municipales/sala-de-prensa/nota-de-prensa/la-cultura-y-la-defensa-de-los-valores-europeos-hermanan-a-las-ciudades-de-jerez-y-victoria>

https://www.lavozdelsur.es/ediciones/jerez/jerez-ciudad-maltesa-victoria-se-hermanan-oficialmente_352187_102.html

<https://jerezsinfronteras.es/hermanamiento-jerez-victoria-malta-capitalidad-2031/>

VIDEO - TV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxhZ8Eg8lg8&t=2s>

7. Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/AteneodeJerez/posts/pfbid0FJCrWUeQva91K4yMgpsCVZdhTzsD47qoR6c6tfnGC2G5rWEMHy869qumAbKbz6Kol>

<https://www.facebook.com/Jerez2031/posts/pfbid02qgbhpNiVNjy9Ctcf2V7mHZo3xjPNNM51F1oiZZqN9s9xap7cKrfWu31YwVnxuFpBl>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DVVZqXViFaA/>

<https://ateneodejerez.es/acto-de-hermanamiento-entre-victoria-gocho-y-jerez-de-la-frontera-sabado-21-02-2026/>

8. Photos

<https://www.youtube.com/live/qejfeHn5YI0?si=UWguewWQ8YzMbpyW>

<https://www.amazon.es/photos/share/wfUdgHxUdMEA6NUvqmAdeKFJw3I0In1bu7Mm9bTAYZe>

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).
1.1	22.03.2026	Event 3
1.2	10.06.2026	Event 3 correction