



Dear Colleagues,

We are looking for partners from higher education and EQF level 6 for the Erasmus Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) titled **Kaustinen ICH Academy**.

The Kaustinen ICH (Intangible Cultural Heritage) Academy programme is organised **in Kaustinen, Finland, from 14 to 18 July 2026**, during the Kaustinen **Folk Music Festival week**.

Kaustinen Folk Music Festival, est. 1968, is the biggest in Finland and one of the best-known in Europe, with ca. 5 000 professional and amateur performers in 400–500 groups, ca. 1700 performances yearly and ca. 50000 attendances in recent years.

The core of the festival is the festival is the exceptionally viable local fiddle tradition, inscribed into

Unesco's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2021. Besides dance and music performances, the festival program includes lectures, seminars and numerous inclusive and interactive programs like workshops, jam sessions, daily workshops etc. The festival hosts yearly international performers from 10–20 countries.





This is an opportunity for participants to share and expand their knowledge of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and traditions of music and dance.

The programme follows the Erasmus+ BIP format

- The onsite programme in Kaustinen includes lectures, seminars and workshops, as well as the ICH tent programme in the world-famous festival atmosphere.
- The working language is English, and the programme aims to raise awareness and share good grassroots methods and practices for safeguarding ICH among students.
- The online component takes place before/after the physical week in Kaustinen.
- Students will receive study credits (3 ECTS).
- Lectures and seminars in the Kaustinen ICH Academy programme are free for all participants. Students from the Erasmus BIP partner organisations will also receive a free entry to the Kaustinen Folk Music Festival.
- Students are required to actively participate in the lectures, but there are also many opportunities to join music and dance jams!
- Students can also introduce their own educational institution (optional)



PHOTOS Krista Järvelä, Susanna Salokannel/Kaustinen Folk Music Festival, Lauri Oino

Expectations for the partners

- Students participating via the BIP must be at a higher education or EQF level 6.
- Partner organisations are responsible for their own students and their mobility agreements (covering costs such as travel, accommodation, and meals).
- You can contact your institution's Erasmus+ coordinator for more information. Erasmus+ funding is typically available via home institutions (covering travel and individual costs).
- In Finland, Centria University of Applied Sciences is coordinating the entire BIP course.

For expressions of interest and questions, please contact:



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