Interfolk

Presentation of Interfolk, January 2026

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Legal name	Interfolk, Institut for Civilsamfundet
Legal name (EN)	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Acronym	IF
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Type of Organization	NGO and Research Institute/Centre
Is the organisation a public body?	No
Is the organisation a non-profit?	Yes

Legal Representative and contact person	
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Short description of the organization	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society is a Danish non-profit and non-governmental association and private research institute, founded in 2008, with office in the old harbour city, Middelfart, bridging Funen and Jutland. Interfolk is based on individuals sharing an interest in the Nordic Grundtvigian tradition of liberal adult education as well as the wider European pedagogical traditions of Bildung and Enlightenment. Our mission is to strengthen lifelong learning activities characterized by personal autonomy, active citizenship, social inclusion, cultural cohesion, and environmental sustainability within liberal adult education, participatory culture, and other civil society activities in a Danish, Nordic, and European context. The activities of Interfolk include surveys, mapping projects, development projects, pilot work, networking, courses, seminars, debate, and other cultural activities

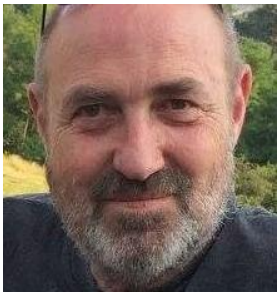
	Interfolk has been involved as coordinator or partner organisation in more than 40 international projects related to informal and nonformal learning in the areas of liberal adult education, participatory culture and heritage, and most have been about promoting a Bildung perspectives on lifelong learning, and the added community values of lifelong learning and culture activities in a civil society context. Interfolk is member of the Baltic Sea NGO Network; the International Platform for Citizen Participation (IPCP); the European Network for Active Participation in Cultural Activities (AMATEO); The FIRST Network. International Projects Management; and the Danish NGO-Network for international project cooperation.
Outline of project activities	The main project activities in 2008-2025 have included: 2007 - 2008: Coordinator of a two-year Nordplus Adult mapping project regarding training activities with a general scope in the Nordic liberal adult education and voluntary associations, supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. 2008 – 2010: Head of a major survey task regarding validation of values and goals in voluntary culture organisations in cooperation with the Joint Cultural Councils in Denmark; supported by the Danish Ministry of Culture. 2011: Head of a development project of an e-learning tool for validation of students' learning profile for Esbjerg Folk High School, 2011; supported by the Association of Folk High Schools in Denmark. 2009 - 2011: Coordinator of a two-year Nordplus Adult development project, regarding validation of non-formal and informal learning outcome in cooperation with seven partners from the Nordic and Baltic countries; supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. 2009 - 2011: Initiator of and partner in the two-year Grundtvig Multilateral Project, entitled "Learning outcome of amateur culture" (LOAC) with partners from the European amateur culture; supported by EU's Executive Agency, EACEA. 2012: Head of a development project of a new learning assessment frame focussed on the existential learning dimension for folk high school students at Nordfyn Folk High School, supported by the Danish ministry of Education. 2011 - 2012: Lead partner for planning a NGO Portal for the Baltic Sea Region, with reference to the CBSS-NGO Forum (The Council of the Baltic Sea States' NGO Forum). 2012 - 2014: Coordinator of a Grundtvig Learning partnership, entitled “Arts- based learning and active ageing" (ART-AGE), supported by the Danish Agency for International Education. 2013 - 2015: Initiator of and partner in the Grundtvig Multilateral Project, entitled "Culture guides for marginalised social groups” (GUIDE), supported by EU's Executive Agency, EACEA. 2013 – 2015: Partner in the 2-year Nordplus Adult development project, entitled: “Culture guides for Active Ageing”, supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. 2014 – 2016: Coordinator of and trainee in Interfolk’s mobility support, entitled: “KA1-staff training for Interfolk, Aug 2014 - July 2016”, supported by the Danish Erasmus+ Agency.

	2015: Initiator of the European network of voluntary arts that started in 2015 to provide Erasmus plus training events: EVA - European mobility for Voluntary Arts and Culture associations. 2016: Coordinator for the 1-year Nordic Culture Point capacity development project, entitled "Amateur art and voluntary culture as suppliers of arts and culture in sparsely populated areas in the West Nordic Region" (AMARE). 2016 - 2018: Coordinator of the 3-year NGO development project, entitled "Voluntary culture as leverage of cross-cultural activities in sparsely populated areas" (LEVER), supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' NGO programme for the Baltic Sea Region. 2016 - 2018: Initiator of and partner in the 2-year Erasmus+ strategic partnerships, entitled "Develop curricula and training programmes for culture volunteers" (SPAR) supported by the British Erasmus+ Agency. 2016 - 2018: Partner in the 2-year Nordplus Adult Development project, entitled "Curricula and training for culture volunteers in sparsely populated areas (SPARK)" supported by the Danish Agency of Higher Education. 2017 - 2018: Coordinator of the 18 months NGO project, entitled "Nordic and Russian NGOs building bridges (BRIDGES)" supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' Open Call Programme for co-operation with Northwest Russia. 2017 - 2019: Initiator and partner in a 2-year Erasmus+ strategic partnerships, entitled "Bridging social capital by participatory and co-creative culture (BRIDGING), supported by the Danish Erasmus+ programme. 2017 - 2021: Designed the project concept and application of the 4-year Network project 'ARTS TAKE PART' on behalf of AMATEO, which has been supported by the Creative Europe Programme, the Cultural Networks strand; and are now member of the documentation & research team. Aug 2018 – July 2020: Coordinator of the 24 months Nordplus Adult development project, entitled "Co-creative cooperation with culture volunteers and managers (CO-OP)", supported by the Danish Agency of Higher Education. Sept 2018 – Jan 2020: Coordinator of the 17 months Erasmus+ strategic partnerships, development of innovation, entitled "Co-creative cooperation in the field of culture and heritage (Co-creation)", supported by the Danish Erasmus+ Agency, the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science. Sept 2018 – Aug 2020: Partner in the 2-year Erasmus+ strategic partnership, development of Innovation, entitled: "First-time international project realisers support network", supported by the Polish Erasmus+ Agency. Aug 2019 - July 2020: Coordinator of the 1-year Erasmus+ mobility project, entitled: "Cultural sustainability in sparsely populated areas with added community values" (ADD), supported by the by the Danish Erasmus+ Agency. June 2019 - Dec 2020: Partner in the 19 months Nordplus Adult Mapping project, entitled "Education of Older Adults: Comparing Baltic and Nordic Frameworks" (OLDER), supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. Dec 2019 - Nov 2021: Partner in the 2-year Erasmus+ strategic partnership, exchange of good practices, entitled: "Recommendations for international project

	managers competences recognition and validation for lifelong learning". supported by the Polish Erasmus+ Agency. Aug 2020 - July 2022: Coordinator of the 2-year Erasmus+ mobility project, entitled: "Promote social inclusion with participatory culture" (BRIDGES), supported by the by the Danish Erasmus+ Agency. Sept 2020 – Dec 2022: Coordinator in the 38 months Erasmus+ strategic partnership, development of innovation, entitled: "Boost Social Inclusion in Amateur Arts and Voluntary Culture (BOOST)", supported by the Danish Agency of Higher Education. Sept 2020 – July 2022: Partner in the 22 months Erasmus+ strategic partnership, exchange of good practices, entitled: Building a Network to Boost Social Secure Europe" (BOSS), supported by the Latvian Erasmus+ Office. Oct 2020 – April 2022: Partner in the 19 months NGO development project, entitled "Strengthening the NGO network - a tool for social security", supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' NGO programme for the Baltic Sea Region. July 2021 – March 2022: Partner in the 9 months mapping project, entitled "Fair Public Procurements", supported by Nordic Council of Ministers' Grant Programme for Nordic-Baltic NGO cooperation, 2021 Estonia CANCELLED - Mar 2022 – Aug 2023: Coordinator of the NGO development project, entitled "New benchmarking tools for social inclusion and active citizenship in the civil society sector (INCLUSION), supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' programme for Nordic-Russian co-operation /civil society and human rights. May – June 2022: Mobility visit to workshop in Maniitsoq, GL with the objectives to exchange experiences, compile knowledge, and plan innovative co-creative activities in heritage and arts with focus on our shared Nordic values with reference to the Nordic Council of Ministers' vision of the Nordic region as the most sustainable and integrated region in the world in 2030. Supported by the Nordic Culture Contact's mobility programme. Aug 2022 – July 2024: Coordinator of the 24 months Nordplus Adult development project, entitled "Develop online tools to assess the added community values of participatory culture (ADD)", supported by the Danish Agency of Higher Education. Sept 2022 – Aug 2024: Coordinator of the 24 months Nordplus Adult development project, entitled "Map and develop the civil society cooperation in the Common-wealth / Rigsfællesskabet (COMMON)", supported by the Danish Agency of Higher Education. Aug 2022 – Dec 2023: Coordinator of the 17-months Erasmus+ mobility project, entitled: " Added community values in culture associations (ADDED), supported by the by the Danish Erasmus+ Agency. Oct 2022 – June 2023: Coordinator of the 9-months ""Symposie i Torshavn om at styrke det kulturelle foreningslivs samarbejde i Skandinavien", supported by Clara Lachmann Fonden. May 2023 – Aug 2024: Partner in the 16-months Erasmus+ Small scale partnerships, entitled: "Micropolis 2023 - the power of strong local communities", supported by the Polish Erasmus+ Agency.

	June 2023 – Oct 2024: Partner in the 17-months development project, entitled: "Green Skills Adaptation and Development for Nordic Region", supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' new Prosperous Future Programme for Civil Society Cooperation in Baltic Sea Region. July 2024 – June 2025: Coordinator of the 12-months project:"Nordic symposia on the added community values of cultural NGO activities", supported by the Clara Lachmann Fund. Oct 2025 – March 2027: Coordinator of the 18-months Erasmus+ mobility project, entitled: "Synergies between social inclusive and green sustainable NGO activities". (SYNERGY), supported by the by the Danish Erasmus+ Agency. Dec 2025 – March 2027: Partner in the 16-months Erasmus+ Small scale partnerships, entitled: "Micropolis CEO - Communities Ecology Organization", supported by the Polish Erasmus+ Agency.

What are the key competences of Interfolk	Interfolk has expertise in national as well as international project work regarding design of project applications, project management, project evaluation and reporting as well as conducting surveys, designing curricula and pilot courses, and organising pilot work in a civil society context, especially in the field of participatory arts, culture, and heritage.

What are the experiences of the key person involved in the multilateral cooperation?	The key person involved will be Hans Jørgen Vodsgaard, Head of Institute, Cand. Phil and Mag. Art. (History of Ideas).  Current member of Musisk Center Danmarks Fond, member of the Danish coordination committee of the Baltic Sea NGO network, and member and founder of the new Danish NGO-network for international project cooperation. He has been lecturer at History of Ideas, Ethnography, Humanistic Interdisciplinary and scientific theory, Aarhus University; and at The Humanistic Basic education, Aalborg University; and Freelance journalist at the Magazine, Politisk Revy. He has been active in liberal adult education and the folk high school movement since the 1980s – as co-initiator and teacher at Kritisk Oplysningsforbund in Aarhus; Secretary General of the National Adult Education Association, SFOF; Director at the publishing house for Socialist Perspectives; co-editor of the magazines Praxis and Salt, as consultant in the Association of Folk High Schools in Denmark; as teacher at Ry Folk High School and Nordic Folk High School at Snoghøj; as principal at Uldum Folk High School, and Snoghøj IT Folk High School; as project leader and teacher at Askov Folk High School; and as research leader for Nordic European Academy. Bibliography: Furthermore, he has published many books and reports regarding Grundtvigian folk high school tradition, liberal Adult Education, participatory culture, and cultural and arts-based learning and the added community values of culture activities.

EU Programme	Year	Project identification or Contract Number	Applicant/Beneficiary Name
Grundtvig Multilateral Project	2009	502283-LLP-1-2009-1-DK-Grundtvig-GMP	Kulturelle Samråd i Danmark
Grundtvig Partnership	2012	2012-1-DK1-GRU06-05422 1	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Grundtvig Multilateral Project	2013	538238-LLP-1-2013-1-DKGrundtvig-GMP	Kulturelle Samråd i Danmark
Erasmus+, KA1-mobility	2014	2014-1-DK01-KA104-000471	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Erasmus+, KA2, strategic partnership, Innovation	2016	2016-1-UK01-KA204-024505	Voluntary Arts Network
Creative Europe, European Networks'	2017	584369-CREA-1-2017-1-BE-CULT-NET	Amateo – The European Network for Active Participation in Cultural Activities
Erasmus+, KA2, strategic partnership, Innovation	2017	KA204-2017-010	Kulturelle Samråd i Danmark
Erasmus+, KA2, strategic partnership, Innovation	2018	KA204-2018-011	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Erasmus+, KA2, strategic partnership, Innovation	2018	2018-1-PL01-KA204-051192	Fundacja Alternatywnych Inicjatyw Edukacyjnych
Erasmus+, KA2, exchange of good practice	2019	2019-1-PL01-KA204-065677	Fundacja Alternatywnych Inicjatyw Edukacyjnych
Erasmus+, KA1-mobility	2019	2019-1-DK01-KA104-060078	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Erasmus+, KA1-mobility	2020	2020-1-DK01-KA104-074895	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Erasmus+, KA2, strategic partnership, Innovation	2020	KA204-2020-021	Kulturelle Samråd I Danmark
Erasmus+, KA2, exchange of good practice	2020	KA204-A4852406	EAPN-Latvia
Erasmus+, KA1-mobility	2022	KA122-ADU-2022-005	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Erasmus+, KA2, Small scale partnerships	2023	2022-2-PL01-KA210-ADU-000096496	Wawerskie Centrum Kultury
Erasmus+, KA1-mobility	2025	KA122-ADU-2025-002	Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society
Erasmus+, KA2, Small scale partnerships	2025	2025-1-PL01-KA210-ADU-000364894	Wawerskie Centrum Kultury