

# TANDEM

culture without borders

Press release – 15 September 2017  
Tandem Joint Final Meeting in Odesa

## Tandem comes to Odesa

**The Cultural Collaboration Programme's three rounds: Tandem Turkey, Tandem Ukraine and Tandem Shaml, gather in the port city for their Final Meeting, Network Day and Exchange Days.**

From **23 to 27 September 2017, 140 members** of the Tandem family - participants from three Tandem programmes, alumni and the team - are coming together in Odesa.

For the first time, together with our partners, we are trying something new and logistically very challenging: we are gathering **participants from three different programmes** together in one location. The Tandem Turkey, Tandem Ukraine and Tandem Shaml programmes will all have their final meeting, in parallel, in Odesa.

**Odesa** is a city with a strong feeling of locality and diverse cultural identities that we hope our participants will discover together, it is a perfect location for Tandem.

We find it important to bring our network – **the Tandem Family** – together in this way to create as many opportunities as possible for encounters, exchanges, and making connections between people and our programmes. All our participants face similar issues and challenges, which they experience in different social and political contexts. This joint meeting will offer a space for everyone to discuss their experience and to learn from one another.

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## PROGRAMME

The schedule for the five days will include:

- each programme's **Internal Meetings on 23 and 24 September**,
- followed by a **Network Day on 25 September**,
- and two **Exchange Days on 26 and 27 September**.

The **Internal meetings** will follow the usual Tandem methods and organisation, with each programme holding their final meeting in parallel.

They will then all convene during the **Network Day**, during which they will also be joined by Tandem team members and alumni. There will be a chance to learn about the participants' Tandem journeys, using our Most Significant Change method, and the afternoon will be devoted to discovering Odesa and its local context, all together and joined by local guests.

The last two days of the event will be **Exchange Days**, during which all participants will have the chance to share their experience, knowledge and passion through a series of workshops. There will be **16 sessions in total offered by 34 Tandemians**, including screenings, interactive workshops and discussions covering a wide range of topics from implementing social art projects with disadvantaged groups or in official institutions, to alternative ways for rural tourism and different methods to work with in the performing arts. The complete programme for the Exchange Days (PDF) is available [on our website](#).

While this event is not open to the public, we will share insights throughout our social media – you can follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) – and we will publish further stories on the [Tandem website](#).



## **PARTNERS**

Tandem is an initiative of European Cultural Foundation and MitOst e.V. Each programme round is implemented with regional partners: Anadolu Kültür (Tandem Turkey), Culture Resources (Tandem Shaml), Insha Osvita (Tandem Ukraine) and supported by various funders, Stiftung Mercator (Tandem Turkey), Robert Bosch Stiftung, Stichting DOEN and Mimeta (Tandem Shaml), German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tandem Ukraine).

*We would like to extend our thanks to our local partners and hosts in Odesa:*

NGO Art Travel: Tandem Ukraine 2016-17 participant and our local host for the meeting.

Impact Hub Odessa: Our main venue for the meeting. One of the recent co-working spaces for the creative minds of Odesa to gather and produce together:

IQ Space: Our venue for part of the Exchange Days sessions. Another cosy co-working space of the city.

## **CONTACT**

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**ABOUT TANDEM**

Tandem is a cultural collaboration programme that strengthens civil society in Europe and its neighbouring regions. There are currently six Tandem programmes which focus on different regions and topics. The following three programmes will be present at the Joint Meeting in Odessa between 23 and 28 September 2017.



**Tandem Shaml** supports experimental and lasting collaborations between change makers from the Arab region and Europe. For one year cultural actors work in tandems and as a group: being part of a larger network and sharing good practice. Joint projects confront global challenges like migration and support local community development by linking local people, places, art forms and ideas.



**Tandem Turkey** aims at establishing long-term partnerships between cultural organisations from Turkey and the EU countries. The political landscape across the EU, Turkey and the neighbouring regions has substantially changed since Tandem Turkey started in 2011. In times of harshening working circumstances for cultural actors in Turkey and a vanishing EU integration perspective, building robust long-term collaboration channels between Turkey and the EU has become ever more essential.



**Tandem Ukraine** is based on our belief that, especially in times of crisis and transition, working together on tangible cross-border collaborations supports not only dialogue, but also allows for the development of new forms of civic engagement, enabling a process of social transformation.