



## BALKAN GAMES FESTIVAL

In the period 28 – 29 September 2019, the autumn edition of the Balkan Games Festival will be held in Blagoevgrad, focusing on children's creativity in the Balkans.

The festival aims to promote the achievements of young Europeans by giving them opportunities to perform on the big stage and meet with the general public, in order to encourage their pursuit of personal and creative development and intellectual growth, as well as to exchange ideas.

**Date:** 28-29 September 2019

**Location:** Bulgaria, 2700 Blagoevgrad, Macedonia Square

The event is organized by the Municipality of Blagoevgrad under the project "BORDERLESS CULTURE " in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works - National Authority of the Cooperation Program INTERREG V-A "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020" and with it will be celebrated European Cooperation Day 2019.

### Let's explain something here now

The festival days will be an arena for sharing the ethno-cultural, musical and dance diversity of Bulgaria and Greece. Residents and guests of the city will have the opportunity to enjoy a rich program full of music, songs and dances in different genres, demonstrations of art studios with the possibility of handmade souvenirs, fun activities for making friendships, folklore performances, art installations and plein airs, participants' street shows, presenting tourism opportunities through virtual reality, and more!

The program includes:

- **Live Music Program** - presentation of dance and singing vocal and instrumental individual and group performances: Folk Dance Clubs, Children brass-band orchestra, Folk singing club, Ballet club, Modern Dance Style Club, Piano, Guitar, Violin, etc.
- **Art Studios for Small and Big Balkans** - participation of clubs in applied decorative arts; art; stained glass; fashion and design; ceramics - demonstrations and self-made by festival participants.



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- **Art installation** - What we have achieved over the years!
- **Friendship panel**
- **Interactive workshop on wheels**
- **Street Parade**
- **Charity bazaar**
- **Cross-border cooperation workshop** for heads of children's clubs

## 21 September: European Cooperation Day

We commemorate the European Cooperation Day (also known as “EC Day”) on 21 September every year. But why do we celebrate cooperation? Europe is a mix of cultures and economies that need to understand each other in order to reach their maximum potential. For this reason, the European Union (EU) encourages cooperation in different ways. One of them is through the cooperation programmes, which allocate more than 10 billion euros for the regions to work together on common challenges: climate adaptation, social inclusion, migration...

How is this done in practice? Through projects involving regions all over Europe and neighboring countries. They have helped increase cultural understanding and overcome economic disparities throughout territories. Don't you think this is a good reason to celebrate?

With the “European Cooperation Day” campaign we would like to remind citizens that many good things come out when we join forces. In the past editions, people cycled together, sang together, ate together, and in general had a wonderful time in each other's company in hundreds of events organised by EU cooperation programmes in over 30 countries.

Everybody can join this celebration. In September, many events are organised in different regions of Europe in order to commemorate the benefits of cooperation: film festivals, concerts, running races, local markets, gastronomic fairs... and more! Find an event in your city or nearby and come celebrate with us.

For any doubts or additional information, please contact Yanislava Vangelova, at the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020": [yavangelova@blgmun.com](mailto:yavangelova@blgmun.com) Tel.: +359 888 208 308

More information: <https://borderlessculture.eu> and [www.ecday.eu](http://www.ecday.eu)



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