

ECTN INTERREG III C Project

Template for Contact details (as per Microsoft Outlook)

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Template for case studies

Organisation (English)	City of Turku/ Cultural office
Organisation (in original language)	Turun kaupunki
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Legal Status of organisation	
Title of the Institution / Project in English	Turku the Christmas City of Finland
Title of the Institution / Project in Original Language	Turku Suomen joulukaupunki
Summary of Case study/project	<p>Turku the Christmas City of Finland</p> <p>Turku, the Finnish Christmas City, glows with the warmth and traditions of Christmas time from the end of November until the middle of January. Hundreds of sights and events, big and small, for every taste.</p>
Organisations Concerned	There are over 100 different organisers of these Christmas events. Behind them are more and more different kinds of combined efforts, which even cross administrative boundaries. For instance for the development plan for the city centre, the Chamber of Commerce and various businesses worked together

	<p>with parishes, the city's Cultural Office and other administrative offices.</p>
<p>Case study/Project detailed description</p>	<p>ON 24th November 1996, 20,000 people gathered in the Market Square to hear Turku Mayor Armas Lahoniitty declare Turku as Finland's Christmas City and announce the start of the Christmas season. Over 10,000 Unisef candles were lit for the children of the worls.</p> <p>The aim of declaring Turku as the Christmas City, beside the spiritual content, was as the continuing medieval tradition of the Declaration of Christmas Peace, and also to promote the numerous Christmas events being held by organisations, companies and private people in Turku.</p> <p>Christmas City in its entirety is a seven-week experience, witch starts with looking forward to Christmas Peace on 24th December, and into the happy post-Christmas and New Year periods. Christmas City closes on Nuutti's day on 13th January.</p> <p>The most famous of Turku Christmas traditions is the Declaration of Christmas Peace, which takes place at Vanha Suurtori on Christmas Eve at 12.00 Middy. As far as is known throughout the Nordic countries, only Turku has this tradition of declaring Christmas peace, which has been maintained almost without interruption from medieval times to the present day. The festive Christmas peace declaration event is the starring moment, which people from all over around Finland and some neighbouring countries follow silently on television and radio. Christmas starts when Finland's Turku has declared Christmas peace.</p> <p>There is now a new tradition connected to this, an event called "Ecumenical Christmas in Finland's Turku" which is unique even internationally. At this event, led by Finland's and Turku's archbishop, leaders of the four different churches appeal for world peace at Turku Cathedral, Finland's national sanctuary, and laymen representatives each bring a peace or humanitarian message to the event.</p>
<p>Case study/Project detailed description cont....</p>	



Outputs	