

ECO/TIG-Leader Meeting
Gdańsk, September 23-25, 2026
Program and Agenda



Dear Friends and Guests, Members of the European Teacher Education Network,

As things currently stand, this year's ETEN Leadership Meeting will bring together 58 participants from 16 countries, representing dozens of universities.

I am extremely pleased that this important event for our community is taking place in Gdańsk, a city with a rich and fascinating history, where for more than a thousand years trade and communication routes connecting Eastern Europe with the West, and the North with the South, have intersected. For centuries, Gdańsk has been a multicultural and multi-religious city, shaped by people of Kashubian, Polish, and German origins, as well as by Dutch, Anglo-Saxon, and Scandinavian influences.

Gdańsk is also a place that has left a unique mark on the map of Europe in the 20th century. It was here, on September 1, 1939, that the Second World War began. In March 1945, the city was devastated, with its historic center almost completely destroyed during the final stages of the war. Yet Gdańsk, like a phoenix rising from the ashes, was rebuilt from the ruins through enormous effort in the difficult reality of the post-war period.

Finally, Gdańsk is the city where the "Solidarity" movement was born in the early 1980s. It played a key role in the struggle against the communist system in Poland and, more broadly, in Central and Eastern Europe, paving the way for democratic change and contributing to the fall of the Iron Curtain. Gdańsk – the city of Freedom and Solidarity – warmly awaits your visit.

Paweł Śpica

Wednesday, September 23

**Meeting location: The European Solidarity Centre (ECS),
Plac Solidarności 1, 80-863 Gdańsk
third floor, room number 5**



*Our first meeting will take place in a special place – **the European Solidarity Centre (ECS)**, located on the grounds of the former Gdańsk Shipyard. The ECS is not just a museum; it is a place where solidarity takes many forms and is put into practice. Nearly twenty different non-governmental organizations working to promote and protect human rights operate here, and the Centre hosts numerous cultural and social events that promote the idea of solidarity in the contemporary world. It is also here that Lech Wałęsa – Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Poland's first non-communist president after 1989 – has his office.*

15:30-16:00 Registration on the third floor of the ECS

16:00-17:30 Opening ceremony (room number 5)

(with the participation of the Vice-Rector for Education at the UG, Dr Ewa Szymczak, Professor at the UG, and Magdalena Sawicz, Head of the Office for International Cooperation at the UG), combined with a presentation of the mission and activities of the European Solidarity Centre.

17:30-19:00 Welcome reception



Thursday, September 24

**Meeting location: University of Gdansk, Faculty of Social Sciences,
Institute of Pedagogy
ul. prof. Marii Janion 3, 80-309 Gdańsk
second floor, room number A309-A310, A 306.**



The University of Gdańsk is a dynamically developing institution of higher learning, and one that combines respect for tradition with a commitment to the new. It offers education in nearly all fields of academic knowledge, in sought-after professions on the job market and in state-of-the-art facilities in its Gdańsk, Sopot and Gdynia campuses. It is currently one of the most modern academic centres in Poland.

The University of Gdańsk was founded on 20 March 1970. It was formed from an amalgamation of two institutions of higher education: the Higher Economics School in Sopot and the Higher Pedagogical School in Gdańsk. Later, it also included the Higher Teacher Training School.

9:00-10:00 (Room A309-A310)

10:00-10:30 Coffee / Tea break

10:30-12:00 (Room A309-A310)

12:00-12:40 Lunch (Fooderia, ground hall)

12:40-13:40 Parallel sessions TIGleader (Room A306) / ECO's (Room A309-A310)

14:30-15:00 Coffee / Tea break

15:00-15:30 Short briefing from paralel sessions

18:30-23:30 Gala dinner at the Olivia Star restaurant on the 34th floor

(Address: Aleja Grunwaldzka 472C, Gdańsk Oliwa)



Friday, September 25

Meeting location: University of Gdansk, Faculty of Social Sciences,
Institute of Pedagogy
ul. prof. Marii Janion 3, 80-309 Gdańsk
second floor, room number A309-A310, A 306.

9:00-9:10 (Room A309-A310) Morning coffee, practical information

9:10-10:00 Parallel meetings in ECO/TIG groups

10:00-11:00 Campus tour

11:00-12:00 Wrapping up and closing the meeting

12:00 Lunch (Fooderia, ground floor)

14:00 Social Activities

Urgent questions about registration:

Paweł Śpica: pawel.spica@ug.edu.pl, +48 668 844 156