

EFFORTS EUROPE 2026 EVENTS COMING UP

!

2026 EFFORTS CONGRESS +

-EFFORTS VAUBAN UNESCO MEETING

-EFFORTS BALTIC FORT ROUTE

-EFFORTS AWARD 2025

-FORTE CULTURA CONFERENCE

+THROWBACK TO THE 2025 EFFORTS CONGRESS AND WELLINGTON BARRIER CONFERENCE



A word from the President

Dear EFFORTS members !

I am very pleased to announce to you the following EFFORTS events for the first half of 2026.

We only had our last congress last December and we are already preparing the next one : the **city of Diest** in Flanders, Belgium, is hosting us for three days in June for a brand new **2026 EFFORTS Annual Congress**. Public-private cooperation is at the center of this EFFORTS congress that also embraces the annual Flemish Fortified Cities conference.

We are also organising with our partners 2 other events, one in France with Réseau des Sites majeurs de Vauban and the Baltic Fort Route in Lithuania.

More details below, and more news in January !

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you in 2026 !

John Adam, Mayor of Oudenaarde, President of EFFORTS

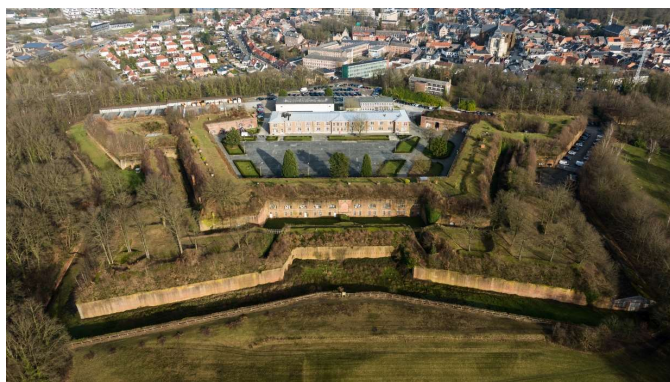


1. EFFORTS ANNUAL CONGRESS 2026



EFFORTS & Flemish Fortified Cities annual congress : Monday 8 - Wednesday 10 June 2026

► DIEST, Belgium



Redevelopment of the Citadel of Diest

Building a New Urban
District



L-scenario
BVO totaal: 39.556m²
Parkeerplaatsen: 546

XL-scenario
BVO totaal: 45.453m²
Parkeerplaatsen: 605



Diest EFFORTS Board and Annual Congress 2026 : 8 June 2026

Het herstellen van de oorspronkelijke circulatie-assen.





2. 2ND VAUBAN – EFFORTS FORTIFIED FUTURES MEETING

Réseau
des sites majeurs
Vauban



Organisers: Network of Major of Vauban Sites and EFFORTS Europe

FORTIFIED FUTURES

► 12 January 2026

The [Network of Major Sites of Vauban](#) (*Réseau Vauban*) and the [European Federation of Fortified Sites](#) (EFFORTS) are pleased to invite you to an online session dedicated to exploring how fortified sites across Europe are responding to climate change — and to discuss the development of a European Platform for Technical Cooperation on this issue.

Context

In 2024, extreme weather events underscored the growing vulnerability of our fortified heritage. Heavy rainfall in the Alps led to the collapse of walls in Mont-Dauphin; in Saint-Vaast-la-Hougue, sea defences struggle against rising tides; and in Neuf-Brisach, alternating rain and drought disrupt both conservation efforts and everyday life. Yet modern fortified sites also offer solutions: ramparts and glacis help regulate temperatures and support biodiversity, while historic buildings present opportunities for sustainable urban renewal.

As Europe's built heritage faces increasing pressure from climate change, preservation efforts can no longer focus solely on monuments. They must anticipate environmental impacts and embrace interdisciplinary, holistic approaches — often with limited resources.

Fortified Futures

Towards a European
Platform for Technical
Cooperation on Climate-
Smart Management of
Fortified Heritage



Cette 2^e réunion sera placée sous le signe du partage et de l'échange. Elle s'ouvrira par un tour de table de **pitchs**. Chacun présentera, en **2 à 3 minutes**, un défi rencontré récemment ou une réussite dont il souhaite faire profiter le groupe. Ces interventions nourriront la discussion collective. La réunion se conclura par un **quart d'heure d'échanges** ouverts autour des thématiques abordées lors des pitchs. Afin de faciliter l'organisation et le bon enchaînement des prises de parole, vous pouvez, si vous le souhaitez, nous transmettre une unique diapositive servant de support à votre pitch: cindy.debierre@besancon.fr



3. 1ST EFFORTS BALTIC FORT ROUTE CONFERENCE IN VILNIUS



1st Baltic Fort Route conference: VILNIUS 23/1/2026



- ▶ 23 January 2026
- ▶ Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Poland
- ▶ For all interested EFFORTS members : send mail to info@efforts-europe.eu



Thursday 22 January, 19h.00 : an informal drink / dinner moment together is organised in Vilnius (own costs)

Friday 23 January:

9h. Arrival

9h.30 Welcome by

- Director of the Lithuanian National Museum
 - Valdas Rakutis, member of the national parliament of Lithuania
 - Egidijus Bagdonas, director of Kaunas Fortress Park
 - Rafaël Deroo, secretary general EFFORTS (and further presentation)
- Handing over the 2025 EFFORTS AWARD to Kuressaare, EE*

9h.45 **PART 1** : Forte Cultura, Lithuanian - Polish partners (10 minutes pitch presentations):

- 1 Forte Cultura : Baltic Route origins
- 2 Trakai Fortress (LT)
- 2 (LT)
- Kaunas Fortress Park (LT) / Boyen Fort (PO) : FortUnion Interreg project LT – Poland

10h.30 Coffee break

11h.00 **PART 2** : Latvian – Estonian partners (10 minutes pitch presentations)

- Kaire Tooming, Tallinn (EE)
- Tõnu Sepp, Kuressaare, Saaremaa (EE), winner of the EFFORTS AWARD
- Artjoms Mahlins, Dagauvpils (LA)

12h. 30 Standing network lunch

13h.30 **PART 3** : EFFORTS Finnish Forum for Fortifications (10 minutes pitch presentations)

- Paula Kouki / Marika Auvinen - Patricia Broas, Hamina - Kotka (FI)
- Tuija Lind, Suomenlinna (FI)
- Dan Mollgren, Porvoo (FI)
- Kai Könönen, Luumäki (FI)

15h.00 Coffee break

15h.30 Denmark, EFFORTS and conclusions (10 minutes pitch presentations)

- Kristine Klinkhammer Adler-Niessen, Garderhøj Fortet, Gentofte, Copenhagen region (DA)
 - European / Baltic / 'EFFORTS:Ukraine' cooperation projects
 - Eva Roels, representative of the EFFORTS president John Adams, mayor of Oudenaarde (BE) and president of ICOMOS Belgium
- EFFORTS Europe : résumé of the conference and future events:
-*Announcement of Åland Baltic Route event, by Daniel Andersson, Åland, FI*
- (...)
-*EFFORTS Congress 2026*

16h.30 : End of the conference.

Drink and dinner together for those who stay in Vilnius (own costs)



SUOMEN LINNAT JA LINNOITUKSET FOORUMI

finnish forum for fortifications

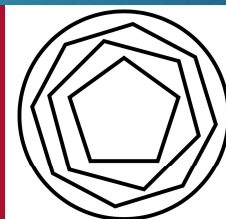




4. 8TH EFFORTS AWARD - 2025



Kuressaare castle

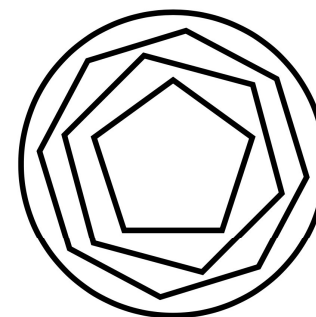


**EFFORTS
AWARD**

EFFORTS Award 2025 Kuressaare Baltic Route



EFFORTS AWARD 2025



**EFFORTS
AWARD**

BCF
BALTIC CULTURE FUND

to Kuressaare, Saaremaa (Estonia)

- Baltic Culture Fund 2025 : LT, LA, EST + FIN, UA, PO (EFFORTS)



- **Baltic Route EFFORTS** (August 2025)

- → presentation of the Award:

- 23/1/26 in Vilnius





NETWORK OF THE
CULTURE ROUTE
FORTIFIED MONUMENTS



5. FORTE CULTURA CONFERENCE

22-24 APRIL 2026

LINEA DE LA CONCEPCION, ES

<https://forte-cultura.com/es/la-linea-de-la-concepcion-es/>



6. THROWBACK TO THE 2025 EFFORTS CONGRESS AND THE WELLINGTON BARRIER CONFERENCE



EFFORTS TRAVELLING CONGRESS 3-4/12/2025:

[HTTPS://WWW.EFFORTS-EUROPE.EU/TRAVELLING-CONGRESS-2025/](https://www.efforts-europe.eu/travelling-congress-2025/)

EFFORTS WELLINGTON BARRIER CITY COOPERATION CONFERENCE 12/11/2025:

[HTTPS://WWW.EFFORTS-EUROPE.EU/WELLINGTON-BARRIER-CITY-COOPERATION/](https://www.efforts-europe.eu/wellington-barrier-city-cooperation/)

Travelling Congress 2025

PRESENTATIONS

The 2025 EFFORTS Europe cross-border congress PROGRAMME

'Inspiring across borders'

The first cross-border EFFORTS traveling network congress was organized from 2 to 4 December 2025. The theme of the congress was 'Inspiring across borders'.



HAPPY
NEW YEAR !!
See you in 2026!



- ▶ <https://www.efforts-europe.eu>
- ▶ *Facebook* : Efforts
- ▶ *Instagram* : efforts_europe
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