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## Annual Report 2013

We hereby we present the annual report 2013. This overview would give you an idea of the activities and contacts that have taken place in the Jubilee Year 2013.

### Introduction / Organizational:

Since 1993, the Foundation Twincities Goes and Panevežys implements the friendship treaty drawn up by the municipality and the municipality of Goes and Panevežys and signed.

The foundation is running to give content to this Convention to enrich the social, cultural, educational and economic benefit of the inhabitants of Goes and Panevežys.

The Foundation coordinates the contacts between the two municipalities and initiates and supervises several small scaled projects and various exchanges.

The Twinning foundation has built many good contacts in Panevežys to ensure continuity in Relationship

We hope you by reading this report will get a good impression the foundation has done to strengthen the relations with our sister city Panevežys and possibly expand the past year. If you cannot restrain your enthusiasm so you can join the club of friends, and you will be informed annually about our activities. You can register via mail [ajnellen@zeelandnet.nl](mailto:ajnellen@zeelandnet.nl) or [aandela@zeelandnet.nl](mailto:aandela@zeelandnet.nl)



### Board Composition 2013:

Name	Function	Special intention
Antoon Andela	President /Treasurer	Education, Economy
Jan van den Hondel	Vice president	Education, Religion, Culture
Vacancy	Secretary	
Marian Heugten	member	Welfare, Culture
Eric Debbaut	member	Health, Culture
Wil de Koning	member	Urban development
Anton Nellen	member	PR, Economy



The board met five times in 2013 (16/1, 27/3, 13/5, 17/7 and 6/11) for its regular meetings. Besides there were additional meetings in case of projects and visits.

### **20th Anniversary celebrations:**

Due to the fact that the agreement between the municipalities of Goes and Panevėžys in the year 1993 was signed, the city council in consultation with the Twinning Committee believed there this year both in

Goes and Panevėžys give attention.

Accordingly, the Executive Committee has been focused on the content, preparation and implementation work around these two moments in the year to celebrate **the 20th anniversary.**

Programs were being made, first of all for the reception of the delegation from Panevėžys **from 26<sup>th</sup> of April till 1<sup>st</sup> of May in Goes**, and the visit by a delegation of Goes **from 5<sup>th</sup> till 10<sup>th</sup> of September in Panevėžys.**

Coinciding with the visit of the delegation from Panevėžys Throne change also took place for which the delegation was a revelation in all respects. In the wake of the busy schedule of Mayor René Verhulst, the delegation visited many activities in the city and residential nucleuses. It was of course the official ceremony of the Throne change interim viewed.



The 20th anniversary of the Twinning was mainly confirmed by a formal meeting in the town hall where a symbolic tree is planted and named a public garden for our sister city. Among the guests present including the Lithuanian ambassador in the Netherlands Mr Darius Semaška. The whole was splendid addition to numerous appearances at various places in the city of song and dance group Grandinėlė from our sister city. Our group Vodago has played an important role to achieve in terms of lodging and guiding.

Also, a drawing competition "City where I live" children of primary schools from both sister



was part of the activities around our anniversary. With many impressions and grateful for receiving the delegation went home and invited us for the celebration in Panevėžys in September.

With a delegation of six people led by Henk Hoogerland we started a program compiled by us and Panevėžys. As usual there were many official receptions and the 510<sup>e</sup> birthday of the city was celebrated.

During the reception in the town hall, the mayor praised all the activities the last 20 years have been conducted. Many thanks he brought to the municipality of Goes and her committee and supported this with some little presents. Also director Daine Silienė brought her gratitude for the successful projects which in recent years have been in her day care centre for mentally and physically handicapped children.



The winners of the drawing competition were rewarded by our Vice President Jan van den Hondel with some valuables of Goes.

Together we planted the friendship tree in front of the municipality with the intention of a



fruitful continuation of the bond between the two cities.

In addition to all the festivities, the committee held a meeting in the care and nursing home St. Joseph with Director Patrikas Skrudupis to discuss the developments and needs around **elderly care** in Panevėžys.. On the state of our mayor wants the committee to make it like a project and looks forward to a priority there to prepare the organization.

During the visit to the orphanage, we were again surprised by performances by the children of different ages and a sign of appreciation from Director Sigitas Judzevičius.

Under a bright sky an international dance and music festival took place which also Vodago group has participated to. They also walked along the parade which throughout the afternoon run through the city and were in a stall Zealand babblers produced, which were snapped up by the passers-by.

Saturdays with fireworks, the festivities were closed, while still a major concert was given on Sunday: many regional groups and soloists were reviewed.

Sure enough another great experience with a warm welcome, surprising and friendly meetings with delegations from other sister but also the mayor of Panevėžys Mr. Vitalijus Satkevičius.



## Various projects:

### -Exchange of students from Lithuania:

Students are now working more than 10 years during harvest, pruning and sorting season with two fruit growers in the surroundings of Goes. Both parties are very satisfied so we are continuing with mediation in this and give young people the chance to look around here and work and enriched by their experiences and impressions to return. Students from our sister go next harvest season set to work.

**CIOS-students in Panevėžys:** This year, there were five students who have opted for a work placement in our sister city. For many years CIOS is making the effort to meet. The formalities for such training Twinning as we appreciate that very much and are grateful for the work and support the students and give them guidance to the various schools and institutes.

-**Dental equipment** it a pity we need to carry out due to lack of financial resources and less frequent use of the equipment.

-**Mattresses** for a home for disabled children purchased this year and financed by the Twinning.

-A flyer is designed for the recruitment of members of the "**Friends Club**" which now has 25 members.

- Still standing **vacancies secretary and webmaster open** and we are looking for interested people.

- To participate in the annual **consumer fair EXPO** for the region is still shown no interest by Goes' business.

**Finally:**

We hope this report gives a good impression of what we have done. Of course, it only contains information in outline, so it is not complete.

We also hope to make our work to be able to count on any supplement on the board some more promotion and especially valuing the Goes' population.

Finally, we thank all who contributed in making our plans practicable.

On behalf of members Twinning committee Goes - Panevėžys,  
Antoon Andela, Secretary a.i.