

Book of Your Life

Kick-off meeting
1 March 2024



**The
Europe
Challenge**



ELTE

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
AND ARCHIVES



**European
Cultural
Foundation**

*In your opinion,
what is the **role of the library**
in university students' life?*



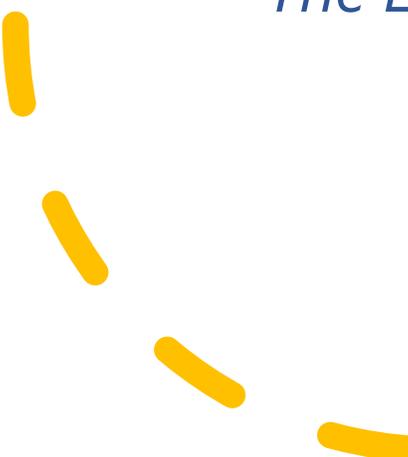


“Libraries are more than just houses for books; they are the lifeblood of European communities.

*They provide **safe spaces**, foster education, combat social inequalities, and build resilient societies. Recently, libraries across Europe are facing closure, attacks from extremists, and censorship.*

*The Europe Challenge is on the frontline of breathing new life into European **libraries.**”*

André Wilkens, Director of the European Cultural Foundation

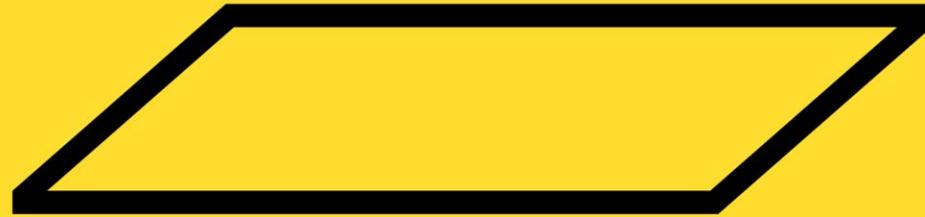


Book of Your Life (BoYL)

a project to support intercultural inclusion among university students at ELTE

- as part of the Europe Challenge 2024 initiated by the European Cultural Foundation & partners
- along intercultural values shared by ELTE, aligned with the Internationalisation Strategy
- in support of creating more inclusive university services at ELTE,
- as part of your life and needs

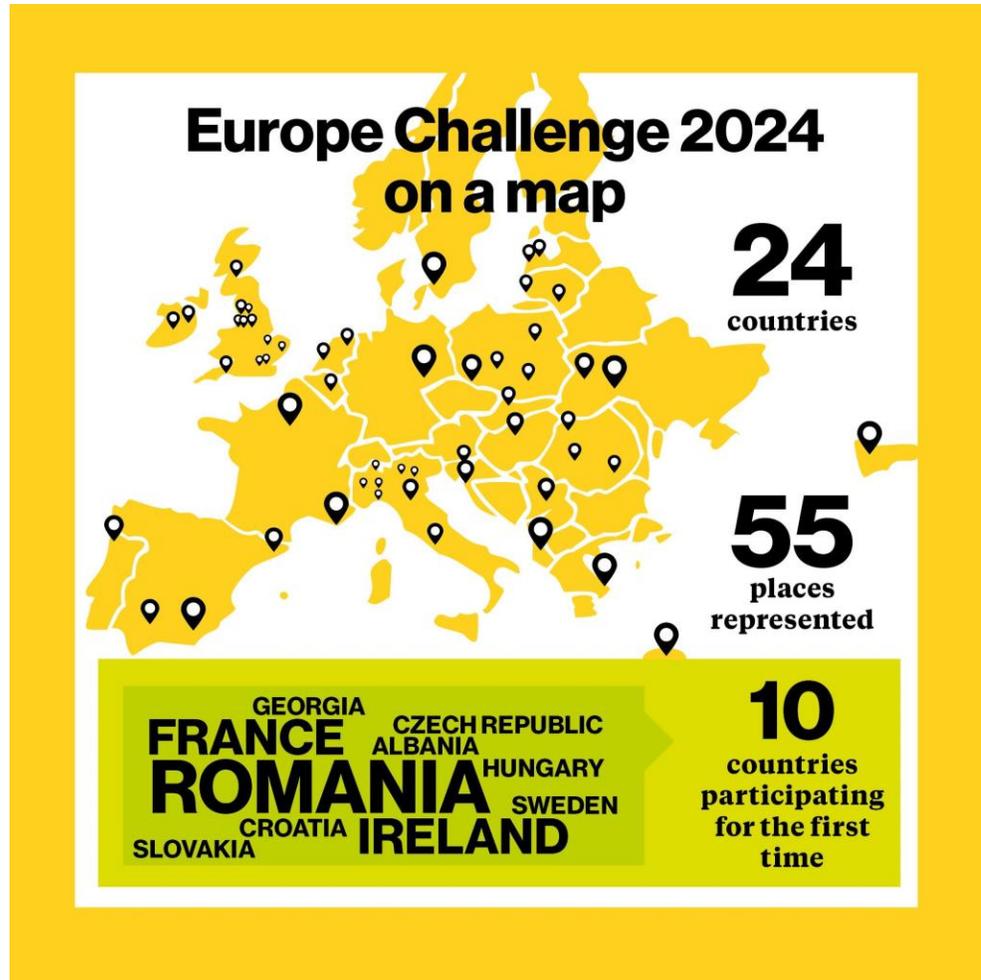
BoYL is implemented in the cooperation of the **University Library and Archives** (ULA), the **ELTE Student Union** (EHÖK), the **Rector's Cabinet International Strategy Office** (ISO) and the **Rector's Cabinet University Strategy Office** (USO)



The Europe Challenge

→ theuropechallenge.eu

About the Europe Challenge programme



- unites libraries and their communities to jointly develop creative solutions for addressing various societal challenges
- provides a mentoring programme for librarians and community members as well as financial support for implementation of various joint activities
- 2024: 3rd edition of the programme and the most extensive to date
- „Democracy, Libraries and Communities” runs from January to September 2024

About the Europe Challenge programme



Examples of selected projects from Europe include:

- engaging youth and youth adults in library activities
- improving mental well-being and social cohesion among elders and different generations, such as providing reading groups and workshops
- organizing activities focused on sustainable practices, circular economy and much more.

With the BoYL project,
ELTE is the very first and so far only Hungarian partner of the programme

Programme modules & outputs diagram



The Europe Challenge learning programme

*In your opinion,
how can we **create a
multicultural, inclusive
space** in the University
Library?*



Setting the stage for BoYL

- @ELTE: 35,000+ student community and 2,500 academic staff, over 10% of whom are from abroad
- variety of 140+ countries represented within the ELTE community
- ELTE Internationalisation Strategy
- traditionally good cooperation between the University Library and Archives and the ELTE Student Union (EHÖK)

What is BoYL about?

We aim at

- Enhancing acceptance and tolerance within the university community
- Promoting the cultural inclusion of international students and supporting their mental well-being
- Developing, based on the students' needs, the services offered by the University Library and Archives
- Introducing practices and activities in this context sustainable beyond the project timeline (Jan-Sep 2024)

Our methodology

- **Thematic background:** rooted in the library's collection as well as the cultural and linguistic diversity of international students: literature, books, cultural heritage, art
- **Participatory approach:** actively involving international & local students early on in the creation of a community space at ULA and the co-design and implementation of related activities
- **Top-down and bottom-up:** integrating institutional strategic aims with bottom-up initiatives, thus ensuring buy-in from all levels - students to top-management
- **Sharing of knowledge and good practices:** across a European network through the Europe Challenge Learning programme

What exactly will we do in BoYL?

Planned activities



Step 1: co-design of physical space & related activities, 2024.Q1

- transformation of a former study room at ULA into a community space, incl. wall painting done by ELTE students
- upcycling workshops (furniture) and decoration projects
- co-design of event/activity series based on links between ULA's collection & international students' personal interests

Step 2: implementation of activities (intercultural social events), 2024.Q2-3

- In-person events and online campaigns: intercultural trainings, interactive lectures, cultural programmes, book exchange, pop-up student exhibitions, introduction to favourite books, CHARM-EU Libraries' Meetup etc.

Planned BoYL activities



IN-PERSON EVENTS	ONLINE CAMPAIGNS
UPCYCLING WORKSHOPS in March	BOOK OF YOUR LIFE from 04.03.2024
COMMUNITY SPACE GRAND OPENING in April	POP-UP EXHIBITION CALL TO STUDENTS from 04.03.2024
POP-UP EXHIBITIONS, LECTURES April to September	MY FAVOURITE READING SPOT AT ELTE in April
ROUNDTABLES, READING NIGHTS May to September	VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK in May



Let's read the Book of Your Life together!

- Be active!
- Share your thoughts & ideas!
- Engage your community!
- Follow our social channels and participate!

Webpage

<https://www.elte.hu/boyl> (COMING SOON)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/elteinternational/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ELTEkonyvtar>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/elteinternational/>

<https://instagram.com/ELTEkonyvtar>



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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