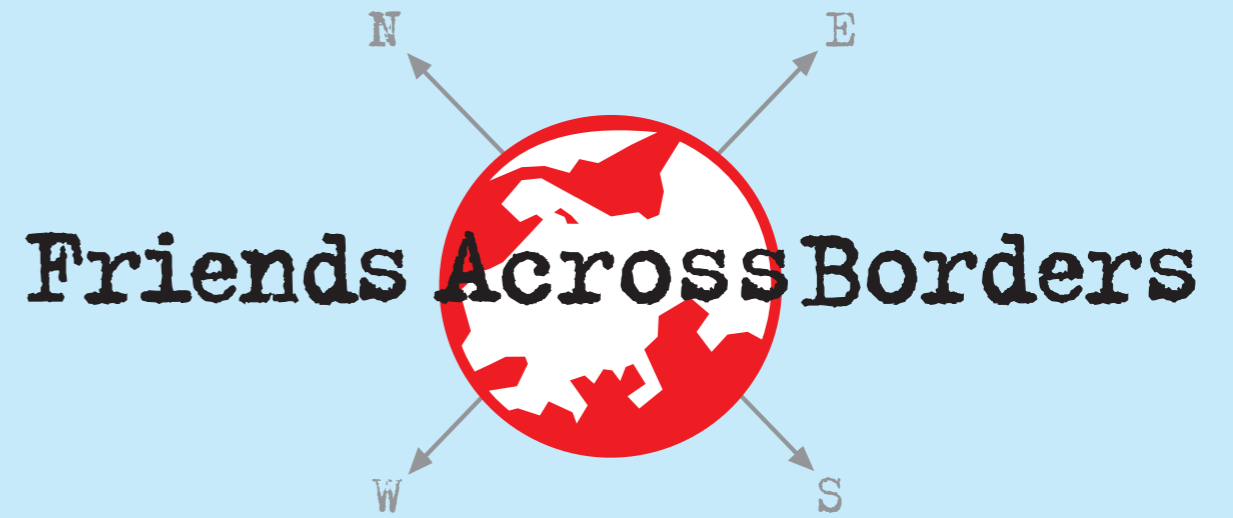
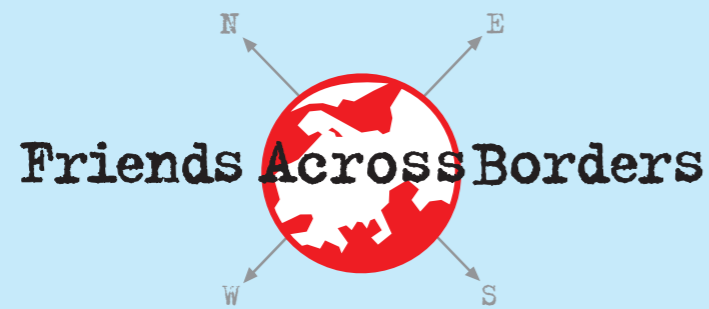


Save the Children fights for children's rights.
We deliver immediate and lasting
improvements to children's lives worldwide.



Friends Across Borders aims to:

- Ensure that children are able to go to school without feeling neglected or scared of being bullied.
- Increase the knowledge of the general public on the problem of bullying and the mechanisms by which children are affected.
- Make sure that successful working-methods in preventing bullying are spread throughout the Baltic Sea region.
- Show how a society which respects human rights is a better society for all.

To find out more about Save the Children Sweden's European Programme, please visit <http://europe.savethechildren.se/en/Europe/> or email to: europainfo@rb.se. On www.rb.se you will find information about Save the Children Sweden.

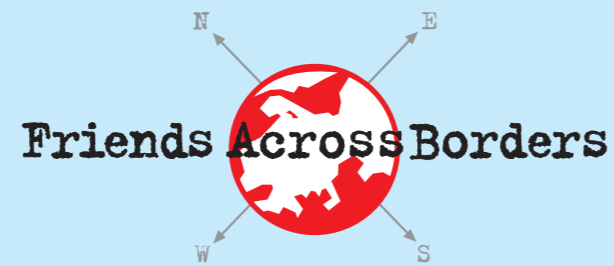
Photo: Jan Sandberg and David Fredriksson Graphic Design: Annelie Rehnström



A regional anti-bullying project in the Baltic sea region



Bullying – why should we fight against it?



Violence against children, and especially bullying is a widespread phenomenon and a major reason for children feeling unsafe at school, in their homes and in their leisure-time. Bullying is often connected with a feeling of shame and powerlessness. It is a more or less “invisible” problem, too frequently neglected by the surrounding society. Bullying is a wide-spread problem; studies in the Baltic countries have shown that between 15–25% of school children are affected by it.

Bullying can be devastating for the children affected by it, if the patterns are not broken; scars are often left well into adulthood. Traditionally bullying has been noticed in the school environment, but lately – and especially with the expansion of the Internet – bullying can be everywhere and always. The physical, verbal, psychological and virtual means of demonstrating power and powerlessness need to be combated by all means available in society. Everyone is important. Everyone can help.

Friends Across Borders – a regional effort against bullying

The main aim of Friends Across Borders is to put the spotlight on and work against bullying in the three Baltic countries Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Activities will encompass prevention of bullying in schools, supporting victims of bullying as well as bullies, information and awareness-raising among the general public and promoting innovative methods to better tackle issues concerning bullying.

Save the Children Sweden is coordinating the project, and assists with professional knowledge on the subject in cooperation with Friends. Swedbank is the project sponsors.



Lastekaitse Liit

Estonian Union for Child Welfare

Estonian Union for Child Welfare

As a part of the Friends Across borders project, Estonian Union for Child Welfare will continue their work with prevention and intervention of bullying and violence in schools, through continued work with anti-bullying groups in schools, to develop information materials, perform trainings,

and raise awareness. There will be a further development of a specific school peace web-site, www.koolirahu.ee, and a country-wide campaign “School Peace declaration” in September 2008.

Visit: www.lastekaitseliit.ee for more information



Centre against Abuse “Dardedze”

Within the Friends Across Borders project, the Latvian organisation “Dardedze” will develop a specialised support programme – for bullies and bullied, Interactive materials – for teachers/specialists and children, and develop a website with information on bullying. A large campaign will take place

during September 2008 that aims to increase the general knowledge on bullying in schools.

For more information, go to: www.centrsdardedze.lv



Gelbėkit vaikus

Save the Children Lithuania

Gelbėkit vaikus – Save the Children Lithuania

The anti-bullying activities of Save the Children Lithuania within the Friends Across Borders project is mainly the continuation of the anti-bullying groups that are active throughout the country. A publication on the anti-bullying groups will be published, as well as a book on how to stop vio-

lence. There will also be several campaigns during the year, including the May month against violence campaign and the anti-bullying campaign in schools in September 2008.

For more information, visit: www.gelbvaik.lt