

# International Espoo

## Why is internationality important to Espoo?

**Sustainability** – Together we build well-being, engage local communities and promote stability. We punch above our weight in resolving global challenges.

**Vitality** – We succeed in global competition for businesses, talents and investments. We strengthen the attractiveness of our growing city.

**Learning** – We develop ourselves through interaction and networks. Espoo is a European university city, a leading city in learning and home to 150 nationalities.

## Internationality supports the Espoo Story goals for the Council term 2021–2025

### Espoo is the top city for culture and education in Finland

Internationality is part of learning. Through international networking, we strengthen Espoo's internationally exemplary learning city. All children and young people have the opportunity to learn how they act as part of the global world.

### Espoo provides services together with the entire Espoo community

Through our City as a Service development efforts, we work together with local and international partners to bolster our capabilities of reinventing services and expediting sustainable innovation activities. We utilise digitalisation, artificial intelligence and data and foster the development of fair rules.

### Espoo is economically sustainable and offers competitive taxation

We expand Espoo's income base by focusing on drawing international investments, companies, visitors and conferences to the city. In order to boost the city's vitality, we seek to improve employment, entrepreneurship and a sense of belonging among international talent.

### Espoo is an internationally attractive capital of entrepreneurship and innovation

We work together with our partners to strengthen Espoo as the most appealing hub of innovation in Northern Europe. We profile Espoo as the best city for start-ups and growth companies. We support the development of green and digital solutions through EU funding and cooperation.



### Espoo is an attractive city close to nature and a safe place to live

We will reach the Agenda2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a forerunner by 2025. We are building and developing Espoo through multi-level cooperation, adhering to the principles of sustainable development and ensuring the protection of natural biodiversity. We will present our pioneering solutions to the UN in 2025.

### Espoo will achieve carbon neutrality by 2030

We are one of the frontrunner cities selected by the European Commission to implement the Mission for 100 Climate-neutral and Smart Cities by 2030. Together with local partners, we develop smart and clean urban solutions with a significant carbon handprint. We aim to be one of the world's leading climate cities, and we co-learn and develop through networks and international projects.

### Espoo is Finland's best city for integration

We learn from the experiences of European cities, ambitiously utilise EU funding opportunities to our strategic goals and create internationally interesting operating models.

## Together we build an international Espoo

We can achieve our ambitious goals if we work together and learn from each other. If you share our goals and have cooperation ideas, please contact us: [international@espoo.fi](mailto:international@espoo.fi)

Our international networks and focuses:

- EU projects with European partners and European city networks are at the core of Espoo's international activities. Espoo is also active in global networks, such as the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities and UN-Habitat.
- In Europe, city networks and partner cooperation have replaced sister city activities. In Asia, Shanghai is Espoo's sister city.
- Enter Espoo has a global network and i.e. Germany and Japan as key markets.