



 danube

**Virtual.Participate.Active!**

**Instructions for using the international online platform [vima-danube.eu](http://vima-danube.eu)**

**JLEU**

**danube networkers**

# IMPRINT

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**ILEU**



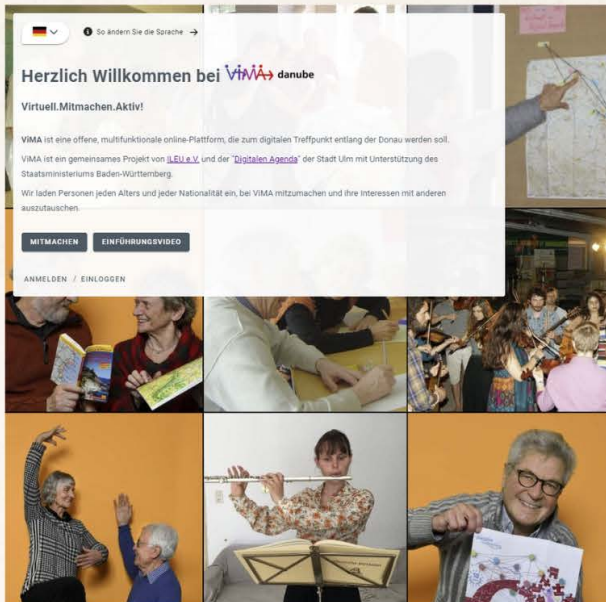
# CONTENTS

<b>1. Introduction</b>	4
<b>2. What is ViMA?</b>	5
<b>3. What can ViMA do?</b>	6
<b>4. What distinguishes ViMA from other online platforms?</b>	7
<b>5. Welcome to the ViMA danube website</b>	8
<b>6. What can I do at ViMA? Here you will find answers to your questions</b>	9
<b>7. Getting started with ViMA - the first steps</b>	10
<b>7.1 How do I create a profile?</b>	12
<b>7.2 How do I log in?</b>	13
<b>7.3 How do I translate the page?</b>	14
<b>8. Search-Offer</b>	
<b>8.1 How do I create a Search-Offer ad?</b>	15
<b>8.2 How do I respond to a Search-Offer ad?</b>	16
<b>9. Interest groups</b>	
<b>9.1 How do I become a member of an interest group?</b>	17
<b>9.2 How do I create an interest group?</b>	18
<b>9.3 How do I post in an interest group?</b>	19
<b>10. ViMA-danube - Who are the people from ViMA?</b>	20
<b>11. DANECT: Come together for connecting people and cultures</b>	21
<b>12. Do you have any further questions?</b>	22
<b>13. Project-Partners of ViMA danube</b>	23



# 1. Introduction

The online platform ViMA Danube invites you to get to know the countries and people along the Danube better and to exchange ideas via the platform. ViMA builds bridges between Western and Southeastern Europe, enables communication in 14 different languages and the exchange of common interests. This brochure helps you discover the platform and how it can be used.



The platform is now available in English and 13 other languages (German, Romanian, Serbian, Bulgarian, Slovenian, Slovak, French, Italian, Spanish, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Polish and Croatian). The ability to communicate in one's native language is intended to give people of all ages, ethnicities and educational backgrounds the opportunity to exchange ideas about common interests, even if there is no common language available! This brochure is intended to help you get to know the platform and its possibilities better. It contains tips on how to use, to help you get in touch and exchange ideas with other interested people in Europe and especially along the Danube.

## 2. What is ViMA danube?

**V**irtual  
**M**eeting  
**A**ctive

**ViMA is an open, multifunctional online platform – a digital meeting place for citizens from the Danube countries and other European countries.**

You can

- **Meet people with similar interests**
- discuss exciting topics
- participate in international projects

and all this in 14 languages!

The international online platform is currently available at [vima-danube.eu](http://vima-danube.eu) for digital conversation exchange, especially along the Danube; a local platform [vima-ulm.de](http://vima-ulm.de) for Ulm and the surrounding area is under construction.

Both platforms are operated by the Ulm-based association ILEU e.V. with the support of partner organizations and volunteers from the educational network Danube-Networkers international and the association “Danube-Networkers for Europe (DANET) e.V.”.



[ileu.net](http://ileu.net)



### 3. What can ViMA danube do?

Promotes international understanding

Provides a meeting place for people of all ages with similar interests

Connects people from different countries and cultures

Available in 14 languages

promotes intergenerational dialogue

**Our focus is on people with their personal interests and talents.**

**We look forward to meeting you at ViMA!**



## 4. What distinguishes ViMA from other online platforms?

ViMA is not a dating agency, but rather uses digital media - the Internet in combination with other tools - to provide the opportunity to find “virtual neighbours” with similar interests and hobbies, who can become “virtual friends” who you might then meet in person.

The basic attitude of the participants is curiosity for new things, the willingness to learn and to try out new digital ways of communication and cooperation with the help of ViMA danube,

- as a tandem via the search-offer area
- over a longer period of time in a group on a topic of their interest

The aim is to meet people in person, virtually and, if possible, in person. Language barriers are overcome by our integrated translation functions. The respective groups are moderated by volunteers.

We at ViMA are committed to combating all forms of hate speech, populism and fake news. Attacks can be reported to admins and blocked, even by the user themselves.



## 5. Welcome to the ViMA danube website

Using ViMA danube as an example, we will show you on the following pages how to find your way around the platform. The ViMA ulm platform has the same structure.



### Search / Offer

[VIEW →](#)

Here you can browse to your heart's content or post a search/offer ad yourself. Find and contact people who share your interests.



### Interestgroups

[VIEW →](#)

Would you like to exchange ideas with other people on a specific topic? Then join an interest group or start your own group!



### Discussionforums

[VIEW →](#)

Here we will put topics up for discussion, especially those relating to the Danube Region and Europe. Discuss with us!



### News

[VIEW →](#)

Find out about news from the Danube countries and about VIMA here.



### Events

[VIEW →](#)

Here you will find an overview of events from the Danube countries. If you would like to publish an event of your organisation or group yourself, please contact [vima@ileu.net](mailto:vima@ileu.net).



### Cooperationpartner

[VIEW →](#)

VIMA danube thrives on networking with civil society organisations from the Danube countries. Here you can find an overview of our cooperation partners.



## 6. What can I do at ViMA?

For example:



### Search - Offer

Here you can browse to your heart's content. Find people to go for a walk with, for a language tandem or for help with technical problems. Interesting people and helpful neighbors are waiting for you! Just take a look.



### Interest Groups

Would you like to exchange ideas with other people about a specific topic? Our interest groups are as colorful and diverse as life itself! Get inspired or start a new interest group yourself.

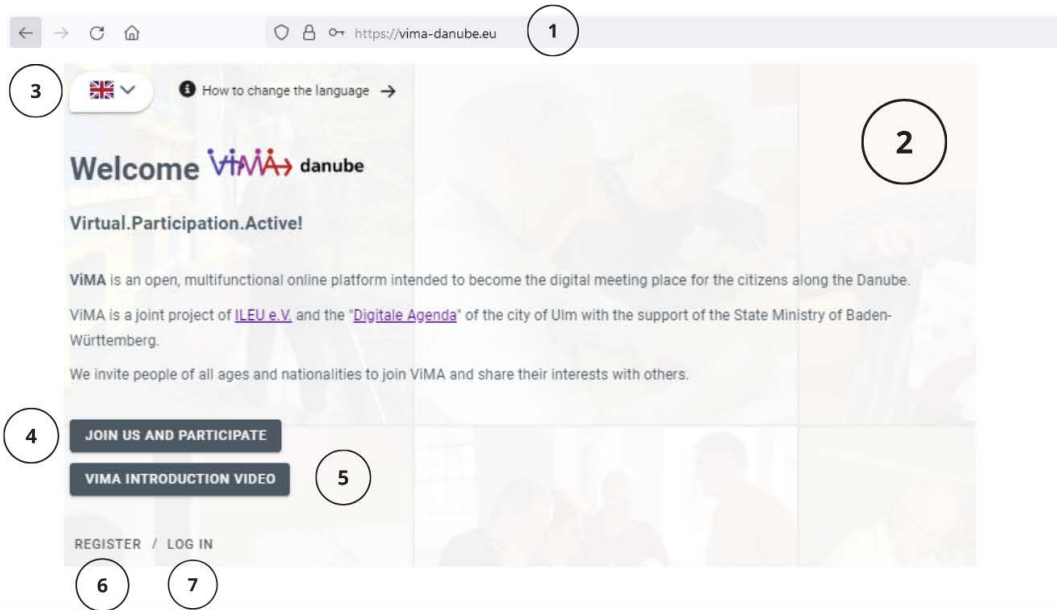


### News and events

Stay informed. Get the latest news here. Find out everything about upcoming events of our partners or partner organizations in the Danube countries.



## 7. Getting started with ViMA - the first steps



1 You can find us at “vima-danube.eu”.

2 The ViMA welcome page opens.

3 Here you can set the language of your choice by clicking on the arrow next to the flag

4 Click on “Participate” to be redirected to the participation page.

5 A short introductory video explains the structure of the website in more detail.

6 You can view ViMA without registering. However, if you want to become active, you must register and create a profile.

7 If you have already created a profile, click “Log in”.

## 7. Getting started with ViMA - the first steps



It's that easy to find your way around our ViMA website.

- 1 Here you can see our logo. By clicking on the logo you can return to the ViMA welcome page at any time.
- 2 Here you set the language of your choice; you have 14 languages available.
- 3 Here you will find all information about the website, platform usage and the ViMA team.
- 4 Clicking "Participate" takes you to an overview page with all the different ways to participate on the platform.
- 5 This is where you will find your personal area with your profile and settings. You will also find your private messages and all of your posted contributions for editing.

## 7.1 How do I create a profile?



data protection



### Register

In order to actively participate in ViMA, please create a profile with the information below. Use of the platform is free of charge and you can delete your profile at any time at "My ViMA"-> "My profile data"-> "Delete profile permanently".

Your personal details (name/email) are intended for administrative reasons and will only be known to the team of administrators at ILEU responsible. The password will only be known to you. Your posts will appear with your username. Please indicate which additional details you want to be visible to other members.

After you have created your profile, you will receive an email with a confirmation link. After you have clicked this link, you can log in with your access data and join us.

First name	1	Last name	
User name	2	Email address	4
Password	3	Repeat password	
<input type="checkbox"/> I am 16 years. I have <a href="#">privacy policy</a> , read the privacy policy.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am under 16 years.			
		6 REGISTER	

Your email address, date of birth and full name are only visible to the administrators.

You will not receive any advertising or spam messages from us. Only registered users can see your profile and you decide which personal information you want to share there. All information and data is safe with ViMA (see 5, Data Protection).

At ViMA, we only work with verified profiles in order to offer all users a secure platform.

That's why we need:

- 1 Your name.
- 2 A user name of your choice.
- 3 A secure password that you choose yourself.

- 4 Your email address.
- 5 Consent to the privacy policy.
- 6 You can now log in. To verify your profile, you will receive an email from us with a confirmation link. After you have clicked on this link, you can become active on ViMA and log in with your profile.



## 7.2 How do I log in?

The screenshot shows a login interface. At the top, there is a 'Log in' section with two input fields: 'Email address' and 'Password'. The 'Password' field has an eye icon to toggle visibility. Below these fields is a dark 'LOG IN' button. Below the login section is a 'Help' section with three links, each with a question mark icon and a right-pointing arrow:

- Did you not receive a verification email?  
Click here to resend
- Forgot your password?  
Reset it using your email address.
- Don't have a profile yet?  
Create a new profile quickly and easily.

Numbered callouts are placed around the form: 1 points to the email field, 2 to the password field, 3 to the 'LOG IN' button, and 4 to the first help link. A large question mark icon with a 5 callout is positioned to the right of the help section.

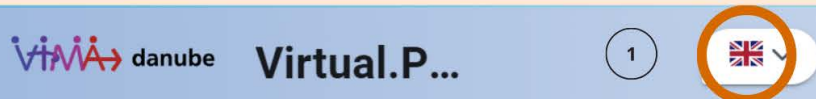
- 1 Enter your e-mail address.
- 2 Enter your password.
- 3 Click on "Log in" - you can now use all the functions of the site.
- 4 Have you forgotten your password, haven't received a verification email for your profile or don't have one at all? No problem! Click on the respective arrow.
- 5 You don't understand something or need help? Click on the question mark to get information that will help you.

## 7.3 How do I translate the page?



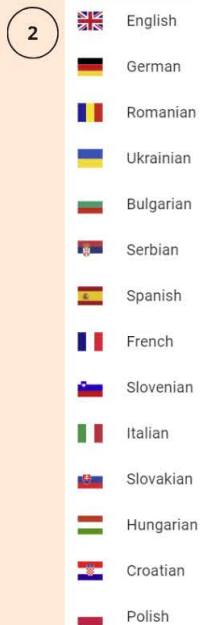
English is the bridge language at ViMA and usually appears on the homepage. Are you looking for a translation into a language you speak? No problem. ViMA currently has translations in 14 languages. Click on the arrow next to the English flag and then on the language of your choice. More languages are planned.

### Translation of the entire website

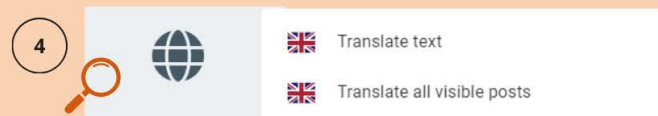
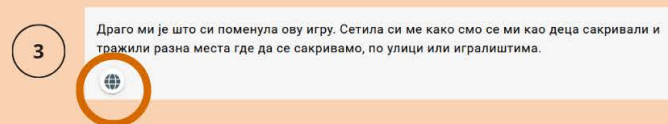


1 Click on the flag at the top center of the website.

2 Choose your language.



### Translation of individual articles



3 Individual posts must be translated manually.

Click on the globe icon under a post.

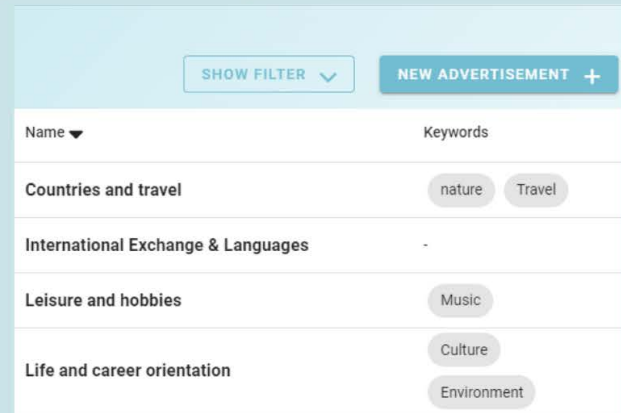
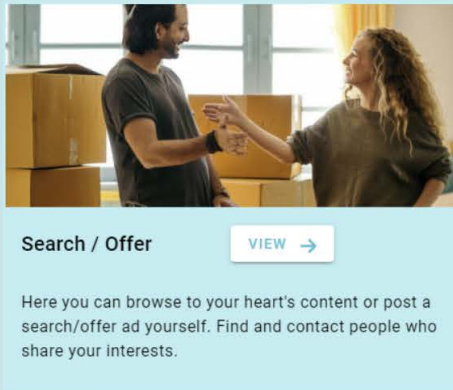
4 Click on “Translate all displayed posts” if you want to have them all translated

## 8. Search - Offer

### 8.1 How do I create an Search-Offer ad?



For example, are you looking for someone to do something with you (e.g. language exchange, cooking)? Here you will find out how to search for something or offer something on the website.




- 1 Click on "View" to open the search and offer page, where you will find offers and inquiries.
- 2 To ensure that you don't lose track, the ads are divided into categories, such as "Countries and Travel".
- 3 If you want to start your own ad, click on "New Ad" and enter the necessary information.

## 8.2 How do I respond to an Search-Offer ad?



Have you found an advert (topic) that interests you? You can now respond to it.


1

**Trip in Portugal** 


Offer from 09.02.2024 by ELENA\_M\_CLUJ

Countries and travel


Travel



From 27 January to 4 February 2024 I went on a trip to Portugal to the cities of Lisbon and Sintra, Fatima, Porto and Braga in a group of 8 friends on our own, without using any travel agency. If you want to go too, I can offer you more tips to have a successful trip, more precisely to see as many sights as possible in the shortest time possible at low cost.



**Reply to this ad:**

Write a private reply ... 

1

Below the selected ad you will find a text field.

Write a reply to the ad there.

2

This will then be sent to the person who posted the ad via a private message. You can then find this message history under “Open my ViMA > My Chats”

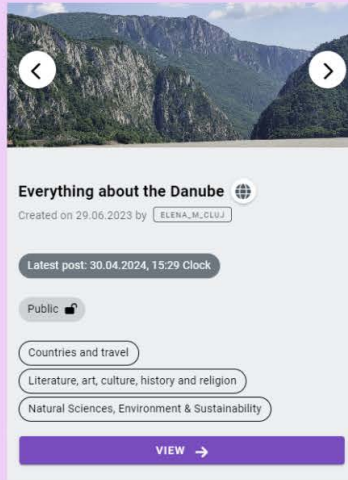
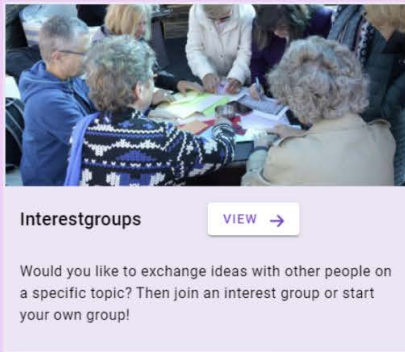


## 9. Interest groups



### 9.1 How do I become a member of an interest group?

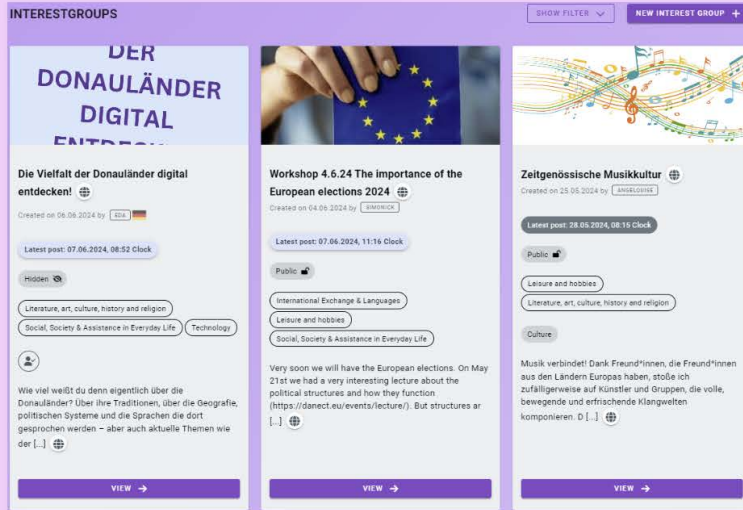
Are you interested in a specific topic and would like to become active in the group?  
To do this, you must first join the group in order to be able to post a message.  
Right here you can see how this works.



- 1 Click on “View” to open the overview of all interest groups. Select an interest group that interests you.
- 2 Click “View” again to open the group. You can filter the posts by various aspects such as date and category.
- 3 If you would like to write a post, click on “Join” and get started! You can then exchange ideas with other people. If a group is not public, the group moderator must first approve the request.


## 9.2 How do I create an interest group?

A topic that particularly interests you is not yet available?  
Then you can simply start a new interest group.



The screenshot shows a grid of three interest groups. The first group is titled 'DER DONAULÄNDER DIGITAL' and is about digital discovery. The second is 'Workshop 4.6.24 The importance of the European elections 2024'. The third is 'Zeitgenössische Musikkultur' (Contemporary Music Culture). Each group card includes a title, creation date, latest post time, privacy setting, and topic tags. A magnifying glass icon is positioned over the 'NEW INTEREST GROUP +' button in the top right corner of the page.

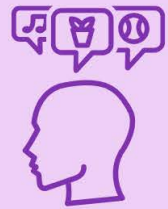
1



A purple button with a magnifying glass icon and the text 'NEW INTEREST GROUP +'.

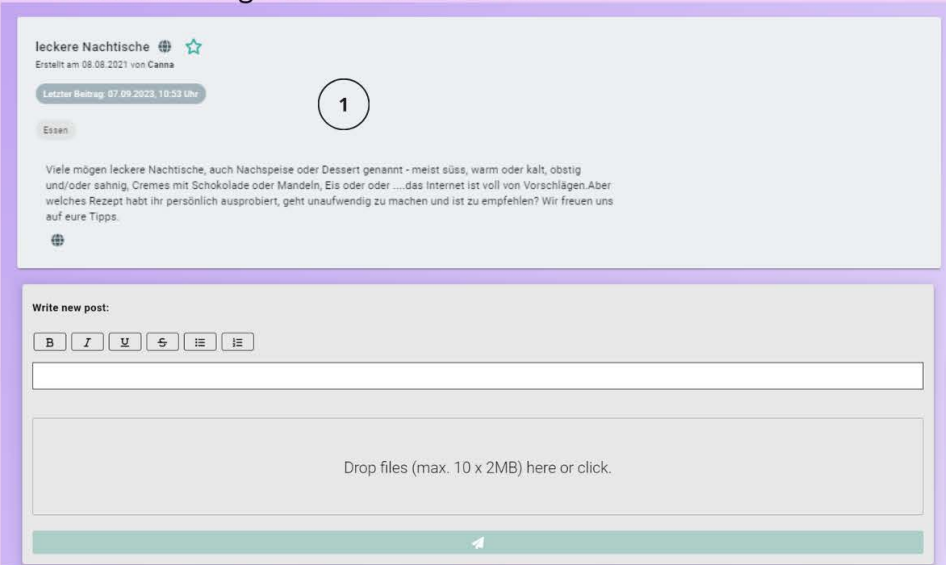
2

- 1 On the page you can see the existing interest groups.
- 2 Click on “New Interest Group” to create your own group.
- 3 Once you have created your own interest group, it only needs to be approved by an ILEU administrator.



## 9.3 How do I post in an interest group?

In interest groups, you can write your own posts and respond to existing ones to exchange ideas with others.



The screenshot shows a discussion post in an interest group titled "leckere Nachtische" (delicious desserts). The post is from "Canna" and was created on 08.08.2021. It has a "Letzter Beitrag" (last post) from 07.09.2023. The post content is in German, discussing recipes for desserts. Below the post is a "Write new post:" section with a text input field, a rich text editor toolbar (bold, italic, underline, link, list, indent), and a file upload area with the text "Drop files (max. 10 x 2MB) here or click." At the bottom of the post box is a green bar with a white arrow pointing right, indicating the submit button.



### Good to know!

You may only use photos if you took them yourself or if the author has given permission.

Otherwise you are violating copyright.



### Did you know that?

You can also start a discussion without joining an interest group. To do so, visit our discussion forum! You can find it on the main page.

- 1 Once you've viewed a discussion topic in a group, you'll find the post box below it.
- 2 Here you will find the field "Create new post". You can now reply to another post or create your own post.
- 3 You can also upload an image to your post. The image must not be larger than 20 MB.
- 4 By clicking on the arrow symbol you submit your contribution.

## 10. ViMA danube - Who are the people from ViMA?

### We are ViMA

The ILEU team coordinates the project together with individuals and partner organizations from different countries who work together towards a common goal. Support comes mainly from ViMA danube volunteers, an international and intergenerational group of volunteers.

### Tasks of the volunteers

The volunteers in the project help to improve the technical side of the site, test new functions, create content and make ViMA known in their city. To do this, they meet regularly online and in person.

They will also be happy to help you with any questions you may have about ViMA. Please write to the volunteers directly at

**[vima-support@ileu.net](mailto:vima-support@ileu.net)**



Would you also like to become a volunteer? Welcome! Just write to us!

## 11. DANECT: Come together for connecting people and cultures

**ViMA is closely linked to the project DANECT: Come together for connecting people and cultures along the Danube and Europe! funded by the Baden-Württemberg Foundation**  
**danect.eu**

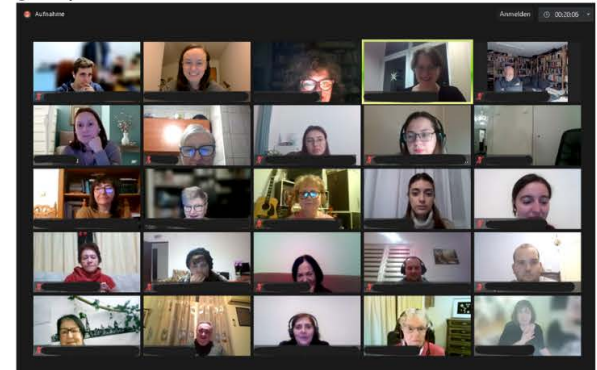
**DANECT connects people of all ages from Europe but especially the Danube region online via Zoom through**

- Sunday meetings with singing, music, poems & presentations from other cultures
- Lectures with discussion
- and conversation groups (currently English, French, Italian)

**Write in ViMA danube and then meet your partners in a Zoom meeting at DANECT, or vice versa.**

**danect**

**Danube-Workers invite:  
Come together for connecting  
cultures**



## 12. Do you have any further questions?

If you have any questions about the project, please contact us at:



Still unclear? Further questions are answered on the ViMA page at



There you will also find a detailed ViMA manual as a PDF for download.



A video about the work of our volunteers can be found on the website under "info -> team"



Interested in our newsletter? You can register here:

<https://danect.eu/subscription-form-vima-danube-newsletter/>



## 13. Project-Partners of ViMA danube



A project carried out by ILEU e.V. in cooperation with the educational network Danube-Networkers and the association “Danube-Networkers for Europe (DANET) e.V.”

A project of the **Smart City Mission of the Digitale Agenda Ulm.**  
Funded as part of the "Smart Cities Model Project" of the **Federal Ministry for Housing, Urban Development and Building.**

Funded by  
**the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg:**

Gefördert durch:



The logo for KfW, consisting of the letters 'KfW' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

The logo for 'ulm. zukunft. stadt.' is an orange square containing the text 'ulm. zukunft. stadt.' in white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages



**Baden-Württemberg**

STAATSMINISTERIUM



**Join in!**

 danube



**JLEU**

**danube**  
networkers

**danet** danube-networkers  
for europe

<https://vima-danube.eu/>