

TORUŃ. IN THE ORBIT OF CITIES
22 – 25 JUNE 2023

43rd

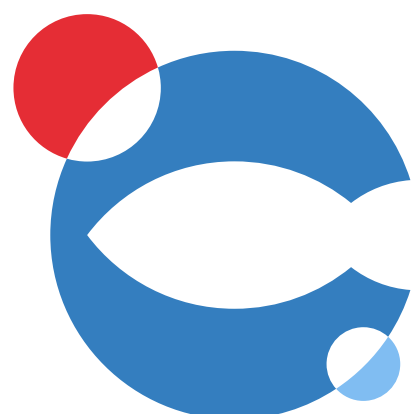
**International
Hanseatic
Days**



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



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43RD INTERNATIONAL
HANSEATIC DAY

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Photos from City Office of Toruń



As early as the 13th century, Toruń occupied an important place in the Hanseatic League. Thanks to its membership in this famous union of major trading urban centers, the city experienced its golden age in the Middle Ages, traces of which still remain today.

Toruń's merchants played an important role in the Hanseatic League. Taking advantage of their location on the then navigable Vistula River, they became rich from the long-distance trade in raw materials exported from Polish, Ruthenian and Hungarian lands to German states as well as the Netherlands. In turn, they imported salted herring, precious cloth and other luxury goods from the West. In the 14th and 15th centuries Torunians skillfully used the rights and privileges won by the Hanseatic cities, participated actively in the conventions of the Hanseatic League and also managed for a time its kontor in faraway Bruges.

Toruń's Old Town has preserved many Gothic tenement houses inhabited in the Middle Ages by Hanseatic merchants. An excellent example of these is the Nicolaus Copernicus House - built of red brick, it combined the function of a house and a warehouse. The goods stored on the upper floors were sold in the halls and stalls of the Old Town Hall. In this large Gothic building it was possible not only to buy cloth or other goods imported from Flanders, but also to meet representatives of Prussian cities belonging to the Hanseatic League, who held their joint conferences in Toruń.

In the Middle Ages, commercial transactions were also carried out in Artus Court, the seat of the merchant guild located at the main market square. Today this name is carried by an imposing edifice erected in the same place at the end of the 19th century, whose interiors feature historical decorations alluding to Toruń's role in the Hanseatic League. The colorful coats of arms of the great medieval merchant towns and Hanseatic kontors incorporated in the pavement of the Old Town's main commercial promenade - Szeroka Street - also reminds us of the city. In turn, in the sidewalk of Żeglarska Street one can see proprietary house marks known as gmerki, with which the Hanseatic merchants of Toruń marked the goods they imported and exported. Traces of Toruń's

ties with the Hanseatic League are also visible in Toruń's churches. Some of the works of art stored in them, including high-class paintings and tombstones, were brought to Toruń from the distant Netherlands in the 14th and 15th centuries aboard Hanseatic ships.

A remnant of Toruń's Hanseatic heritage are also tasty gingerbread cakes. After all, not only local products such as flour and honey were needed to make them, but also overseas spices, which were supplied to Toruń's gingerbread makers by merchants who enjoyed the privileges of the Hanseatic League.

Today, the memory of Toruń's membership in the Hanseatic League is an element of the city's identity and a source of pride for its residents. Attachment to the Hanseatic heritage was one of the arguments that determined Toruń's admission in 1998 to the ranks of the Union of New Hanseatic Cities. Twenty-five years later, Toruń became the host of the organization's prestigious Grand Annual Convention - the New Hanseatic Days, which took place June 22-25, 2023. The organization of the 43rd International Hanseatic Days in Toruń coincided with the anniversary of the 790th anniversary of the founding of the city /location of Toruń under the Magdeburg Law in 1233/ and the 550th anniversary of the birth of Nicolaus Copernicus. Toruń was also the first Polish city to organize this prestigious tourist-promotional event, after a long break.

In order to organize the Convention in the best possible way, the organizing team of the 43rd International Hanseatic Days in 2023 in Toruń was established by the Decree of the Mayor of Toruń No. 277/2021, which systematically held meetings and determined the respective points of the upcoming event. As part of the work of the team, the general program of the convention was established, the organizers and implementers of individual events were identified, as well as separate programs for the organization: The Economic Forum and the stay of representatives of the Young Hanseatic League.

PROGRAM

FOR DELEGATES / PARTICIPANTS *

Wednesday 21.06.2023		
TIME	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
3.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Accreditation office	High School No. 10 (X LO), Świętej Katarzyny 9 street
3.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Readiness and handing over the stands to the participating cities	New Town Market Square
Thursday, 22.06.2023		
TIME	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
9.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.	Accreditation office	High School No. 10 (X LO)
9.00 a.m.- 8.00 p.m.	Readiness and handing over the stands to the participating cities	New Town Market Square
3.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Arrival and integration evening for the Youth Hansa at High School No. 10 (X LO). Later they follow a separate program	Dormitory of High School No.10 (X LO)
6.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.	A party hosted by the city of Toruń	Burghers' Hall of the Old Town Hall
8.00 p.m.	Setting up the parade of cities	Meeting point: at the Old Town Hall
8.30 p.m. - 10.00 p.m.	Opening ceremony - concert of the Toruń Symphony Orchestra "Music and Space"	Main stage of the event - Castle Moat
Friday, 23.06.2023		
TIME	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.	Accreditation office	High School No. 10 (X LO)
10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Hanseatic fair	New Town Market Square
10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Regional fair	Przedzamcze street, Southern moat of the Teutonic Knights' Castle
8.30 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.	Meeting of Hansa Board	Cinema Hall of the Old Town Hall
9.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	Meeting of the working group: HANSEartWORKS	Council Hall (Sala Radziecka) of the Old Town Hall
9.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	Meeting of the working group: fair trade, so-called Fair Hanse	Conference room of Jordanki Culture and Congress Center (CKK Jordanki), combined with the Economic Forum
10.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	Meeting of the working group: TOURISM	Cinema Hall of the Old Town Hall
10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.	Economic Forum	Chamber Hall at CKK Jordanki - approx. 300 persons, with simultaneous translation (audio sets).
11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.	Meeting of the working group: Archivists	Conference room, Mercure Centrum Torun Hotel, Kraszewskiego 1/3
11.30 a.m.	Official opening of the Hanseatic Fair featuring bands from New Hansa cities and participation of journalists	Stage at New Town Market Square
12.30 a.m. - 01.30 p.m.	Opening of HANSEartWORKS,exhibition vernissage	Old Town Hall, Gallery of Temporary Exhibitions
1.30 p.m. - 3.30 pm	Seminar devoted to tourism	A conference room at Toruń Fortress (Twierdza Toruń)
2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.	Meeting of the working group: Hanse-Gilde	Cinema Hall of the Old Town Hall
4.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.	Meeting of the Hansa Commission	Chamber Hall of CKK Jordanki with simultaneous translation (under arrangement)
7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.	"Lubeck evening"	Arthus Court Culture Center (CK Dwór Artusa)

Saturday, 24.06.2023		
TIME	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.	Accreditation office	High School No.10 (X LO)
10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Hanseatic fair	New Town Market Square, Old Town Market Square
10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Regional fair	Przedzamcze street, Southern moat of the Teutonic Knights' Castle
10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.	Hanseatic university town	at Cosmopolis fountain or the green area at Rapackiego Square (Plac Rapackiego)
10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.	General assembly of the Delegates	Concert Hall at CKK Jordanki, with simultaneous translation (audio sets).
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 a.m.	Walk with a guide - Toruń as a Hanseatic City	Meeting point: 1 Rynek Staromiejski Street (courtyard of the Old Town Hall), pl/german/eng. for registration/ limit of 30 people per group
12.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.		
2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.		
11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.	Walk with a guide - Old town in the footsteps of Nicolaus Copernicus	Meeting point: 1 Rynek Staromiejski Street (courtyard of the Old Town Hall), pl/german/eng. for registration/ limit of 30 people per group
1.00 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.		
3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.		
4.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.	Meeting of the working group: Sustainable Hansa	conference room of CKK Jordanki
6.00 p.m. - 8.00 pm	A reception given by the city of Gdańsk	Arthus Court Culture Center (CK Dwór Artusa)
9.00 p.m. - 00.00 p.m.	Hanza Party featuring bands from New Hansa towns	Park Trade Fair Center (CT Park)
Sunday, 25.06.2023		
TIME	EVENT	EVENT DETAILS
9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.	Accreditation office	High School No. 10 (X LO)
10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.	Hanseatic fair	New Town Market Square
10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.	Regional fair	Przedzamcze street, Southern moat of the Teutonic Knights' Castle
12.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.	Picnic	Stage at Błonia Nadwiślańskie, at Przystań Toruń, J.Popiełuszki 2
9.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.	Meeting of HanseVerein	Council Hall (Sala Rady) of the Old Tow Hall
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.	Walk with a guide: Toruń as a Hanseatic City	Meeting point: 1 Rynek Staromiejski Street (courtyard of the Old Town Hall), pl/german/eng. for registration/ limit of 30 people per group
12.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.	Holy Mass	S.S. Johns' Cathedral, 6 Kopernikastr./ Żeglarskastr.
3.15 p.m.	"	The passage from the New Town Square to the Old Town Square
3.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.	"Enthronement of the Marksmen King, Ceremony of handing over the flag to the city of Gdańsk"	Stage on the Old Town Square
4.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.	Concert by Daryl Strodes, jazz performer from Los Angeles	Stage on the Old Town Square
7.30 p.m. - 10.30 p.m.	Summer with Radio Concert	Stage at Błonia Nadwiślańskie, at Przystań Toruń, J.Popiełuszki 2

PREPARATIONS FOR THE HANSEATIC DAYS

Toruń became a member of the Union of New Hanseatic Cities in 1998, during the 19th International Hanseatic Days in Visby, Sweden. The decision to do so was made by the General Assembly of Delegates of the organization. The decision to organize the 43rd International Hanseatic Days in 2023 in Toruń was made at the Delegates' Assembly in Tartu in 2005.

Among the most important and permanent points of the Hanseatic Days are:

- The Hanseatic Fair, during which Hanseatic cities present themselves,
- General Meeting of Delegates,
- Economic Forum,
- HanseArtWork project - a competition for artists from Hanseatic cities,
- Youth Hansa - a meeting of young Hanseatics,
- Hansa Party - an evening with re-

freshments for participants,

- organization of performances and presentation of artists from Hanseatic cities on outdoor stages,
- the opening parade and closing event of the Hanseatic Days combined with the handing over of the historic flag of the Hanseatic League to the next organizer of the Convention,
- organization of evenings: of the host of a given Hanseatic Days, the City of Lübeck - the seat of the Union, and the future organizer of the next Hanseatic Days,
- meetings of the Union's working groups within the framework of thematic committees.

Hansa Days enjoy great interest and attract a large number of participants, visitors and tourists. Hanseatic fairs are held in the convention of a medieval

fair, accompanied by presentations of customs and rituals, concerts, happenings. They provide an excellent opportunity to present the tourist and cultural offer of cities. In addition, regional dishes, handicrafts and artisanal products, among others, are presented at promotional stands.

The City of Toruń, as the organizer of the 43rd International Hanseatic Days on June 22-25, 2023, decided that the slogan of the event, selected in a competition for residents, will be: "Toruń, in the Orbit of Cities." All informational and promotional materials and content were provided with the logo of the Convention, referring to the above catchphrase.



The logo identifying the Hansa Days in Toruń was selected through a competition organized by the Artus Court Cultural Center, whose participants were students of the Faculty of Fine Arts at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.

A website, www.hansadays.torun.pl, complemented the information activities regarding the International Convention of the Cities of the New Hanseatic League organized in Toruń. In 2022, in Neuss from 26 - 29.05.2022, when Toruń presented its readiness to receive Hanseatic guests, the website included the most important information on the organization of the Convention in Toruń, among other things, on the hotel facilities, access, transportation in the city, tourist attractions and Toruń's Hanseatic buildings and places.

The readiness of Toruń to organize in June 22 - 25, 2023, the 43rd International Hanseatic Days, was presented to the Board of the Association and members of the Commission on 21 - 23.10.2022. During this meeting, the facilities and venues where the highlights of the Convention's program would be held were presented, including the Hanseatic Fair, the Economic Forum, and thematic meetings. The subject of the meeting was also the presentation of the preliminary program of the event in Toruń. The meeting of the Hansa Commission in Toruń in October 2022 was attended by 35 people.

Toruń hosted representatives of 70 Hanseatic cities from 10 countries at the 43rd International Hanseatic Days

PARTICIPANTS of the convention in numbers, in total:	837 people
REGISTERED CITIES and other entities:	73
OFFICIAL DELEGATES OF HANSEATIC TOWNS	226
OTHER PARTICIPANTS	458
HANSEATIC FAIR – number of Hanseatic town holding stalls	51
YOUTH HANSA	82
HANSEArtWORK	12
PRESS	8

*The above data was sourced from the registration system.



In order to coordinate the attendance and meet the needs of the guests and delegations of cities planning their arrival and participation in the 43rd International Convention of the Cities of the New Hanseatic League in Toruń on June 22-25, 2023, a registration system was launched from December 15, 2022. Through it, applications were made for delegates and participants in the Convention, including art groups and representatives of the Young Hanseatic League. Applications through the registration system were accepted until March 30, 2023.

STAY IN THE HANSEATIC CITY OF TORUŃ



Graphic information boards for participants were set up in the urban space and in front of the venues where the Convention's program points were held, helping them find their way around the city and directing those arriving to the Accreditation Office (signage on the access roads). All information related to the logistics of the Convention, as well as maps locating the event and program points, were mixed on the website dedicated to the Convention, distributed in welcome packets prepared for participants, and were available for download at the Accreditation Office at all times.

Hanseatic Fair

22-25.06.2023

Toruń, Rynek Nowomiejski



TORUŃ. IN THE ORBIT OF CITIES
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43RD INTERNATIONAL
HANSEATIC DAY

Legend

stand number	City
1	Polska - Toruń, Local Tourist Organization
2	Polska - Gdańsk
3	Polska - Elbląg
4	Polska - Koszalin
5	Polska - Kraków
6	Polska - Malbork
7	Polska - Olsztyn
8	Polska - Chełmno
9	Polska - Strzelce Opolskie
10	Polska Kociewie
11	Polska Kujawsko-Pomorskie Konstellacje dobrych miejsc
12	Deutschland - Mülhausen
13	Deutschland - Lippstadt
14	Latvia - Straupe
15	Latvia - Limbazi
16	Latvia - Cesis
17	Norway - Bergen
18	Netherlands - Hanze-Steden
19	Europäisches Hanseumuseum Lübeck gGmbH
20	Deutschland - Frankfurt (Oder)
21	Deutschland - Hamburg
22	Deutschland - Lübeck
23	Deutschland - Lüneburg
24	Deutschland - Stade
25	Deutschland - Braunschweig
26	Deutschland - Brilon
27	Deutschland - Buxtehude
28	Deutschland - Dortmund
29	Deutschland - Gronau (Leine)
30	Deutschland - Westfälische Hanse
31	Deutschland - Lemgo
32	Deutschland - Neuss
33	Deutschland - Stendal, Salzwedel, Gardelegen, Osterburg Tangermünde, Werben, Havelberg, Seehausen
34	Deutschland - Wismar
35	Estonia - Pärnu
36	Sweden - Kalmar
37	Sweden - Visby
38	England - Beverley
39	Belgium - Brügge / Bruges
40	Lithuania - Kaunas
41	Fair Hansa
42	Guild Hansa

- tree
- tent 3x3 m
- benches
- City zone with own buildings

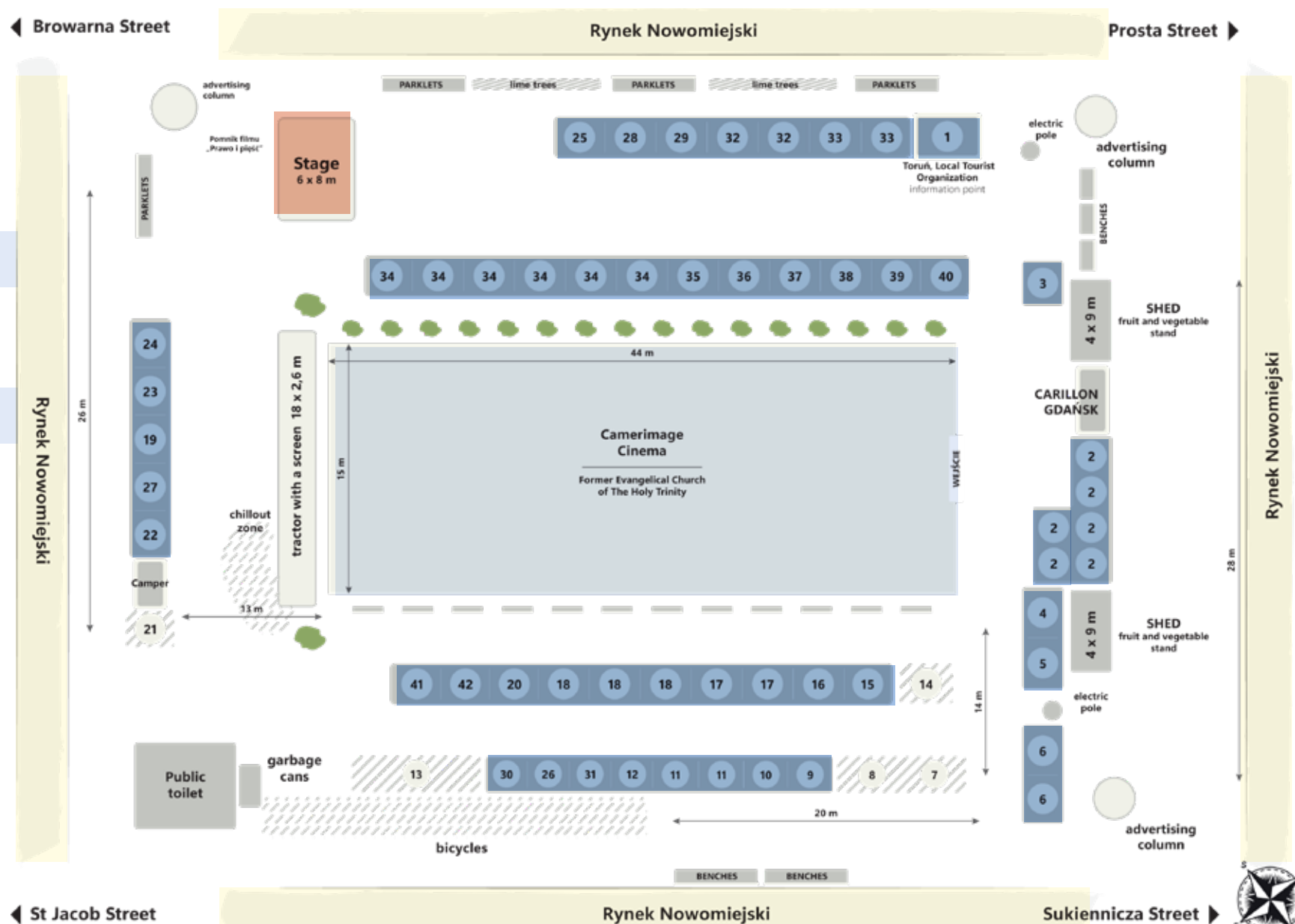
One of the most important points to which our registered delegates and guests were directed was the Accreditation Office, which was organized in the High School No. 10 situated at 9 St. Catherine's Square. This office was open throughout the Convention at the following hours:

June 21, 2023
from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm

June 22, 2023
from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

June 23 - 25, 2023
from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Welcome packets, badges, entry passes, permits and other documents submitted through the system awaited all participants at this location. This place also served as one of the three information points of the Convention, in addition to the one located at the Toronto booth at the New Town Market and the Tourist Information Center. The Accreditation Office was manned in shifts with the help of employees of the City of Toruń and the city's organizational units in cooperation with volunteers from three Toruń high schools.





Our guests proceeded first to the Town Hall, one of the most beautiful buildings testifying to Toruń's ties with the Hanseatic League. The western wing of the magnificent town hall building is the Cloth Hall, i.e. the place where cloth imported from Flanders was traded. The building itself is an ingenious compilation of motifs that Torunians picked up while visiting Bruges and Ypres, and the Town Hall tower is a variation on the watchtower and beffroi type bell tower. The City Hall also housed the archive of the Prussian quarter of the Hanseatic League.

The Mayor of Toruń welcomed the delegates in the Burghers' Hall in the shadow of the original and world's most famous image of Nicolaus Copernicus from the so-called "Gymnasium Portrait" from the middle of the 16th century, which reminded the guests of the jubilee of Copernicus' 550th birthday and the Year of Nicolaus Copernicus, which was celebrated throughout Poland on that occasion.

OPENING OF THE 43RD HANSEATIC DAYS



43. International Hansa Days were opened to the public by the colorful parade proceeding along the streets of Toruń Old Town.

Representatives of the Hanseatic cities, accompanied by the Świecie Town Brass Band with majorettes, knights from the Brotherhood of Knights of the Toruń Banner and the Cuyavia Territorial Banner, as well as a 4-meter statue of Nicolaus Copernicus, took part in the event's opening parade.

The official opening of the Convention took place on the stage set up in the Castle Moat.

The event was accompanied by the opening concert of the 27th International Nova Music and Architecture Festival under the theme "Cosmic Harmonies." Musicians of the Symphony Orchestra of Toruń presented works closely related to space themes. The audience listened to, among others, the 1st part of the symphonic poem "Tacitus Zarathustra" by Richard Strauss, known from the cult Stanley Kubrick's Space Odyssey, titled "The Sunrise". The concert ended with "Dance of the Celestial Spheres," a piece prepared for the 550th anniversary of the birth of Nicolaus Copernicus by Adam Wesołowski.

In this special place, the ruins of the mighty Teutonic Knights' Castle, I warmly welcome more than 700 participants from 10 countries! This place, the cradle of Toruń, perfectly suits today's ceremony, the inauguration of the 43rd International Convention of the Cities of the New Hanseatic League," said the host of the event, Mayor of Toruń Michał Zaleski.

Mr. Mayor, dear Torunians, we are very happy to be here. Thank you for organizing the convention and hospitality on behalf of all the cities affiliated with the New Hanseatic League," - said Chairman of the International Union of New Hanseatic Cities Jan Lindenau.



HANSEARTWORKS PROJECT

One of the events accompanying the 43rd International Convention of the Cities of the New Hanseatic League was the 17th edition of the HANSEartWORKS exhibition titled „On the Trail of the Community” in Toruń.

Due to the time required for artists to prepare works for presentation at the 43rd International New Hansa Days in Toruń, work on the regulations and announcement of the competition began as early as the turn of 2021/2022. The coordination of the project on the part of Toruń was handled by the District Museum, which led to the organization of the 17th edition of the HANSEartWORKS exhibition.

By means of a competition, the jury specially appointed for the exhibition selected 10 winners from among the submissions, and appreciated out-of-competition two works by female artists from cities representing the Ukrainian Hanseatic Initiative. The works presented at the exhibition were specially prepared for the event, and have not been published or presented before at other competitions. Their concept was based on a combination of traditional forms of artistic expression, taking into account new technologies and using new media art. The works combined the tradition associated with the historic Hanseatic League and an innovative approach to the theme, which depicted a new relationship of cities united on the grounds of architecture, law, commu-



nication, trade, mobility, development, travel, but above all the old Hanseatic conventions and new meetings.

The opening of the exhibition, took place on June 23, 2023 at 12:30 in the temporary exhibition room of the Old Town Hall.



List of laureates of the 17th edition of HANSEartWORKS contest On the Trail of Community”:

1. Bremen – Victor Artiga Rodriguez
2. Buxtehude – Thomas Werner
3. Gdańsk – Dorota Walentynowicz
4. Greifswald – Lars Engelbrecht
5. Harderwijk – Młoda Hanza
6. Hattem – Lilia Gabo, Angela Peters
7. Lüneburg – Dietlind Horstmann-Köpper
8. Neuss – Nils Levin Sehnert
9. Stralsund – Lisa Marie Steude, Sarah Kunze
10. Strzelce Opolskie – Adam Michalik

Works presented at the exhibition, outside the competition:

11. Kijów (Ukrainian Hanseatic Initiative) – Kateryna Ocheredko, Tetiana Ocheredko
12. Łuck (Ukrainian Hanseatic Initiative) – Diana Anpilogova.



It should be noted that the exhibition was open to visitors to the Old Town Hall from 22.06.2023 - 23.07. 2023.



06

THE HANSEATIC FAIR AND THE CULTURAL ZONES

From June 23 to 25, 2023, the Hanseatic Fair took place in the New Town Square in Toruń. More than 50 stands from 10 countries awaited visitors, guests and tourists. They featured regional foods, handicrafts and handicraft products.

The program also included presentations of medieval customs and rituals, concerts and happenings. (Map of booth locations). Responsible for the organization of the fair was the Toruń Company URBITOR, which took care of all exhibitors by providing them with the necessary infrastructure notified through the registration system, provided protection for the stands and ongoing technical supervision.

For the 43rd International New Hansa Days in Toruń, 3 stages were set up in the Old Town complex, where artists from the Hanseatic cities presented themselves:

1. The stage in the Castle Moat, due to the proximity of the Vistula River and nature and the historical and reconstruction fair held in the moat area, referred to the theme of folk and ethno and the nature of the event, presenting the traditional cultural achievements of the invited cities, including their musical folklore, singing and dancing.

2. The stage at the New Town Square, due to its proximity to the catering zone, was combined with a relaxation zone equipped, for example, with deck chairs and furniture made of pallets. The performances performed on it were characterized by lightness and alluded to the convivial nature of the place, by, for example, allowing the gathered audience to participate in joint singing.

3. The 3rd „#HanzUP” stage, located in the Old Town Square, presented popular music in its broadest sense, aimed at a wider audience, as well as modern, alternative and offbeat music, while remaining a space for all artistic activities lying off the beaten track - such as performance or theatrical activities.

The oversight of the cultural aspect of the Convention, along with the provision of the artistic program on the various stages, was carried out by the Cultural Agenda of Toruń



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE DELEGATES



cities is to draw on the achievements of the old Union. They are talking about the idea of a cross-border community, caring for the development of cities, building identity and promoting values that were close not only to merchants of centuries ago, but are also dear to modern Europeans. The new Hanseatic League also focuses on what was the foundation of its predecessor, namely - commercial and economic development. The association supports scientific and informational transfer, deals with the exchange of traditions, and

manifests extensive activity in the field of building the image and brand recognition of the Hanseatic League.

In Toruń, the General Assembly of Delegates was held on June 24, 2023, at the Jordanki Cultural and Congress Center. As always, it was the focal point of the Convention of the New Hanseatic Cities, where about 300 Hanseatic delegates with voting rights met.

At the CKK Jordanki, the participants were welcomed by the Chairman of the

International Union of New Hanseatic Cities, Jan Lindenau, and the host of the event, Mayor Michał Zaleski.

"We are honored by your presence and delighted by the diversity of the modern Hanseatic community. We are surrounded by an aura of cultural unity, international cooperation and peace. It is with these values that we associate the historic and contemporary Hanseatic League in Toruń. Thank you for your readiness to define the successful future of the Union of New Hanseatic Cities. Also, Copernican Toruń will always favor it," – said Mayor Michał Zaleski, while wishing successful and fruitful deliberations.

The General Assembly saw both the approval of the minutes of the previous convention, held in May 2022 in Neuss, Germany, and the discussion of current affairs. One such project is the exchange of vocational (trade) school students between Hanseatic cities. They also discussed the activities of working groups centered within the Association. The focus was also on the organization of the next conventions: in 2024 in Gdansk and in 2025 - in Visby.

The event was subsidized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the „Public Diplomacy” competition in the amount of PLN 100,000.



As in the old days, the most important body of the New Hanseatic League is the Convention of Cities, and its most important event is the General Assembly of Delegates. In the deliberations of the body, each city has one vote, and resolutions are adopted by a majority of the representatives present. The main goal of the modern Hanseatic





Another highlight of the annual program of the Convention of the New Hanseatic Cities was the Economic Forum. It was held in Toruń on June 23, 2023 at the Jordanki Cultural and Congress Center. The main topics of the meeting of local government officials, entrepreneurs and scientists were sustainable development and digitization.

The event included four panel discussions:

- This is how business is done in Toruń
- Digital economy
- Sustainable development and society of the future
- Geopolitics and international security

The first panel was about how to do business in Toruń. Entrepreneurs with 30 years of experience, but also young dynamic companies were invited to the discussion. The second panel covered the development of the digital economy. It was led by an employee of Nicolaus Copernicus University - Professor Michał Polasik, who invited to the discussion, among others, representatives of the Poland Without Cash Foundation and the National Clearing House.

The third panel was devoted to sustainable development and the society of the future, while the fourth was devoted to global issues. The Forum was attended by more than 250 participants.

A round of business discussions on the present and future of a fair and sustainable economy was preceded by digital presentations of Toruń companies involved in Fair Trade and the Made in Toruń project. The program also included a site visit to MOD 21 company, a market leader in eco building. The forum was combined with the 55th anniversary of the Faculty of Economics and Management at Nicolaus Copernicus University. The event featured a mobile exhibition of Nicolaus Copernicus' works, a Fair Trade presentation and demonstrations of local products and services. The forum was organized by the Business Support Center in Toruń in cooperation with Nicolaus Copernicus University, which provided expert assistance and involvement, and the Local Government of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship and the Toruń Regional Development Agency.

YOUTH HANSA



An important element of each International Hanseatic Days is a meeting of young Hanseatic people, the so-called Young Hanseatic League. Every year, young people of high school or early college age participate in these conventions. Eighty-two, participants from 34 cities met in the city of Copernicus and took part in a dedicated program including a day with science at the Mill of Knowledge Science Center's with a tour of interactive exhibitions, a day with history presenting Toruń's Copernican heritage combined with a tour of Toruń's Old Town, as well as integration events and improv workshops, and a study visit to the MOD 21 company in Toruń.

A separate educational program was prepared for the Young Hansa, the implementation of which was the responsibility of the High School No. 1, High School No. 10 and the Mill of Knowledge Modernity Center. The Young Hansa guests were accommodated in the boarding house of High School No. 10 in Toruń.

On the eve of the end of the 43rd International Hanseatic Days in Toruń, in accordance with tradition, an integration meeting of all participants in the event, the so-called Hanza Party, was held. In Toruń, the venue for the meeting and party was the PARK Fair Center, gathering more than 500 participants. The meeting had the character of a feast, during which the guests had the opportunity to listen to hits of both contemporary and early music and take part in prepared attractions such as archery, knightly fights and ancient rituals.

In 2024, the 44th International Hanseatic Days will be organized by another Polish city i.e. Gdańsk. „Gdańsk Evening” reception was held on June 24, 2023 in Artus Court.

As recalled by the mayor of Gdansk, Mrs. Aleksandra Dulkiewicz, the Hanseatic Days will be hosted in the city of Gdańsk for the second time, after 27 years, as the previous one was held in 1997. - The motto of next year's convention is „Change begins here.” *No change will take place without the participation of the people. That is why it is so gratifying to see a large representation of young people - the Young Hansa,*” said Aleksandra Dulkiewicz. She also presented the assumptions of the 2024 meeting, which is both a nod to the shared rich past, and a look to the future, in which development and modernity should draw on tradition.

President Lech Walesa was a special guest at the meeting. He too referred to the presence of young people from the Hanseatic countries. - *You have to start doing things right,*” President Lech Walesa appealed to young people. - *Your generation has the greatest chance in the relay of generations. For peace, for development and prosperity. Only you have to read the challenges of these times.*

The joy of the fact that the next convention will be held in Gdańsk was expressed by Zbigniew Fiderewicz, deputy mayor of Toruń. He stressed the ties linking the two cities for hundreds of years. - *The Hanseatic climate prompts us to once again recognize Gdansk as one of the closest and most important cities in the history of Toruń. Here we never forget that it is to Gdańsk that we owe the fact that living far from the Baltic Sea, we still feel in Toruń the breeze of the sea and the allure of the boundless seas. From Gdańsk we also received openness to the world, the desire to live in freedom, the astronomical class of Jan Hevelius or the enduring allure of Solidarity, led years ago by President Lech Walesa, who is present among us,*” said Zbigniew Fiderewicz. Together with Marcin Czyżniewski, chairman of the City Council, and Paweł Gulewski, deputy mayor of Toruń, he presented Aleksandra Dulkiewicz with the Commemorative Medal of the Year of Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-2023), honoring the very city of Gdańsk for its efforts in preserving the Copernican tradition in Poland and the world. On the occasion of the Year of Copernicus, a commemorative plaque for the city of Gdansk was also handed over by the Marshal of the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship Piotr Całbecki.

INTEGRATION AND MAINTAINING THE TRADITION OF MEETINGS

INTEGRATION AND MAINTAINING THE TRADITION OF MEETINGS



Artus Court also hosted participants of the „Lübeck Evening” - a meeting of participants of the 43rd International Hanseatic Days, traditionally hosted by the city of Lübeck, which coordinates the work of the union's members. It was an opportunity to present elements of the city's traditions - there were musical performances, elements of traditional costumes, and guests eagerly initiated dances. On behalf of the host of the convention - the city of Toruń - the guests were welcomed by Mayor Michał Zaleski, Chairman of the Toruń City Council Marcin Czyżniewski and member of the city council Piotr Lenkiewicz.



SEE YOU AT ANOTHER MEETINGS

The official closing ceremony of the convention was preceded by a joyous parade, which, to the sounds of the Military Brass Orchestra, marched from the New Town Square to the Old Town Square. Representatives of the cities of the New Hanseatic League were also accompanied by flagbearers and representatives of the Shooting Fraternities, who that day experienced the traditional enthronement of the King of the Shooting Fraternity.

The Shooting Fraternity existed in Toruń as early as the Middle Ages. As throughout Europe, the purpose of this organization was to raise the shooting prowess of the townspeople for the defense of the city or country. Over the centuries, the forms and legal framework of the brotherhood changed, but the fundamental, cultural and sports purpose of its activities, remained the same. The contemporary Shooting Fraternity of Toruń, reactivated in 1999, refers directly to the pre-war brotherhood. It is engaged in cultivating patriotic traditions, popularizing history and shooting sports. It also adorns many city ceremonies.



June 25, 2023, the final day of the City Festival and Hanseatic Days, began with an ecumenical mass for the Hanseatic League, celebrated at St. Johns' Cathedral.



KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

Nicolaus Copernicus University joined in organizing the events of the 43rd International Hanseatic Days. On this occasion, on June 24, a university town full of popular science attractions was set up at the Cosmopolis Fountain. Events prepared by the university's popularizers could be enjoyed from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Along the trail of senses

The Faculty of Humanities at Nicolaus Copernicus University has proposed a field game called „Studies in the Senses.” The name refers to the experimental field of study that the participants of the game will be able to enroll in. With the help of female and male lecturers, they had the opportunity to develop the sensitivity of all the senses and earn a unique index. The field game consisted of four points with tasks located in Collegium Maius, Artus Court, Dąbbski Palace and the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science. The game's finale was scheduled for the Collegium Maximum.



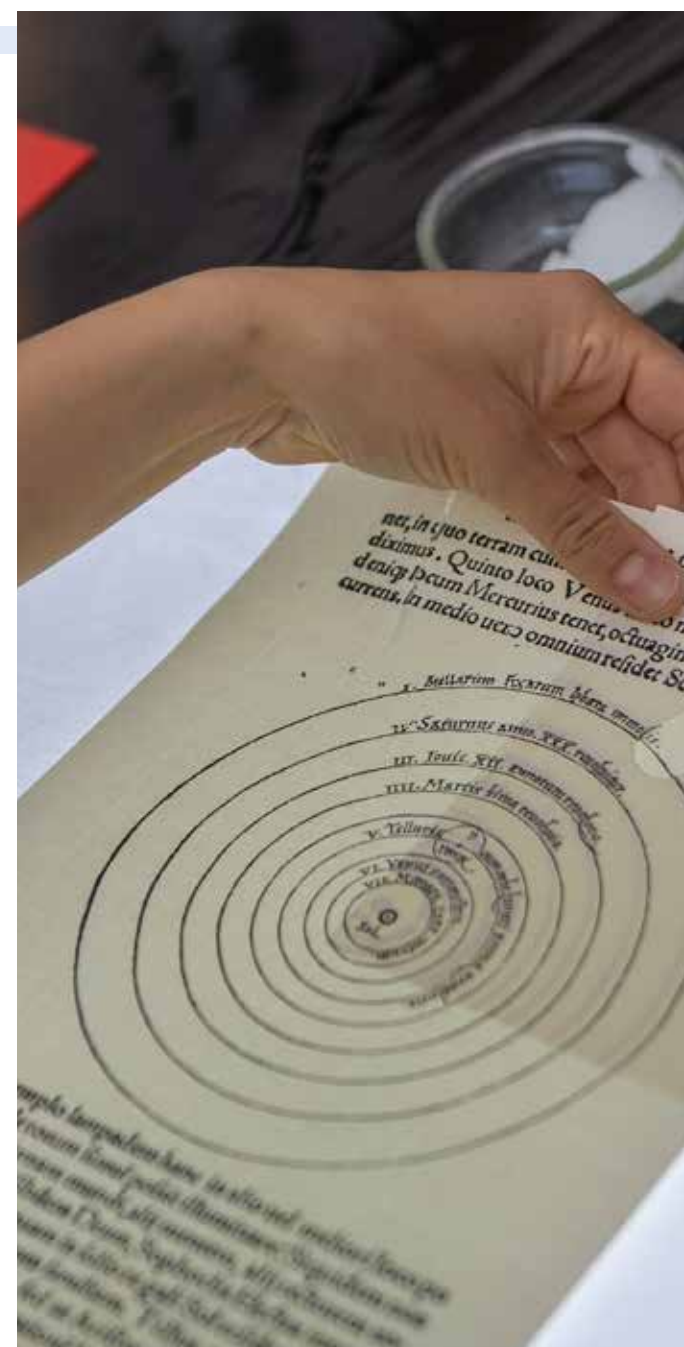
Science town

The Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science at Nicolaus Copernicus University invited visitors to its booth, which hosted an exhibition of amateur mobile robot designs made by students of automation and robotics. Visitors could see robots following a line, sumo and minisumo class robots, conveyor belts, manipulators, a mechatronic hand, an interactive LED clock, a Martian rover and many other projects.

At the Institute of Veterinary Medicine's booth, visitors could learn how to administer pre-veterinary first aid to animals for fractures, hemorrhages, bites and more.

On the other hand, conservators from the Department of Fine Arts shared the secrets of restoring paper defects during the workshop „Repair with us the work of Copernicus”. The inspiration came from Nicolaus Copernicus' famous work „On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres.”

Archaeologists from the Faculty of Historical Sciences at Nicolaus Copernicus University presented „Ludus latrunculorum”, „Hnefatafl” and other ancient board games. Participants could face an experienced opponent or, under the guidance of a coach, duel with another novice player.





The final element of the convention was the handing over of the flag of the Union of New Hanseatic Cities to the organizer of next year's event, namely Gdansk. The flag was handed over to Gdansk's deputy mayor, Monika Chabior, by Mayor Michał Zaleski and the chairman of the International Union of New Hanseatic Cities, Jan Lindenau.

- I wish to thank the 800 representatives of 73 Hanseatic cities for meeting here in Toruń to say three very important things: the most important thing in Europe is peace, which can be reached only by cooperation and agreement. Thank you for everything beautiful and important that you have brought to Toruń and that you are leaving here," said Mayor Michał Zaleski. - Toruń bids farewell to the flag of our Hanseatic union with regret, but welcomes with pride the fact that next year we will meet in Gdansk," added the Mayor.

The 43rd International Hanseatic Days was summed up by Jan Lindenau, Mayor of Lübeck and President of the Union. *- I congratulate you on organizing a fantastic convention, which many Hanseatic women and many Hanseatic men will remember for a long summer. We want to live, we want to work together, we want to create a peaceful Europe, we won't let it be destroyed by individuals," Jan Lindenau said, thanking Toruń for organizing the event.*

Monika Chabior, deputy mayor of Gdansk, invited the attendees of the 2024 reunion.

- Next year we will meet in Gdańsk, a city of freedom, equality, solidarity, a place that loves democracy above life. I am very pleased that you will be guests of this event and create it together with us.





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TORUŃ. W ORBICIE MIAST
22 – 25 CZERWCA 2023
43. MIĘDZYNARODOWY
ZJAZD MIAST NOWEJ HANZY

TORUŃ. IN THE ORBIT OF CITIES
22 – 25 JUNE 2023
43RD INTERNATIONAL
HANSEATIC DAY

TORUŃ. IM ORBIT DER STÄDTE
22. – 25. JUNI 2023
43. INTERNATIONALER
HANSETAG



Jarmark hanzeatycki

Hanseatic fair
Hansemarkt



Jarmark regionalny

Regional fair
Mittelaltermarkt



Sklep Partnerski FC Kopernik

FC Kopernik Partner Shop



Miasteczko uniwersyteckie UMK w Toruniu

University Fair
Universitätsstädtchen



Scena w fosie zamkowej

Stage in Castle Moat
Bühne im Burggraben



Scena na Rynku Nowomiejskim

Stage at New Town Square
Bühne am Neustädter Markt



Scena na Rynku Staromiejskim

Stage at Old Town Square
Bühne am Altstädter Markt



Scena w przystani Toruń

Stage at the Toruń Marina
Bühne in der Toruń Marine



Biuro akredytacji

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Ratusz Staromiejski

Old Town Hall • Altstädtisches Rathaus



Centrum Kongresowe Jordanki

'Jordanki' Congress Center • Kongresszentrum „Jordanki”



Muzeum Twierdzy Toruń

Toruń Fortress Museum • Museum der Festung Toruń



Centrum Kultury Dwór Artusa

Cultural Center Artus Court • Kulturzentrum Artushof



Centrum Targowe Park

'Park' Trade Fair Center • Messezentrum „Park”



Młyn Wiedzy

Mill of Knowledge • Wissenmühle



I Liceum Ogólnokształcące

High School No. 1 • 1. Allgemeinbildende Oberschule



X Liceum Ogólnokształcące

High School No. 10 • 10. Allgemeinbildende Oberschule



Katedra św. Janów

Saint John's Cathedral • Dom St. Johannes



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