





# Dynamic armed forces in changing societies: challenges for research in and on the military

July 19-23, 2021 | Institute of Social Studies, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia

### **Partners**







**USEFUL INFO** 

# Dynamic armed forces in changing societies: challenges for research in and on the military

Societal changes have sped up in the last decades, partly due to the acceleration of social time, "information dependency", and mediazation of all aspects of life, including security and defence. These processes, together with a rapidly changing threat landscape, make demands on the military to be able to evolve at an unprecedented pace, not only from the military aspect, but also as an institution in concordance with its parent society.

High quality research is a slow process and the growing time lapse between research results and real-time requirements is widening. The complexity of contextualizing the role of military in contemporary societies is requires refined research tools and methods. Dilemmas in reaching the target audiences and stakeholders, and bringing forth the active voice of researchers in society, is yet another aspect that has implications on research value and impact. To address these challenges, the 16th biennial ERGOMAS conference in Tartu aims to bring together novel theoretical and methodological issues in the field of military studies.

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# **KEYNOTE BY ANTHONY KING**

Anthony King is the Chair of War Studies at the University of Warwick. He recently completed a trilogy on western military transformation in the twenty-first century: The Transformation of Europe's Armed Forces (2011); The Combat Soldier (2013); and Command (2019), which won the British Military Book of the Year Award 2020. His new book, Urban Warfare in the Twenty-first Century, will be published by Polity in July 2021. In September, he will start a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship, 'Urban warfare: past, present and future'. He has advised the British Army, Royal Marines and NATO for over a decade.



# THE URBAN BATTLESCAPE: TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY WARFARE AND THE RETURN OF THE SIEGE

There is nothing new about urban warfare. On the contrary, humans have been fighting and killing each other in cities for as long as they have lived in them about 10,000 years ago. However, in the last two decades, the most intense battles have occurred not in the field, as they tended to in the twentieth century, but in urban areas, as Mosul, Marawi and Aleppo show. The rise of urban warfare in the twenty-first century has raised important questions about what is new and what is enduring about combat in cities. There has been much scholarly debate. In order to address the question of an urban military revolution, most scholars have focused on demographic factors and insurgents. They have overlooked military forces themselves, even though they have, in fact, played a major role in re-configuring urban warfare. Indeed, urban warfare today cannot be understood without considering the mere size of military forces today. Since the end of the Cold War, the mass armies of the twentieth century have been replaced by much smaller, often professional, forces almost everywhere. In the twentieth century, mass armies sometimes fought for cities but they operated principally in the field where they were so large they formed fronts to fight each other; sometimes. Today, reduced military forces have converged on decisive strategic and operational objectives which are located inside urban areas. There, opposing forces have coalesced on specific locales to engage in gruelling micro-sieges as they struggle for single buildings, blocks or neighbours. Yet, the urban battle is by no means limited to the street fight. An elaborate aerial architecture has appeared above localised siege, as fixed and rotarywing, piloted and unpiloted aircraft participate directly in the combat. Meanwhile, by means of social media and digital communications, participants from across the global urban archipelago are drawn into the siege, as the combatants seek to gain their support or to actively recruit them. The result is that while many of the features of contemporary urban warfare are very old and indeed ancient, the topography of the contemporary urban battle is distinctive. It has both localised and globalised: or in Neil Brenner's words, imploded and exploded.

# HYBRID CONFERENCE – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The conference will take place both in person and online simultaneously. The conference will run on WORKSUP platform and all the classrooms used for panels are equipped with technical hybrid capabilities.

To ensure the least amount of technical issues, we are going to ask everyone to pre-record their presentations. Note that this includes both participants who will be at the conference in person as well as those who will be participating virtually. Recordings should be 10-15 minutes long but not more. You will be asked to upload your video recording by no later than 12th of July.

# **Registration deadlines**

Deadline for early registration is 15 June 2021 Deadline for registration is 01 July 2021

# **Registration fees**

Participation in person in Tartu early registration	200€
Participation in person in Tartu late registration	250€
Online participation with presentation	100€
Student fee in person and online	100€
Participation online with no presentation	25 €

More detailed information about the conference site will be sent to you **2 weeks** before the conference. In this e-mail you will receive a personal access code to the conference platform and the site where to upload your pre-recorded presentation.

In case of technical issues, please contact:

Tiia-Triin Truusa

tiia-triin.truusa@ut.ee

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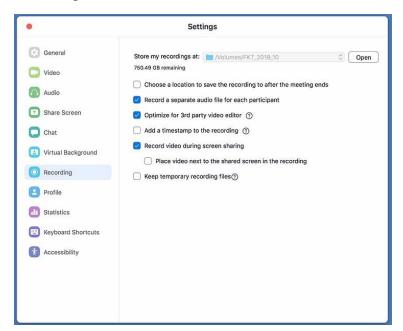
# **RECORDING YOUR PRESENTATION**

# Recording using Zoom for video editing & playback

We recommend Zoom to record your presentation. This is the easiest and safest way.

# **Recording Settings**

Download the latest version of Zoom (https://zoom.us), select Settings and navigate to the Recording tab.



Use the **Store my recordings** to select a destination for your finished files.

Make sure to check **Record a** separate audio file for each participant.

Select Optimize for 3rd party video editor.

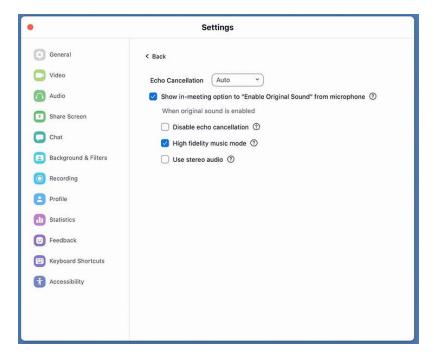
# **Video Settings**

There are two important settings in the Video Tab.

First, **Touch up my appearance** option. This will put a slight blur on the image. Leave this **off**. Second, **enable HD**. Checking this option would allow recording to 720p.

# **Audio settings**

For best quality, Zoom have High Fidelity Professional Audio option (selecting this setting disables echo-cancellation and post processing, and raises the audio codec specs).



To select this mode, go to the Audio Tab and navigate all the way down to click on Advanced.

Check Show in-meeting option to Enable Original Sound from microphone and then High fidelity music mode.

# Recording

To start a recording on Zoom, click on the Record button in the menu bar.



Remember, the finished package of audio and video files will only be generated after you stop recording and leave the Zoom meeting!

# How to Improve the quality of Your recording

**Get good light**. Make sure you are lit well. Exposing the image correctly will enhance the image quality. Avoid bright background.

**Put the camera at eye level or slightly higher.** Take a time to consider the position of your webcam. A good practice is to keep the camera at eye-level. Filming yourself from too far below will look unflattering.

**Get good sound.** Use good quality microphone or headset, proximity to the microphone is very important, so this can really help. Also, make sure that you are sitting in a quiet place. Use Your normal full voice.

# ONE-DAY WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS

The European Research Group on Military and Society (ERGOMAS) and International Sociology Association (ISA) Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution Research Committee (RC01) are pleased to announce a one-day workshop to be held on the **19**<sup>th</sup> of July **2021 in Tartu.** 

We are offering a workshop for young scholars engaged in the study of civil-military relations and the social scientific study of the military. Young scholars include doctoral students and those scholars that are at the beginning stages of their careers at universities or research institutes.

The workshop will allow participants to meet experienced scholars. Discuss career building and promotion, publication of articles and books, initiating and maintaining research ties with the armed forces.

# Doodle your way through research on the military

Practice visual simplification to become a better researcher and disseminator of research and new ideas.

Visual simplification workshop will be led by Kati Orav who describes it as follows:

The pencil and paper are powerful thinking, learning, and planning tools that take us closer to the desired goal. By using our innate ability to see both with our eyes and imagination and resorting to simple drawing, it gives us a whole new way to discover hidden ideas, develop them intuitively and share with others in such a way that they understand.

The essence of visual simplification is making any verbal text – be it either your thoughts inside your head or information and knowledge that you hear/read/speak of – visible. Visual simplification is like a filter that allows to distinguish the important from the unimportant and to make complex things simpler.

If you think you cannot draw, then most people would say: "Welcome to the club!"

Possibly, the only demographic group of people who really know that they can draw are small children. But we have all been children, haven't we?

The workshop will be held at the institute of Social Studies at Lossi 36, Tartu and **registration** is free.

For more information, please contact:

Tiia-Triin Truusa

tiia-triin.truusa@ut.ee

# COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING TRAVELING TO ESTONIA

The electronic declaration of health for those arriving to Estonia must be filled before the actual arrival to Estonia. You can fill the declaration 72 hours before the arrival. This makes border crossing smoother and people do not have to stand in line to fill out a declaration on paper. The confirmation of the border crossing declaration sent to your e-mail may be asked on the border or by the airline company. You can show it electronically or print it out before your travel. The electronic declaration of health can be filled in the **Estonian Health Board's self-service portal HERE**.

As the situation remains fluid, please check the following websites before embarking on your travels:

- For information on countries and restriction on freedom of movement requirements for passengers, visit **Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website HERE**.
- For all the latest information about current situation in Estonia and traveling to Estonia as a foreigner, visit **kriis.ee** <u>HERE</u>.
- For information about COVID-19 testing opportunity for people arriving to Estonia, visit Estonian Police and Border Guard Board's website HERE.
- If you have had COVID-19 within the past six months, or have been vaccinated against COVID-19, for more information visit the **Estonian Health Board's website HERE**.

# **VENUES**

Institute of Social Studies, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia. Address: Lossi 36, Tartu 51003



The Institute of Social Studies of the University of Tartu, also known as ÜTI, is one of the institutes of the University of Tartu in the field of Social Sciences. The Institute of Social Studies was established by merging the Institute of Journalism and Communication, the Institute of Sociology and Social Policy and the Viljandi Academy of Culture, majoring in librarianship. ÜTI started operating on January 1, 2014. The building is located on Toomemägi

Hill between the Angel's Bridge & Devil's Bridge. The Institute of Social Studies will be the main venue for holding a conference.

University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia Address: Ülikooli 18, Tartu 50090



The main building of the University of Tartu is one of the most outstanding pearls of classicist architecture in Estonia. The building was built in 1804–1809 according to the project of the architect Johann Wilhelm Krause. The building is located away from the street line and is slightly higher than the surrounding. In the last decade, learning activities have increasingly been spread over other university buildings, giving land in the main building to the university administration. In the assembly hall of the main building of the University of Tartu there will be an opening panel.

Estonian Military Academy, Tartu, Estonia Address: Riia 12, Tartu 51013



**Estonian Military Academy** is a national defense professional higher education institution within the meaning of the Institutions of Professional Higher Education Act. The Academy consists of the following subdivisions: The Department of Applied Research; A military and disaster medical center; The support services department; The study department; The student body; The administration of the commander. Our meet & greet takes place in the Estonian Military Academy.

The Estonian National Museum, Tartu, Estonia Aaddress: Muuseumi tee 2, Tartu 60532



The Estonian National Museum was founded in Tartu in 1909 on the initiative and with the support of the nation – with the task to protect and develop the history and culture of Estonia. The Estonian National Museum preserves the feeling of continuity and tradition. The museum is the generator and developer of cultural dialogue which links the past and the future. At the Estonian National Museum there will be a conference dinner.

# TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION

# From Tallinn Airport to Tartu

From Tallinn Airport, it is possible to travel to Tartu either by bus or by train.

# By bus:

Passengers can buy bus tickets from the 24/7 **Tpilet** self-service machine, which is located in the bus/tram stop lounge. Tickets can also be purchased on the Tpilet website <a href="www.tpilet.ee">www.tpilet.ee</a> or from the Tpilet mobile app.

To see the timetables for the bus, visit <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/</a>

Departure stop: Tallinn Airport

Destination stop: Tartu Coach Station

By train:

When travelling by train you must walk about 15 minutes from Tallinn Airport to the train station Ülemiste.

Single tickets can be purchased:

- On **Elron**'s website, by using a bank link or Elron Farecard (<u>instructions for buying a ticket are available here</u>)
- On board Elron trains from the customer service representative by paying with a bank card, in cash or with money loaded onto your Elron Farecard
- From a ticket machine on Elron trains by paying with money loaded onto your Elron
   Farecard
- From the ticket offices at the Baltic Station and Tartu Station

Advance ticket sales at Elron's ticket offices ends 5 minutes prior to the departure of the train; first class tickets are no longer sold if less than 30 minutes remain until the departure of the train from the original station of departure.

Please note! Single tickets are only valid for the journey and date and between the stops or zones selected by the passenger when purchasing their ticket. A ticket does not guarantee a seat in standard class. Standard class seats are not numbered and passengers can sit where they wish.

To see the timetables for the train, visit <a href="https://elron.ee/en">https://elron.ee/en</a>

Departure stop: Ülemiste Destination stop: Tartu

# **Public transport in Tartu**

There are 15 bus routes in Tartu, two of them night routes. A total of 64 buses, with frequent departures, are equipped with air conditioning, low bottoms and running on an environmentally-friendly source of fuel. Passengers have access to real-time information on the web and by phone, the timetables are also available in paper form at the bus stops and in the Information Centre in Tartu Town Hall. Check out the bus routes and stops <a href="here">here</a>.

An electronic bus card or a contactless bank card must be swiped at on-board validators upon entering a city bus. Electronic bus cards can be bought from R-Kiosk convenience stores, the bus station, Tartu Visitor Centre in Town Hall, information counters in Selver supermarkets and elsewhere. Tartu bus card is in cross-usage with Tallinn's green Smartcard and the public transportation cards of Ridango, GoBus and Atko. One-hour tickets can also be bought from the bus driver, in cash only.

In order to avoid unwanted payments, the bus card as well as the contactless bank card must be removed from one's wallet or purse and used separately.

Prices and concessions:

One-hour ticket 0.83€

- One-hour concession ticket for students 0.51€
- One-hour ticket bought from the bus driver 2€.
- One-day ticket 2.11€ (To acquire a one-day ticket, the balance on the card must be at least 2.75€. The system will register a one-day ticket, and return the excess amount at the end of the day.)
- 10-day ticket 7.03€
- 10-day concession ticket 3.52€

Passengers with the right of free travel under the Public Transport Act (a Tartu bus smart card is not required and journeys do not need to be registered on the on-board validators): children under the age of seven, individuals 16 years and younger with a disability, individuals with a profound disability, individuals with severe visual impairments and persons accompanying individuals with profound or severe visual impairments.

Additional information about Tartu bus card can be found at <a href="https://tartu.pilet.ee/buy">https://tartu.pilet.ee/buy</a>. 24-hour free info- and helpline 1789. Information about Tartu city routes can be found <a href="https://tartu.pilet.ee/buy">here</a>.

### Taxi in Tartu

You can use your phone, a number of apps or find one of the many stops in the city to get a taxi in Tartu. Prices may vary somewhat, and the same applies to day and night rates.

You can find a variety of taxi numbers from <u>here</u>. You can also use mobile app like **Bolt** which offers taxi services.

# **Tartu Smart Bike Share**

Tartu Smart Bike Share has acquired next generation electric assist bikes, which can communicate with the bike share system in real-time. The bike share system consists of 750 bikes in 69 bike share stations across the city. A total of 500 bikes are electric and the remaining 250 are regular bikes.

In order to rent a bike, the user must have a valid Tartu bus season ticket or they must purchase a bike share membership.

The user must create a bike share account, either on-line (<a href="https://ratas.tartu.ee/">https://ratas.tartu.ee/</a>) or via the mobile app (Tartu Smart Bike), and connect it to a credit card.

You can use a bus card or mobile app to unlock the bicycle.

When returning the bike, the bike should be left in any bike share station. Dock the bike and wait for the notification and beep. If there are no available spaces in the station, the bike can be secured with an additional lock.

For more information about Tartu Smart Bike Shake, visit:

https://tartu.ee/en/bikeshare https://ratas.tartu.ee/

# **ACCOMMODATION**

1. Antonius Hotel (Ülikooli 15, Tartu 51003)

http://www.hotelantonius.ee; https://www.facebook.com/hotelantonius

NB! For this hotel, booking is available from the 19th of July.

Superior Single Room 88€ / night Superior Double Room 110€ / night Deluxe Single Room 108€ / night Deluxe Double Room 128€ / night

Prices include breakfast.

# Additional information:

Accommodation should be booked either by phone (+372 737 0377) or by e-mail (sales@hotelantonius.ee) using the keyword ERGOMAS2021.

# 2. Hotel Tartu (Soola 3, Tartu 51004)

http://www.tartuhotell.ee; https://www.facebook.com/hotel.tartu

NB! For this hotel, booking is available from the 19th of July.

Using keyword ERGOMAS2021:

Standard Single Room 45€ / night
Standard Double Room 59€ / night
Standard Double Room for 1 person 54€ / night

Superior Single Room 55€ / night Superior Double Room 67€ / night

### Additional information:

Prices include breakfast, free parking on premises (if there are free parking spots), wireless internet, morning sauna in the hotel sauna center and access to the gym. Swimwear is required to visit the sauna center.

# 3. Dorpat Hotel (Soola 6, Tartu 51013)

http://www.dorpat.ee

Standard Room for single use 55€ / night Standard Room for two people 66€ / night

Prices include VAT, rich breakfast buffet, parking, WIFI connection in the rooms and free admission to Tartu nightclubs until midnight, upon presentation of a room card.

### Additional information:

Guests book the accommodation themselves and pay for the accommodation at the hotel. When booking, please use the keyword ERGOMAS2021. They are waiting for reservations by email: <a href="mailto:info@dorpat.ee">info@dorpat.ee</a> and the hotel will then send a confirmation within 24 hours. They confirm the rooms according to the availability of rooms.

# **4. Lydia Hotel** (Ülikooli 14, Tartu 51003) http://www.lydia.ee

Classic Room for one person 85€ / night Classic Room for two people 110€ / night

Prices include VAT, rich breakfast buffet in the restaurant Hõlm, WIFI connection in the rooms and unlimited use of the spa lounge and fitness room.

# **Additional information:**

Guests book the accommodation themselves and pay for the accommodation at the hotel. When booking, please use the keyword ERGOMAS2021. They are waiting for reservations by email: <a href="mailto:sales@lydia.ee">sales@lydia.ee</a> and the hotel will then send a confirmation within 24 hours. They confirm the rooms according to the availability of rooms.

# **5. V Spa Hotel ja Conference Centre** (Riia 2, Tartu 51004)

http://www.vspahotel.ee; http://www.facebook.com/vspahotel

Superior Double Room P-N 155 € / night; R-L 180 € / night Superior Single Room P-N 140 € / night; R-L 165 € / night

Deluxe Double Room P-N 170 € / night; R-L 195 € / night Deluxe Single Room P-N 155 € / night; R-L 180 € / night

The main difference between Superior and Deluxe rooms is that Superior bathrooms have showers and Deluxe rooms have jacuzzis. Deluxe rooms also add value with a glass wall between the bathroom and the living room. Each room has a comfortable armchair or a wider sofa bed that can be used as an extra bed.

## Additional information:

Rates include a healthy and rich breakfast in the hotel restaurant JOYCE, a visit to the relaxation and sauna world of the V Spa (arrival time 16:00 - 22:00, departure day 9:00 -

12:00), bathrobes, slippers and spa bag in the room, free bottled water in the room, wireless internet access and VAT.

Hotel offers discounted accommodation on the basis of keyword ERGOMAS2021. Please direct reservations to <u>info@vspahotel.ee</u> or (+372) 677 6677. They offer rooms subject to availability.

# **6. Hotell London** (Rüütli 9, Tartu 51007)

http://www.london.tartuhotels.ee

Single Room 79 € / night Double Room 89 € / night

The price includes breakfast, wifi connection and parking if available.

Book directly using the keyword ERGOMAS2021. Hotel London <a href="mailto:london@tartuhotels.ee">london@tartuhotels.ee</a> / +372 730 5555

## 7. Hotell Pallas (Riia 4, Tartu 51004)

http://www.pallas.tartuhotels.ee

Single Room 62 € / night Double Room 72 € / night

The price includes breakfast, wifi connection and parking if available.

Book directly using the keyword ERGOMAS2021. Hotel Pallas <u>pallas@tartuhotels.ee</u> / + 372 730 1200

# **8.** Hotell Sophia (Ringtee 75, Tartu 50407)

http://www.sophia.tartuhotels.ee

Single Room 60 € / night Double Room 69 € / night

The price includes breakfast, wifi connection and free parking.

Book directly using the keyword ERGOMAS2021. Hotel Sophia <a href="mailto:sophia@tartuhotels.ee">sophia@tartuhotels.ee</a> / +372 638 0850

# **ABOUT TARTU**

# **Tours & Sightseeing**

• Guided Tour in Tartu Old Town and Toomemägi Hill https://www.visitestonia.com/en/guided-tour-in-tartu-old-town-and-toomemagi-hill

The tour introduces important places in the cultural history of Tartu and Estonia. The walk starts from Town Hall Square, passes the University of Tartu and St. John's Quarter, the greenery of Toome, and crosses the bridges to the city centre. The tour is great for foreign guests of your company or conference, your cooperation partners, and friends!



# Estonian National Museum in Tartu <u>https://www.erm.ee/en</u>

Estonian National Museum preserves the feeling of continuity and tradition. The museum is the generator and developer of cultural dialogue which links the past and the future.



# • Tour of the Old Believers in the shores of Lake Peipus in East-Estonia https://www.visitestonia.com/en/tour-of-the-old-believers

This tour is focused on the Old Believers – religious refugees who opposed the official teachings of the Russian Orthodox Church and settled in Estonia in the 17th century. The Peipus villages are unique thanks to the arrangement of local roads and construction: the villages are located by a single main road, which runs along the lake, and form kilometres of settlements



# Selli-Sillaotsa study trail (4.7 km) in Tartu County, Alam-Pedja Nature Reserve https://www.visitestonia.com/en/selli-sillaotsa-study-trail

The study trail begins at a car park, and the beginning of the trail goes through an oligo-mesotrophic pine wood and a swamp edge that features Suuretüki watchtower, affording an excellent view of Laeva swamp. The trail continues as a boardwalk across Laeva swamp that is famous for its great cranberry spots. During floods, the trail can be under water and difficult to pass. The length of the trail is 4.7 km.



# For more tours and sightseeing, visit:

https://www.visitestonia.com/en https://tartu.ee/en/sightseeing

#### Restaurants

Restaurant Aparaat (Kastani 42, Tartu 50410)
 https://www.aparaadiresto.ee/; https://www.facebook.com/aparaadiresto/

**CUISINES** 

Bar, European

**SPECIAL DIETS** 

Vegetarian Friendly, Vegan Options, Gluten Free Options

**MEALS** 

Brunch, Lunch, Dinner

#### **FEATURES**

Reservations, Outdoor Seating, Indoor Seating, Highchairs Available, Wheelchair Accessible, Serves Alcohol, Full Bar, Free Wifi, Table Service

La Dolce Vita Pizzeria (Kompanii 10, Tartu 51005)
 http://ladolcevita.ee/?lang=en

**CUISINES** 

Italian, Pizza, Mediterranean, European

**SPECIAL DIETS** 

Vegetarian Friendly, Vegan Options, Gluten Free Options

**MEALS** 

Lunch, Dinner, Drinks, Late Night

## **FEATURES**

Takeout, Reservations, Outdoor Seating, Indoor Seating, Highchairs Available, Serves Alcohol, Full Bar, Free Wifi, Accepts Credit Cards, Table Service  Restaurant Joyce (Riia 2, Tartu 51004) https://joyce.ee/en/

**CUISINES** 

International, European, Central European

**SPECIAL DIETS** 

Vegetarian Friendly, Vegan Options, Gluten Free Options

**MEALS** 

Breakfast, Brunch, Lunch, Dinner, Drinks

#### **FEATURES**

Takeout, Reservations, Outdoor Seating, Indoor Seating, Parking Available, Street Parking, Highchairs Available, Wheelchair Accessible, Serves Alcohol, Full Bar, Wine and Beer, Accepts Mastercard, Accepts Visa, Accepts Credit Cards, Table Service, Free Wifi

For more restaurants, cafés, pubs, visit:

https://visittartu.com/eat-drink

# **Additional recommendations**

• The Widget Factory (Aparaaditehas) (Kastani 42, Tartu 50410) https://www.aparaaditehas.ee/en

The Widget Factory and its surrounding city block have become one of the most rapidly developing areas in Tartu. This universal culture factory brings together creative entrepreneurs, artist and designer studios, commerce and entertainment. It hosts four restaurants and two cafés, it is the home for the very popular Müürilille flea market, two galleries (Kogo and Ag47), many different event spaces and venues like the Hall of Love, the Club of Different Rooms and the Living Room Behind the Stage. The Widget Factory is a home for many different office spaces, a co-working area called Sofa Office and rooms for numerous small and exciting shops. Our courtyard called Taskupark (The Pocket Park) is the coolest meeting place in the area that hosts both concerts, flea markets and an outdoor cinema in the summer.

They offer tours of Aparaaditehas which can be held in English. Minimum group size is 10 people (contact <a href="mailto:ekskursioonid@aparaaditehas.ee">ekskursioonid@aparaaditehas.ee</a> for more info).

 Science Centre AHHAA (Sadama 1, Tartu 51013) <a href="https://ahhaa.ee/en">https://ahhaa.ee/en</a>

The aim of Science Centre AHHAA is to introduce science to everyone and encourage studying through the joy of discovery. In addition to trying out numerous 'hands-on' exhibits on their various exhibitions, visitors of AHHAA can also take part in workshops, enjoy planetarium and science theatre shows. AHHAA welcomes visitors of all ages and offers a great opportunity to spend a fun day filled with science!