



## ESTONIA TAKES CENTRE STAGE AS GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR 2025

Estonia is proud to be the Guest of Honour at the Bologna Children's Book Fair 2025, bringing the rich tradition of Estonian children's literature and its vibrant publishing scene to an international audience

*"This year, Estonia celebrates 500 years since the first Estonian-language book, and the whole year will be dedicated to books and reading. We are happy to also be able to celebrate it in Bologna as the main guest of the fair,"* said **Heidy Purga, Estonian Minister of Culture.**

With the theme **"Hello!/Tere!"**, Estonia's programme at Bologna 2025 will showcase its most celebrated authors, illustrators, and publishers, alongside a dynamic series of book and illustration exhibitions, discussions, and industry networking events. Estonia will present a curated selection of its best contemporary and classic children's books, offering international publishers a unique opportunity to explore new voices and stories.

### **Key Highlights of Estonia – Guest of Honour programme at BCBF 2025:**

- **Estonian Illustration Exhibition "Hello!/Tere!":** Featuring 40 artists, it will focus on Estonian children's literature illustrations and books. The exhibition was curated by the Estonian Children's Literature Centre team.
- **Estonian Stand:** A vibrant showcase of Estonian children's literature, featuring award-winning authors and illustrators.
- **Author and Illustrator Events:** Ten panel discussions on various intriguing topics, meetings with the authors, the Bologna BookPlus programme, and an illustrator masterclass.
- **Special Programme in the City of Bologna:** The *"Cittadini Creativi"* exhibition was curated by Bianka Soe and will showcase Estonian illustrators' works in Bologna's Sala d'Ercole at Palazzo d'Accursio. An Estonian children's literature programme will be also featured as part of the *Boom! Growing Up in Books* festival.

*"Being the Guest of Honour at Bologna 2025 is an incredible opportunity for Estonia to present its stories to the world,"* said **Triin Soone, Director of the Estonian Children's Literature Centre.** *"We are excited to share the depth and diversity of Estonian children's literature with the global publishing community."*

Estonia's participation at Bologna 2025 is coordinated by the **Estonian Children's Literature Centre**, the **Estonian Publishers' Association**, and the **Estonian Ministry of Culture** in collaboration with key publishing and cultural partners.

Press kit materials can be found [here](#)



For more information, visit [estonia2025bologna.com](https://estonia2025bologna.com) or contact:  
Brita Tuuling, Communication Manager [brita.tuuling@elk.ee](mailto:brita.tuuling@elk.ee)