

Tribute to:  
**“Azterketak Euskaraz”  
(Examinations in Basque)**

**At this 23rd Korrika, we want to pay homage to the group Azterketak Euskaraz (Examinations in Basque), and more specifically those who have struggled - and continue to do so - for the Spanish baccalaureate (bac or baxoa) and French Brevet National Diploma (brevet) to be available in Basque.**

Basque is their demand, just as it is for KORRIKA. At a crucial point in their studies, they have opted to place their language rights as Basque citizens above the dictates of the French government, accepting the negative consequences this decision might have for their marks.

The Azterketak Euskaraz group is made up of young people, supported in this conflict by parents and teachers. They are Basque activists, they are the protagonists of their actions, thanks to which we have the chance to recognise the efforts of several generations over 35 years. This recognition should also serve as a megaphone to publicise their difficult position: all over the Basque-speaking lands and beyond, it is important to make it known that these young people are denied the chance to complete such an important part of their academic career in their own language. For the youth of the country it may be of great symbolic value to see that, even in the most difficult circumstances, some students make an effort to opt for Basque.

### Message

*Take pride, people, even if you don't speak Basque,  
Let's commit ourselves to act across the board,  
the people united.*

*With pride! Let's shake up inhibitions  
and mobilise the Basque people, even those around us.*

*Rise up! Bay of Biscay, vineyards of Araba, clay of Las  
Bardenas!*

*Rise up! Snow of the Pyrenees, iron of the mining region.  
Let's dream of taking steps forward together,  
gaining new ground, raising our demands.*

*Let's be satisfied with what we are and what we do.  
Let's fill homes and streets with Basque.*

*With pride, in all our relations, online or in the street.  
Take pride, people, and show your pride at KORRIKA!*

*æk*  
**23.korrika**

**HARRO  
HERRI**

**Irundik Baionarat**  
2024ko martxoaren 14tik 24ra

**korrika.eus**





## What is KORRIKA?

**KORRIKA is a popular race all around the Basque Country, organised by AEK, to promote the Basque language. Its objective is twofold: on the one hand, to promote awareness of the language, and on the other to raise funds to enable the AEK Basque language schools to continue their everyday teaching work.**

Since the first KORRIKA run between Oñati and Bilbao in 1980, the event has become one of the leading events in support of Basque thanks to the large number of participants it attracts. There have now been 22 editions of KORRIKA in the last 43 years, and on 14th March 2022 a new edition will set off, covering more than 2,500 km over 11 days for the Basque language, not stopping for a moment and with the participation of hundreds of thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds.

As they run, the participants carry a baton which they pass from hand to hand, kilometre after kilometre. Inside the baton is a secret message which is not revealed until the last moment, when it is read out at the end of the event.

Hundreds of thousands of people are estimated to have taken part in KORRIKA over the years. These numbers and the impact generated by KORRIKA show just how committed Basque society is to its language



KORRIKA has become a much-loved, eagerly-awaited event that gets all of Basque society up and running every two years. Participation has increased every year and thousands of people volunteer to help organise it by joining the committees set up in the different towns and neighbourhoods, while hundreds of cultural and fun activities take place along the way.

Our aim is to return some of this love and hard work to society, to our surroundings, by making KORRIKA more responsible: built on the basis of feminism, ensuring diversity through social responsibility, fully aware of its environmental footprint and so on.

## How can i take part?

### In the organisation

By joining the committees set up in your town or neighbourhood to organise KORRIKA.

### In funding KORRIKA

By acquiring the KORRIKA laguntzailea emblem and buying material from KORRIKA 23.

By acquiring the KORRIKA participant's bib from the AEK Basque schools or from the KORRIKA shops, either before the race or on the day it passes through your town.

By joining in with one of the fund-raising actions for KORRIKA in many places.

By paying the amount you wish to donate into the KORRIKA bank account with the Laboral Kutxa bank (ES70 3035 0072 02 0720037810).

By making a contribution through BIZUM, with the description "korrika" or "aek" (find them in the "donate" option).

By carrying the baton and contributing with your family, with the members of associations or with friends.

### In helping to spread news

By visiting the KORRIKA website ([www.KORRIKA.eus](http://www.KORRIKA.eus)) and taking part in its social networks.

By taking part in the cultural events organised as part of Korrika Kulturala.

### By taking part in KORRIKA

By taking part in the start of KORRIKA 23 on 14th March in Irun, and/or in the closing party on 24th March in Bayonne.

By taking part in the race wearing the race bib; by learning and speaking in Basque, to show everyone that we want to live in our language.

### Businesses and shops

By sponsoring the different advertising media to publicise KORRIKA.

By acquiring your own Korrikalari or Korrika lagun emblem.

By sponsoring kilometres: anyone choosing this option should come along to KORRIKA offices.

## What is AEK?

**AEK is the organiser of KORRIKA. Our organisation works to "normalise" the Basque language, doing its work in all the fields necessary for this: in knowledge, in use and in promoting the language.**

AEK's ultimate aim is for the whole population of the Basque Country to be able to live in complete comfort in Basque. Today, at the beginning of its latest strategic period, it sets out this goal in its vision statement: "Throughout the Basque lands, AEK is to be a point of reference in creating new speakers, as well as helping this job to be a free service."

AEK is also currently immersed in the process of implementing a feminist vision within the organisation, taking systematic steps in this direction. Thus, the 2nd AEK Equality Plan is currently under way.

**More than 100 euskaltegis, or Basque language centres, throughout the Basque Country; we also have residential courses, as well as online courses.**



**aizu!** **aek korrika**



From the very moment when the last KORRIKA ended, we wanted to highlight the enthusiasm shown by the community, as there is a people that is proud of Basque: the learners and teachers working away in the euskaltegi schools, people working every day in companies and institutions of all kinds to make Basque a living, everyday language, those who strive to learn, use and live in Basque, who support Basque-language media, those who create culture in Basque, the people and agents committed to the Basque language and so on. Also, in the last two years we have discovered a hand over 2,000 years old that has passed on intimate pride to us and deepened our hope for the future.

In this context, with the undoubted vigour of the last KORRIKA still fresh in our memory, AEK would like to issue a firm, positive message for this coming edition: just as our people is proud of Basque, we are determined to expand the pro-Basque movement; let's move the Basque-speaking people to shake up everything around us.

Moreover, we cannot forget that there persists a certain current against the language rights of Basque speakers. Also, we still see the authorities failing to assign sufficient resources to Basque, and for example we should in fact point out that people took to the streets of Bayonne recently to express this concern.

It is therefore necessary to speed up the normalisation of Basque, increasing investment for this purpose. AEK will therefore use all the money made on KORRIKA to fund its work to normalise the Basque language.