## **Background**

Faced with changes in the demographic and cultural composition of societies, educating people towards the acceptance and emergence of a multicultural society has become a necessity to prevent xenophobia and racism.

In this framework the role of **intercultural education** is of crucial importance with the aim of fostering tolerance, understanding and respect among groups and individuals.

Even though migration in Europe is still considerably high, intercultural education in many European countries is only a minor topic during the training and education of expert staff. Furthermore, there is a lack of sustainable didactic approaches to enable migrants to illustrate their cultural roots to the population of the host countries.

## **Purpose & Objectives**

The overall objective of the project is the **improvement of the intercultural competence** of pedagogical staff, teachers in different institutional environments in Europe and their target groups. The following four main objectives in "INTEGRATION" will contribute to the achievement of the project purpose and lead to a European approach in intercultural education:

Development of a common and transferable didactic approach to the thematic area of integration leading to a specific didactical concept: On the basis of the results of the initial descriptive phase, a common concept for intercultural education will be defined and made available to European social organisations.



- Development of transferable didactic material and media for different European organisations. The partner organisations together with their target groups will develop transferable patterns for training material and media which will abolish the actual lack of intercultural issues during education and training of pedagogical staff.
- Introduction of new methodologies to facilitate intercultural learning, to exchange learning contents and to introduce a multimedia approach into the learning environment.
- Development, testing, evaluation and dissemination of learning and information units and modules. The units will be made available to other organisations in Europe in order to harmonise strategies for intercultural training on a European level.



**Expected Results & Outputs** 

- Reports about the situation in the partner countries and institutions, target groups, skills and competencies of staff members
- Learning programmes for the improvement of intercultural competencies of staff members, target groups and individuals
- Database containing relevant information on intercultural issues
- eLearning platform as an information and communication tool
- Programmes for local action aimed at better integration of migrants



#### **Activities**

The activities of the project are divided into work packages

- Development of a common and transferable approach for staff training on the basis of a description of the actual situation and needs.
- Development of transferable learning material for staff training for both computer-based and presence learning.
- Design of a learning management system for the creation and realisation of eLearning courses with a database on intercultural issues and an intercultural glossary.
- Realisation and experimentation of staff training.
- Dissemination of project results and campaigning for new partners at a local, regional and transnational level.

#### **Beneficiaries**

In social organisations and in educational institutes all staff members e.g. educational and pedagogic staff, will benefit directly from the outputs through the development of appropriate teaching and education methods, a better understanding of the requirements and needs of multicultural teaching and education, the realisation of new training material and the data base relating to intercultural issues.

The public will benefit directly and indirectly from the output. The creation of a framework to enhance the co-operation with multicultural groups will lead to better integration. The organisation of intercultural activities will break with possible isolation and help people to get into contact with other people from different origins and learn the language of the host country.

The creation of special training units from people with different origins to illustrate their culture, religions and traditions for other ethnic groups will lead to a better understanding and mutual respect. These people can also access the eLearning platform for communication, information or education purposes and acquire methodological competencies which will improve their opportunities in social life and on the labour market. By using the idea of computer-based training the project beneficiaries quasi as a "side-effect" - receive key competencies in the area of IT

## Organisation

The project is funded by the European Commission under the Socrates/Grundtvig programme dealing with adult education in a broad sense. The project lasts 27 months, from the 01.10.2004 to the 31.12.2006.

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# The partnership



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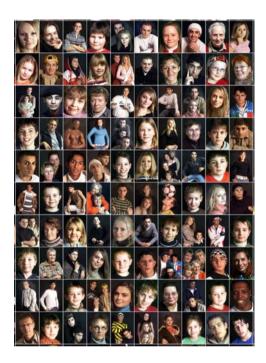


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# INTEGRATION



Intercultural Dialogue for a Multicultural Society in Europe

**European Project** 



