

EuroIntegrELP Final Partners' Meeting



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European Integration through the use of the European Language Portfolio

EuroIntegrELP is a European project aiming to contribute to the promotion of language learning among adults belonging to various social and professional groups through the use of the European Language Portfolio as a quality instrument.

The project started from the premise that in a multicultural and multilingual Europe it is necessary that language learners should be encouraged to value their already existent partial competences in various languages and to develop new ones, to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop self-evaluation skills.

Learning foreign languages increases the learners' chances of social integration in their own country and in an international (European) environment, as well as their opportunities for personal development.

Partners in the project

Romania: **PROSPER-ASE Language Centre (co-ordinator)**

Austria: **Österreichisches Sprachen-Kompetenz-Zentrum, Graz**

Belgium: **Karel de Grote-Hogeschool, Antwerpen**

Croatia: **Octopus - jezične usluge**

Estonia: **Dialog, Tallinn**

Greece: **ELT NEWS, Athens**

QLS - The Panhellenic Association of Language Schools of Accredited Quality

Italy: **The British School of Trieste**

Lithuania: **Utena College, Utena**

Poland: **PASE Poland - The Polish Association for Quality Language Services**

Romania: **QUEST Romania - The Romanian Association for Quality Language Services**

EURISC -European Institute for Risk, Security and Communication Management,

Bucharest

EuroEd Foundation, Iasi

International Forum, Timisoara

Slovakia: **TUKE, Technical University of Košice**

The main objectives of the "EuroIntegrELP" project, which covered the period October 2004 - September 2007, included:

- to disseminate good practice in using the European Language Portfolio (ELP), the

EAQUALS/ALTE version for adults,

- to familiarise the target groups (e.g. relevant ministries, employment agencies, multipliers, learners, in the project countries) with self-assessment of language competencies and related benefits of ELP-use for employment and mobility purposes.



Achievements

All partners were fully committed to creating opportunities for coming in direct contact with representatives of the target groups in the project countries and other European countries interested in the ELP, adapting dissemination methods and materials to the different target audience (e.g. presentations, workshops, meetings, fairs, press conferences, specific User Guides, etc.)

Information about the ELP and the project itself was disseminated using a variety of channels: the project's web site, radio interviews, articles in newspapers and journals, Project posters, leaflets, calendars etc. The European Language Portfolio itself was offered to representatives of the target groups, together with information about its use and benefits.

The EAQUALS/ALTE ELP was translated in almost all partners' languages and the publication of around 10,000 copies of ELP containing, besides English and French, most of the project languages is under way. This will allow for further dissemination activities throughout Europe. The last project meeting – a dissemination conference intended to reach a wider audience – was held in Graz, Austria, at the premises of the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) on 21st -22nd September 2007.

Experience so far indicates that - given the wide geographic coverage of the project - the project partners were confronted with different attitudes to the ELP for adults. In general, the most receptive were the multipliers and learners. Other target groups (e.g. authorities) received the ELP with various degrees of willingness to accept it.

Overall, the impact of the project has been positive in all project countries, and there are good chances for enhanced interest in the ELP, as a result of the EU Commission's introducing self-assessment of language competencies as a requirement for international mobility.