



Citizenship in action

Welcome to the second ACT|Project newsletter.

This newsletter is for schools and organisations interested in how education can help young people to understand citizenship and embrace values such as tolerance, inclusion and democracy.

Through our newsletters, we will bring you updates on the ACT|Project plus other school citizenship developments.

To find out more - or to share any updates for our next newsletter - please contact us (see details at the end of this newsletter).

ACT|Project news



How can we help young people to learn about citizenship and contribute positively to society?

ACT is a 36-month, Erasmus+ funded project taking place in France, Spain, Greece and England from 2017 - 2020. The project looks at the impact of active citizenship projects on pupils' social and civic competencies.

The pilot phase of the project is well under-way:

- The teacher training pilot was delivered in Autumn 2017 in France, Spain, Greece and England, facilitated by the Citizenship Foundation.
- An advisory board has reviewed the project materials.
- Recruitment of schools for 2018/19 has already begun in a number of countries.
- CIEP (France) is developing the project website. This will go live at www.act-euproject.com shortly.

Project delivery partners met in January 2018 to review progress and plans. We will update you on new developments soon.

[Want to get involved? Partners to provide details of how to register if applicable.]

Policy updates



United Kingdom

In December 2017, the government published a policy paper called [Every Voice Matters: Building a democracy that works for everyone](#), a five-year democratic engagement plan to tackle democratic exclusion and outline how the government will increase participation among under registered groups.



France

The French National Council for Evaluation of the School System (CNESCO) recently joined the executive board of the European Network of Education Councils (EUNEC). CNESCO has been asked to present the ACT|Project at the annual EUNEC seminar

(1-2 March 2018 in Lisbon, Portugal) which, this year, addresses citizenship and education.



Greece

On 8-9 February 2018, a Peer Learning Activity (PLA) was hosted in Greece on the theme of 'Intercultural Dialogue and Refugees: Educational policy considerations'. The PLA was organised within the framework of the Education and Training 2020 Working Group on 'Promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education' with a main emphasis on refugees.



Spain

The Observatorio Estatal de la Convivencia Escolar ('Commission for Social Cohesion in Schools') will soon be called to gather for its next meeting. In supporting social cohesion in schools, its main tasks are to: identify, share and advise on successful practice; publish surveys and evaluation reports; and contribute to the development of state policies that help strengthen social cohesion in educational institutions.

Research updates



Eurydice has released its latest publication: [Citizenship Education at School in Europe \(2017\)](#). It aims to provide a current and comprehensive picture of national policies in the area of citizenship education in schools across Europe, recognising that there are increasing demands on education systems to promote learning in this area.



[INSIGHT](#) is an Erasmus+ project coordinated by the Rectorat of Montpellier – a local education authority – in partnership with the UK and Spain. The initiative was launched in the framework of the Paris Declaration of 2015 and aims to promote humanistic education and prevent discrimination and radicalisation. In France, it particularly targets vocational schools.



RETHINK – or Remembrance Education for THINKing critically – is a key-action 3 Erasmus+ project piloted by the CIEP, France. It is designed to shed light on the educational programmes that have been developed by memorials and non-governmental organisations in the field of remembrance education. RETHINK will upscale these programmes for use across different contexts and countries and make them more widely available through the development of an online platform, which will also serve as the starting point for the creation of a new network for memory initiatives.

This network will facilitate transnational collaboration between like-minded institutions and enable the development of new programmes focused on linking past and present challenges, while enhancing critical thinking skills among learners.



SOMOS MÁS is a project being developed by MECD and Google together with other associations. The initiative aims to raise awareness and prevent violent radicalisation and hate speech. The project unites two essential areas: education in the classroom and the use of the internet to amplify respect, tolerance and diversity. Spanish youth are invited to participate using the hashtag #YoMeSumo.

Want to get involved? Please contact us.



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