



PRESS RELEASE

Inspiring Heroes, Castles, Legends and CLIL Gamification school project made possible after securing Erasmus+ funding.

1st. September 2016. INS El Palau in Sant Andreu de la Barca, Spain, Çukurova Sanayi in Tarsus-Mersin, Turkey, Istituto Comprensivo Giovanni XXIII in Isernia, Italy, 1 Gymnasium Kamaterou in Athens, Greece, Newark School in Sliema, Malta and 25 Gimnazjum in Gdansk, Poland are linking up as part of an EU scheme to create partnerships across Europe and improve education standards.

Students and teachers will visit their partners and work on joint projects over the next two years through the Erasmus+ programme, which is funded by the European Commission and managed by every country National Agency. The project is funded under Key Action 2 of the programme. The programme provides funding and professional development to enable students and teachers across Europe to work together and learn about each other's culture and education methods.

The programme aims to develop knowledge and understanding of different European cultures and languages, and help young people gain skills for their future lives and careers. As well as learning about their partners' society, the programme also helps young people learn more about their own culture and build links within their local community.

The **Heroes, Castles, Legends and Learning Gamification** project aims to test and develop new and different methodologies like the newborn Learning Gamification blended with Digital Storytelling in an international background to improve our Contents and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)/English as Second Language (ESL)/Deutsch als Fremdsprache (DaF) lessons and learning outcomes. All of our schools share as issue the need to motivate the pupils to use English in CLIL/ESL/DaF classes to make them effective, and we are looking forward new teaching approaches. Teambuilding strategies both for teachers and pupils will be key in the project as well, and gamification can boost its potentiality.



Its aim is to prevent absenteeism and decrease the ratio of early school leaving through attractive and enjoyable teaching approaches, in line of the EU Commission priorities.

Head of EU Programmes Tibor Navracsics said: *“Erasmus has become one of the European Union's most precious inventions. Erasmus symbolises some of our most cherished values: openness, mobility and a desire to meet and understand our neighbour. More than any other programme, Erasmus helps us to build the European identity that our Union so urgently needs.”*

“Even if we succeed, we will not see all the benefits today. Like the architects of medieval cathedrals, we may never see the final result of our work. But I am ready for that task, and I hope you will join me.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport for 2014-2020. Erasmus+ aims to modernise education, training and youth work across Europe. It is open to education, training, youth and sport organisations across all sectors of Lifelong Learning, including schools education, further and higher education, adult education and the youth sector. Erasmus+ provides funding for organisations to offer opportunities to students, teachers, apprentices, volunteers, youth leaders and people working in grassroots' sport. It will also provide funding for partnerships between organisations such as educational institutions, youth organisations, enterprises, local and regional authorities and NGOs, as well as support for reforms in Member States to modernise education and training and to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and employability.

The Erasmus+ K219 programme <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

Strategic Partnerships are transnational projects designed to develop and share innovative practices and promote cooperation, peer learning, and exchanges of experiences in the fields of education, training, and youth.



Overall, strategic partnerships aim to address horizontal priorities as well as field specific priorities in the areas of:

- Higher education
- Vocational education and training
- School education
- Adult education, and
- Youth.

There are two kinds of Strategic Partnership; those supporting innovation and those supporting the exchange of good practices. Erasmus+ K219 involves only school strategic associations.