



### **Spring meeting 2017 Klingenthal**

*International mobility in Europe and the implementation of internationalization strategies in teacher education: Opportunities and challenges for the Comenius Association and for our societies to create a real European Citizenship*

### **RENCONTRE DE KLINGENTHAL 2017**

*La mobilité internationale en Europe et la mise sur pied de stratégies d'internationalisation dans la formation des enseignants: une opportunité majeure et un défi tant pour l'Association Comenius que pour nos sociétés en général pour promouvoir une véritable citoyenneté européenne*

### **Report**

**Tuesday, 30th of May 2017**

#### **1) 20h30: First plenary session (Geneviève Laloy)**

Introduction of the participants

Explanation of the language policy of the meeting: Most parts of the meeting will be in English only, but a translation will be provided if people wish, and participants are welcome to express themselves in French if they wish.

Explanation of the rules of the castle

Presentation of the programme of the meeting.

**Participation in the Klingenthal:** One person per institution in Klingenthal until the deadline. (Only) after the deadline, available places can be offered to members asking for more places.

Main languages English/French, other languages welcome (translation)

Participants are asked to check the information about them on the Comenius Website and to put information about their International Weeks and about their staff weeks on the website.

Relaunch of the mobility grid: Richard is collecting the numbers for the current year 2016/17. The grid should be a tool to show the advantages of the Comenius Association.

Relaunch of the demands and needs of member institution for STA teachers: Demands and needs will be collected during the meeting; demands and needs will be published on the website of the Comenius Association soon.

### **Wednesday, 31st of May 2017**

#### **Morning session:**

##### **2) Follow-up of the meeting in Winchester 2016**

The reports have been sent out in English and French.

Workgroups: The Comenius Association is trying to assure the continuity of the work, things can develop in various directions, the migration topic is still very important.

International Weeks: A lot of International Weeks are going on, we'll look at how to improve their administration.

INGO-Conference: The Comenius Association will have participatory status soon, it is to be confirmed in the summer session of the Council of Europe

##### **3) Evaluation of projects 2016-17**

###### **Staff mobility:**

Demand/Offer-List, will be put on the website (maybe also online)

International Week including teacher exchange: incoming staff would work on a workshop

PH Steiermark presented their 30EC international module in which incoming teachers can be easily integrated. An International Week for teacher/staff mobility is organised, teachers can teach what they do best. Applicants for a grant are required to be in contact with incoming staff.

It is important that teachers feel that they've had an "added value"

###### **Problems/Suggestions:**

Language competence

Duration: Artevelde requires teachers to go out at least for 4 days

Teachers feel they are obliged to repeat lectures they'd miss while going abroad

Internationalization within the curriculum

###### **Questions:**

IW preparation as a staff training week?

Recognition of outgoing staff work:

- Stavanger, Mechelen: part of professional development
- UCV/Winchester: related to research

- Gent follows a strategic approach, they look for experts in the partner institutions (plus **form**) and the perfect match for home staff  
Sustainable contacts with annual coming in

#### **4) International weeks:**

One-to-one-exchange does not fit to all but is crucial for some member institutions  
International Weeks 2018 are to be presented in Bergamo, we need to be clear about different costs

Deadline for nomination: 20/11, suitable for most partners, not suitable only for Vienna. Two places (in some cases one place) should be guaranteed until 20/11, those who can host more please publish/communicate that.

Mandatory languages: Most of the IWs are in English, some are bilingual – be clear about this in the information

Recognition of IW credits: this is mostly an extra-curricular activity, depending on the topic. If ECs are awarded this would at least be added to the diploma supplement.

Alternatives – short term projects

e.g. School placements for 1-3 weeks, will be published on the website

#### **5) Key information about each International Week, to be prepared for Bergamo:**

Language(s), costs, number of students to be accepted from the other partners: 1 or 2 students, external accommodation or one-to-one exchange

By Nov 20: places left to be announced (exception: Vienna: Deadline Dec 10)

Nominations should be made only by the International Offices, students to contact host institutions need the signature of their international office.

#### **Short feedback concerning workgroups:**

##### **1) Sustainable development and teacher training**

There was a meeting in Namur (March 2017), following an IP, 3 mid staff weeks, a grid of analysis was developed to check didactical material (to be finished)

A Staff Week will follow by the beginning of December, integrating teachers of all other subjects. The aim is to attract/motivate teachers to check their own materials

It is the start the preparation of a KA2 project for March 2018,

This will be published on the website (Staff week, other projects)

All levels from pre-primary to secondary education are welcome

##### **2) Inclusion: A staff week will happen in October (Artevelde, UCS, Vienna, UIS), Fabio Dovigo elaborates a project “history matters”: history as a common threat for historians, sociologists.**

##### **3) Outdoor education: KA2 proposal has been applied, lead: Mechelen, members: Santarem, LLN, Vilnius, also local partners at each institutions (city administration, schools). Not all local partners got a PIC code on time though required**

#### **Afternoon session:**

## Feedback of the different work groups (follow-up):

- 4) *Stories and intercultural competencies at primary schools (Chantal Muller)*: Participating institutions: Mechelen, Kingston, Vàcs, UCSYD, Winchester, Namur. A Research project handed in to the British Council by Kingston.

More precise plans will be communicated in Bergamo, after the result published by the British Council.

- 5) *Students' publications (Geneviève Laloy)*

In Louvain-la-Neuve, outgoing students have to hand in an article in “regards”. There will be a call for papers by Geneviève Laloy to all the member institutions to hand in an analysis with a special focus. A small journal will be published to collect articles for the Bergamo meeting, if there are enough articles from different institutions handed in. Possible languages are English, French, Spanish, German (including an abstract in English). Length: 1500 characters.

- 6) *Refugees and Migration (Geneviève Laloy)*

➔ See also Martine Wilmots and Niomi Kelly's report on Thursday

On **March 21 – 24 2018** there will be an International seminar organized by the Board of the Comenius Association in close collaboration with the work group.

There will be a call for teachers and students to present their projects, modules, tools, to offer do a workshop, etc. The topic will be very general, in order to reach as many persons as possible.

Main target group of the seminar: university teachers – but students and (school) teachers are also welcome.

As a starting point, the notion “migration” will include “refugees”.

## 6) Comenius Journal 2017

Main topic: “Values in Education”

The call has been published on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May.

Deadline: collect **proposals** by **June 15** and send it to George Camacho. The **articles** will have to be handed in by **July 15**. The proof-reading will be done by the Board.

The journal will probably be finalized by **Gerit Jaritz** in August who will have a trainee in August who can help her. Software used: “Indesign”

[In the meantime, the situation has been modified: George Camacho is collecting the articles, the board will do the proofreading, and it is very likely that George Camacho will finalize the version which will be printed either in Portugal or in Bergamo.]

In order to facilitate things, the board will set up a list of tasks for guest editors.

Question: Can an article be published twice? Yes, but the copyright has to be respected.

## 7) ERASMUS+ KA 2 projects

**TOWE:** Enhancing the Education and Wellbeing of Disadvantaged Toddlers through the Development of Training and Materials to Support Early Years Practitioners (Coordinator: Kingston. Partners: Stavanger, Barcelona and local Early Years Setting Partners)

Main target groups: 0 – 3, but also beneficial for people working with children of 3 – 6.

Follow-up of the “TODDLER” project.

Universal approach: Helping disadvantaged children by creating a good school for all.

[www.toddlerswellbeing.eu](http://www.toddlerswellbeing.eu)

➔ Cf. presentation TOWE

Invitation to the **TOWE International Trainer’s Workshop**, open for all institutions: **March 15/16 2018 at Kingston University**. Participants can also take part on STT.

The project has been evaluated very positively, especially because of the close connection between the universities and the practitioners/schools who are very engaged.

### **Civic education** (Tamar Shuali, CUV):

Catholic University of Valencia is planning a research project including pre- and inservice teacher training. The main idea of the project: how to qualify future teacher to cope with refugees in the classroom. The project will be handed in in 2018. Potential partners are welcome.

There are two components of the planned project: Civic Education and Social Education (incl. Conflict management, etc.). There is already a pilot initiative with 8 schools and with very advanced teacher training students in Valencia.

A call for the participation in the project will be published by Tamar soon.

### **“Enable” (Monika Becker)**

KA2 project handed in in March 2017. Topic: How to train refugees with a teaching background to work with refugee children, how to use the experience and the linguistic resources of the trainers in order to cope with challenges like traumatized children. Coordinating institution: PH Schwäbisch Gmünd (departments of Intercultural Relations and of Psychology); partners: Gävle and two universities not being members of CA: University of Calabria (IT) and Mugla University (TR) as well as local NGOs.

### **PEERS transformed into a KA 2 (Soledad Soldevila)**

A first meeting taking place in Liège in December.

### **Background information about KA2:**

Geneviève Laloy: In Wallonia, there are not enough KA 2 projects handed in. They encourage to hand in more projects there. The situation is differing from country to country.

### **Practical hints for a KA2 application: (Philip O’Neill)**

KA 2 currently has very clear priorities: refugees / immigrants and inclusion

Advice: contact the national agencies before starting an application.

Costs for translations are very often cut; even “exceptional costs” are not allowed anymore.

Managers are more expensive than teachers. Fill in more managers into the budget than teachers, in order to have more money.

A large part of the successful Erasmus KA 1 projects seem to be written by an agency ECKHOUT Centrum.

## **8) Council of Europe, Conference of INGOs**

The Comenius Association has been accepted as a member of the INGO. There are good benefits for the CA and for the INGOs (visibility of the Comenius Association, expertise, etc.)

Overview of the actions taken so far in the three committees Education and Culture, Democracy and Social Cohesion, Human Rights.

Call to all the members for some persons within the member institutions who will be ready for a continuing work in one of the working groups. The task for those colleagues will be to report about the activities during CA meetings and the CA website.

In case of a permanent engagement, colleagues can either travel there with own funds or funded by Comenius, if they take part as a representative of the CA. They are also welcome to take part as representatives of their own institution, funded by their institution. It is important to have a continuity for several years.

Beyond the different sessions and committees there is an event to be highlighted for everybody: World Forum for Democracy 2017, November 8-10.

In 2017, new working groups will be established within the three committees. It is possible to hand in suggestions – a good opportunity for the CA to bring in their expertise as a new member of the INGO conference. More information can be found here:

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/ingo>

The following potential topics have been identified during a brainstorming during the CA meeting. They could be used for the different working groups of the IONG conference:

- Risks and fears
- News - fake news - reliability
- Critical global citizenship
- Inclusion of all young people in an inspiring Europe
- Human rights and people with special needs
- Parenting in a changing society
- Early childhood - gaps in chances in education
- Radicalism
- Walls in Europe
- Role of faith in promoting tolerance

## 9) 30 years of Erasmus

Brainstorming how to celebrate the event within the CA:

- **Small videos:** Make small 30 videos of former Erasmus students or teachers. Duration: 30 seconds, maximum 1 minute.
- Questions: Where have you been? What did you do? What were the outcomes of your Erasmus mobility? Important to see the impact on them as persons /teachers. Language : free choice + subtitles in English. Chantal Muller could collect the videos. Philip O'Neill could put the videos together.
- Create an **interactive map** with all destinations of Comenius Association
- value the friendships having emerged from Erasmus mobilities
- Create **posters** or organize a poster award

- Create **slogans** for the 30th anniversary
- Make a **time line** of 30 years with main different main Erasmus events
- Organize a **virtual festival**
- Organize **life radio sessions** (as it was organized in Graz)
- Organize a **contact seminar between former Erasmus students** from the Comenius Association in Bergamo or later somewhere else.
- Organize a **virtual contact seminar**
- Visualize **numbers/statistics of mobilities** within the Comenius Association since the creation of the Association

In any case, **do something during the autumn meeting in Bergamo** (reception, specific activity, speech, music, posters, etc.) and **at least do things before the end of december 2017.**

### **10) Discussion: The impact of Bilateral Agreements**

*Is a Bilateral Agreement a binding reference document or just an open door?*

*Up to which detail do the conditions have to be specified? To which degree do we have to be detailed?*

*Although most participants share the opinion that it is a binding legal document, the discussion about exceptional situation will be continued at the next meeting in Bergamo.*

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2017**

### **11) Next autumn meeting Bergamo**

The meeting will be held on 18 – 22 September 2017, the invitation will be sent in June.

Arrival information:

Airport: Milan Bergamo is the best option, but monopolized by Ryanair. Linate is the second best option (1,30 by train). Milan Malpensa is NOT an option as it is too far away.

Preliminary program: Keynote, parallel sessions, Comenius sessions, social and cultural program

On Tuesday afternoon, there will be a possibility for the work groups to meet between 2:00 and 4:30.

Wednesday will be a research day dedicated to “Democracy and Education”. Visiting colleagues giving presentations are very welcome!

Thursday will be mainly dedicated to Comenius.

There will be optional school visits on Friday morning. The official meeting will be over on Friday 2:00, with an optional cultural activity in the afternoon.

The participation in the meeting as well as in the conference can be funded by STT funds.

## **12) CA Member News**

**Lausanne** will organize an International Week for staff and students 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Max. number of participating students: 20. The fee of 100 Francs will cover everything. Language: English, the topic will be “Internationalization”

**Graz** is offering modules for international students in both semesters. Fully taught in English in both semesters AND a program for German speaking. Staff week 2018 23 – 28 April (in combination with the Voices conference)

**Inholland:** There will be two International Weeks per year: Idea “Full color” one in the north, one in the south. There will be a semester in English for incoming students (2 x 15 credits) in the spring. Contents: inclusion (in the large sense) and CLIL: will be developed for primary and secondary school, but also accessible for pre-primary. Still open if the semester will take place in 2018.

**Gent:** Staff week Early Childhood Education 4 – 8 June 2018; Bridges in Education: 30 ECTS in English

**Thurgau:** The focus of courses taught in English will be on the spring, when they can offer courses in English for teacher trainings students in any field. Autumn semester: open for future English teachers. Combination with the University of Constance. Primary and Secondary Education. They are planning an Arts/Music week in April, to be confirmed.

### **Louvain-la-Neuve/Namur: joint module in English:**

30 ECTS, general courses, 2 International Weeks, easy to commute between the two sites. Also possible to take courses in French. → high flexibility. Colleagues are welcome for “Educational systems” (between February and May)

**Vienna:** Teachers welcome for “European Village”

### **Schwäbisch Gmünd:**

- “Exploring the world”: a 30 ECTS module for Early Childhood students from April 7 – July 31.
- Teacher Training (primary and secondary schools) for English speaking students (with no German): mainly spring, April – July.

- Teacher Training (pre-primary, primary and secondary) for German speaking students (level B2 or higher): autumn and spring possible: October – February / April – July.
- International Week about “Europe” in April 2018.

#### **UCSYD:**

- International Week at the beginning of May in Kolding
- “Crossing Borders”: Social Education / Early Childhood Abenraa, spring
- “Inclusive Practice”: Esbjerg, autumn
- “Living and Learning Together”: Haderslev, spring term

#### **Louvain-la-Neuve:**

International seminar in Senegal 27 – 30 November 2017 in French: Challenges in collaboration between teacher training institutions in Africa and Europe, including other African countries (Benin, Morocco)

Connection with non-European partners: how could we cooperate more closely?

#### **Afternoon:**

- 13) Visit to **ESPE Strasbourg**: Conference “Migration, Multilingualism and Education in France and in Germany” and visit to Mont St. Odile.

### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2017**

#### **14) Migration and Classroom Management** (Niomi Kelly / Martine Wilmots)

→ Cf. presentation “Migration: Classroom management and language acquisition”

Next steps towards a KA 2 project: preparatory meeting in Bergamo on Tuesday for 2 hours, next meeting January in Strasbourg (during the Council of Europe / INGO sessions), seminar in March in Brussels, later on a staff week about the topic.

Discussion:

What will be in the focus: “Migration” or “Cultural Identities”? → We have to make sure that we have an approach that helps all the children (not only a small group).

Recommendations:

- think of the partners (especially outside school) from the beginning.
- the relation between teachers and parents is crucial
- extend the list “Burning issues” on the website, have a look at what is already available, in order not to start from a scratch. **For Bergamo, the task is to collect as much as possible what already exists.**

### **15) 30 years of Erasmus: latest trends from the commission** (Geneviève Laloy)

*The Commission wants to increase the mobility numbers to strengthen European values.*

*Digitalization of Erasmus will be strengthened in the future (“Erasmus without papers”).*

Website of the European Commission celebrating the 30 years of Erasmus (including personal Erasmus success stories) :

[https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/anniversary/spotlight-erasmus-brings-people-together\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/anniversary/spotlight-erasmus-brings-people-together_en)

### **16) Egracons** (Martine Wilmots)

→ Cf. presentation “EGRACONS”

The ECTS grading system will not be applied anymore.

In the new system, grading systems and the average grades of specific programs are all included into the system.

A link to a demo video of the system can be found here:

<http://egracons.eu/news/egracons-grade-conversion-tool-demo>

Recommendation given by the organizers of Egracons to the participating institutions: Collect the average of 3-5 years.

### **17) General Assembly:**

**17.1) Bergamo autumn meeting:** *The call has been published in June. Think of work groups on Tuesday.*

#### **17.2) Council of Europe:**

Presence of the Comenius Association in the INGO conference in the Council of Europe.

We need at least one person per committee:

Human Rights: Thomas Schrei (January), Richard Pirolt (June)

Democracy: Niomi Kelly (January) and Jonathan Rooke (June)

Education and culture: Pieter Demeyer and George Camacho

The following Comenius colleagues will attend the June session: Chantal Muller, Pieter Demeyer, Richard Pirolt, Geneviève Laloy and Monika Becker

The website of the Comenius Association will be extended: “INGOs conference”, which will include the contact persons and their reports. At every Comenius meeting the persons will inform the members. The board will support the colleagues and attend the meetings from time to time.

If the persons attending are representing the CA may cover the costs if the institutions can not pay for it. If they are representing their own institution, they will have to cover it with STT grants.

### **17.3) International Weeks**

The weeks are published on the CA website:

<http://www.associationcomenius.org/spip.php?article50>

### **17.4) CA on Facebook**

*Philip and Geertrui will prepare a proposal. It needs a private and a public part. The CA has to make sure Facebook does not become the main and only means of communication!*

### **17.5) Journal**

- See Wednesday 31st of May, above -

### **17.6) 30 years of Erasmus**

Anniversary video clip: Members are asked to produce videos of former students: 30 seconds about what was interesting about their Erasmus. We are hoping for 30 videos about exchanges (staff and students – or IPs) within the Association. Within the 30 seconds, the persons should say who they are, where they went to, where they study, what they study, what is left from their experience. Ideally every institution should be represented as a destination.

Language: Will be your choice!

Philip O’Neill will put the film together.

Technical recommendation: The visual background of the clip is important.

### **17.7) Staff exchange:**

Interactive tool will be developed and put on the website

### **17.8) Members:**

“Sleeping members”: The board will contact them again if they are still interested in a membership.

It is not planned to invite new members for Bergamo unless very urgent partners come up. Then send an e-mail to the board. These new potential partners would have to cover their costs on their own.

### **17.9) Klingenthal 2018:**

The dates have been confirmed in the meantime: The next Klingenthal meeting will take place 22 – 25 May 2018.



Klingenthal 2017 (photo: Lia Frederickx)

For the Board, 21th of July 2017