

Learning@Europe



Future

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The future

At the end of the school-year 2006-2007 we completed our "initial duty": more than 350 teachers, more than 6,500 students, more than 18 countries have been involved.

It has been shown that the format is effective, that schools can participate (overcoming a number of practical problems), that students are engaged, that teachers find the content and the format valid, ...

Above all, a number of crucial points have been made:

- European schools can deal with **more "European"** curricula than the current ones (quite nationalistic). ICT-technology can be crucial to achieve this.
- **History** can be taught in a more **critical** (and open to discussion) **way** than the standard approach taken by typical (national) text books.
- **Collaborative technologies** can represent an effective way to get European schools to work together in a pedagogically effective and cost saving way.
- **Young European citizens** are willing to understand their identities better, to get to know other identities, to be involved in discussions on the topic, and open to acquire a European attitude, or even a **European identity**.



Learning@Europe is not an experiment anymore: it can become a permanent service for European youngsters, helping to create a European identity and a European citizenship.

In order to reach this goal, a number of facts are needed:

- **Recognition at European level** (Commission, Parliament, Agencies, ..) of the validity of the service.
- **Promotion among the interested parties** (youngsters, teachers, administrations, ministries, ...) in order to widen the participation in the 18 countries involved so far, and even beyond that.
- **Financing the cost of participation**, which can be estimated around 20 euros per participating youngster (i.e. 440 euros per a class of 20 youngsters).



All the above is more difficult than it may be expected, considering the results achieved so far. The costs of physical contacts for example, are incredibly high in Europe: a round trip from Italy to Latvia, for example, costs twice as much as a round trip from Italy to New York. This makes it very difficult to organize physical meetings to meet people, to reach agreements, etc. Also, strangely enough, in Europe it is easier to find financial resources for "new developments" of experimental actions, than for a running a service that has proved to be valid and effective.

The above said, we have set the following goals for the year 2007-2008:

- 18 countries
- 200 classes
- More than 4,000 students participating and more than 300 teachers involved

If you think that you may help us to achieve this, do not hesitate to contact us: **we need the help of whoever may help.**