

# WORKSHOP BRIEFING NOTES

## South-East Europe & Mediterranean Regional Seminar on Global Development Education

North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

in collaboration with

Bulgaria Open Education Centre (OEC)

Vitosha Park Hotel

Sofia, 9-11 December 2016



### Collaboration between the NGO national platforms of:

Cyprus (CYINDEP)

Malta (SKOP)

Romania (FOND)

Slovenia (SLOGA)

Open  
Education  
Centre



CYINDEP  
Cyprus Island wide NGO  
Development Platform



SLOGA  
SLOVENIAN GLOBAL ACTION

## Overall context of the seminar

In 2008 a Joint Management Agreement (JMA) was signed between the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and the European Commission for raising awareness of global interdependence and solidarity through global/development education and youth cooperation in Europe and beyond. In the framework of this JMA, a series of national and regional seminars were organised in the new EU member states between 2009 and 2015. These seminars brought together different stakeholders, among practitioners and policy-makers, with the aim to discuss the situation of global/development education in the respective country and to promote national policy recommendations and practices.

In 2016, in the framework of a new agreement signed with the European Commission for the period 2016-19<sup>1</sup>, the NSC will start a new cycle of regional seminars, for the Balkan, Baltic, Visegrad and South-East Europe-Mediterranean regions. These seminars will serve to follow-up the implementation of the strategic recommendations<sup>2</sup> agreed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> GE Congress, which took place in Zagreb in November 2015, and to monitor the progress of GDE in the region.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Education Congress was the epilogue of a process initiated back in 2002, with the first GE Congress which established a European strategy framework for improving and increasing GE in Europe to the year 2015 (Maastricht 2002). Within this timeframe, progress was evident in networking strategies, capacity-building and in policy development, in particular through the adoption of the GE Recommendation by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, in 2011.

More recently, the focus was put on the post-2015 Agenda, and on the position of GDE in relation to recent advancements, in particular in relation to UNESCO Global Citizenship Education programme launched in 2013 and in relation to UN SDGs and Education 2030 framework. This reflexion was led, in preparation to the event, through a consultative process among institutional partners – namely CONCORD-DEEEP, GENE and UNESCO – and among NSC Global Education Week (GEW) national coordinators, GE practitioners and youth leaders. Based on the results of this consultation, a set of preliminary recommendations were drafted and guided the works during the Congress. The workshops, the panel discussions and plenary exchanges led to the endorsement of these recommendations in the field of National Strategy Development and Implementation; Curricula development; Professional Development of Educators; Quality support, Monitoring and Evaluation; Awareness Raising and Outreach.

The recommendations, together with the set of competences that workshops participants were invited to work on in the field of Intercultural & interfaith dialogue; Active citizenship; and Education & sustainability, serve as a basis for the NSC work for the coming three years.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ilegend-Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue - PA Grant agreement between the European Commission and the Council of Europe

<sup>2</sup> <http://nscgloboaleducation.org/index.php/resource-center/item/235-recommendations-3rd-european-congress-on-global-education>

Concretely, the set of competences will enable NSC to update its pedagogical tools (GE Guidelines; eLearning courses and training for trainers) while the Congress recommendations shall guide NSC advocacy work in the field of GE within CoE governing bodies and shall guide NSC policy-making strategy developed with its partners through the **GDE regional seminars** planned in the Baltic, Balkan, Visegrad and South-East Europe & Mediterranean regions. These seminars will also serve to promote the CoE Competences for Democratic Culture project.

The NSC will keep its inclusive working methodology, involving institutional partners and stakeholders through a consultative process when outlining GE priorities and related activities, in line with the overall political context and directions taken by other stakeholders.

## Objectives of the SEE-Med regional seminar workshops

Having the **final recommendations**<sup>3</sup> of the Zagreb GE Congress as an overarching framework, the objectives of the regional seminar workshops are:

- to exchange and jointly discuss existing perspectives and recent developments on the concept and practice of GDE (in terms of policy making, curricula development and pedagogical resources, accordingly to the topics of the workshop);
- to identify common challenges in the SEE-Med countries and exchange information on best practices between GDE experts from the region, and international guests when applicable;
- to provide the space and opportunities to develop joint action and collaboration within and beyond the SEE-Med countries to promote GDE as an integral part of education;
- to elaborate operational recommendations for furthering GDE in the SEE-Med countries and establish priorities, and if possible benchmarks, between each annual regional seminars foreseen until 2018.

---

<sup>3</sup> In the field of : 1) National Strategy Development and Implementation; 2) Curricula development; 3) Professional Development of Educators; 4) Quality support, Monitoring and Evaluation; 5) Awareness Raising and Outreach

## Date

9-11 December 2016

## Venue

Vitosha Park Hotel, Sofia, Bulgaria

## Participants

Participants will comprise key GDE stakeholders from each SEE-Med country (including whenever possible stakeholders involved in the previous regional seminar and in the Zagreb GE Congress), representing formal and non-formal educators, CSO, Local Authorities, Ministries and Parliamentary education commissions, intergovernmental organisations and international guests.

The seminar will take place in parallel to the Global Education Week network annual meeting. The GEW network coordinators will share the plenary sessions with the participants of the SEE-Med seminar.

In total, the two events aim at gathering approximately 80 participants.

## Working language

English will be the only working language of the seminar and no interpretation to other languages is foreseen. The seminar is intended to be interactive and thus only participants with relevant level of English will be selected to participate.

## Background documentation

The background documents for the seminar are:

- ✓ **3<sup>rd</sup> GE Congress Strategic Recommendations: Final Recommendations**
- ✓ **3<sup>rd</sup> GE Congress Report: Final Report**
- ✓ **3<sup>rd</sup> GE Congress Background documents**
- ✓ **GE national seminars: 2013-14 overview**
- ✓ **GE regional seminars: 2013-14 overview**
- ✓ **Global Education Survey - Evaluating the 2012 Lisbon Congress Thematic Recommendations**
- ✓ **Youth Global Skills Survey - Exploring Youth Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century from a Youth Perspective**
- ✓ North-South Centre **Global Education Guidelines—a Handbook for Educators to Understand and Implement Global Education, Lisbon 2012 (2008)**
- ✓ Council of Europe **framework of Competences for Democratic Culture, Strasbourg 2016**
- ✓ Council of Europe **GE Recommendation, Strasbourg 2011;**
- ✓ White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue: **“Living Together As Equals in Dignity”** Strasbourg, *Strasbourg 2008*

## Main partners for organising the seminar

Regional Implementing partner:

### **Bulgaria Open Education Centre Foundation**

Open Education Center is a leading NGO in the field of Education for Democratic Citizenship and General Education developing New Educational Technologies, Models of Educational Changes Management, Programs for Civic Education, Professional Development of Teachers, Programs for Training and Development of School Boards and NGOs, with more than 50 publications on Civic Education. Working with Council of Europe, UNESCO and UNDP , Open Education Center have developed National and Regional Programs in the field of Education for Democratic Citizenship, Human Rights Teaching, Intercultural Cooperation, Entrepreneurship Education, Education in Sustainable Development, etc. Open Education Center had facilitated the development of a Network of youth educational centers, which has become in a significant coalition for the educational changes in the country. The centers are independent NGO's with growing influence in the local communities. Open Education Center and the network Open Education organize trainings in all center's programs, in development of educational projects as well as training and consulting of NGOs.

**Contact person:** Virginia Valova [virginia\\_valova@abv.bg](mailto:virginia_valova@abv.bg)

Regional Partner organisations:

### **CYINDEP-Cyprus Island Wide NGO Development Platform**

CYINDEP was established in 2009 with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Greek Cypriot NGDO Platform 'The Development' and the Turkish Cypriot Platform Cyprus NGO Network. This agreement and its accompanying Foundation Charter constitute the basis for the operation of CYINDEP, which aims to bring together NGOs working on international development, development education and development cooperation in order to improve the effectiveness of their work and advocacy.

Its mission is to bring together NGDOs working on international development issues and active global citizenship, to assist them in building their capacity, improve the effectiveness of their work and advocacy, as well as to network more effectively both locally and globally. CYINDEP is a member of the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development (CONCORD), of TRIALOG and of the NSC Global Education Week network.

CYINDEP implemented an EU Presidency Project for the Cypriot EU Presidency in 2012 entitled 'Solidarity in Change – Development in a Time of Transition. CYINDEP was also the National Beneficiary for the European Year for Development 2015 National Work Programme for Cyprus.

CYINDEP is participating in the Interdisciplinary Committee of the Ministry of Education and Culture on Global/Development Education, while it has also established a good collaboration with the Department of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Contact person:**

Kerstin Wittig Fergeson – President of the Board of CYINDEP

[kerstin.wittig@futureworldscenter.org](mailto:kerstin.wittig@futureworldscenter.org)

Sophia Arnaouti – National Coordinator, Global Education Week Network

[sarnaouti@futureworldscenter.org](mailto:sarnaouti@futureworldscenter.org)

### **SKOP – National platform of Maltese NGOs**

SKOP is the National Platform of Maltese NGOs and is Malta's broadest network of voluntary and non-governmental organisations working in international development cooperation and humanitarian aid. SKOP was founded on 26 June 2001, on the initiative of Kopin (Koperazzjoni Internazzjonali - Malta), and now has 15 members and 3 associate members. It is officially recognised by the Maltese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

The Platform aims to improve Malta's contribution to international development cooperation by promoting the exchange of experiences, ideas and information amongst its members, between networks of NGOs in Malta and internationally. It also represents its members with the Maltese Government and other Maltese bodies with an interest in international development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

As an active founder-member of the pan-European NGO confederation CONCORD, SKOP has a key role in advocating with the European Union about its development policy. It is also a member of TRIALOG and of the NSC Global Education Week network.

**Contact person:** Roderick Agius - [roderick.agius@skopmalta.org](mailto:roderick.agius@skopmalta.org)

### **FOND – Romanian NGO Platform**

FOND strategy aims at supporting and developing awareness campaigns targeted both for the general public and for the public institutions involved in programming and giving assistance for development and relief, working in close contact with organizations and local experts from the older and newer EU member states. In order to achieve all these objectives, FOND aims to develop its members' capacity and to establish the framework for dialogue and real partnership with all the relevant national governmental institutions and European actors. FOND members are active in the fields of Development Education, Education and professional training, Democracy and Good Governance (including Human Rights and Child Protection) and Health, and cooperate with neighbouring countries (Moldova, Georgia, Ukraine).

FOND is a member of CONCORD, of TRIALOG and of the NSC Global Education Week network.

**Contact person:** Adela Rusu - [adela.rusu@fondromania.org](mailto:adela.rusu@fondromania.org)

### **SLOGA – Slovenian NGO Platform**

SLOGA, the umbrella organisation for 41 NGOs in Slovenia is involved in development cooperation and development education. The aim of SLOGA is to join synergies and strengthen the partnership between Slovenian NGOs that are active in developing countries or which work on public awareness raising about unequal division of wealth and the global solidarity and co-dependence related to it. SLOGA operates through the following working groups and fields of work: Development Education; Policy; Global Volunteering; Africa; Reproductive Health Rights; Western Balkans; Food Security.

SLOGA is a member of CONCORD, of TRIALOG and of the NSC Global Education Week network.

**Contact person:** Patricija Virtic - [patricija.virtic@sloga-platform.org](mailto:patricija.virtic@sloga-platform.org)

Institutional partners:

The seminar is taking place in the context and with the support of the **Grant Agreement signed between the European Commission and the Council of Europe** (iLEGEND- Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue), which aims at promoting GDE in the twelve new member states of the European Union as well as in EU candidate and acceding countries.