How to start writing a European Education project, like Erasmus+ ?

And at the same time hoping it will be successful!

Wednesday 13th of January 2021, 5 pm Brussels time

Annemie Van den dries

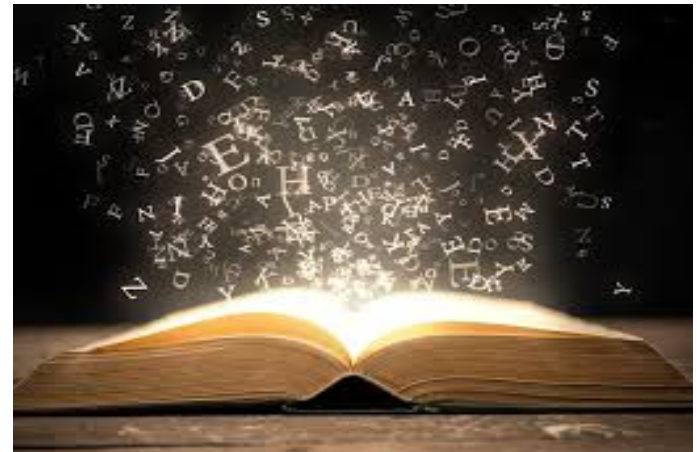*Pictures downloaded from Google*

Abiding by the rules….

Mattew 22:15-21

- Then He said to them, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.   And we add:…and "**to the EU what is EU's**"…!

In short: if you want money from the EU, you must abide by the rules of the EU, in this case: the guidelines ….

See the books: …..

- The Erasmus Guide,
- The Guide for Experts, etc….

But at present – mid January 2021….

- The Chest of Erasmus books is only partially open…..

We are indeed at the start of a new period of European projects like Erasmus, in the financial span 2021-2027. But the New Call has not yet been published….

Erasmus is one of the most popular and **successful EU programmes**. Launched 34 years ago (°1987), it has helped around 10 million people to study, work or volunteer abroad.

Under Erasmus more than 2 000 transnational partnerships are established each year.

Twenty-one years after the Bologna Declaration (1999) , the **European Higher Education Area** (EHEA) is today the largest educational area in the world.

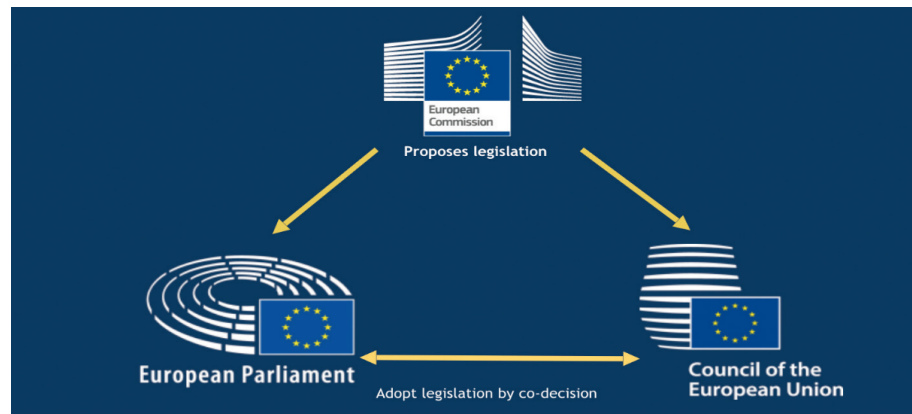**EEA** by 2025→ **European Education Area**

PREPARATIONS

On 17 December 2020 the EU adopted the next **Multiannual Financial Framework**(MFF) set to begin on 1 January, 2021.

The week before, the Council and the European Parliament had reached a political agreement on the regulation for Horizon Europe and on the Erasmus+ programme for 2021-2027.

- See also: https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9574-2018-INIT/en/pdf
- See also: https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en
- See also: http://ehea.info/media.ehea.info/file/20090223-Ostend/54/2/BFUG_Board_CZ_19_4_draft_communique_200209_594542.pd

- The German presidency of the Council and the European Parliament's negotiating team secured a provisional deal on the Erasmus+ programme for the **period 2021-2027**.

- The new programme will be much more **inclusive** than the current one and is expected to triple the number of participants, bringing them up to 12 million people.

- It will cover not only higher education, but all levels and types of education and training, which is reflected by the kept label **"Erasmus+".**

- It will be provided with a substantial budget of EUR 24.57 billion in current prices, which constitutes **a significant increase** compared to the amount for the current programme.

4 Buzz-words :
inclusion – green – digitalisation -innovation

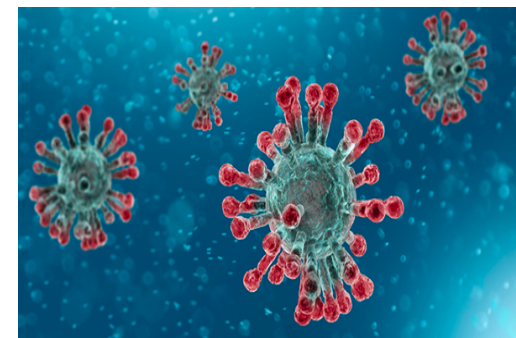# Education and training fit for a digital and green 21st century

This was the theme of the 10/12/2020 conference of the

3rd European Education Summit:

Digital Education Transformation

see: https://ec.europa.eu/education/summit/digital-education-transformation_en

Influence of Covid-19! Indeed, the Covid-19 pandemic has changed our teaching methods, and blended learning will be the new normal.

The New Call has still to be published.

But to-day already we can start dreaming of new challenges in a regional, European or global perspective.

Erasmus+ 2021-2027

What we already heard:

- Erasmus+ 2021-2027 will be much more **inclusive** by offering access to learners in higher or general education, vocational education or training, adult education, non-formal learning, youth and active participation activities.

- It will also facilitate the participation of small scale and grassroots organisations, and **people with fewer opportunities**, including people with disabilities and migrants, as well as EU citizens living in remote areas.

- The inclusiveness of the programme is also strengthened by the provisions on **virtual learning and measures** such as language support, preparatory visits, training and virtual cooperation for people who are unable to participate in learning mobility in the field of education and training, youth and sport.

- Further to that, DiscoverEU, European Universities and Centres of vocational excellence initiatives are included in the scope of Erasmus+ 2021-2027.

Margaritis Schinas, Vice-president EU Commission

Vice-President, responsible for Promoting our European Way of Life, commented:

- "Erasmus is Europe's most emblematic programme, the jewel in our crown.
- The Erasmus generations represent the essence of our European way of Life.
- Unity in diversity, solidarity, mobility, support for Europe as an area of peace, freedom and opportunities.
- With today's agreement, we are ready for the next and bigger Erasmus generations."

Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner

Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, **Education** and Youth,

- "I welcome the political agreement on the new Erasmus+ programme.
- Erasmus+ is one of our flagship programmes.
- Over the last three decades, participation in Erasmus+ has boosted the *personal, social and professional development* of over 10 million people, almost half of them between 2014 and 2020.
- With almost double the budget for the next programming period, we will now work to reach 10 million more over the next seven years."
- Erasmus+ is a real European success story, consistently identified as one of the most successful initiatives of the EU.
- Since its inception in 1987, the programme has expanded considerably.

Erasmus+ 2021-2027 (2)

The programme would maintain the same basic structure

with three key actions.

- KA1: the first key action caters for **mobility,** also for school education, and VET also outside Europe, blended mobility, and
  - Blended Intensive programmes (3 HEIs from at least 3 programme countries + virtual component = 3 ECTS)
- KA2: the second focuses on **cooperation** for innovation and the exchange of **best practices**, centralized and decentralized
- KA3: while the third supports **policy development.**

In short….   and let's start dreaming….

The next Erasmus+ Programme intends to be

- more **inclusive** and accessible with simpler application processes

   as well as

- enhanced **international mobility and cooperation**.

The improved programme will invest in

- **innovative fields of study** such as
  - renewable energy,
  - environmentalism, environmental engineering, and
  - artificial intelligence

Keeping in mind that by providing more people with the opportunity to learn, gain experience and partake in cross border mobility the Erasmus+ programme
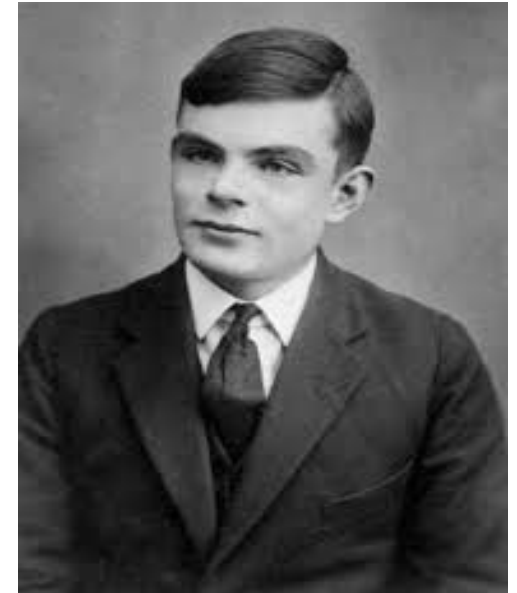
- will continue **to strengthen Europe's economy and community while tackling global issues and promoting social equality.**

In between.....Brexit ....

- The UK programme will be called TURING Scheme

- The EU will keep to ERASMUS+

1912 – 1954 Alan Turing

1466 – 1536 Des. Erasmus

Let's go through the basic rules concerning the elaboration of a project

- the implementation of the priorities,
- the design of the project and
- the cooperation arrangements,
- the dissemination of the results

These aspects are the **guidelines for the assessors**!

See: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/sites/eacea-site/files/erasmus_guide_for_experts_2020.pdf

Mind: 2020!

In our dream….

- Students – studies, traineeships
- Colleagues – teaching, training

- Partnerships – cooperation partnerships
- Partnerships – European Universities/Teachers Academies

- Decentralised actions - National Agencies & National Offices
- Centralised actions - EACEA

European Commission

Relevance of the Project

When starting to fill in the application form, tick off which priorities you intend to develop:

- Horizontal priorities of the Call : **inclusion/innovation/green/digital**

- And some more… you can tick off!

- Also take into account possible priorities of the NA

And then say **WHY** you go for these priorities: and don't limit yourself to 5 words!!!

Relevance of the project (2)

You do all this based on a genuine and adequate **needs analysis**

- **Therefore:**
- Consult recent academic publications on the topic linked to your focus group
- Consult European studies on the topic
- See what the European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, **Education** and Youth has been focusing on
  in her latest speeches Mariya Gabriel (BG)

- This will lead you to describe your **objectives**, please as clearly as possible and always linked to what is needed and what your priorities are.

Relevance of the project (3)

Make sure that you project **is Innovative and/or complementary.**

- No copy paste of another project!

- Possibility of checking on previous projects which were accepted and funded: **Erasmus+ Project Results Platform**. See: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects_en

Synergies between individuals, organisations, partnerships have to be emphasized. You or your institution are not alone with your project!

Relevance of the project (4)

Asking for European money means also stressing
the added value of your project at EU level,

and so not only for your organisation,
your local environment,
your region,
your country,
but for all Europeans!
and this way claiming global citizenship!

- Interesting to discover: **EEA**
  https://ec.europa.eu/education/sites/default/files/document-library-docs/eea-factsheet-sept2020_en.pdf

Project design and implementation

Description of the work programme with all the phases:

- Preparation
- Implementation
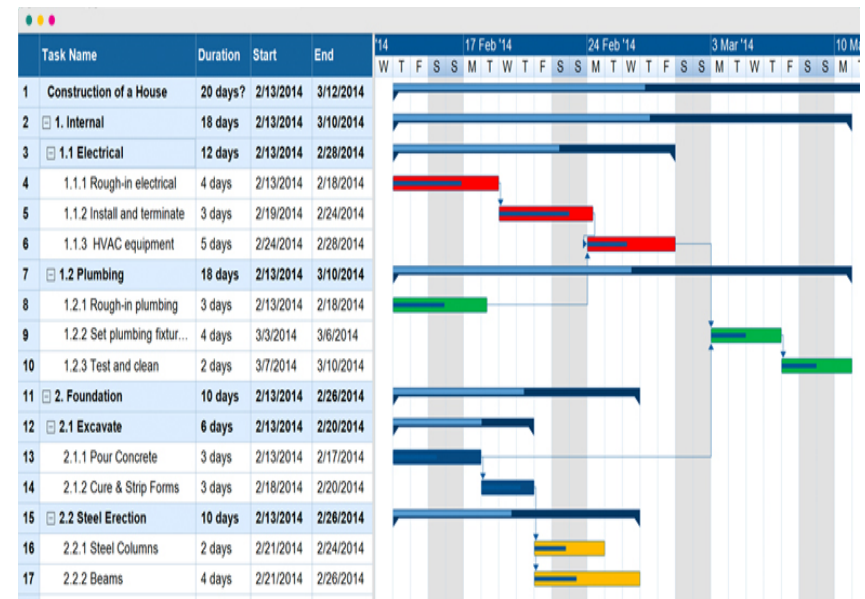- Monitoring
- Evaluation
- Dissemination

All these phases have to be dissected in detail! Make sure to involve all the **key-actors** of the different organisations of your team.

Project Design - Activities

Start drawing a **timeline** and then develop the **GANTT chart**

- Transnational meetings
- Intellectual Outputs (results of studies)
- Teaching, Training, Learning Activities

    (important not to forget the validation of the

     formal or non-formal learning activities)

- Multiplier Events
- Ips (new Call?)

Make sure that you respect the input of

each partner without exaggerating the number of days. 220 days is a standard year!!!

Project Design – check check check your DREAMS!

The project **objectives** and the proposed **activities**?
- Consistency?

The **methodology** proposed
- Feasable? Qualitative?

What **quality control measures** have you foreseen?
- High quality?
- Will it be completed in time?
- What about the budget? Too little, too much?

Will the results be **cost effective** and

The **resources foreseen** for each activity:
- realistic?

And then: which **online platforms** will you use:

eTwinning, EPALE, School Education Gateway, and not only your own website!

Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements

The Team?

- Involving an **appropriate mix** of complementary participating organisations
    - Profile, experience, expertise of the organisation but also
    - Of the key-actors per organisation

- Distribution of **responsibilities and tasks:** please in equilibrium! Not all activities in hands of the applicant!

- Active contribution of **all organisations**: why otherwise allocate them money?

- Effective **mechanisms for coordination and communication**: in detail!

    What if there are problems?

More on the team….

- If relevant: **organisations of different fields** of education, training, youth and socio-economic sectors
- **Newcomers** to the Action?

    Is interesting to mention this!

Now some vocabulary first: **Programme/Partner**???

- Programme countries? The 27 EU countries and also North Macedonia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Serbia, Turkey
- Partner countries? The rest of the World! But….subdivided in 14 Regions (linked to the financing by the EU of these Regions). *UK? Region 15*?

Note: in some Actions it is essential to give evidence why the partner brings in an **additional value** to the project.

Dissemination and Implementation

What measures will you use to **evaluate** the outcomes of the project?

because you aim to have impact ***"during and after"*** on
- the participants
- the participating organisations
- but also at local, regional, national and European levels

    Which measurements will you use? Qualitative? Quantitative?

And how is your **dissemination plan**? What measures will you take for sharing the outcomes of the project
- within and
- outside the participating organisations

And don't limit yourself to   facebook👍   EXAMPLES???

And then what to do with
the materials, documents, media you produced?

No!

So NO patent! **You don't have** an exclusive right to make or sell a product or exploit an invention based on EU money!

The products (materials, documents, media…) of the project will be made **FREELY available** and promoted through open licences, without limitations…

- Important to mention **which partner will take care** of this after the lifetime of the project.
- **Platforms**: EPALE, Erasmus+ Project result Platform for implementaion and follow-up of the project

Close to the end….

Still some words about "Life after the end of the project"

How will you make sure that the project is sustainable

even after the EU grant has been used up …

At the end....

Thank you! Obrigado!

Success! Sucesso!

Build up your resilience in these special times!

- *Annemievandendries@gmail.com*

A few extras…. Erasmus without paper….

- ECHE – Erasmus Charter for Higher Education
  file:///C:/Users/AVD/Downloads/charter-annotated-guidelines-feb2020_en.pdf

- OLA – Online Learning Agreement (OLA website – eduGAIN – eIDAS -….)

- Digital Inter-Institutional Agreements

- European Student Card Initiative: https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en

- Micro-credentials: https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area/a-european-approach-to-micro-credentials_en

- Accreditation: for schools, VET, Adult education: See: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/calls/2020-erasmus-accreditation

- Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027):

  see: https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/digital-education-action-plan_en

Read also... Examples of projects....

D Learning – European Digital Learning Network

- What do you think about the future of Digital Education and training in EU – needs, issues, practices and possible imrpovemenets in education through digital transformation

- Digital footprint awareness

- www. blenditwell.eu: Boosting Educators' Competences to do Quality Blended learning

- www.crowddreaming.eu : an ERASMUS+ KA3 PROJECT ABOUT DIGITAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

- www.codinc.fun: coding for inclusion

- http://dimeli.eu/: digital and media literacy for active citizenship

- www.eduoco.com: with DocDrag, Knowledge at the touch of your employee, partner, and customer

- www.digitproject.eu: boost competences for responsible online identity

- www.axesslearning.eu: acquisition of key competences for economic and social sustainability

Check on…. And contact your NA….

- The European Higher Education Area in 2020 – Bologna Process Implementation Report   – published 18/11/2020 see: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/content/european-higher-education-area-2020-bologna-process-implementation-report_en

- Focus also on
  - European Universities
  - Erasmus Teachers Academies , also SELFIE
  - Blended Learning

- And… Brexit: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/visiting-the-uk-as-an-eu-eea-or- swiss-citizen

Read also EAIE – Member Magazine – Spring 2020 :
DIGITALISATION

- Preparing students for a digital society
- Distance learning for the developing world
- The digital disconnect for disadvantaged students
- Digital credentials easing the transition
- 21st century skills for staff
- Embracing diversity with blended learning
- Teleconferencing in the digital age
- Decoding virtual mobility

Read also EAIE – Member Magazine – Winter 2020 : RESILIENCE in uncertain times (COVID-19!!!)

- Resilience by design
- Choosing a culture of resilience
- Students helping students (about international students and Corona)
- The importance of Global connections
- Opening up during the pandemic
- Keeping refugees connected in a crisis
- Life on the Edge (about hurricanes and earthquakes)
- Pivoting after a crisis
- Living a laboratory of resileince (South-Africa)
- Embracing a digital future
- Magically transforming a transnational course (PL – USA)
- Virtual Summer Schools