

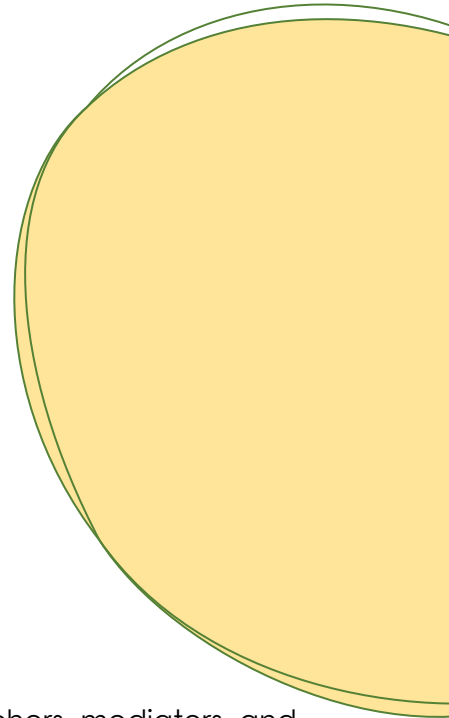
Newsletter 1

May 2023

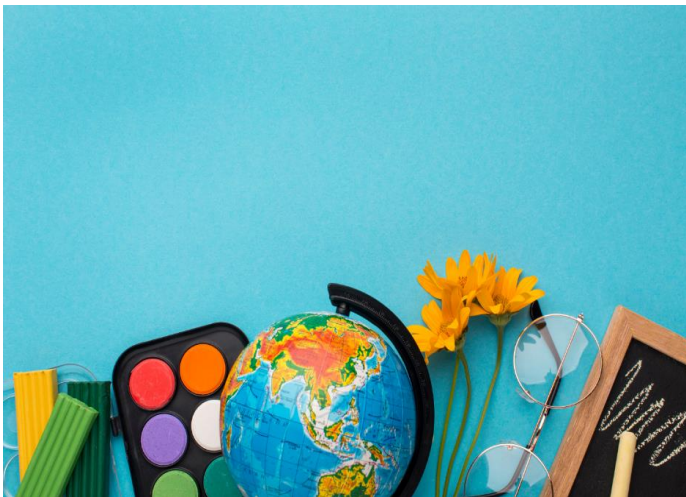
PaL Lab News



PAL LAB



Welcome to the **PaL Lab project**. This project aims to support the teachers, mediators, and experts working with Romani children and youth through upskilling their qualifications in



intercultural training and pedagogical techniques. They will be provided with valuable tools (training plan, curriculum for trainers & Pedagogy Toolbox for teachers & mediators) to work with vulnerable groups in segregated or ethnically mixed neighbourhoods helping the learners to understand the materials, interact correctly & effectively with them and help the reduction of early school leaving.

Why do we do it?

Education consists of one of the most profitable investments a society can make in terms of societal and economic development. In terms of the European Education Area's goals, European cooperation in education and training has made a major contribution to the advancement of general education in the EU. The European Council's New Strategic Agenda for the EU for 2019–2024 emphasizes that Member States “must step up investment in people's skills and education”.

The latter is a source of several individual and social costs, strongly related to low achievement in basic skills and other skills, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, etc. As a consequence, those people are at risk of unemployment and social exclusion, which in turn affect their financial, physical, and mental status. They are also related to higher rates of criminal activity. The causes for students dropping out of school differ considerably from country to country, as well as from region to region within each country but the percentage of the Romani children dropping school systems is much higher for all the rest of the segregated groups.

Teachers are the LINK to transforming knowledge, providing Romani children and youth with the necessary competencies to help them develop their learning outcomes, and educating students with basic human principles, forming resilient, inclusive, and democratic societies. In combination with the 21st-century skills and the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that new teaching methods are designed and transferred to a plethora of teachers, improving their skills so as to keep up with the needs of today's communities. Especially after the outbreak of the pandemic, teachers were worried about how they will comply with the distance learning procedures, as their digital skills vary from country to country and region to region. Moreover, teaching in a more diverse environment, in terms of students having different socio-economic backgrounds but also differences in their learning performance has been challenging. THE ROLE OF A 21ST CENTURY TEACHER is to transfer knowledge, promote inclusion in the classroom, set targets for their future, engage students in the learning process, inspire them, and help them regarding their participation in tertiary education and in the labour market.

1st Transnational project meeting

Exciting Updates from the PAL-LAB Erasmus+ Program Meeting

We are thrilled to share with you the latest news from the first-day meeting of the PAL-LAB Erasmus+ program partners, held in the enchanting city of Brasov, Romania. The gathering proved to be a resounding success, sparking insightful discussions on the research outcomes related to the educational conditions of Roma children and youth in participating countries.

During the meeting, we took significant strides forward, laying the foundation for empowering and uplifting the skills of our dedicated teachers and mediators. Together, we explored innovative approaches and strategies to address the challenges faced by Roma students, aiming to create an inclusive and supportive educational environment.

One of the highlights of our visit was the extraordinary experience at Gymnasium 5 School in Sacele, Brasov, Romania. On the second day of the PAL-LAB meeting, we had the privilege of witnessing the incredible work being done by our colleagues with Romani students. It was truly inspiring to meet Anca, a remarkable teacher and role model, who has achieved tremendous success despite facing discrimination and formidable obstacles.

Anca's journey serves as a shining example of the transformative power of education. Her resilience and determination have not only propelled her forward but have also become a guiding light for her students. We left the school with renewed belief and conviction in the impact that education can have on shaping a brighter future for all.

As we move forward, we remain committed to supporting one another and celebrating our collective successes. Together, we can make a profound difference in the lives of Roma children and youth, providing them with the opportunities they deserve.

Stay tuned for further updates on the PAL-LAB Erasmus+ program as we continue to pave the way for a more inclusive and empowering education system.

Let's stand together, united in pursuing a brighter future for all students.



Lead Partner:

- Centrul Judetean de Resurse si Asistenta Educationala Brasov – Romania

Partners:

- MUCUR SAGLIK SOSYAL EGITIM VE YARDIMLASMA VAKFI – Turkey
- AeliaPath – Greece
- PAL Network – Belgium
- FONDATSIYA OBRAZOVATELNO SATRUDNICHESTVO – Bulgaria

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