



University of Piraeus
School of Economics, Business and International Studies
Department of International and European Studies

“Europe at Schools through Art and Simulation”
(EuropeStARTS)

Jean Monnet Programme - Key Activity 1

“Learning EU at Schools”



Academic Coordinator: Dr. Foteini Asderaki, Assistant Professor



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ
UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS



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“Europe at Schools through Art and Simulation” (EuropeStARTS) at a Glance

Venue: University of Piraeus

Number of seminars: 2

Number of days: 4

Number of participating teachers: 138

Number of hours taught: 30

Number of primary schools participating in the additional simulation
exercises: 4

Duration: September 2013 – August 2014

Project’s website: <http://www.europestarts.eu/>

Project’s Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/Europestarts>



Logo’s design: Dimitrios Kyriazis
(jimkyriazis@gmail.com)

Upon ideas developed by the students of
European Integration course of the 4th semester
(2013-14), Department of International and
European Studies, University of Piraeus

Project website: <http://www.youthactiv.eu/>

Website development: Ioannis Mpelegrinis
(info@atomicorange.gr)



Description

The Department of International and European Studies (DIES) of the University of Piraeus invited teachers of primary education and post-graduate students of the Departments of Primary Education or International and European Studies and PhD candidates on the subject of Education or European Integration and implementation of ICT in education to participate in the “Europe at Schools through Art and Simulation” (EuropeStARTS) Programme with Scientific Coordinator the Assistant Professor Dr. Foteini Asderaki.

The aims of the project were to:

- educate teachers on the issues of European integration
- familiarize teachers with tutorial techniques and new technologies
- promote pupils’ creativity and organization of EU related activities such as simulation exercises
- present and create new teaching/educational material and tools for pupils to use, such as simulation exercises and digital educational comics
- provide teachers with the opportunity to participate in an active network in order to exchange views and best practices in education within the EU

Preparatory activities (September 2013-December 2013)

The Academic Coordinator submitted all the necessary documents to the Directorate of Studies of the Greek Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs. In November/December 2013, an open call was published via the Ministry of National Education and Religion Affairs of Greece. The Academic Coordinator during the period September-December had several preparatory meetings with the project and the scientific team in order to organize the academic/educational and the



operational part of the project. In addition, the Academic Coordinator informed the network of the previous Jean Monnet Programme (Bringing Europe to School Teachers - B.E.S.T.) in order to motivate them and give them the opportunity to participate to this project as educators.

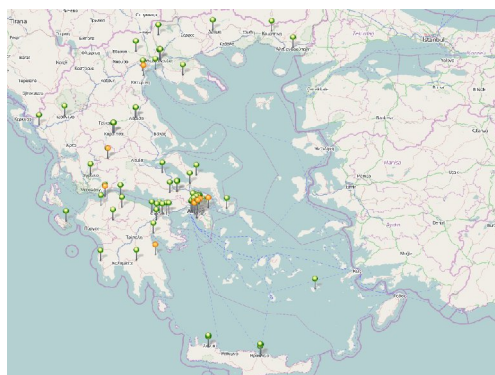
In addition, the EuropeStARTS website was created where information material and important news have been uploaded. The logo of the project was decided after a brainstorming exercise organized by the Academic Coordinator within the European Integration course of the 4th semester along with more than a hundred students of the Department of International and European Studies (DIES). This activity drew the students' attention and many of them were offered to assist as volunteers for the seminars' organisation. The EU stars behind a creative painter linked the concept of EU with the learning process (art and simulation) of this project.

Selection Procedure

In November 2013, an open call was published and it was advertised through several educational websites and via Official Facebook page of EuropeStARTS. The network of the previous Jean Monnet Programme (Bringing Europe to School Teachers - B.E.S.T.) was also informed and was encouraged to disseminate this information.

244 applications were received from School teachers, postgraduate and doctoral students from all over Greece. A positive answer sent to 160 applicants and 150 final replies (proposal's target was 125) were received. 100 of them were teachers and the rest were students. 93 participants were from the Region of Attica and the others from various regions of Greece.

The selection criteria included, professional experience, academic qualifications, and participation in similar training, ICTs and languages' skills, their interest on organising EU-related educational activities, geographical distribution, gender balance, and teachers' specialization distribution.

Table 1: Participants regional distribution

The kick-off meeting

The kick-off meeting took place on January 17, 2014 at the European Parliament's Office in Athens and the Secretary General of the Ministry of Education of Greece, Mr. Athanassios Kyriazis, addressed a short opening speech.

Additionally, Athanassios G. Platias, Director of the Master Degree Program of the Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus and also a member of the Board of the University of Piraeus and Panayiotis Ifaistos, President of the Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus, gave speeches on EU integration. Two videos concerning the results of our previous European project (B.E.S.T.) were presented and a very interesting video of a "B.E.S.T. Teacher" gave the opportunity to make a long discussion on EU issues.



January 17, 2014, Office of the European Parliament, Athens, Kick-off meeting



The Training Seminars

The academic/training programme was organised in two weekends during January and May 2014. 144 participants / teachers followed the initial two-day seminar on January 18-19, 2014 held at the University of Piraeus. The second seminar took place on May 10-11, 2014 and 138 teachers attended it. These 138 participants received a certificate of attendance in the EuropeStARTS project issued by the University of Piraeus and signed by the Academic Coordinator Dr. Foteini Asderaki both in Greek and English. 30 teaching hours in total were implemented in line with our proposal and the learning sessions included both a theoretical and also an empirical part.



Theoretical Part

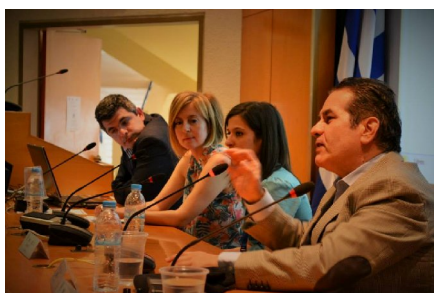
The theoretical part included lectures on the EU, structure and institutions as well as European educational policy and digital learning. The lectures were given by distinguished professors stemming from the University of Piraeus, University of Aegean, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and TEI of Athens. Additionally to these theoretical lectures B.E.S.T. teachers presented the implementation of the theoretical knowledge through educational activities in their classrooms (B.E.S.T. EU practices).

The theoretical part of EuropeStARTS was either designed or/and implemented by the following:



Full Name (alphabetical order)	Title	Institution
Asderaki Foteini	Academic Coordinator Assistant Professor, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Charalampopoulos Nikos	PhD student, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Dagoumas Athanasios	Lecturer, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Evagorou Evagoras	Assistant Professor, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Farantouris Nikolaos	Associate Professor, Jean Monnet Chair Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Gkousios Charalampos	Associate Professor, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Grigoriou Panagiotis	Professor, Jean Monnet Chair, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences	Aegean University
Ifaistos Panagiotis	Professor, President of the Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Kontogoulidou Christina	Bologna Promoter	University of Piraeus
Kotios Angelos	Professor, Dean of the School of Economic, Business and International Studies	University of Piraeus
Liakouras Petros	Associate Professor, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Liaropoulos Andreas	Lecturer, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Mamakou Eirini	Special Laboratory and Teaching Staff, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Maragos Dimitrios	Communication manager of the Erasmus Plus Programme, State Scholarship Foundation	MA, International and European Studies University of Piraeus – State Scholarship Foundation
Papagiannopoulos Elias	Assistant Professor, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Platias Athanasios	Professor, Member of the	University of Piraeus

	University Board and Director of the MA «International and European Studies»	
Roukanas Spyros	Lecturer, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Samaras N. Athanasios	Lecturer Professor, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus
Siakas Spyros	Lecturer	TEI of Athens
Tsami Helen	Special Laboratory and Teaching Staff	University of Piraeus
Tsinisizelis Michael	Professor, Dean of Law School	University of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
Tsirigotis Dionysios	Lecturer, Department of International and European Studies	University of Piraeus



.....
Petros Liakouras, Associate Professor “The EU’s Charter of Fundamental Rights”
.....

Empirical Part

The empirical part of EuropeStARTS included the following sessions/trainings during the first Seminar, January 18-19, 2014:

Comics and New Technologies Training

Participating teachers were informed about the *e-book* and the *e-game* produced in B.E.S.T and they were encouraged to use both of them (www.bestunipi.eu). Moreover, online EU information portals such as Teachers’



Corner, Kids corner etc., and some innovative pedagogical approaches on how to teach EU were presented.



E-book: “Learning Europe Together”



E-Game: “The Capture of Europe”

In addition, a laboratory training of three hour on how participants could produce EU comics run by the CosyLlab of the University of Piraeus (<http://cosy.ds.unipi.gr/>) was organised. The CosyLlab of the University of Piraeus has also developed written educational material in order to familiarize teachers with comic – making procedure.



During the meantime period between the two seminars, school teachers organised, under the instructions and guidance of CosyLlab of the University of Piraeus several activities, produced many comics at their schools and sent their material back to CosyLlab and EuropeStARTS team. The result of these efforts was the creation of the “EuroComic”, an innovative pedagogical instrument to learn EU at schools that any teacher could use. The eurocomic is available in the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0ByEqB9Um9Tc7V3NNM0U5VTBTNGc/view>



“Ratatouille’s new Restaurant”
Primary School of Xilokeriza



6th Primary School of Aigaleo

Simulation Exercises Workshop

One of the most innovative parts of the first seminar for the teachers was the realisation of a simulation exercise. The simulation exercise was organised by former students of DIES which have established the Institute for Research and Training on European Issues (I.R.T.E.A.). I.R.T.E.A. organises along with the Academic staff of our Department an annual Simulation exercise “Euro.pa.s”

The subjects discussed in each simulated EU institution were as follow: The European Parliament: “The reinforcement of the identity of the European Citizen through the Educational System”. The European

Council: “Decision on the new High Representative of the EU on Foreign Affairs and Security Policy” and “EU-Turkey relations and the future of its accession negotiations”. The Council of the European Union, “Education, youth, culture and sport” Configuration: “Investing on an affective and innovative education”.

I.R.T.E.A. created A “Study Guide” of 24 pages, explaining in detail the history of the EU, the EU Institutions, the subjects of each simulated body and the rules of procedure for the Simulation and the placards of the participants.

Participating teachers were very pleased by the outcome of this



simulation, eager to participate and in fact many of them after the exercise admitted to have gained practical knowledge on the EU decision making

process and asked to participate in similar events and for the “know-how” in order to create a similar exercise for their students.



Simulation Exercise with EuropeStARTS participants, University of Piraeus

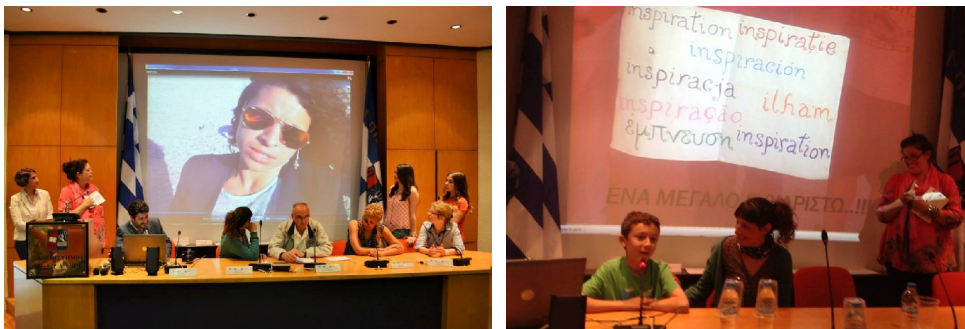
Animation Workshop

During the last day of the first seminar an additional animation workshop was decided to be developed with the title: “Developing an animated digital short video for educational purposes”. Hence, two workshops was organised (8 and 15 March 2014) where 22 EuropeStArts teachers participated. The workshop was run by Charalampos Gkousios, Associate Professor, Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus and Spyros Siakas, Lecturer, TEI of Athens, in order for the selected teachers to understand the main principles and stages of creating an animation film and be able to create an animation digital video and use it in their classes.

This workshop included the following stages: A. Defining the main idea of the story of the animation film as well as its use in an educational process B. Creating the synopsis of the film. C. Creating the dialogues and the storyboard of the film. D. Creating the sets and constructing the characters of the film. E. Shooting the animation sequences according the individual storyboards and using the stop motion animation technique F. Synchronization of shot animation sequences and audio in real time using a montage technique.

The empirical part of EuropeStARTS included the following sessions/trainings during the second Seminar, May 10-11, 2014:

The EU of Teachers



Four Comenius Teachers from France were invited to participate and interact with EuropeStARTS teachers on May 10, 2014. Teachers had the opportunity to discuss and exchange views on teaching practices and evaluation procedures.

Art Sessions

Art had a central position in the second seminar. A «The Digital Museum» Workshop has been developed and many speakers, strongly related with museums and operas gave a cultural dimension in teaching EU at schools. Most of them pointed out that culture could be a catalyst for creativity and innovation within the classes. In addition, they also explained that both EU and national authorities are working closely together in order to promote cultural diversity and dialogue between each EU country.



“Digital museum workshop”

International Relations Workshops

During the second seminar, five (5) International Relations Workshops were implemented in order for the teachers to be informed on current issues of the European integration. The titles of the workshops were: ‘The European Union as a global player’, ‘The crisis in Ukraine and the EU’s reaction’, ‘EU - Turkey-Greece’, ‘EU – Energy Security’, ‘10 years from the accession of Cyprus to the EU: Lessons and Prospects’ and ‘The rise of extreme right parties in Europe’.



Lecturers Andrews Liaropoulos and Athanasios Dagoumas

Eurocomics Presentations

During February, March and April school teachers had created along with their pupils the “Eurocomics” (<http://www.europestarts.eu/en/the-europestarts-teachers-eurocomics/>). A selection was made and some of them were presented during the second training seminar (May 10-11, 2014).



Eleni Karagianni , 2nd Primary School of Acharnes, “A story about Europe”

The participating school teachers seemed to be very satisfied with our project as shown at the impact on EuropeStARTS Facebook page. More than 41.000 post clicks after the seminars. This is really a success taking into account the “Eurosceptic” environment in Greece because of the economic crisis!





Training - January 18-19, 2014

Saturday, January 18, 2014

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:10 Presentation of the University of Piraeus, Dr. Christina Kontogoulidou, Head of International Relations Office, University of Piraeus

9:10-9:30 EuropeStARTS's Presentation, Foteini Asderaki, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus, Academic Coordinator of the EuropeStARTS Programme

9:30-10:30 **Introductory Game**

10:30-11:45 **EU – Structure and Functions**

10:30-10:45 Michael Tsinisizelis, Professor, Dean of Law School, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

10:45-11:00 Nikolaos Farantouris, Associate Professor, DIES, University of Piraeus, Jean Monnet Chair

11:00-11:15 Spyros Roukanas, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus, "The EU and the Financial Crisis"

11:15-11:25 Nikoletta Petropoulou, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 6th Primary School of Amaliada, "In favour of which Europe do you speak my teacher?"

11:25-11:35 Kristi Folia, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 12th Primary School of Peristeri, 'Unity in Diversity'

11:35-12:00 Questions - Discussion

12:00-12:30 Coffee Break

12:30-14:00 **Europe, Education Policy and Digital Learning**

12:30-12:50 Foteini Asderaki, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus, "The Educational Policy and the Digital Agenda, Trends - Developments"



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12:50-13:10 Charalampos Gkousios, Associate Professor, DIES, University of Piraeus & Spyros Siakas, Lecturer, TEI of Athens, "The utilization of animation in the teaching process"

13:10-13:30 Dimitrios Maragkos, MA, State Scholarship Foundation's Contact Person, "The European Erasmus+ Programme: Comenius"

13:30-13:40 Demetra - Elli Zochiou, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 6th Primary School of Corfu, "Getting students to EU through ICT"

13:40-13:50 Calliope Kafetzaki, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 2nd Elementary School of Agios Nickolaos, «The fascinating world of fairytales in Europe»

13:50-14:00 Questions - Discussion

14:00-15:00 Lunch Break

15:00-16:30 **Presentation of Websites and Web Material for the EU**

15:00-15:20 Alexandra Nikolakopoulou, Europe Direct

15:20-15:40 Dr. Helen Tsami, «Kids 'Corner" & "Teachers' Corner", "EU back to School "& Euro School"

15:40-15:50 Ismene Kavvadi, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", Teacher, 2nd Elementary School of Psaxna Evia, «EU through Video animation»

15:50- 16:00 Marianna Martini, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", Professor of English, 12th Elementary School Galatsiou, "EU through an Interactive Game"

16:00-16:10 Chryssoula Semeli Misailidi, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", Teacher, "United in diversity - common currency and flag"

16:10-16:30 Discussion

16:30-18:00 **Simulation Sessions** - Institute for Research and Training on European Affairs (I.R.T.E.A.)

- Simulation of the European Council
- Simulation of the Council
- Simulation of the European Parliament



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Sunday, January 19, 2014

9:00-11:00 Teaching Europe through Art

9:00-9:15 Elias Papagiannopoulos, Assistant Professor, DIES, University of Piraeus

9:15-9:30 Charis Mavroudi, Teacher, "Child Museum - Exploitation of Art as a medium of instruction of the EU»

9:30-10:00 Anatoli Vrocharidou, Head of School Activities Chios, Doctoral Student, University of the Aegean, "The Virtual Museum»

10:00-10:10 Sylvie Dufresne, Teacher of French, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", Elementary School of Valira Messinia, "Singing Children's rights"

10:10-10:20 Georgia Karela, Teacher, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 4th Primary School Halandriou, "Creating a File with works of European artists"

10:20-10:30 Maria Kosmidou, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 3rd Primary School of Halastra, "Teaching Europe through dance"

10:30-11:00 Discussion

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 European and International Programmes

11:30-11:45 Eirini Pateraki, National Support Service «The E-twinning Programme»

11:45-12:00 Vera Dilari, «Activities of EU and UNESCO in Schools - The Patrimonito Comic»

12:00-12:10 Alexander Kapaniaris, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", PhD Candidate, University of Aegean, "The digital comic in the educational process. An EU Trip"

12:10-12:20 Maria Rellia, "B.E.S.T. Teacher", 1st Primary School of Karpenisi, «E-Twinning - Meet my country»

12:20-13:00 Discussion

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break



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14:00-17:00 **Workshops - Learning the EU through Comics** - Simos Retalis, Professor, Department of Digital Systems, University of Piraeus, Director of CoSy Learning Lab, «Educational Comics for the EU»



Training – May 10-11, 2014

Saturday, May 10th, 2014

8:30-9:00 Registrations

9:30-10:00 Break the ice game - Lina Karaïskou, Student at the Department of Journalism, Mass Media & Communication, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

10:00-11:00 **The EU of Teachers** - Coordinator: Foteini Veneti, 4th Primary School of Hymettus

- Fragkoula Kouskourida, “The teachers as European citizens and the possibilities of improvement of their academic profile through this attribute”
- Emmanuelle Roulant, Principal of the School of Cigales in Beausoleil, France
- Caroline Latreille, Professor, France
- Hélène Husson, Librarian of the School of Cigales in Beausoleil, France



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- Jean-Claude Daon, School Advisor, France

Questions-Discussion

11.00-11.30 Break

11:30-12.00 **Europe at Schools** - Coordinator: Dimitrios Maragos, MA, Erasmus+ Communication Officer – State Scholarships Foundation

- Sofia Theodoridou, Primary School of Astypalaia, “12 Nisiasteria”
- Anastasia Fakidou, School advisor of primary education of Karditsa, “A dream full of... Europe”
- Paraskevi Karipidou, 7th Primary School of Giannitsa Pellas, “Trip & Tail EU Comic”
- Stavroula Xiftidi, 2nd Primary School of Atalanti, “Europe is Recycling”
- Ioannis Stefas, Primary School of Isthmia, “Looking for Europe!”

12:00-13:00 **The uncertain step of the European integration** - Coordinator: Foteini Asderaki, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus, Academic

- Helen Karagianni, 2nd Primary School of Acharnes, “A story about Europe”
- Foteini Asderaki, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus
- Panagiotis Grigoriou, Professor, Jean Monnet Chair, Aegean University
- Dimitris Papadimitriadis, Psychiatrist-psychotherapist, Expert in International political health, Blogger
- George Pieros, Journalist, Blogger
- Bill Koukis, Graduate of DIES, University of Piraeus, Blogger

Questions-Discussion

13:00-14.00 Lunch

14:00-15:00 **Europe, Educational Policy and Policies of Digital Learning** - Coordinator: Charalampos Gkousios, Associate Professor, DIES, University of Piraeus

- Charalampos Gkousios, Associate Professor, DIES, University of Piraeus & Spiros Siakas, Professor of Applications at Technological Educational



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Institute of Athens, “Utilization of the principles of animation in the instructive process”

- Efthimia Tsolakidou, Georgia Kazakou, Marina Kazakou, B.E.S.T. Teacher, “MOOCS for teachers”
- Irini Mamakou, Senior Teaching Fellow, DIES, University of Piraeus, “Applications of contemporary learning methods at the elementary education”
- Symeon Tsamksoglou, 4th Primary School of Keratsini, “Comenius, ‘Knowing me knowing you knowing our roots for the future’”.

Questions-Discussion

15:00-16:00 **Simulation exercises** - Coordinator: Savvoula Oikonomou, Institute of Research & Training on European Affairs

- George Stephanakos, B.E.S.T. Teacher, 8th Primary School of Aigaleo
- Nansi Pyrini, B.E.S.T. Teacher, 1st Primary School of Rafina
- Chris Gkontevas, 3rd Primary School of Korydallos
- Athanassia Meintasi, 1st special school of Peristeri
- Aikaterini Vigkou, 1st 12seated model experimental school of Athens,
- (Marasleio)

16.00-16.30 Break

16:30-17:30 **Children’s rights / Bullying at schools** - Coordinator: Maria Drakaki, B.E.S.T. Teacher, School Advisor of Primary education, Heraklion Crete

- Petros Liacouras, Associate Professor, DIES, University of Piraeus
- Pavlos Salichos, Psychologist and Stephanos Alevizos, Psychologist, NGO “The Smile of the Child”
- Elpida Pafiti, 2nd Primary School of Nea Chalkidona and Panagiota Chachampi, post-graduate student, “Bullying at school”
- Stella Karatza, Teacher, Primary School of Ancient Corinth”, PhD Candidate, UOA, “Comic against bullying at school”

Sunday May 11, 2014

8.30-9.00 Arrival



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9.00-9.30 Teaching Europe through Art (Part 1)

Workshop: «**The Digital Museum**»

- Anatoli Vrocharidou, Head Function of School Activities P.E. Chiou, PhD Candidate, University of Aegean
- Nektarios Farasopoulos, 1st Primary School of Ermoupolis, Syros
- Peggy Kottou, Graduate student, Cultural Technology & Communication, University of the Aegean

9.30-10.30 International Relations Workshops

- The European Union as a global player (Room 102), Andreas Liaropoulos, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus, «The crisis in Ukraine and the EU's reaction»
- EU - Turkey-Greece (Room 103), Dionysius Tsirigotis, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus
- EU – Energy Security (Room 104), Thanassis Dagoumas, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus
- 10 years from the accession of Cyprus to the EU: Lessons and Prospects (Room 105), Evagoras Evagorou, Lecturer, DIES, University of Piraeus
- The rising of extreme right parties in Europe (Room 106), Nick Charalampopoulos, PhD Candidate, DIES, University of Piraeus

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 **Teaching Europe through Art** (Part 2) - Moderator: Varbara Dilari

- Varvara Dilari, «Culture promotional power for Sustainable Development» & Lambrini Trivella, post graduate student of Comparative Education, «Education -Culture - Economy: One way to recovery according to UNESCO»
- Alexander Eykleidis, Director of National Opera, «Educational Programs and
- Activities of the National Opera»



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- Athina Panou, Archeologist - Museologist, Head of Permanent Collection of Municipal Gallery of Piraeus & Irene Simigdala, Conservator for works of art, Maker of Copies
- Zabel Mouratian, Educator - Museologist, Chairman of Administrative Council, Greek Children's Museum, «The educational and social role of the museum. The work of Greek Children's Museum»
- Maria Drakaki, B.E.S.T. Teacher, Counselor of Elementary School Education, Heraklion Crete, «SMEC PROJECT: Experience from a seminar adult education in a large museum in Europe. Starting from the BEST.... »

13:00 Visit to **Municipal Gallery of Piraeus** (Old Post Office Building, Philon 29 and Karaoli & Dimitriou), Piano: Vaggelis Sitaras

14.00 Closing Ceremony



Panos Grigoriou, Jean Monnet Chair, University of Aegean

The simulation Exercises at Schools

During the first seminar four teachers have been chosen, after a tentative selection process based on teachers' professional experience, academic qualifications and interest on organizing educational activities concerning EU, in order to implement four (4) simulations of the European Parliament with the subject "Sustainable Energy Solutions for the EU" to their schools. These simulations were organized by the Institute for Research and Training on European Affairs – I.R.T.E.A. (www.irtea.gr).



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The participating schools were: The 3rd Primary School of Korydallos with participating pupils of the fifth and sixth grade of the primary education, the 1st Primary School of Rafina with also pupils of the fifth and sixth grade, the 1st Pilot Primary School of the University of Athens with pupils of the sixth grade of their primary education and the 1st Primary School for Students with Special Needs of Peristeri with participating pupils from all the grades of primary education, since the students were chosen based on their ability to participate in such an exercise.

The I.R.T.E.A. had meetings with the participating students in order to discuss the issues addressed by the simulations. In specific: In the 3rd Primary School of Korydallos two preparation meetings lasting one and a half hour each. In the 1st Primary School of Rafina one preparation meeting of duration three hours. In the 1st Pilot Primary School of the University of Athens two preparation meetings of duration one and a half hour each. In the 1st Primary School for Students with Special Needs of Peristeri five preparation meetings of duration 45 minutes each. I.R.T.E.A. working with the EuropeStARTS project team collected the material given to the participants: Placards showing the participants party or role in the simulation, a Dossier of the University of Piraeus, a “Europe and Me” book for kids that has been created by the European Commission, a notebook and a pen.

The Simulation exercises took place on the 4th of March in the 3rd Primary School of Korydallos, on the 9th of April in the 1st Primary School of Rafina, on the 8th of May in the 1st Primary School for Students with Special Needs of Peristeri and on the 9th of May in the 1st Pilot Primary School of the University of Athens.

The simulations of the European Parliament in these four (4) schools were implemented as follows: Two pupils were chosen by their teachers in the roles of the President and the Vice-President of the European Parliament and were responsible to make sure the rules of the simulation were in force and to administrate the debate among their classmates. The rest of the pupils were divided in two Political Parties, the Yellow Party and the Purple Party. Afterwards the pupils who wished to become the leaders of their party gave a speech to their party’s members, who decided on their leader by voting. In the simulations the participants had to raise their placards and

once they were recognized by the Board of the simulation they had the floor for 30 seconds in order to make their point. Once the debate time was over (approximately 30 minutes debate time in each simulation) the Board would read to them a draft conclusion on their discussion and the parties' members would vote upon it by raising their placards. During the preparation and implementation stage the students showed a great interest on EU policies, history and function and seemed enthusiastic about the opportunity of becoming Members of the European Parliament for a day.

During the debate, the participation of the pupils was vivid and the views that were articulated were well-established on the EU and its future. Most importantly though, the pupils, after the end of the project, they asked us to repeat a similar event to their school next year. Concluding the simulations were broadly accepted and enjoyed in an informative and pedagogical way by the participants.



14th March 2014, Simulation Exercise with 2nd Primary school of Korydallos, Town Hall of Korydallos

Civil society and EuropeStARTS

There were several actions and strong interaction with civil society and other institutions such as: the Ministry of National Education, the Regional Directorate of Education, the State Scholarships Foundation-National Agency for the Erasmus+ (www.iky.gr), the Europe Direct - Eliamep (www.eliamep.gr), the Institute for Research and Training on European Affairs (www.irtea.gr), the Municipal Gallery of Piraeus, the NGO “The Smile of the Child” ([www.http://www.hamogelo.gr/1.2/home](http://www.hamogelo.gr/1.2/home)), the Greek National Opera (<http://www.nationalopera.gr/>), the Greek Children Museum (<http://www.childrensartmuseum.gr/>), the Municipal Theatre of Piraeus (<http://www.dithepi.gr/>), the National Support Service for the E-twinning (<http://www.etwinning.net>), the Municipality of Koridallios and parents’ associations of various schools across Greece. In addition to this, during the second seminar of EuropeStARTS three young Greek bloggers participated in the discussion of “the uncertain step of the European integration” (Dimitris Papadimitriadis, Psychiatrist/psychotherapist, Expert in International political health, Blogger - George Pieros, Journalist, Blogger - Bill Koukis, Graduate of DIES, University of Piraeus, Blogger).



Pavlos Salichos “The Smile of the Child”



Dimitrios Ginis, Attica’s Regional Director of Education



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Dissemination and visibility actions

- Creation of EuropeStARTS Website where important news, photos and videos have been uploaded: <http://www.europestarts.eu>
- A logo was created after a brainstorming exercise so as to reassure the visibility of the project. The EU stars behind a creative painter linked the concept of EU with the learning process (art and simulation) of this project.
- Promotional material was created, such as a poster that was placed in various points within the University of Piraeus; budgies for the participants; and a bag with the EuropeStARTS logo.
- Publications in electronic form regarding EuropeStARTS were published in the following educational and informational websites and portals:

Neolaia.gr. (<http://www.neolaia.gr/2014/01/28/programma-europestarts-ekdilosi-mathainoume-gia-tin-evropi-sta-sxoleia/>),

Esos.gr (<http://www.esos.gr/arthra/tritovathmia/eidisis-tritovathmia-ekpaidefsi/oloklhrvuhke-me-epityxia-to-programma-europestarts/>),

Inewsgr.com (<http://www.inewsgr.com/117/programma-europestarts-ekdilosi-mathainoume-gia-tin-evropi-sta-scholaia.htm>),

Euractiv.gr (<http://euractiv.gr/panepistimio-peiraios-europe-schools-through-art-and-simulation-europestarts>)

Dimoskopio.korydallos.gr (<http://dimoskopio.korydallos.gr/index.php/politikon-paidion/73-mikroi-evrovouleftes-oi-mathites-tou-3ou-dhmotikou>)

- Interview of the Academic Coordinator Dr. Foteini Asderaki and presentation of EuropeStARTS in Eleftherotypia (one of the largest daily newspapers in Greece – <http://www.enet.gr/?i=news.el.article&id=411990>)

- Presentation of EuropeStARTS in ‘Koinoniki’ (local newspaper of Attica Region - <http://koinoniki.gr/2014/03/panepistimio-pireos-exikioni-ta-pedia-me-tin-topiki-aftodiikisi/>) and in ‘Dimotis’ (local newspaper of Piraeus).
- The Academic Coordinator and members of EuropeStARTS team were invited to discuss about EuropeStARTS impact in schools in Alpha 989 (one of the largest informational radio stations in Greece). Listen a part of the broadcast session here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLCXwxuT>



Interview of EuropeStARTS' team at Alpha radio 98,9

- The Academic Coordinator and a member of EuropeStARTS team participated and presented the results of the project in the International Conference on Information Communication Technologies (ICICTE) 2014 which is a scientific event held annually on Kos since the year 2000 in the field of technological innovations in educational settings.
- The Official Facebook Page of EuropeStARTS Programme (<https://www.facebook.com/EuropeStARTS>) has more than 1,000 likes and many posts have been reached or clicked by more than 40,000 people (mainly group photos and important news about EuropeStARTS conferences)
- See conference photos in EuropeStARTS Facebook page:



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<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.253328461509280.1073741830.226445784197548&type=1>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.295455470629912.1073741831.226445784197548&type=3>

Evaluation Questionnaire

A Questionnaire (with a 4 scale ratio- 1 bad- 2 average- 3 good- 4 very good) was distributed to the teachers in order to explore their views about the implementation of EuropeStARTS and the educational need for teaching EU at Greek Primary schools. We received a total of 102 questionnaires, 90 were coming from women and 12 from men. Most of the respondents were aged within 18-39 (66%) and had postgraduate studies background. The respondents had to ask 15 questions divided in two sub categories, namely, the aims of the learning programme and the qualitative characteristics of the Programme.

The aims of the project were to: educate teachers on the issues of European integration; familiarise them with tutorial techniques and new technologies; promote pupils' creativity and organization of EU related activities such as simulation exercises; present and create new teaching/educational material and tools for pupils to use, such as simulation exercises and digital educational comics; provide teachers with the opportunity to participate in an active network in order to exchange views and best practices in education within the EU.

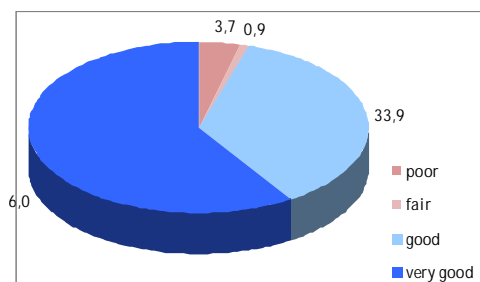
According to the programme's evaluation from the teachers the programme enhanced in a 85% their knowledge on the structure and function of the European Union. Furthermore, the programme developed their knowledge on the EU's education policy in a percentage of 76%. Moreover, the programme contributed to their students' familiarization with the institutions and functions of the EU in a percentage of 80,07%. In addition, 86,2 % stated that the creation of comics met the



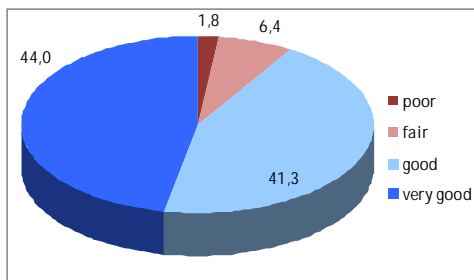
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needs of the Greek school and 90,1 % claimed that the simulations met the needs of the Greek school. Last but not least 96,1 % supported that they will use the knowledge provided in their schools.

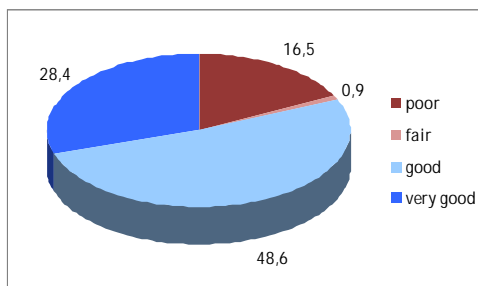
How would you rate the programme's content?



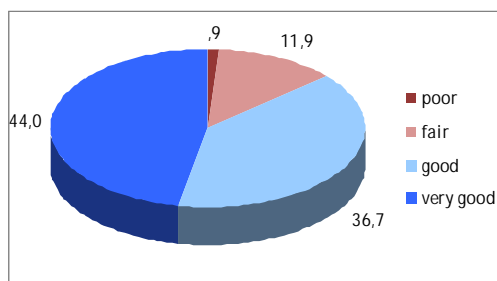
To what extent did the programme enhance your knowledge on the structure and function of the European Union?



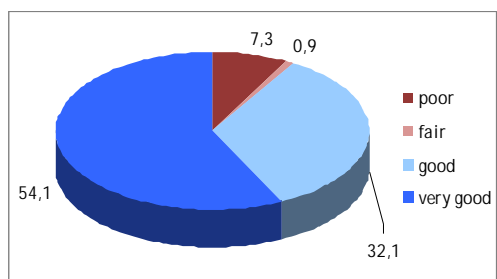
To what extent did the programme develop your knowledge on the EU's education policy?



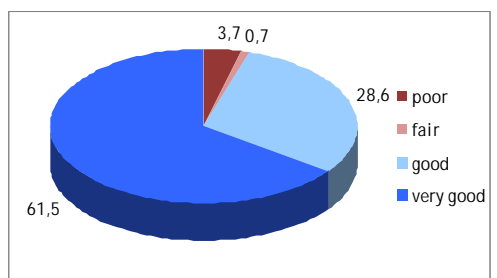
To what extent does the programme contribute to your students' familiarization with the institutions and functions of the EU?



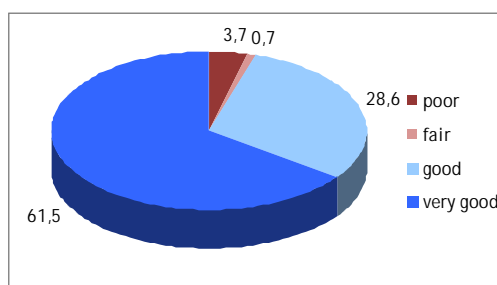
12. To what extent does the creation of comics meet the needs of the Greek school?



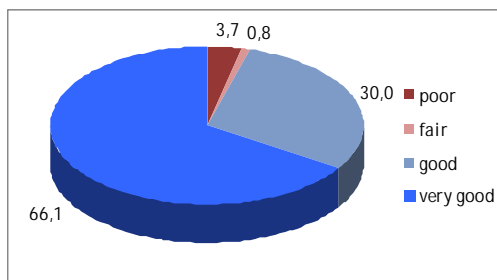
To what extent do the simulations meet the needs of the Greek school?



How would you rate your overall opinion of the programme?



Would you use the knowledge provided in your schools?



Closing ceremony

The Closing ceremony was organized in the Municipal Gallery of Piraeus on May 11, 2014. The Mayor of Piraeus gave a short speech.





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Supporting (Dream) Team

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For further information:

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