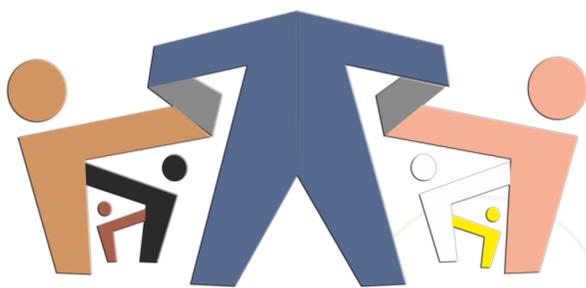


# SONETOR



Training of cultural mediators utilizing  
new Social Networking Software

SONETOR—A project for cultural mediators has started

# E-newsletter

May 2012

Issue 1

## What you can find in this issue:

- **General information** about the SONETOR project
- **First international partner meeting**
- **Foreseen project results**
- **Available soon:** the **project platform**

„SONETOR—Training for cultural mediators utilizing new Social Networking Software“ goes into action.

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## SONETOR—general information

Over the last decades, the scale of migration has been growing considerably throughout Europe. EU Member States received a total of 3.8 million immigrants while at least 2.3 million immigrants are reported to have left one of the EU Member States in 2008. According to Eurostat data (Statistics in focus, 98/2008), from 2004 to 2008 the population of EU Member States increased, on average, by 1.7 million per year, solely because of the high net migration. These data show that immigration is a key issue of European policies and governments.

With the increase in

immigration, racism and xenophobia are also on the rise. People find it difficult to live with diversity, to transact and to do business with “unknown” people in unfamiliar environments. This situation is generated by lack of knowledge of the “other”. If we are to achieve peaceful cohabitation, we must facilitate acceptance of migrants by appreciating their diversity and the opportunities their presence offers.

Several projects have been funded in the field of Cultural Mediators and ICT-based training tackling these aspects for them. SONETOR is a new project, co-funded

by the EU Lifelong Learning Programme pillar of LEONARDO DA VINCI Multilateral Projects for Development of innovation.

The directly affected stakeholders of project results are Cultural Mediators' communities, students (of social sciences, health sciences, literature etc) aiming to become Cultural Mediators, Higher Education Institutes, Vocational Education and Training (VET) centers, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and volunteering organizations, local authorities and public administration, Certification of Qualifications Organizations, and any other

## About the first international partner meeting



Foto: Project partners from Austria, Ireland, Spain, Poland and Greece at the first international meeting in Greece

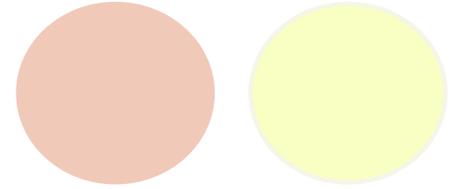
The project addresses the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) processes and activities. To discuss how to address this and what the project partnership will need to do to answer foreseen ECVET criteria,

representatives of the involved organisations met at the kick-off meeting in February 2012. The Hellenic Open University, being project applicant of the SONETOR project, invited the project partners from Austria, Ireland, Spain and

Poland to their premises in Patras. In addition, local stakeholders from the Municipality of Patras, ADEP S.A, the Olympic Training & Consulting Ltd., Achaia Adult Education Institute N.G.O joined the meeting. The next reunion will be held in



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**Project promoter:**  
Hellenic Open University, Greece  
[www.eap.gr](http://www.eap.gr)

**Project partners:**



BEST Institut für berufsbezogene Weiterbildung und Personaltraining GmbH, Austria: [www.best.at](http://www.best.at)



Computer Technology Institute and Press "Diophantus", Greece: [www.cti.gr](http://www.cti.gr)



MARQUE 21 SL, Spain: [www.marque.es](http://www.marque.es)



Pontifical University of John Paul II, Poland: [www.upjp2.pl](http://www.upjp2.pl)



University of Limerick, Ireland: [www.ul.ie](http://www.ul.ie)

## SONETOR products

Based on comparative user needs analysis, the SONETOR partnership will produce training contents and scenarios and a social networking platform for vocational training and guidance practice.

In more details, peer learning scenarios will be produced on topics related to everyday practice of Cultural Mediators, such as mediators working in health, education, public services, etc. These scenarios will reflect real-life situations;

they will show immigrants' everyday problems and difficulties.

Based upon digital training modules delivered via the SONETOR training platform (see also below) Cultural Mediators can develop formal and non-formal skills and competences they need to practice their every day work.

Other outputs to help Cultural Mediators will be a variety of workshops held in the partner

countries, i.e. in Austria, Greece, Ireland, Poland and Spain. They will help Cultural Mediators to find out more about the project results and how to apply them via various presentations and demonstration of the training platform.

A final plenary workshop will be organized in Greece to promote the outcomes of the project and offer access to a wider public and the results being sustainable beyond the

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The project's main results, learning services for Cultural Mediators will be deployed via a special social networking platform. This multilingual training platform will integrate existing social network applications with specified adult educational methodologies and contents and services produced to assist Cultural Mediators in developing formal and non-formal skills and competences. It can be used for the transfer of knowledge, culture, best practice and experience at a European level. For this, It will offer forums, blogs, chat and similar features to support the exchange of working experience and real life situations

among the SONETOR Cultural Mediators' communities within the context of training scenarios. To make it most appealing to the future communities of Cultural Mediators, users will be able to customize the information that appears in their personal space at the main platform page. This could e.g. be a link to a favorite application (like eLearning) or data from a favorite application (e.g. Wiki Pages). Thus, users will be able to create their individual space according to their daily practices and needs to better help their clients. The SONETOR platform hopes to address the needs of Cultural Mediators and other

professionals who formally or informally interact with immigrants. It will have a key role in building communities of stakeholders centered around specific scenarios. Read here a shortlist of some services offered by the SONETOR platform:

- create/moderate/join a training scenario
- view scenario contents (e.g. videos, text, presentations etc.)
- join a discussion, post messages to the forum, post news, announcements etc.
- maintain a blog related to Cultural Mediation
- create a community of users