



## TIPS NEWSLETTER June 2009

The Newsletter Issue 6 is part of the informative material concerning the aims and activities of the TIPS project and intends to disseminate and promote the main project outcomes. This issue is dedicated primarily to the results of the TIPS six month pilot training course.

### Results of the TIPS Pilot Training Course: "Practising and Enhancing Cultural Mediation in a Pluralistic Europe"

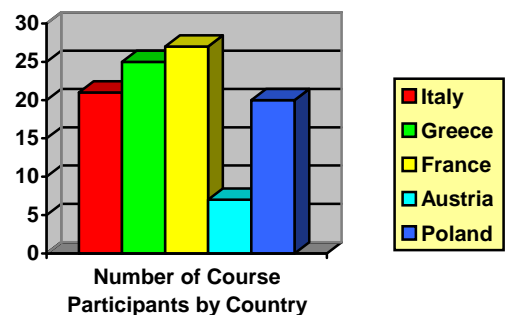
The TIPS Course "Practising and Enhancing Cultural Mediation in a Pluralistic Europe" officially started on Monday, March 9th, with the delivery of Module 1: *Introduction to the TIPS course*. The course will end on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### TIPS Course Participants

The course participants selected for the TIPS pilot training course "Practising and Enhancing Cultural Mediation in a Pluralistic Europe" consisted of **100 total participants** from the following partner countries:

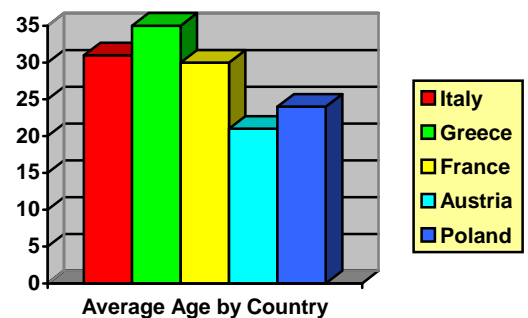
**Total number of participants: 100**  
**Total number of classes: 5**

- ❖ Italian class: 21 trainees enrolled
- ❖ Greek class: 25 trainees enrolled
- ❖ French class: 27 trainees enrolled
- ❖ Austrian class: 7 trainees enrolled
- ❖ Polish class: 20 trainees enrolled



**Average Age: 28 years old**  
**By Class:**

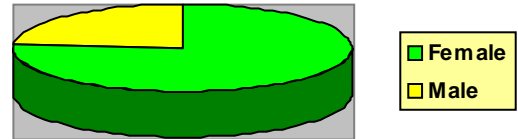
- ❖ Italian class: 31 years old
- ❖ Greek class: 35 years old
- ❖ French class: 30 years old
- ❖ Austrian class: 21 years old
- ❖ Polish class: 24 years old



**Gender: 76 female, 24 male**

**By Class:**

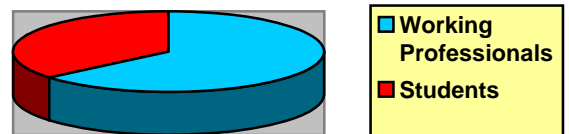
- ❖ Italian class: 13 female, 8 male
- ❖ Greek class: 21 females, 4 male
- ❖ French class: 22 female, 5 male
- ❖ Austrian class: 5 female, 2 male
- ❖ Polish class: 15 female, 5 male



**Occupation:**

**Total number of student trainees: 36**

- ❖ Gender: 28 female, 8 male
- ❖ Average Age: 25

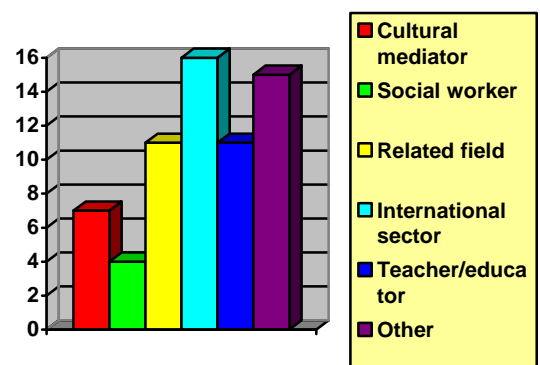


**Total number of trainees who are working professionals: 64**

- ❖ Gender: 49 female, 15 male
- ❖ Average Age: 30

**Sector:**

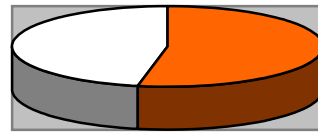
- ❖ Cultural mediator: 7
- ❖ Social worker: 4
- ❖ Related field: working with foreign citizens, refugees, immigrants, etc.: 11
- ❖ International organization or volunteer sector: 16
- ❖ Teacher/educator: 11
- ❖ Other (journalist, event organizer, midwife, etc.): 15



**Experience in cultural mediation or related field:**

**Working professionals: 39**

**Students: 14**



Experience in cultural mediation or related field  
 No previous experience

**By Class:**

❖ Italian class:

**Working professionals:** 20 (12 female, 8 male - average 31)

- Cultural mediator: 1
- International organization or volunteer sector: 3
- Teacher/educator: 3
- Other: 13

**Students:** 1 (female, age 24)

- Subjects: sociology and communication

❖ Greek class:

**Working professionals:** 19 (17 female, 2 male - average age 37)

- Cultural mediator: 2
- Related field: working with foreign citizens, refugees, immigrants, etc.: 10
- Teacher/educator: 6
- Other: 1

**Students:** 6 (5 female, 1 male - average age 29)

- Subjects: social work, education, adult education, Greek and Arabic literature, theology

❖ French class:

**Working professionals:** 8 (7 female, 1 male - average age 28)

- Cultural Mediator: 4
- Social worker: 4

**Students:** 19 (15 female, 4 male – average age 26)

- Subjects : 16 enrolled in Master Coopération et Solidarité Internationale – CSI class)
- 3 studying social work

❖ Austrian class:

**Working professionals:** 1

- Other: 1, linguist (female, age 24)

**Students:** 6 (4 female, 2 male, average age 21)

- Subjects: social work

❖ Polish class:

**Working professionals:** 16 (12 female, 4 male –average age 29)

- Related field: working with foreign citizens, refugees, immigrants, etc.: 1
- International organization or volunteer sector: 13
- Teacher/educator: 2

**Students:** 4 (3 female, 1 male - average age 23)

- Subjects: psychology, international relations, linguistics, marketing

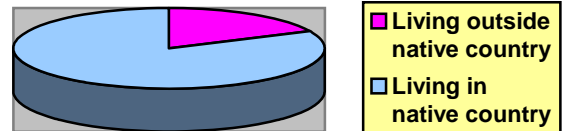
**Nationality / Citizenship:**

**General:**

Number of users with nationality other than the country where they live: 18

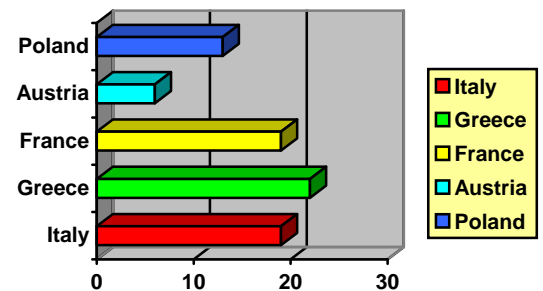
**By Class:**

- ❖ Italian class:
  - Italian: 15
  - Bangladesh: 1
  - Eritrean: 1
  - Ivorian: 1
  - Polish: 1
  - Moroccan: 1
  - Romanian: 1
  
- ❖ Greek class:
  - Greek: 21
  - Albanian: 1
  - Romanian: 1
  - Lebanese: 2
  
- ❖ French class:
  - French: 19
  - Malian: 2
  - Persian: 1
  - Malagasy: 1
  - Congolese: 1
  - Chinese: 1
  - Cameroonian: 1
  - Algerian: 1
  
- ❖ Austrian class:
  - Austrian: 7
  
- ❖ Polish class:
  - Polish: 20



**79% active course participants (as of June 30, 2009):**

- ❖ Italian class: 19 total
- ❖ Greek class: 22 total
- ❖ French class: 19 total
- ❖ Austrian class: 6 total
- ❖ Polish class: 13 total





### Centres

Each project partner provided at least one or more TIPS Centres countries for course participants to access the TV-learning platform. The set up of each TIPS Centres varied from country to country but most provided trainees with the IPTV, mobile phone for the m-learning platform and computers with ADSL Internet connection.

#### TIPS Centre locations:



#### Austria:

**Graz:** Elisabethstraße 3, 8010



#### Italy:

**Rome:** Via Plinio 44, 00193

**Milan:** Via Guido Cavalcanti 5, 20127

**Torino:** Corso Re Umberto 1, 136, 10128





T-learning to Improve Professional Skills for intercultural dialogue



Greece:

Patras: Trion Navarhon & Mezonos

Athens: Praksitelous 23

Rethymno: Ch. Daskalaki 13



Poland:

Krakow: ul. Westerplatte 11, 31-033 Krakow, room 103



France:

Paris (IRIV): 11 rue de Saussure, 75017

Paris (Uniformation): 43, boulevard Diderot, 75012

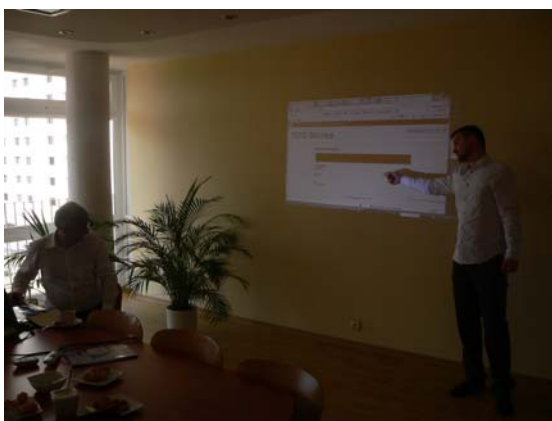


## **TIPS Exploitation meeting in Warsaw**

The professional technical meeting devoted to the dissemination and local exploitation of the TIPS project took place on May 25th in Warsaw, at the headquarters of the Jagiellonian Institute.

The Polish representatives of the TIPS project (Tischner European University), together with the young business professionals from companies such as Deloitte or Citi International were assessing the formal possibilities to embed the project into the training portfolio offered by the Polish coaching companies. What is interesting, the representative of media (Polish Public Television) emphasized the moderate visibility rate of the project. This was meaningfully confirmed by the lack of attendance of the invited representatives from the state institutions, potentially of interest in the issue – e.g. the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, The Head of the Office for Foreigners, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Polish National Police. Such an attitude contrasts with the enthusiasm of students, who – having acquired basic information about the TIPS principles – are highly interested and motivated to participate in the course.

Among other issues discussed were the perspectives of the cultural mediation in Poland (so far not recognized as a separate profession) and the innovative three-platform didactics utilized in the project. The meeting stimulated a set of initiatives to be developed during the forthcoming conferences.



### **Learning and passion – the key to success**

From 7th to 8th May 2009 a conference “Learning and passion – the key to success” was held in Kielnarowa (close to Rzeszow) in Poland. Representatives of student organizations from all over the country presented their scientific research works and successes in various scientific fields. One of the aims this national conference was the integration of a young scientists and academic communities. During the meeting the chairmen of student organizations could establish connections which could be use in the follow-up students involving European projects.

Students from Tischner European University active in the experimentation and research phase of the TIPS project participated in this important conference. Their presentation was focused on the cultural mediation and an innovative methodology of distance learning. Students from a seventeen Polish universities could find out about t-learning methodology and the TIPS project results.



T-learning to Improve Professional Skills for intercultural dialogue



## TIPS International Workshop on

### *"The Role and Prospects of Cultural Mediation"*

October 9th 2009

Astir Hotel, Patras, Greece

<http://tips.eap.gr/>

#### **Invitation to the event**

In contemporary societies, native populations live side by side with migrant populations and ethnic minorities. As a result, conflicts and social exclusion may arise, thus calling for the implementation of conflict resolution measures. Cultural mediation is a form of mediation between two or more disputing parties that are presumed as having different cultures which, in a way, are responsible for conflict creation.

The workshop is organized by the Hellenic Open University in the context of the European Project *TIPS, T – Learning to Improve Professional Skills for intercultural dialogue* which is funded under the Leonardo da Vinci programme. The aims of the workshop are to discuss the vital role and the prospects of Cultural Mediators in a pluralistic Europe, to identify the competences that professional Cultural Mediators must develop and describe their educational and training needs, to research the potential of applying information and communication technology in training Cultural Mediators and to present the achievements and the progress of project TIPS.

The event is open and participation is free of cost. A certificate of attendance will be given to registered participants. The official language of the event is English and there is the ability to attend online via the internet, through the TIPS project website ([www.forcom.it/tipsproject](http://www.forcom.it/tipsproject)).

#### **For more information, please contact:**

Mrs Spyridoula Kouna, Hellenic Open University – Greece, [kouna@eap.gr](mailto:kouna@eap.gr)

Mrs Konstantina Polimeropoulou, Hellenic Open University – Greece, [kopo@eap.gr](mailto:kopo@eap.gr)

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