

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP

Please note that this section must be completed **jointly** by all institutions participating in the Partnership and must be identical in each copy submitted to each National Agency.

5.1 SUMMARY

Summary of the planned Partnership. This description may be used by the European Commission and/or the National Agency when providing information on selected projects, so please be clear and precise and do not exceed 200 words.

The main objective is to create a catalogue of "Intercultural Competences" and promote its establishment in school programmes. The successful participation will be certified by an "Intercultural Driving Licence".

The catalogue's development will be based on the international multimedia school magazine "trait d'union", founded in 1999/2000 as a Comenius project. Communicating and cooperating for its production (print, online, audio, video) the participants learn to distinguish different kinds of reasons for occurring problems – and successes too: individual, social, technical and cultural ones. Gathering best-practice examples and jointly found problem solutions they will create a system of standards for intercultural communication and teamwork. Further information about the concrete need for intercultural competences will be solicited from enterprises, scientific and cultural institutions.

The participants use and improve the sites www.traitdunion.de and www.dasan.de/tdu_intranet, where not only the common work on progress and its results will be published permanently, but also the application and the common evaluation of the new standards.

For the sustainable establishment of "Intercultural Competences" in school programmes the partners develop strategies of also introducing this subject to potentially supporting external partners.

5.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTNERSHIP

- What are the concrete objectives of the partnership?
- Explain what subjects or problems you intend to address.
- What approach will you take to achieve your objectives?

Objectives:

Students from different European countries

- communicate and cooperate (teamwork by the help of modern technology + meetings).
- improve their language skills (mother tongue and foreign languages) during the project work and visits.
- gain knowledge in the use of modern communication systems (e.g. e-mail, internet, web-site, digital video treating, photoshop, audio) by administering, processing and presenting their findings and perhaps programming their own website.
- work together on two volumes of the international multimedia school magazine "trait d'union" as a practical experience for the development of intercultural skills.
- get to know different European kinds of thinking, feeling, communicating, working together and understanding each other in order to realise a practical common project, where the consciousness of these different ways of life is required.
- develop a catalogue of concrete intercultural skills (e.g. how to recognise and avoid prejudices, how to respect and profit from other cultures and values, how to take over other styles of project work), which will lead to a future certificate of intercultural competences ("Intercultural Driving Licence") to be given to the successfully participating students.
- will contribute to the implementation of this catalogue into the curricula of the participating schools (e.g. workshops, optional subjects, 'Seminarfach') - always based on a European school project).

Subjects/Problems:

Students

- acquire social competences like tolerance and respect for other cultural values and mentalities.
- work together on the theme "Differences in European cultures" and find common solutions in spite of these differences (e.g. school priorities, educational systems and methods, workload of students and teachers, technical and economic equipment of schools).
- create concrete definitions of intercultural skills in a consensus-oriented way and design them in a clear and easily applicable form.
- carry out as much of the project work as possible themselves (students' autonomy).
- initiate the process of integrating this catalogue of intercultural skills into the curricula of their schools (with the help of teachers).
- have to find strategies of publishing and disseminating the catalogue.

Approach:

Level 1: Students' productions

- In two consecutive school years they produce one issue of "trait d'union" with a certain topic (e.g. 2009/10: "Do you understand me?", 2010/11: "Being student").
- Each school will have a permanent Comenius team, whose members will form international work groups with Comenius teams from the other schools.
- These mixed groups will either propose their own subtopics or choose from a list of subtopics.
- The choice of genres (e.g. stories, poems, plays, comments, interviews, lyrics) and media (e.g. texts, paintings, photos, audios, videos) is up to them.
- Students post, comment on and discuss their work in progress on an already existing IntraNet: www.dasan.de/tdu_intranet.
- Due to the interdisciplinary approach of the annual topics classes and courses in subjects like languages, art, music, history contribute to our project.
- The final results are published as print version ("trait d'union") and online version (www.traitdunion.de).

Level 2: Students' reflections on project work

- The members of the school teams reflect on their international work processes (difficulties, e.g. misunderstandings, and best practise examples).
- They develop propositions to solve occurring problems by posting them on a special "trait d'union" Wiki.
- After being discussed by all project members the accepted solutions lead to a growing catalogue of rules for further international project work.
- Students who successfully apply these rules in future projects of this kind will be awarded the certificate "International Driving Licence".

Further activities

- At the meetings of students and coordinators the results of the project work are presented and discussed and may be even new ideas developed.
- The different schools cooperate with associated and other external partners (exchange of information on intercultural competences).
- Students organize performances with foreign artists (including translation and presentation) in their town (optional).