

MEL

The Mobile Ethical Laboratory (MEL) Project

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Faculty of Psychology and Educational Science

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Project Coordinator: VIA University College

Project Partners: Scoala Gimnazială Ferdinand, Bucuresti, SC Master Artis SRL, Holetebro Commune, RHIZO College, University of Bucharest

The Mobile Ethical Laboratory (MEL) Project aim is to develop a Tool Box by the means of which educators can generate an innovative way of teaching. This teaching, based on exposure methods, aims to create a space for social inclusion that maintains students and that diminish loneliness and alienation MEL links together schools from different educational levels and competences (45 educators from primary/secondary school, VET and HEI).

This partnership is the reason for working transnationally. Each of us brings expertise concerning exposure methods and each of us already carried out important projects, based on different exposure methods such as drama, role-play and literature, all inspired from the field of Art.

Supporting educators to apply these creative methods facilitates an awareness of the educators own values, enables mentalization and personal growth and helps focusing on the educators role. It is evident, that these methods can bring personal change, joy and growth and also inclusion of pupils, who do not immediately find it easy in school systems.

With our project MEL we want to exchange, transfer and further develop our knowledge about students to the area of educators. Educators from European countries share a number of common challenges such as: students early school leaving or drop out and increasing proportion of young people with a migrant background.

The objectives of MEL are:

- 1 Changing the mindset of educators
- 2 Developing a Tool box that is tested, tried and scaled up
- 3 Making the students feel more at home in class, also when they change arena
- 4 Developing a sustainable network

Activities, methodologies and the tangible/intangible results in MEL are all closely connected, and each activity and methodology is a step towards the results of the project. All activities and methods are related to exposure and seek to promote critical reflection. They will take place at transnational meetings and when working with the development of the tangible result.

The 10 intellectual Outputs:

- 2 scoping reviews and 1 position paper point out trends and key issues in the areas of hospitality,
- exposure methods and inclusion;
- 5 case studies and 1 video dealing with “How to meet the other person as the other”; “The feeling of being at Home” and “The shift in Arenas”.
- 1 Tool Box containing a guideline of MEL, a methodology handbook and a sampling of Topic cards.

The intention of MEL is that our laboratory is a place, where investigation and development is an ongoing mobile activity. These activities are intended to search for the ethical base of good practice, meaning that adequate relations between persons are taking place in order to reach a hospitable and inclusive environment.