

**Report of the 3rd Transnational Project Meeting in the frame of Erasmus+
Strategic Partnerships Project
“ No Cyberbullying At The School ”**

2016-1-TR-01-KA201-034233

6th-7th December, 2017

Rome, ITALY



The 3rd Transnational Project Meeting “ No Cyberbullying At The School ” Erasmus+ project had the following objectives:

- to share researchments about cyberbullying and what is the statistic datas of their experienced rate about cyberbullying in Italy,
- to discuss the struggling ways of cyberbullying ,
- to see projects going on about cyberbullying in Italy
- to evaluate the project management and implementation activities

Preparations

Preparations for the 3rd Transnational Project Meeting “ **No Cyberbullying At The School** ” Erasmus+ project took place in December 2017, the host country made practical arrangements, such as booking the hotel, preparing the programme, providing transfer information. Participants made travel arrangements: booking flights, buying insurance, prepared all the necessary information for the meeting.

Organization

The 3rd Transnational Project Meeting “ **No Cyberbullying At The School** ” Erasmus+ project took place over two days.

-Day One taking the form of meetings combined with welcome by host country, the evaluation the project management and implementation activities, presentation of researchments about cyberbullying and what is the statistic datas of their experienced rate about cyberbullying in Italy, discussing the struggling ways of cyberbullying and seeing projects going on about cyberbullying in Italy.

-Day Two, cultural activities, tour of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel and Tour in the Center of Rome

DAY 1, Wednesday 6th December, 2017

The 3rd Transnational Project Meeting “ **No Cyberbullying At The School** ” Erasmus+ project took place in Rome in Italy. Italian partners welcomed the participants from Portugal, Turkey and Italy.

The host partner made a presentation about researchments about cyberbullying and what is the statistic datas of their experienced rate about cyberbullying in Italy.



“According to the 2016 **Report** on the Social Situation in **Italy** (**‘The Report’**), **52,5% of students aged 11-17 have experienced offensive or violent behaviour from their friends/classmates.**

However, only 10% of these cases is considered bullying, as this is defined as an aggressive, intentional act or behavior that is carried out by a group or an individual relation repeatedly and over time against a victim who cannot easily defend him or

herself.

In the era of massive use of social media – with people checking their phones an average of 75 times per day – a compulsive use of the Internet and the consequent social isolation (which sometimes reaches the Hikikomori phenomenon) have enabled 34% of bullying to happen online.

To make cyberbullying worse is the fact that the offender can have an anonymous identity, weakening ethical concerns and making the search for the offender’s identity more complex. Furthermore, the absence of spatial-temporal limits makes the viral attack rampant: it can reach a large number of people in a short time and stays online 24/24.

However, it is not true that cyberbullies are protected by a sort of invisible cloak: anonymity on the network does not exist, but it takes the Postal and Communications Police longer to identify authors and to block private information.

Victims are often perceived as "different" for their age, appearance or tendencies, and fragile and easily isolated; isolation guarantees the perpetuation of the persecution and leads those who suffer to considerable psychological damages, up to a suicidal ideation; if the offender is young, he/she may often not even be aware of all this.

The Report, published in collaboration with the Postal Police, has highlighted that in 2016 at least half of the school principals had to deal with digital bullying, 5% of the students were affected by cyberbullying and sexting, and in half of the cases school principals had to contact the Police.

For this reason it has become necessary to carry out sensitization and training on cyberbullying in schools. In 2015, the Ministry of Education published new guidelines that provide schools with targeted interventions to prevent the phenomenon, through educational meetings on "safe web" with students, and training of teachers and parents.

In our Region and in our Province, through initiatives such as the Safer Internet Day, the national day against bullying and cyberbullying and annual programs to combat bullying, various organizations and industry associations (in collaboration with the Postal and Communications Police) have carried out awareness and information initiatives in schools. The future goal is to extend awareness activities to an ever-increasing number of schools, expanding participation, above all of parents, who are often not aware of the seriousness of the phenomenon and therefore not sufficiently participative.

Key actions to tackle cyberbullying include:

❑ Promoting understanding and familiarity of the phenomenon to identify people at risk and dangerous behavior on the web.

❑ Training adults and children on actions to fight against cyberbullying (under the new law passed in May 2017 teenagers over 14 years old and parents of younger children can now directly ask a site hosting abusive comments to delete them. If the offensive content is still visible after 48 hours, victims can appeal to an independent privacy guarantor which will intervene with the site's management within 48 hours).

- In schools, identifying focal points among teachers who collaborate with the Police and Local Associations.

- Being able to identify cyberbullying victims' suffering by recognizing their characteristic signs, such as the alteration of the sleep-wake rhythm, irritability, withdrawn or shy behaviour, changes in language or mood.

–Preventing situations at risk by working with students and adults to increase personal and social skills in minors, enriching empathic and collaborative skills, enhancing social and personal skills, and fostering trust towards adults and openness to share and ask for help.”

They also made a presentation about orientation lines for the prevention and contrast of cyberbullying in Italy.

Interventions for the prevention and contrast of the phenomenon of cyberbullying

- The Law has introduced, among the priority training objectives, the development of digital skills of students, also aimed at critical and conscious use of social networks and media
- Students must be sensitized to a responsible use of the Net and be able to manage digital relations in unprotected area. And this is why the maturing of awareness becomes indispensable that the Internet can become, if not used properly, a dangerous form of addiction. The School's task is also to promote the acquisition of the skills necessary for the exercise of a conscious digital citizenship. Empowering students means, therefore, implementing training, informational and participatory interventions.
- This principle is the basis of the Statute of students that emphasizes the educational purpose even when necessary disciplinary measures, however aimed at restoring correct behaviors within the institution "through social and cultural activities and in general for the benefit of the school community".

ORIENTATION LINES in Ita

The initiative "Generazioni connesse" and other useful tools for a correct and conscious use of digital technologies.

- Schools wish to take part in the initiative can go to www.generazioniconnesse.it and follow the instructions to register for the project.
- Through a guided process and specific work materials, the schools enrolled in "Generazioni connesse", embark on a path to bring out the strengths and weaknesses of the institute itself, on issues related to the Project, by completing a self-assessment questionnaire available on the website.
- The questionnaire is a tool that allows the institution to identify its needs, areas for improvement and actions to be taken to develop a customized project called "Action Plan".

ORIENTATION LINES in Italy for the prevention and contrast of cyberbullying

Targeted actions of schools and aimed at students and their families: the role of the head teacher and of the referent teacher

L. 71/2017 in art. 5 provides that, as part of the promotion of interventions aimed to ensure the quality of training processes and the collaboration of cultural, professional, social resources of the territory, the head teacher, defines the guidelines for the Three-Year Plan of the Educational Offer (PTOF) and the Co-responsibility Pact (DPR 235/07) to include measures specifically dedicated to the prevention of cyberbullying.

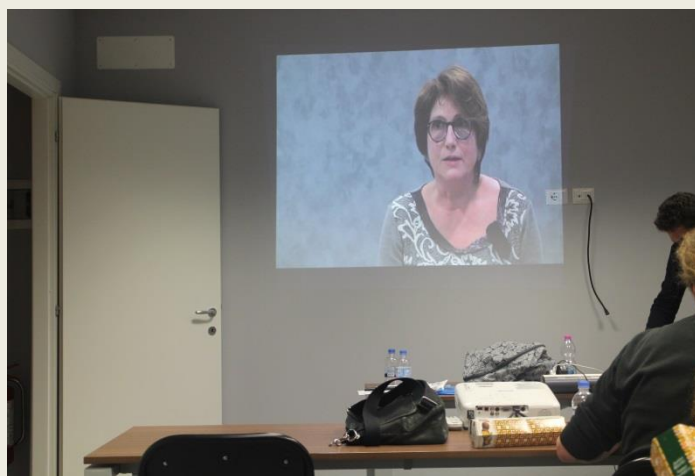
The immediate intervention measures that school managers are called to carry out episodes of cyberbullying, the procedures must be integrated and provided in the Institute Regulations and in the Co-Responsibility Pacts, in order to better regulate the set of measures both disciplinary nature of an educational and preventive nature.

It is the responsibility of the manager to ensure maximum information to families of all activities and initiatives undertaken, including through a dedicated section on the school website, which may refer to the MIUR website www.generazioniconnesse.it for all other general information.

ORIENTATION LINES in Italy for the prevention and contrast of cyberbullying



We had a conference call with teacher Silvana Britti –Italian School “Istituto Tecnico Statale Atherno Manthonè” Pescara Italy and The Help Desk at school “Atherno Manthonè” to tackle with cyberbullying events.



In the second part of the first day continued with the evaluation of the project management and implementation activities. Project website was discussed with all partners and decided what to include in it by taking all participants' ideas into consideration. All partners agreed on the dates (except travelling days) of Portugal LTTA and Poland TPM as in the following:

Portugal LTTA: 22nd-26th January, 2018

Poland TPM: 22nd-23rd March , 2018



DAY 2, Thursday 7th December, 2017

The second day was dedicated to cultural activities. The participants had chance to see a Vatican Museum and see some tourist attractions in the center of Rome. All participants expressed their gratitude and thanked to Italian team for their interest.



