

# CHIC – In Action Newsletter #01

February 2019

Cultural Heritage in  
Foreign Language  
Learning

## About the project

### Summary

The project “**Culture and Heritage in Communication - Using Cultural Heritage in Development of Communicative Competence and Interculturality in Foreign Language Learning**” (CHIC – In Action!) focuses on foreign language teaching in adult education and aims to define how cultural heritage of the participating countries can be used as a language teaching tool.

#### 1 **Cultural heritage and language teaching**

The aim of the European Year of Cultural Heritage (2018) was to encourage more people to discover and engage in Europe's cultural heritage and to foster a shared sense of identity and build the future of Europe.

The project aims at using **culture as a tool for foreign language teaching**, choosing English language as the common language taught in all the partners organizations. Communication in English will be developed not only by talking about English culture (as we are used to) but talking and discovering cultural heritage of the countries participating in the project.

The relationship between language and culture is a complex one and it is always quite challenging to fully understand people’s cognitive processes when they communicate. Language competence does not only include the knowledge of grammatical principles and sentence construction, but also knowledge of the norms that link language to social and cognitive context. It is impossible to understand a culture without having some form of understanding of its language.

## At a glance

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The project is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme (KA2 - Strategic Partnerships for adult education).

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All the participating countries – Croatia, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Portugal and Spain – are **coastal European countries**.

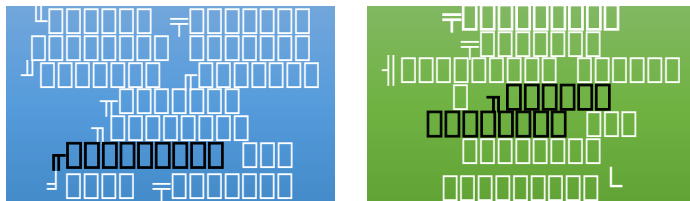


# Outputs of the project

## *Aims and impact*

The project, based on analysis and comparison of the state of language teaching in the entire education system (from primary to adult education), is giving special attention to foreign language teaching in adult education in the six project partners' countries. The aim is to define how cultural heritage of these countries can be used as a language teaching tool by project partners' and other countries. It is in accordance with the general improvement of the adult education offers and adult teachers' competences.

This aim will be achieved by the following two Intellectual Outputs (IOs) that will involve two target groups: adult learners and adult teachers/educators:



Both the IOs will be used in the organization of a 60 – 80 hours English language course targeted on improving communicative competences in English language and intercultural understanding and communication based on discovering the local cultural heritage of the partners' countries.

### **Main expected impacts:**

- improved communication and presentation skills for teachers and learners in their mother tongue and in English language, developed critical thinking, reflexivity and self-assessment,
- identified different learning styles and strategies of adult learners and applying appropriate methods and techniques for teaching adults,
- applied motivational strategies, develop communication and presentation skills,
- evaluated the process of learning and teaching, develop consultation skills with the aim of helping adult learners select a learning programme,
- improved the capacity of piloting, monitoring and evaluating a new curriculum for language competence development,
- improved the use of a digital platform for learning materials,
- developed the capacity of intercultural communication and cooperation,
- developed the self-assessment skills and planning the own lifelong learning process.



# News

## *Transnational meeting, events*

The Kick-off meeting of the project took place in Athens, Greece on November 29 and 30, 2018, hosted by ERFC. The coordinator of the project gave an overview of the project and discussed with the partners about administrative and financial issues, reporting, dissemination plan and project activities. The partners, also, presented some indicative issues from the cultural heritage of their countries which could be used as a language teaching tool in the project frame. The next transnational meeting will take place in March 2019 in Rome, Italy.

### *Photos from the meeting*



## Partners

### Ustanova za obrazovanje odraslih Dante (CROATIA) – Coordinator



USTANOVA ZA  
OBRAZOVANJE  
ODRASLIH | ADULT  
EDUCATION  
INSTITUTION

The Adult Education *Institution* Dante carries out foreign language learning programmes in Rijeka.

### European Regional Framework for Co-Operation - ERFC (GREECE)



ERFC is a Non-Government Organization, Not for Profit, aiming at EU Integration and sustainable development.

### International Language School – ILS (ITALY)



ILS is a centre for language education and teacher training. It has been working in the field of language training for more than 30 years.

### VALODU MAPE SIA (LATVIA)



VALODU MAPE SIA is a language school with 15 years' experience in language teaching for youth and adults including unemployed people, migrants and foreigners in Latvia.

### Escola Profissional de Salvaterra de Magos (PORTUGAL)



The Professional School of Salvaterra de Magos was created 25 years ago, with the objective of training highly qualified technical staff, capable of integrating the labour market in a proactive way, and contributing to increase the competitiveness of the companies of the region of Salvaterra de Magos, in Santarém, where it is located.

### Escuela Oficial de Idiomas Rio Vero (SPAIN)



EOI Rio Vero de Barbastro is a rural state-run language school created in 2007 where French (A1-B2) and English (A1-C1) are taught. We issue official certificates for these levels. We have two sister schools in Ainsa (English, A1-B1) and Benasque (English, B1).

