

NEWSLETTER - July 2016

Final conference

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split had the pleasure of welcoming almost 100 teachers and librarians at the **transnational 'Boys reading' Conference**. The conference took place at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences on **03 June 2016, 09.00-18.00**.

Key note speeches

The 'Boys reading' final conference aimed to introduce educational approaches that

respond to the interests, needs, and

learning styles of adolescent boys, in attempt to engage adolescent boys and girls equally as readers and writers.

The event started with the key note of **Dr. Charalambos Vrasidas** from the University of Nicosia (CY) on the topic of **"Reading, Creating, and Tinkering Around: Competencies for Life"** in which he raised interesting questions on the competencies for life nowadays. The audience was definitely invited to think a bit outside of the box or outside of the classroom and curricula. Reading for example happens in form of reading a book or reading by using social media or chatting on the smart phone...



In a second key note **Prof Margarida Morgado** from Castelo Branco Polytechnic Institute (PT) gave interesting inputs on the potential of graphics, pictures and illustrations in books for adolescents to promote reading and to attract specifically boys.

Case studies

As second part the Boys Reading Consortia presented different case studies from the individual partner countries. The case studies from partner countries gave examples of implementing the **Boys Reading Toolkit in the classroom**. The

partners presented books that have been used, teaching methods and material e.g. working sheets, role plays, group exercises, integration of tablets or

smart phones and many more. All countries could report on very positive feedback from the side of teachers as well as students. The toolkit proved to be a very useful and practical tool that makes it easy for teachers of different subjects (not only language teachers!)

to integrate and promote reading in the national curricula. Thereby, especially boys could be motivated. This was also confirmed by school librarians when boys came to the libraries after the lessons to get the book that was used in abstracts in the classroom as they were particular curious about its ending.

The case studies were closed by an open penal discussion with great interest and participation of the audience.



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Paper session

The organised paper session titled **Reading in Early Adolescence** was organised in the afternoon to enable further opportunities for teachers and educational experts to share experience and discuss challenges and creative approaches. The paper session addressed a variety of topics such as Educating Young Readers, Overcoming Reading Difficulties, Pedagogical Challenges, and Reading in the Digital Age.



The Boys Reading consortium would like to kindly thank all collaboration partners that supported the project activities during the past two years!

Let's get boys reading!

<http://boysreading.org>



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Time to say good bye

After two years of transnational cooperation the Boys Reading project is coming to an end and the developed products are finalised and ready for publication.

In August you will find the Boys Reading Toolkit and all related material and resources available for free download on the project website; translated in all partner languages and ready to be used in the upcoming school year. Additionally to the toolkit the online platform is at your disposal to connect and exchange with teachers and educators in other European countries.

We invite everyone to give us feedback and share experiences and new ideas on the Boys Reading Facebook page or by contacting us directly.

Consortium

