Acaδimia NEWSLETTER
Issue 2

ACADIMIA Online Train the Trainers program

The first Online Train the Trainers program, held in September and October 2023, was an inspiring introduction to the teaching methods upscaled by the ACADIMIA project. Partners and expert members of their teams were introduced to methodologies designed to enhance creative thinking and foster inclusivity and diversity in European classrooms.

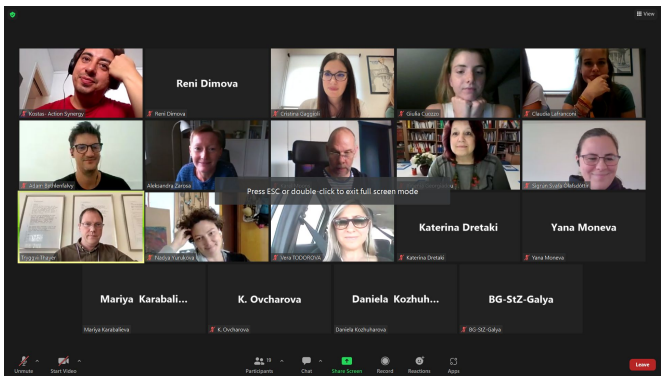
The training was opened with the presentation of the TalentMaker which uses project-based, hands-on learning to nurture creativity and critical thinking, emphasizing digital literacy and innovation.
The training also delved into Digital Storytelling, where participants learned how multimedia tools could support students in crafting narratives that develop communication skills, critical thinking and creativity.

A particular highlight was the exploration of Gamified Learning and Game-Based Learning methods. While Game-Based Learning involves using games to make education interactive and fun, Gamified Learning adds an element of competition and rewards, increasing motivation and participation in the learning process.

One standout session featured the G.A.M.E. a didactical board game, aimed at enhancing teachers' pedagogical skills in a gamified, creative way, making the learning process interactive and engaging.

Another impactful session on Drama in Education explored Forum Theatre, a powerful tool for problem-solving and deep-diving into controversial topics, encouraging empathy and dialogue among teachers and learners alike.

The Strength-Based Learning approach captured the educators' attention by its potential for encouraging self-directed learning and empowerment.



The Online Train the Trainers program also introduced participants to the Creative Learning and Creative STE(A)M methods, which sparked great interest among educators. Creative Learning emphasizes the use of drama and artistic expression in teaching diverse subjects, including sciences, encouraging students to actively participate and think critically. Meanwhile, Creative STE(A)M integrates arts into STEM education, promoting a holistic learning experience where students not only explore science and technology but also engage with creativity and artistic expression. Both methods offer a dynamic approach to fostering inclusion and innovation in the classroom.

Two other methods rooted in the Montessori methodology highlighted combination of the traditional Montessori principles with modern creative and digital elements to enhance inclusivity and engagement:

MonTech merges Montessori with digital technologies, fostering hands-on learning and encouraging student autonomy. This method supports creative exploration while using educational technology tools to engage students in a meaningful way.

SEDIN combines Montessori philosophy with drama techniques to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment, especially in multicultural classrooms. This method helps students express themselves creatively, promoting active participation and inclusivity.

Finally, the EAR Methodology, combining the Socratic dialectical method with theatre techniques was highlighted as an effective tool for promoting active citizenship and critical thinking. The method encourages students to explore and debate societal issues in a safe, collaborative environment, helping them develop a deeper understanding of complex social concepts while fostering empathy and inclusion.

While the online training was deeply appreciated, the participants are now looking forward with great anticipation to the in-person workshop in Athens in October 2023. There, they will have the opportunity to explore these methods even further through hands-on, immersive sessions. The excitement for the face-to-face experience is growing, as participants are eager to apply these innovative methods in their classrooms and create more inclusive and engaging learning environments across Europe.

The First TMP and training in Athens

The First Transnational Project Meeting (TPM) of the ACADIMIA project took place in Athens in October 2023, hosted by Action Synergy. The meeting began with a management session, covering project overview, financial management, quality assurance strategies and planning of the forthcoming expert work. The following days were dedicated to intensive training on the methodologies upscaled by the ACADIMIA. The workshops allowed participants to engage deeply with the teaching approaches, preparing them for implementation in diverse educational contexts.

On the 20th October 2023 the ACADIMIA project was publicly presented at the Office of the European Parliament in Athens. This event provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the project's goals and methodologies to a wider audience, including key stakeholders and educational professionals. During the presentations, the focus was on how ACADIMIA aims to enhance creative and inclusive teaching through innovative methods such as Drama in Education, Gamified Learning, Creative STE(A)M and others, highlighting the impact of these approaches on the European education system and their importance for the support of the inclusive education of vulnerable learners.

Bulgarian teachers learned mastered creative and inclusive educational approaches in Athens

Teachers from "Ivan Vazov" High-school in Varshets (Bulgaria) joined the ACADIMIA training in the Greek capital, Athens from 16th to 21st October 2023. For five days, they immersed themselves in intensive training and got acquainted with ten methods for creative and inclusive education. Participants were introduced to various educational scenarios and activities developing creativity, as well as communication skills, problem solving, decision making, meaningful use of technology, using methods from the field of educational drama, gamification, Socratic dialogue, Montessori education.

The Transnational project ***European Teacher Academy for Creative and Inclusive Learning (ACADIMIA)*** is focused on building an active community of education professionals. It aims to develop national structures for professional development, educational cooperation and exchange of experience, and to promote strategic partnerships with all stakeholders in education.

For more information, follow the ACADIMIA pages:
https://www.facebook.com/european.teacher.acadimia
https://european-acadimia.eu/

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