

4th NEWSLETTER

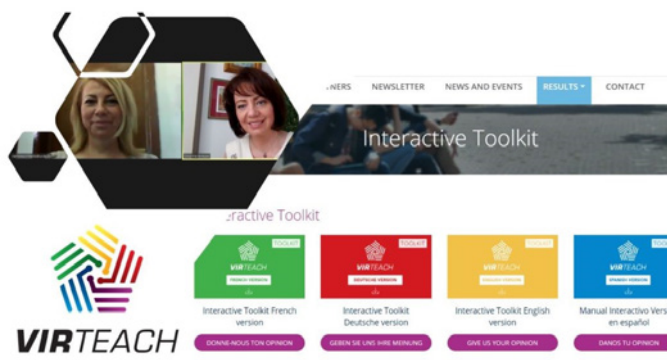
May 2020 - October 2020

VIR_TEACH

A Virtual Solution for a comprehensive and coordinated training for Foreign Language Teachers in Europe
2018-1-ES01-KA203-050045

PRESENTATION OF TOOLKIT

The coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic is the defining global health crisis of our time and the greatest challenge we have faced since World War Two. Since its emergence in Asia late last year, the virus has spread to every continent except Antarctica.



IMPROVING FOREIGN LANGUAGE INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION THROUGH AN INTERACTIVE DIGITAL NOTEPAD



On 24th June 2020, Beatriz Mediavilla Martínez defended her MA Dissertation under the title IMPROVING FOREIGN LANGUAGE INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION THROUGH AN INTERACTIVE DIGITAL NOTEPAD with excellent marks.

This research work falls within the VERITEACH project and offers an innovative approach to the training of language teachers. The VIRTEACH team congratulates Beatriz Mediavilla Martinez and thanks her for her fruitful work.

The **National Agency for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (ANES)**, within the Ministry of Labor, Romania, in cooperation with the Institute for Social Studies of Gender, within **Dimitrie Cantemir Christian University, Bucharest**, propose people to join the campaign **“We See You, We Respect You, We Act Together!”** which will take place at national and international level and will aim to highlight the work done by women on the front lines during the COVID 19 pandemic, in areas such as health, public order, defense and education. These predominantly feminized fields are now proving to be of major interest for the functioning of the society as a whole, as demonstrated by the statistics accomplished by the National Institute of Statistics: 70% of doctors are women; 91% of nurses are women; 78% of family doctors are women; 90% of pharmacists are women.



One of the actions of the campaign is to prioritize the work of auxiliary staff in medical care units (nurses and caregivers, who ensure the cleanliness and hygiene of health facilities, preparation of materials necessary for the activity, accompanying hospitalized patients and taking care of deceased persons) and, on the basis of social dialogue, the campaign kindly asks personalities from the public space, to try to make visible their efforts, sacrifices and dedication. Thus, the campaign also aims to reduce the existing social cleavages in the company for categories of staff that are not very visible, but indispensable for carrying out day-to-day activities in any public or private entity.

Thus, both institutions appeal to personalities from the education field, media and the artistic environment to promote respect and appreciation of the work of these categories of staff, by sending short video messages of gratitude, encouragement and trust (1-3 minutes). At the same time, according to the legislation in force, the institutions ask radio and television stations, as well as social media influencers, to get involved in broadcasting and popularizing these messages during the **Equal Opportunities Week** (called like this since 2015, when May 8 was proclaimed the Day of Equality between Women and Men, according to Law 23/2015)

VIRTEACH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER TRAINING

On October 26 and 27, the first international workshop on foreign language teacher training was held online. Due to the Covid measures, the workshop could not take place physically in Belgium as foreseen, so UCLL organised the event digitally as a Microsoft Teams meeting. This allowed for students, teachers and teacher trainers internationally to attend the event. The workshop drew participants from partner countries such as Belgium, Spain and Romania, but also from the UK, Malaysia and Indonesia. Despite the fact that the event took place in a digital form, participants and organisers managed to make it an interactive moment, where the first results of the VIRTEACH project were presented and discussed. Overall, participants were positive and enthusiastic in their feedback on the VLE and the Interactive toolkit. This leaves us to conclude that the event was an successful opportunity to spread the objectives, activities and results of the VIRTEACH project.



We want to thank the speakers from University of Burgos, Lusofona University, Collegium Balticum and Christian University Dimitrie Cantemir for their input and interesting sessions. The recordings of the sessions will be made available on the project website soon.

WELCOME A NEW MEMBER OF THE VIRTEACH TEAM!

Natalia Burdzy from SSW Collegium Balticum - administrative employee responsible for daily management of educational and research projects, cooperation with project team members, cooperation with University's authorities and financial officer, as well as with PR and MEDIA specialist.





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