Promoting and Validating Key Competences in Mobility and Traineeships in Europe



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#### PROJECT RATIONALE

PROMOTE is a new Erasmus+ project which started in November 2014. It aims at creating and introducing an environment learning validation system for the development of key competences of students in mobility/traineeships and continuous development professional employees. The project will focus on three key competences (KC), particularly relevant in students' mobility and traineeships continuous professional development (CPD):

- KC6: social and civic competences
- KC7: sense of initiative and entrepreneurship
- KC5: learning to learn

The recommendation 2006/962/EC of the European Parliament and of the

Council on key competences for lifelong learning states that:

"Key competences are essential in a knowledge society and guarantee more flexibility in the labour force, allowing it to adapt more quickly to constant changes in an increasingly interconnected world. They are a major factor in innovation, productivity and competitiveness, and they contribute to the motivation and satisfaction of workers and the quality of work."

Despite their recognised importance, reference frameworks are inexistent when it comes to validating mayor key competences. PROMOTE aims at closing this gap by using one of the most effective ways of learning – learning in mobility – and validate the learning outcomes in regard to the three key competences.

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### **TARGET GROUPS**

PROMOTE addresses the following target groups:

- Students and recent graduates recruited as mentees/interns
- Entrepreneurs recruited as mentors and their wider networks
- Staff from partner universities trained in mentoring and/or entrepreneurship
- Members of the High Education community
- The wider public through the project website, partner websites and social networks.

#### **PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

PROMOTE aims at developing a holistic, ICT-supported and competence oriented learning and validation system. To this aim, the project will:

- Research existing approaches to acquire and validate key competences – especially social and civic competences, sense of initiative and entrepreneurship, learning to learn – both in higher education, in industry and enterprises;
- Develop an overarching competence oriented learning approach and a validation system to assess, evidence and certify learning outcomes acquired in different learning contexts;
- Enrich existing validation and certification systems by creating reference systems for the above

- mentioned key competences, assessment tools and a quality approach that will link the validation with existing ECTS-based validation and certification:
- Customise the web-based LEVEL5 system for competences acquired in European mobility, traineeships and professional continuous development programmes;
- Pilot and evaluate the competence oriented learning and validation system in internships or traineeships that will be organised as learning projects;
- Transfer the project results both into university contexts (to enrich formal curricula) and into the business sector (CPD schemes).



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### **PARTNERS**

The PROMOTE consortium is made up of 16 partners from nine member states. It is geographically well spread over Europe and brings together partners with complementary experience and know-how in the fields addressed by the project. It is coordinated by the Vilnius University and consists of: six universities, one market research institutes, two

European networks working on validation, two educational providers, three small and medium companies from the IT and quality management sector, one HR company and two public authorities. Thus it combines the complementary types of expertise necessary to perform the project at a high quality and impact.

# **Project KICK-OFF meeting**

The kick-off meeting of PROMOTE took place in February 2015, hosted at Alden Biesen Castle and Cultural Centre, in Belgium. The meeting was organised in synergy with another Erasmus+ project, IMPACT, and the training course organised by the project PROVIDE.



Group picture - Alden Biesen, February 2015

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## **PROMOTE Partnership**

































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