



★ NETWORKING EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

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**Citizenship Education and Democracy in Times of Change**

21 – 24 November 2012  
Córdoba, Spain

**NECE Focus Group:**  
**Intercultural Glossary Project**

**Facilitator: Claudia Lenz (European Wergeland Center) & Benedikt Meurer (bpb)**  
**Rapporteur: Benedikt Meurer (bpb)**

**Aims:** win new (tandem-)partners for the project, a critical reflection on the existing online tool, collection of ideas for further development and sustainability of the project, further steps.

The online tool is available at: <http://www.interculturalglossary.net>

Members, who attended the Focus Group sessions the conference:

- Ms Caroline Gebara (European Wergeland Center, Oslo, Norway)
- Ms Lotte Else Goos (Stanford University, Stanford, USA)
- Mr Gunnar Grut (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway)
- Mr Oliver Kohns (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, Luxembourg)
- Mr Andreas Körber (University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany)
- Ms Lise Kvande (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway)
- Ms Claudia Lenz (European Wergeland Center, Oslo, Norway)
- Mr Driss Sidi Maghraoui (Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco)
- Mr Benedikt Meurer (Federal Agency for Civic Education, Bonn, Germany)
- Mr Kebir Sandy (Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez, Morocco)
- Ms Sigrid Steininger, Federal Ministry for Education, the Arts and Culture, Vienna, Austria)

Further Members of the Focus Group:

- Ms Petra Grüne (Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany)
- Mr Helge Jordheim (KULTRANS programme/University of Oslo (TBC), Oslo, Norway)
- Mr Peter Kirchschräger (University of Teacher Education Lucerne, Lucerne, Switzerland)
- Ms Sonja Kmec (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, Luxembourg)
- Ms Felisa Tibbitts (The Harvard Graduate School of Education, Boston, USA)
- Ms Hildegard Wacker (University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany)

**Point of Departure:**

In close co-operation with different partners, the **Federal Agency for Civic Education** (Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung/bpb) and the **European Wergeland Center (EWC)** have started to work on an intercultural glossary project in the field of education for democratic citizenship, human rights and intercultural understanding. The long-term aim of this project is to provide an online resource for education professionals offering discussions and contextualized definitions of key concepts, as well as methods for concept learning.



The glossary can be used to facilitate learning processes fostering (self)-reflexivity, multi-perspectivity and information literacy. The content of the online glossary will be produced through peer learning activities with students in different countries.

The project includes the following:

- the cooperative development of conceptual knowledge and understanding
- the development of an online glossary
- the development of methods for concept learning and
- initiate a field of research

The project will build on the existing online glossary “Confusing Conversations”, developed by the Federal Agency for Civic Education and within the NECE network.

**First session: Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012, 02:30 – 04:30 pm**

After a brief introduction of each member of the Focus Group, Ms Lenz introduced the Intercultural Glossary Project, including

- An overview about the underlying theoretical and methodological assumptions
- The project’s links to approaches and methodologies in EDC/HRE and Intercultural Education
- An overview of previous learning activities (face to face and online)  
[see ppt presentation attached]

Related to the last point, Ms Felisa Tibbitts / Harvard Graduate School of Education) gave a report on the experiences of the Lucerne-Harvard “Tandem”, in which students from both universities collaboratively worked on HRE related key concepts (Report on Lucerne-Harvard Tandem Work: [http://www.theewc.org/uploads/content/IGP\\_Report\\_Lucerne-Harvard\\_2012summary.pdf](http://www.theewc.org/uploads/content/IGP_Report_Lucerne-Harvard_2012summary.pdf))

After the conceptual input Mr Meurer explained the online tool ([www.interculturalglossary.net](http://www.interculturalglossary.net)), that has been build up for the project.

- It is a participatory learning tool: student groups can work online in real-time collaboratively on key concept definitions. Within a password-protected area they can choose freely the concept they want to define. For the work on each concept a framework is provided that consists of an Etherpad (<http://etherpad.org/>) with an included chat for real-time communication, an input field for useful sources and a variable table for the so called speaker position chart, which shows the historical development of the respective key concept. To enhance the communication within and between the student groups an integrated forum as well as a personal messaging is provided.
- The results can be saved as well as copied so that another student group or tandem can continue to work on an existing definition without destroying the previous work.

- On a public page, which will be used to present the work results in the future, the project and the codex, the project partners agreed upon is presented. Thirdly you can find brief introductions of the project partners as well as a contact form. Besides registered users can login into the password-protected area via the public page.

Discussions in the first session included a critical appreciation of the existing online tool and the first formulation of ideas and needs for the further development of the project. These were further developed during the second session.

### **Second session: Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> 2012, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm**

Collection and discussion of the ideas and needs as well as the formulation of next steps for the further development of the project:

In general, a two-folded strategy for the development of the IGP was suggested:

1. Establishment and consolidation of the IGP Focus Group constituted of institutions and individuals who wish to contribute to and commit themselves to the project's development. This group cooperates on the development of the conceptual and methodological framework, and it is responsible for the organization of peer-learning activities, that generate content to the platform and, at the same time, serve as an evidence for research and project development
2. Applying the IGP approach and tool in all kinds of formal and informal educational and training contexts. Here, institutions and individuals do not need to agree to a strong and long-term commitment in the IGP development, however, the experiences from these activities might be used by the Focus Group for research and project development purposes. For this purpose, an information and dissemination strategy needs to be developed.

### **Partners / Tandems**

- Tandems between already committed partners. So far the following appointments have been made:
  - NTNU – Luxemburg (spring term 2012)
  - NTNU – Hamburg (fall term 2012)
- Contacts have been established with institutions in Denmark and Norway which might organize peer-learning activities among their students.
- Through the presentation of the IGP on conferences etc. potential new partners should be reached and new activities/ co-operations initiated

### **Funding and Sustainability**

- The group identified a number of foundations, research funds and national or international funding schemes, which could be used to raise funds for the work of the Focus Group. The first long-term goal is the creation of a sustainable basis for the work of the Focus Group (funding of meetings and workshops, public conferences); the second long term goal is the funding of a project combining educational and research activities.

- As a first step, the group will produce a concept paper, including project goals and next steps of the project, to be used for applications → the document will be written collaboratively by the members of the Focus Group via the IGP online tool

### Online Tool

Some necessary technical developments were identified in order to facilitate working processes

- add mind mapping tool
- add upload-function for documents
- new partners of the project will have/take a critical outside perspective on the online tool and its functions to review on the usability and to suggest further enhancements
- support for the usage of the tool is provided through the administrator (bpb)
  - at the moment: support via email or phone; planned for the future: course of instruction
  - manual, including all functions of the online tool is accessible online after the login to the password-secured area

### Networking

- Presentation (short-term) and publication (long-term) of experiences
- integration of other experiences with concept learning and online-based learning

### Linking the IGP to existing policies in the field of EDC/HRE

- In addition to the concept paper for funding purposes, a paper will be produced, linking the IGP approach and potential uses to fundamental policy documents in the field such as the Council of Europe EDC/HRE Charter (2010), the Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialog (2008) and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (2011) will be produced

### Evaluation

- formulation of short and long term expectations of the project, that can be evaluated after an appointed timeframe

After the summary of the results the timeframe and place for a new meeting of the Focus Group was agreed upon: **It will be held in the end of June 2013 in Berlin.**

For more information, please contact:

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