



LeGoP: an innovative learning opportunity for young people from Italy, Spain and the Netherlands to fight against homophobia and promote inclusion for students with special educational needs. This is the third newsletter of the project.

EXCHANGE MEETING IN DONOSTIA

The third exchange week of the LeGoP project was held in Donostia (San Sebastian in Spanish) in Basque Country in March. The program was mostly focused on social inclusion in schools and work for people with special needs. The program also had cultural elements. Basque Country is an autonomous

region in Spain with its own language and culture. Basque language and culture has been suppressed for quite a while, but nowadays there is more liberty. This liberty has led to a renewed cultural pride and awareness of the importance of diversity. One of the partners in the LeGoP project, Axular Lizeoa (Axular College) has been founded by parents to educate their children in Basque language and culture. So students



and teachers were eager to show their guests the Basque hospitality. The week opened with a presentation of Basque dance and typical Basque musical instruments and rhythms.



[Video summary of the exchange week](#)

GOOD PRACTICES OF AXULAR LIZEOA

The LeGoP team was shown around the building of Axular Lizeoa and studied the different ways in which the school is catering for students with special needs and all diversity. The perspective of the school is that a good diversity policy should not only focus on integrating students with special needs but embrace all diversity.



The school showed their technical means to include students with special needs, like interactive digital game tables, the use of laptops by all students, adaptations to computers and laptops so differently able students can handle them.

SARGOI: DIGITAL SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

But they also showed their use of Sargoi, a kind of Facebook within the school, where students and teachers can work together and experiment with social media in a closed and safe environment. Like on Facebook, Sargoi allows all users to start their own communities and initiatives. But making mistakes in this is not so serious because Sargoi is limited to the school community. So this allows and stimulates personal growth and development of students with a certain amount of control but at the same time a large amount of freedom.



Many more traditional schools are organized in a much more "totalitarian" way, prescribing all tasks and behavior of students and not allowing much space for own expertise, choice or initiatives.

Another interesting feature of Sargoi is that the structure of the environment encourages valuing each other and giving compliments. This fosters the development of self-esteem of students. This fundamental competence is extremely important for a diversity policy for *all* students, not only challenged students.

Sources: <https://www.sargoi.eus>; more information about the project: <https://www.thehumansnetwork.com>.



TESTING E-COURSES

The LeGoP team spent some time on real-life testing of an e-course which was developed by GUREAK. GUREAK supports people with special needs and organizations who want to integrate them in their company or school. Their e-course is about how to use digital media to support people with different special needs.



The team also discussed the publication of the anti-homophobia/transphobia course that has been developed. The course is already experimentally available on www.lgbt-learning.org. Teachers and other who would like to register can do this at <http://www.gale.info/en/projects/ecourses>. The courses will be free of charge during the project period (until August 31).

MEETING WITH GEHITU

The team of The Netherlands visited [GEHITU](#), the LGBT organization in Donostia. GEHITU has a meeting space and supports lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and LGBT people who are living with HIV. They also organize HIV-prevention and LGBT awareness campaigns.

One team goes to schools to do panel sessions. The educators give testimonials and engage in a discussion about values and norms with students. They sometimes use a 14 minute video "[Vestido Nuevo](#)", which is about a boy who goes to (primary) school in a pink dress and with glittery painted nails. He gets some homo- and transphobic reactions. The short video is a good starter for discussion about heteronormativity and the freedom to be yourself.



ROAD SHOW

A road show (see [YouTube](#)) was also organized in the city center of Donostia. Students of Axular Lizeoa performed a specially made traditional Basque dance to make people aware of discrimination of people with special needs and LGBT people.



Part of the street was arranged like an obstacle course. People passing by could take part in this and experience the difficulties disabled people may have in their everyday life. This triggered empathy and raised awareness.

On another part of the street, mentally challenged people did street interviews with people about the road show. A compilation

of the interviews was broadcasted on the television channel of GUREAK, the LeGoP partner in Donostia.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FINAL CONFERENCE IN BARI

On 16th and 17th June the LeGoP project will have its final event in Bari. On 16 June there will be a workshop on education and fight against homophobic bullying coordinated by GALE. We hope there will be representatives of organizations and institutions working in the field of education and training at local, national and European level. This workshop will be at the Liceo Salvemini.

In the late afternoon, there will be a road show on the streets of Bari.

On the morning of 17 June, there will be a closing event where the products and results of the project will be presented.



Locations:

16th June, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Liceo Salvemini, via Prezzolini, 9, Bari

16th June, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. -Via Venezia, Muraglia, Bari

17th June, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Officina degli Esordi via F. Crispi 5 - Bari

THE PROJECT

“LeGoP - Learning good practices in European countries” is a project funded by the European Programme 2014 – 2020 Erasmus Plus funded by the European Programme 2014–2020 Erasmus Plus, managed by a transnational partnership composed of organizations from Italy, Spain and Netherlands aimed at favoring the inclusion of students with SEN by an adaptive teaching and learning tools based on innovative technologies and at identifying, preventing and fighting against negative behaviors towards LGBT people.

Direct beneficiaries of the project actions are students aged between 16 and 18 attending the schools involved, the teachers and key staff of the third sector organizations as well as a wider network of stakeholders composed of families, decision-makers, local communities and private companies. More specifically, 41 students and 8 teachers from Liceo Scientifico Salvemini of Bari had the opportunity to take part to the mobilities in the Netherlands and in Spain (9 students have participated in both the mobilities).

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT CLICK [HERE](#).

[E-COURSE](#) to prevent and handle discriminatory phenomena based on sexual orientations. You can [register for the courses here](#).

[CURRICULUM](#) training course on the use of new technologies to favor the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in learning pathways

[follow us on Facebook](#)

