



JUST! NEWSLETTER

JUST ACTION PROJECT 2nd NEWSLETTER



OUR TRANSNATIONAL TRAINING IN NORWAY

by *InEuropa*

18 teachers and principals of primary and secondary schools from the project countries (Ireland, Italy, Norway and Spain) joined Just Action partners in Oslo from April 15-17, 2023 for the transnational training.

On Saturday 15 and Sunday 16, participants used their heads, hearts and hands to work together on brainstorming and group activities to help the partnership developing the project's **Global Citizenship Education** resources.

We asked teachers to connect with one another and to share their experiences and hopes about teaching GCE, and we asked them directly what they need from a GCE training for teachers, which limits would they like to overcome, and which tools would they prefer. We asked them how would they describe the learner's journey, how could we help them in their GCE lessons in primary and secondary school with activities and long-term projects.

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Project Results

Here's a quick reminder of the goals of the project! Between now and 2024, we're going to produce materials to help teachers to bring climate action into their schools using Global Citizenship Education (GCE). We'll be developing:

Primary School Resources

Secondary School Resources

Teacher Training Programme

Resource and Learning Online Platform



We **asked**, and we **listened** to their answers. We gathered their **feedback and contributions**: our starting point to improve what we have done so far, in a way that will be effective for real teachers, not ideal ones. We also had the chance to finetune and integrate the **Teacher's Journey** with principals' and teachers' stories and testimonies, based on their concrete experiences.

Thanks to these days of co-working, we learnt that we are not here to teach anything: teachers are experts of education in their classrooms. They know the practice. What we can do is to support them in finding meaningful actions to share with their students, families and communities. By putting the teacher at the center of the resource development process, we are making Just Action their own project. And to reach other teachers too with their experiences, to help them overcome the issues and barriers that they usually meet, getting equipped with the tools and knowledge to make it happen and involve others sharing their experiences.

On **Monday 17th**, at the end of the work, heads, hearts and hands also helped us to evaluate our experience as facilitators and teachers, and to collect all the new ideas, feelings aroused by the training and resolutions for future actions.

We also took advantage of our meeting in Norway to **visit a local primary and secondary school**, Nordstrande Skole. Teachers and principals were excited to observe the school, its spaces and find out more about the Norwegian educational system, which is particularly focused on the students' specific learning experiences.

Tuesday 18th was totally dedicated to the **partner's meeting**: we worked hard to review what we gathered and plan how to adapt the resources to teachers' needs.

It was a very busy weekend: we are very pleased with the work we have done together, and we look forward to sharing the results of the project with the participating schools so that they can test them directly with their students.

Especially, we want to thank all the teachers and principals involved in the training and their schools: Istituto Comprensivo Da Vinci-Ungaretti (Fermo, Italy), Istituto Comprensivo Umberto I (Lanciano, Italy), North Dublin National School Project, (Ireland), St. Catherine's SNS, Le Cheile Secondary School (Dublin, Ireland), St. Fintan's High School (Sutton, Ireland), Artxandape Ikastola (Bilbao, Spain) and Juan Pablo school in Granada (Municipality of Valderrubio, Spain).





FIVE THINGS WE LEARNED ABOUT OUR RESOURCES IN OSLO

by GAP Ireland and GAP Spain

The Just Action team recently met in Oslo with the teachers on our project. On Saturday afternoon, we focused on our primary and secondary activities and resources. What have we done well? What do we need to improve? Read on to find out what we learned!

1

We're on the right track...

The best thing to hear from teachers was that they generally found our materials useful! We've developed activities that are interactive, physical, and ties to the curriculum in each country. Moreover, the activities offer space for growth as students explore the issue, create in response, and then offer something to the world!

2

... but we can still improve!

We need to make sure that everything is fully age appropriate. Some of the videos we linked to are better for younger children, while some of the photos to stimulate aren't accessible for that age. We also needed to be careful about the timing of our activities, as some of them took a long time in class.

3

Not activities, but 'learning situations in a global context'

This was an amazing insight from the Spanish teachers. They asked us to move beyond lesson plans that are carefully curated and clearly planned, and instead offer classroom situations where students can be aware of the global connections of their lives. It's a small shift, but it really helped focus our ideas.

4

Take students on a journey

These learning situations should start in the classroom, and offer meaningful learning about global issues. But they should also work with other classes to create change in the school. And they should also connect with people and places in the community to build solidarity, to inspire, and to act as citizens. This can be very hard for teachers, when they have a whole curriculum to get through - but that's where Just Action comes in!

5

We need a visual representation of our journey

If you're going on a journey, you'll need a map! We are rearranging our 'learning situations' into a map that charts students' growth, and can also serve as a quick planning tool for class GCE work for the year. We'll be revealing this very soon, so watch this space!

Continues overleaf



All this must be accessible to teachers, so how can this be done? Through an **easy and intuitive PLATFORM**.

At our meeting in Norway, we also received some great advice from the teachers who joined us in the different sessions on how to make the platform useful and engaging for teachers. Do you want to know what they told us?

As teachers, **we don't have time**. Teachers need to be able to find what they are looking in a quick and easy way. The platform must be simple.

Teachers **like to have references from other teachers**.

It would be good if teachers could evaluate the activities they develop in the program so that the rest of the teaching staff could know which activities are more in line with what they are looking for.

As teachers **we look a lot at what others are doing**.

The platform should show case studies of successful actions/activities that have worked in the classroom. It would also be good to be able to find the experience of the teachers who have participated in the project (photos, testimonial videos).

As teachers, we **need to be able to find the information we need in a clear way**.

The platform should not have too much text.

Teachers like to have the **possibility to work on a subject with different methodologies**.

The platform should be able to offer different tools to teachers, such as videos, podcasts, etc.

It is important for teachers **to be connected to other school communities**.

The platform must be able to enable communication between different communities/schools.

We're so grateful to the teachers who attended for contributing their experience, energy, and insights. We are working hard to implement all their amazing suggestions, and are looking forward to sharing results soon!



JOURNEYS WITHIN JOURNEYS WITHIN JOURNEYS

by InEuropa

In the Just Action project, we have long been inspired by **Campbell's Hero's journey**, where the protagonist receives a mission and undertakes a transformative journey. Through Just Action, we want to help teachers - our heroes - to undergo a **transformative journey** through our teacher training programme. Our aim is for them to become better equipped to help their students on their journeys towards empathetic, critical, knowledgeable and active global citizens.

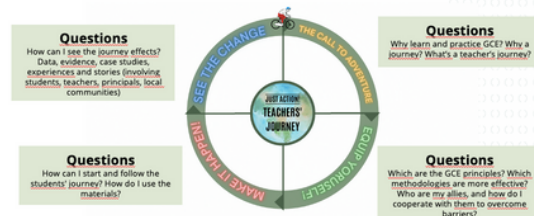
It is not enough that the teachers and students go on transformative journeys, we the project staff are on such a journey through the development of this project as well!

Within the journey we have embarked on, this spring we did a smaller but incredibly **transformative and valuable journey within the bigger journey**: Our LTTA in Oslo together with teachers from Italy, Spain, Ireland and Norway during our LTTA.

We learned and experienced how far we can travel figuratively simply by talking and listening to people, where everyone is eager and open for the journey and where it might lead us. We used the **design thinking method** to create an environment for sharing and development. Design thinking is a method we use to design the deliveries in the project, where the target group and their needs are in focus! Before the LTTA, we had an idea about where the weekend would take us and for some parts of the project we ended up in a different place! However, this unexpected destination was inspiring and eye opening.

We now have a new energy and motivation to create good journeys for both teachers and students, through our internal transformative journey that we got in Oslo together with our impressive teachers!

The teacher's journey





7 AND 8 JUNE: JUST ACTION PROJECT PRESENTED AT GAP INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN SIENA

by InEuropa

On **7th and 8th June**, some of the **Global Action Plan International** members met in Siena, at the University of Siena. The network's organizations who took part were: InEuropa (**Italy**), GAP UK (**England**), C&E Center (**Vietnam**), Framtiden i våre hender (**Norway**), GAP España (**Spain**), Fundacja GAP Polska (**Poland**), Mikado Consulting (**Turkey**), agado (**Germany**) e Kyklos Chile (**Chile**) and an individual associate from **Sweden**.

Just Action members took the chance to update the GAP members on the resources' development, based on the design thinking approach, also by means of a **video** summarizing the story of the project implementation from its start up to now. In addition, InEuropa encouraged GAP members to share their thoughts about Global Citizenship Education using the **Lego® Serious Play®** methodology chosen to reflect on the topic, guided by the certified facilitator Barbara Grazzini from InEuropa.

During the meeting, InEuropa also interviewed some of the GAP members to gather material for the Teacher's journey. Soon you will see the results of our work on the official Just Action platform.



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