

**POSITION DOCUMENT FOR THE CONCLUSION OF THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP
UE GRUNDTVIG 2010-2012**

1. Important results:

EU training partnership Consortium with participating partners from Germany, Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary have developed during the two years of collaboration the following **important results**:

1. The number of young people using information media in excess (5 hours / day and above) is higher, especially in Eastern Europe.
2. In the media literacy (critical reflection on their behavior towards the information media) there is an increased need in all the countries.
3. In the education field on the information media, there are deficiencies in all countries. Parents want their help, especially in the areas of: Internet safety, data protection, information media addiction and help in education
4. Parents want: Offers for parents (training for parents on the information media), guidelines and offers for prevention.
5. The forms of education do not address the issue of information media and Internet.
6. On politics, parents respond as follows to the questions:

The political field has noted the problems that create the information media use:

NO say in:

Bulgaria: 92 % Germany: 75 % Romania: 66 % Hungary: 66 %

Parents do not know places where they can receive answers to their questions about the information media addiction, excessive use of media and education regarding information media. Related to this issue there are some views of the parents of four countries:

"We consider it important to be properly informed about the dangers of new media in everyday life (eg contract law when shopping on the Internet). In this regard, we see the obligation from the part of the consumer. To this, should be offered a bigger budget from the politicians. "

"Children's movies are full of violence and aggression."

"Media promote how to think. This attacks too much one's private and individual space (human dignity). Many do not realize this".

"Elimination of television that promotes excessive sexuality and violence".

"Media in Romania have gone bad. Virtually there is no media, but mercenaries in the media that misinforms and poison. People are so addicted to the media that do not deserve help. Parents are required to raise their children carefully, because otherwise this may lead to a negative result. "

"Informing the public about these issues this kind of media creates and the commitment of politicians".

2. Policy requirements:

Despite the different political and social relations, in Europe there is a common problem: the phenomenon of the media and Internet addiction. The research basis, the look on this phenomenon and the experiences in Europe are different. More important for Europe are the following aspects:

- Promoting a common learning process, allowing an exchange of professional experience, aimed at a process searching for common solutions. Knowledge and awareness for promoting the competences in the media as a core competency, require an exercise of common learning in Europe.
- We need a European network to create a space for proper learning ideas, including local policy and authorities.
- Europe should be sensitized regarding this common issue. So politicians should discuss this issue and should include and inform their citizens.
- We want a common development process that improve the qualified personnel and strengthen the European network.
- Parents require parent training regarding the media.
- The competence on the information media is a key competence that is necessary in any form of education.
- Qualified personnel in all areas needs support structures in continuous vocational training of the qualification key "competence on information media"
- Advice centers - information centers should be settled both for those affected and for their family members.
- Very helpful would be that the affected persons be taken from home, so that we can think of an online consultation.

In addition it is very useful and desirable the constructive cooperation with the German Commission for the protection of minors within mass media and with the pedagogy regarding the information media, as adjacent specialized areas to achieve the common goal of avoiding media addiction. One should promote collaboration with people with different skills on different levels.

Requirements for a structural prevention

Officials within the German Commission for the protection of minors within the mass media are asked to implement besides the content criteria also the "search potential" characteristic of a screen game in the verification process for grading age within the organization for voluntary monitoring of entertainment software. Firstly, inspection criteria should be developed for the searching potential of the games. It is necessary that the organization for voluntary monitoring of entertainment software checks within the German Commission for the protection of minors within the media all the games (especially games through browsers).

One should also check whether the terms on the promotion of media competence of the training institutions meet the searching potential of computer games.

In education, promoting a reflective use of the information media on the screen will be included as a task in the training process.

In addition to specific offers for certain groups of people, in the community work one should put emphasis on prevention of the computer dependency. Because computer dependency is not yet admitted as addictive disease and because financial security is still lacking for the treatment structure, political and social awareness is of great importance.

To the political representatives in districts and countries such as Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Germany, May 2012
