



Newsletter Intercultural Active Citizenship Education

Issue 5, September 2007



FUNDAÇÃO
CALOUSTE
GULBENKIAN



Contents

1. INTERACT website
2. Editorial
3. Statistics
4. Sixth transnational meeting
5. Work Status
6. Special Bulletin
7. Project Evaluation
8. News and Events
 1. Project Dissemination Activities

INTERACT Website (www.ces.uc.pt/interact)

In our website you can keep up to date with the latest work achievements, developments, publications; participate in the forum by making suggestions, giving ideas, asking questions, etc. and find suggestions on bibliography and relevant links on this area.

It is our aim that both this newsletter and the website become interactive spaces. So we invite you to participate actively in this work!

INTERACT Newsletter

Coordination:

Manuela Guilherme

Ricardo Cabrita

Olga Solovova & Graça Costa

Centro de Estudos Sociais

Universidade de Coimbra

Colégio S. Jerónimo,

Apartado 3087

3001-401 Coimbra

Portugal

Tel: + 351 239 855575

Fax: + 351 239 855589

<http://www.ces.uc.pt/interact>

mmdg@fe.uc.pt

manuelaguilherme@sapo.pt

ricardoc@ces.uc.pt

olga@ces.uc.pt

graca@ces.uc.pt

Editorial

INTERACT, *Intercultural Active Citizenship Education*, was a 3-year project coordinated by *Centro de Estudos Sociais (CES)*, University of Coimbra (Portugal), with the following participants: Danmarks Paedagogiske Universitet, Copenhagen, (Denmark); Universidad de Valladolid (Spain); Institute of Education, University of London and University of Leeds (United Kingdom).

This is the fifth and final issue of this Newsletter, as the Project was successfully brought to an end. It was a long road to travel, hurrying from station to station, with but very few stops along the way. A tremendous amount of data has been collected, encompassing European and national documents related to the intercultural dimension of citizenship education: interviews with European and national policy-makers and academics in this area; post-graduate programmes; interviews with teachers, and cross-national analyses of all the data. From all this material, analyses have already been carried out and some material has been published. The INTERACT team members are exceptionally determined in bringing the Project a step forward.

We intend to keep the Project alive through an already expanding network of related projects/institutions and the website (www.ces.uc.pt/interact), so stay in touch!

Statistics

Number of visitors accessing the INTERACT website in 2007

January 2388	February 2443	March 2925	April 1956
May 2376	June 1105	July 452	August 278



Introducing the Project

- This project focuses on the intercultural element of citizenship education and it aims to provide guidelines for teacher education in this area.
- It has followed three main steps: (1) document analysis; (2) curriculum analysis; and (3) an empirical study.
- INTERACT aimed to establish links between official documents, curriculum design and the teachers' experiences, interests and expectations with regard to the intercultural dimension in Citizenship Education.
- The overall purpose of this project was to contribute to the effective implementation of official guidelines on this matter and to the expansion of good practices that have been scattered in the schools.
- Furthermore, this project was meant to map out, in each of the participant countries, the teacher development programmes and postgraduate courses that can offer relevant education for educators, as far as the intercultural dimension of citizenship is concerned, and to assess them in the light of the reviewed bibliography, of the official guidelines, at the European and national levels, and of the teachers' voices.
- INTERACT was supported by the 6th Framework Programme of the European Commission and by Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, and developed in four countries: Denmark, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Teams

The INTERACT project included four European countries.

In Denmark, Bente Meyer and Claus Haas collaborated in this project on behalf of the Danmarks Pædagogiske Universitet, Copenhagen, in the *Department of Educational Anthropology*. They were assisted by Katrine Dahl Madsen and Helle Rørbech.



In Portugal, Manuela Guilherme coordinated the project on behalf of the *Centro de Estudos Sociais*, Universidade de Coimbra. The team also integrated José Manuel Pureza and junior researchers, Olga Solovova, Ricardo Cabrita and Graça Costa.

In Spain, Paloma Castro participated in this project on behalf of the Universidad de Valladolid, in the *Departamento de Didáctica de la Lengua y la Literatura*. Her research assistant was Natalia Barranco Izquierdo.

In the U.K., two English universities worked together in this project. They were represented by Audrey Osler on behalf of the *Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights Education*, University of Leeds, who was assisted by the research officer Michalis Kakos; and by Hugh Starkey, from the *Institute of Education*, University of London.

Sixth transnational meeting

The sixth transnational meeting took place on the 1st of June 2007 in Lisbon, Portugal and was organized by the Portuguese team.



◀ (from left to right): Graça Costa, Hugh Starkey and Audrey Osler

▼ (from left to right): Graça Costa and Natalia Barranco



This was the final meeting of the project and lasted only one day, since all major issues had already been decided. Nevertheless, there was still room for debate. This was the wrapping up of a three-year transnational effort and many details needed to be considered.

The teams concentrated mostly on the several aspects of the Final Report, and on further dissemination of the project, or in other words, on keeping the project alive.

The data gathered would be filtered in a first approach according to three main areas:

- ▶ What could be learned from the teachers?
- ▶ What could be learned about policy procedures?
- ▶ What are the recommendations for teacher education?

Work Status

↳ The INTERACT project has completed all Packages and the teams have gathered an immense amount of data, which has already been analysed and given material for some publications. We hope to deepen and expand the analyses and submit further articles and publication proposals in the months to come.

↳ The Portuguese and Spanish teams also developed an online questionnaire, which has provided for a quantitative study about teachers' perceptions and descriptions of their practices within the intercultural dimension of citizenship education. These results are expected to complement the Project's main qualitative study (teacher's interviews). It aims to find out about the actual representativeness of the latter.

The application of the same questionnaire nationwide in Brazil is being prepared in what is to emerge as a cross-continental collaboration.



▲ (from left to right):
Katrine Dahl Madsen
and Paloma Castro

↳ This is also the end of the Project INTERCULTURA, which is a complementary Project to INTERACT, focusing on the Portuguese context. It was funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Portugal.

Special Bulletin!

**The intercultural dimension of citizenship education:
The North and the South in a postcolonial Europe**

↪ The INTERACT & INTERCULTURA final conference was a success. It was held on the 4th and 5th of June at the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon. It was an international event, which gathered all INTERACT teams, and included the special participation of other renowned experts, such as Boaventura Sousa Santos, director of the Centro de Estudos Sociais, and José Eustáquio Romão, director of Paulo Freire Institute, Brazil. They added to the project's theoretical background, while the INTERACT teams presented the Project's actual findings and state-of-art contributions.



▲ (from left to right): José Eustáquio Romão, director of the Paulo Freire Institute, Brazil; Boaventura Sousa Santos, director of the Centre for Social Studies, Manuela Guilherme, and José Manuel Pureza.



◀ (from left to right):
Paloma Castro,
Hans Koed,
Bente Meyer
and Claus Haas

▶ (from left to right): Boaventura Sousa Santos and José Eduardo Marçal Grilo, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Administrator and previously a Minister of Education



Special Bulletin!

↳ All INTERACT teams presented their findings and invited the audience to a public discussion, where their findings could be contested or supported by the public's experiences.



▲ (from left to right): José Manuel Pureza, Audrey Osler and Hugh Starkey



▶ Manuela Guilherme, Project coordinator

↳ Furthermore, since the bulk of the project concentrated on the teachers' perspectives, the teachers themselves had the opportunity to express their viewpoints personally in one plenary session. Teachers from three countries (Portugal, Spain and England) were invited to represent their colleagues, comment and add to the project's findings in this international panel. This was considered by all the conference participants as one of its highest moments.



▲ International panel with basic and secondary school teachers

☞ Project Evaluation

According to the INTERACT Proposal and Work Description, the project was to be evaluated by experts in the field external to the Project. Furthermore, it was consensual among the teams that they should also come from outside the participant countries.

Therefore, each team was responsible for hiring an evaluator, whose reports would complement each other, since they would be based on different aspects of the Project. So, Dr. Joanne Pattison-Meek (Canada) and Dr. Ulla Lundgren (Sweden) assessed the website; Professor Cezar Birzea (Romania) assessed Work Packages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 while Dr. Barry van Driel (Netherlands) together with Mr. Fokion Georgiadis (Greece) assessed Work Packages 10, 11 and 14.

They presented their preliminary conclusions in the last session of the Project's final conference in June 2007: *The intercultural dimension of citizenship education: The North and the South in a postcolonial Europe*.



◀ (from left to right): Cezar Birzea, Fokion Georgiadis and Bente Meyer

▶ (from left to right):
Manuela Guilherme,
Ulla Lundgren and
Paloma Castro



The **Project's evaluation** was **very favourable** and its innovative research findings recognised, as it covers the processes from policy-making (analysis of European and national documents, interviews with policy-makers and academics) to actual policy implementation (analysis of post-graduate programmes and teacher interviews).

Project Dissemination Activities

The **INTERACT** project organised and participated in the following events:

➤ **April 26-28, 2007, Lisbon, Portugal.** Manuela Guilherme presented the INTERACT (*Intercultural Active Citizenship Education*) Project in the second session of the workshop: *Intercultural Citizenship Education – New Perspectives for Learning at Schools* at the international conference: *Rethinking Citizenship Education in European Migration Societies, Political Strategies - Social Changes - Educational Concept*, organized by Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung and by NECE (Networking European Citizenship Education), cooperating with Goethe Institut, Portugal and Fonds Erinnerung und Zukunft. INTERACT and INTERCULTURA junior researchers, Olga Solovova, Ricardo Cabrita and Graça Costa, acted as *rapporteurs* to the main conference workshops.

➤ **June 4-5, 2007 in Lisbon, Portugal.** INTERACT and INTERCULTURA teams presented their findings in the project's final conference, entitled: *The intercultural dimension of citizenship education: The North and the South in a postcolonial Europe*, organized by Centro de Estudos Sociais.

➤ **June, 18-19, 2007 in Braga, Portugal.** Manuela Guilherme participated in the panel: *Linguistic and cross-cultural skills and competences for enhanced opportunities on the European and international labour market*, in the conference: "Multilingual Europe: A Challenge for Higher Education in Southern Europe", organized by the Arts and Human Science Institute, University of Minho.

➤ **July 13, 2007 in London, England.** The International Centre for Education for Democratic Citizenship, a joint centre of the University of London colleges Birkbeck and the Institute of Education, hosted an international conference: *Education for Democratic Citizenship: multiculturalism and national identity*. The INTERACT project was represented in the workshop session "INTERACT Symposium" by the British, Danish and Portuguese teams. Claus Haas presented a paper entitled: *Identity politics, multiculturalism and the new citizenship education in Denmark*. Audrey Osler and Hugh Starkey presented the paper: *Citizenship education policy and practice in England: re-imagining the nation as cosmopolitan*. Manuela Guilherme and Ricardo Cabrita presented the paper: *Teachers' views on the intercultural dimension of citizenship education*.

Project Dissemination Activities (cont.)

➤ **August 1-2, 2007 in Santa Catarina, Brazil.** Manuela Guilherme participated as a guest speaker in the 1st International Congress on Education: “*Educação, Cidadania e Meio Ambiente*”, at the *Universidade do Oeste de Santa Catarina, Joaçaba Campus* with the presentation *Multiculturalismo e Educação: Representações do Norte e do Sul*.

➤ **August 6, 2007 in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil.** Manuela Guilherme gave a lecture entitled *Global English and Critical Cosmopolitan Citizenship* at the *Associação Cultural Brasil-Estados Unidos*.

➤ **August 7-8, 2007 in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil.** Manuela Guilherme was the sole guest-speaker for the one-day postgraduate seminars entitled *Interculturalidade e Cidadania em Educação: Representações do Norte e do Sul* and *Línguas, Culturas e Educação: Para um cosmopolitismo crítico* in the Department of Arts at the *Universidade Federal da Bahia*.

➤ **September 3-7, 2007 in Sarajevo, Bosnia.** The British, Danish and Portuguese teams participated in the XIII World Congress of Comparative Education Societies: *Living Together: Education and Intercultural Dialogue*. Manuela participated in the session *Teacher Education* and presented the paper: *Educating Educators for the Intercultural Dimension of Citizenship Education: Giving Voice to Teachers, Academics and Policy-makers*. Audrey Osler, Hugh Starkey, Bente Meyer and Claus Haas participated in the session: *Intercultural Education and Human Rights: Theory and Practice*. Audrey Osler presented the paper: *Race, Democracy and Institutional Inertia: Dilemmas facing policy –Makers in England*; Hugh Starkey: *Teachers Perceptions of Education for Citizenship, Equality and Diversity: a Freirean Analysis*; Bente Meyer: *Danish Teachers Approaches to Citizenship Education and Cultural Diversity: An Empirical Study*; and Claus Haas: *Citizenship Education and Multiculturalism as Identity Politics*.

INTERACT Newsletter

This is the last issue of this Newsletter. We hope that this Project proved to be of great benefit for all interested in this field and that further cooperation is possible. The INTERACT Project will maintain its dynamics through the website, so stay in touch!

www.ces.uc.pt/interact

We invite you to disseminate this newsletter by forwarding it to friends and colleagues, who you know may have interest in this project and research area.



SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

FUNDAÇÃO
CALOUSTE
GULBENKIAN

