

PRESS RELEASE*September, 2016****Empowering and Activating the young Generation through the Learning of Employability Skills***

PROJECT NUMBER – 2015-3-CY02-KA205-000599

EAGLES project is funded by the European Commission under the ERASMUS+ program Strategic Partnerships in the youth field. The project was launched on 1st of April 2016 with 14 months duration and is implemented in four countries (Cyprus , Greece , Ireland and Italy). The consortium consists of 5 expert organizations: GrantXpert Consulting Ltd (Coordinator), the Institute of Development Ltd, ICEPE - Institute of Child Education and Psychology in Ireland, Panteion University in Greece and CESIE (European Centre for Studies and Initiatives) in Italy. The newly formed strategic partnership was created based on long experience in topics related to **Positive Psychology, Entrepreneurship** and **Skills Development** for young people.



Aim: It aims to tackle the **youth unemployment** problem by developing important Employability Skills to young job seekers in combination with Positive Emotions, Psychological Resilience, Optimism and Self-esteem.

Objective: The main goal of the project is the development of a very innovative and practical training package which will be utilised by **Youth Workers**, who will be trained by the EAGLES team and will then act as multipliers of this knowledge. Emphasis will be placed on transferring positive

emotions and thoughts to young job seekers.

Implementation of Activities of the project:

April 2016: The Kick-off meeting was held on the 8th of April, 2016 at GrantXpert's Offices in Nicosia, Cyprus. The kick-off meeting was attended all members of the consortium. During the meeting all relevant information regarding upcoming activities, intellectual outputs, multiplier events, the role and responsibilities of each partner in each output were discussed.

May 2016 - June 2016: Current State of the Art. A completed comprehensive literature search led to the identification of most relevant projects and statistical data on a national and European level. All partners contributed to the development of evidence based Report.

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July 2016 - August 2016: The National Needs' Analysis Report. Questionnaires were distributed in each participating countries to 160 employers and to 80 unemployed young people in total. The questionnaires examined the existing situation in partner's countries and the level of knowledge, know-how and skills of young people. Based on the questionnaires the partners analyzed senior managers' perceptions in terms of necessary skills they look for in a young employee.

September 2016: The 2nd Transnational meeting was successfully held on the 12th and 13th of September, 2016 at ICEPE premises in Maynooth, Ireland. The meeting was a great opportunity for all partners to share their experience and key findings from the project's national needs' analysis results and to discuss issues emerged from the project's extensive literature review. During the meeting, a very constructive workshop was conducted by all partners assisting in the development of the format and structure of the project's training package.

Next Planned Activities of the project:

- Development of Training Package. The EAGLES Training Package is the most important output of the project as it is considered a very useful resource for Youth Workers to support young people's positivity and self-confidence and to assist them in enhancing their employability skills.
- Piloting the Training Package. First pilot test is to present the learning among the consortium partners and to be able to make the final changes/corrections/additions on the learning units. The 2nd step is to implement the 50-hour training program to 10 youth workers in each participating country (Cyprus, Italy, Greece and Ireland).

