



This learning partnership project is supported by the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme/ Grundtvig.

PEOPLE Grundtvig Partnership

- Personal Learning Environments
- Blogs as PLE Tools.
- Lifelong learning
- Informal learning in formal and non-formal contexts
- Digital and Media literacy

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PEOPLE Meeting in Torredonjimeno, Spain

The second transnational meeting of the PEOPLE partnership took place in Spain, at the Lifelong Education Centre (Centro de Educación Permanente) "Miguel Hernández" in Torredonjimeno from the 11th and 12th of March, 2013.

The Vice-major offered an institutional welcome to the participants of the project. A present interexchange act was carried out by the local authorities and the participants partners.

Greeting everyone for the participation, the first session began.

Coordinator Johanna Jokinen began recalling what had been done in Leiria Meeting and the working agenda for this Meeting.

The participants did a exposition of their research

on the status of PLE in their own countries.

In this first session, each of the partners made and overview of PLE in formal and informal teaching-learning situations and tools (Social Networks, image sharing deposits, maps, blogs...)

Portuguese partners began showing a instance of the Crunching bytes blog. Turkish associates showed the result of a survey of usage of social networks tools in Turkey. Norwegian showed the blog Eat, Speak, Learn. Spaniards showed the Wordpress blog of their Fuensanta de Martos Section on anniversary events.

Italian partners did a theoretical review on the status of the issue of PLE.

Polish partners and Finnish

coordinators made a summary of the nature of PLE and their putting into practice.

During the second session, it was conducted a discussion on PLE vs. **PLN (Personal Learning Networks)**, the latter dealing mainly with the interaction with other people's resources / PLE., agreeing that the synthesis of both is the most suitable approach.

The second day of the meeting began with the third working session presentation of the projects to be conducted for the third meeting.

The fourth session ended with a workshop on Google Maps application for PLE given by Pedro Costa.

The second meeting was closed and a family picture was taken.

All the members were set to meet in the Third Meeting in Turkey.

What is a PLN?

A "Personal Learning Network" (PLN) is an informal learning network that consists of the people a learner interacts with and derives knowledge from in a personal learning environment. In a PLN, a person makes a connection with another person with the specific intent that some type of learning will occur because of that connection.

An important part of this concept is the theory of connectivism developed by **George Siemens** and **Stephen Downes**. Learners create connections and develop a network that contributes to their professional

development and knowledge. The learner does not have to know these people personally or ever meet them in person.

The following is an excerpt from **Dryden's and Vos'** book on learning networks: "*For the first time in history, we know now how to store virtually all humanity's most important information and make it available, almost instantly, in almost any form, to almost anyone on earth. We also know how to do that in great new ways so that people can interact with it, and learn from it.*"

Personal learning networks share a close association with the concept of **Personal Learning Environments**. Martindale & Dowdy describe a PLE as a "manifestation of a learner's informal learning processes via the Web".

The European Union Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013 has recognized the potential for PLNs by funding the aPLaNet project (Autonomous Personal Learning Networks for Language Teachers). The project explains the value of PLNs for the professional development of language educators.

Photos





Next steps:

It was agreed to elaborate a list of the tasks to be elaborated for the next meeting in Poland.

The members made a proposal of their plan of work for this course, to be evaluated in later meetings:

Finland: English course through PLE.

Portugal: Local history through Google Maps.

Poland: "Grandma's Academy" in which they will learn by means of ICT how to grow up grandchildren.

Italy: Tutorial on Course Competence. As they belong to a Commerce Confederation, they will organize varied entrepreneur courses fitting particular needs.

Norway: Multiple blogs on topics according to their students needs. Teacher's courses too.

Turkey: They will plan an ICTs course for beginner young students averaging 160 hours.

Spain: English course Beginner and Intermediate Level or Beginner or Intermediate ICT course through PLEe (Social Networks -Closed Facebook Group- or Open Blog). Preparation for A2 Official Language Schools free access degree.

A description of the hosting organisation



The Centro de Educación Permanente "Miguel Hernández" (Lifelong Education Centre "Miguel Hernández") is a public centre depending on the Andalusian Educational Authorities. It is set in the village of Torredonjimeno (Jaén; Spain). It is made out of one matrix unit (this one) and comprising

five different sub-sections. We belong to the Lifelong Learning network with was set in 1984 by the Educational Authorities. This Centre was created that same year.

We aim to provide our students teaching in four different fields, namely:

- Basic Education for Senior Citizens who didn't have the opportunity to obtain any information, implementing different plans of studies.
- Preparation to obtain Secondary Education degree for Adults (ESA).
- Teaching plans on Languages and ICT.
- Wide range of workshops. (Arts, craftsmanship, ICT...).

Lifelong Education Programme aims to provide adults the chance to continue their formation beyond the compulsory levels and extend the pedagogical experience to during their whole life.

Andalusian Lifelong Education Site:

<http://portal.ced.junta-andalucia.es/educacion/webportal/web/educacion-permanente>

CEPER "Miguel Hernández Site":

<http://www.cepermiguelhernandez.es/>

CEPER "Miguel Hernández" Facebook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/ceper.miguelhernandez>

PEOPLE Grundtvig

Partnership:



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The coordinator



Porsgrunn Voksenopplæringscenter (Norway)



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Afyonkarahisar Halk Eğitim Merkezi ve Akşam Sanat Okulu (Turkey)



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More info on our website:

<http://people.ipleiria.pt>