



4th NEWSLETTER – May 2023

Completion of the project

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the SEMELI project's fourth newsletter!

On **Thursday 19th May 2023** at 14:00, the **Final Conference** for the European Educational Programme SEMELI (Socially Excluded youth of MEdia Literacy) was successfully held. The event took place at the European University of Cyprus (EUC) premises and was attended by more than 80 people. The project is co-funded by the European Commission through the Erasmus+ programme (KA3), with partners from five countries: Cyprus (European University of Cyprus which is the coordinator of the program, Theological School of the Church of Cyprus, Enoros Consulting Ltd and the Cyprus Prisons Department), Greece (Athens Lifelong Learning institute), Spain (Associació Social Andròmines), Romania (Asociatia de Terapie Familiala si de Cuplu Timisoara – ATFCT) and Latvia (EPPEA Association).

The SEMELI project was officially launched on the 1st of December 2019 and has completed all of its objectives. The project has developed and implemented innovative methods and practices to promote the inclusion of socially and geographically marginalized young detainees (16-35 years old) through digital media and media literacy. Through the development of shared values with the rest of society and the promotion of digital skills and media literacy, it has already trained young detainees in each of the five partner countries. Moreover, the training program for prison staff has been prepared and implemented in all participating countries, who after their training can now act as trainers and facilitators in promoting media literacy for the empowerment of young detainees.

The event was welcomed by (i) the Vice-Rector of Research & External Affairs, European University Cyprus. Prof. Marios Vryonides (ii) the Rector of the European University of Cyprus Prof. Andreas Efstathiou, (ii) the Minister of Justice and Public Order, Mrs Anna Koukkides Procopiou and (iii) the Deputy Director of the Central Prison, Mr Ioannis Kapnoulas. In the greetings was highlighted the enormous social impact of the SEMELI project, as well as the improvements that have been made in the Cyprus Prison Department in recent years, drastically and substantially improving the living conditions of detainees. In addition, both the Minister of Justice and Public Order, Mrs Anna Koukkides Procopiou, and the Deputy Director of Prison, Mr Kapnoulas, declared their support and readiness to participate in similar Projects.

This was followed by invited speeches by Dr Nikos Amanatidis (Educational Consultant in Northern Greece) on the topic of "New Media and Education" and Dr Charis Xinari (Associate Professor at the European University of Cyprus) on the topic of "Media Literacy: Digital Literacy, Media Education, and Critical Media Literacy". Afterwards, in a round table discussion, the invited speakers with Ms Antigoni Themistokleous (Radio and Television Authority) and Prof. Marios Vryonidis discussed the usefulness of media literacy training in marginalized groups.

The Final Conference continued with a presentation on the Evaluation of the Implementation of the Educational Program for the Detainees and the Prison Staff in all Participating Countries, by Dr Olga Solomontos-Kountouri, Dr Maria Sikki and Dr Maria Petridou (Theological School of the Church of Cyprus). Afterwards, a representative from each participating country briefly presented the implementation of the training program in their country.

Finally, the partners presented important deliverables of the Project (e.g. Curriculum & Methodology of Digital and Media Literacy Skills for Young Detainees, Robotics & VR in Prisons, Role Models, The Curriculum for Prison Staff Educational Program, The Prototype).

After the event, a reception followed at the premises of the European University of Cyprus.



Find out more about SEMELI on our [website](#) & social media accounts  



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