

PARSIFAL, THE LEGEND RESEARCHER

INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS TESTING AND EVALUATION

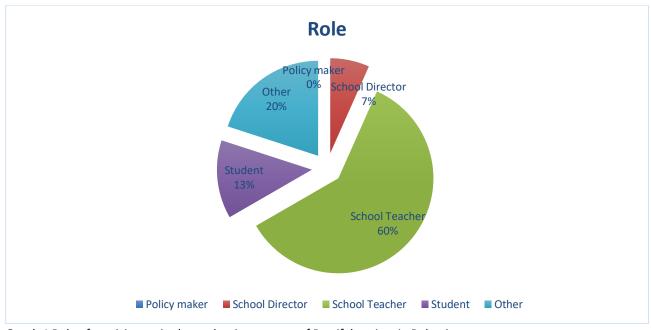
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Introduction

The testing activity of project Parsifal outputs took part during the multiplier events organized by Zinev Art Technologies, as well as working with teachers from distance to support them in the process of trying and evaluating the products. ZAT organized 2 multiplier events - one in September and one in November. The multiplier event in September had 20 participants and the multiplier event in November – 14 participants. In total we received 30 evaluation questionnaires: 2 from administrative school staff (directors), 18 schoolteachers, 4 students, and 6 mentors, trainers, pedagogical support staff (see graph 1 below). The major part of these questionnaires were gathered during and short after multiplier events from participants; some questionnaires and testimonials were received from other teachers/trainers, who we worked with during our dissemination activities.



Graph 1 Role of participants in the evaluation process of Parsifal project in Bulgaria

The target groups we addressed with the evaluation and testing activities consisted more specifically of:

School teachers in Bulgarian language, history, geography, arts and crafts from 2 different school in





the country (School of Arts and Crafts, Rusalia and OU "St.St. Ciryl and Methodius" school, Polikraishte)

- Students from the 2 schools
- Administrative personnel from the schools (director and deputy director)
- Other freelance trainer, support pedagogical staff, mentors, librarian and experts from an NGO (Cultural house "Razvitie 1884")
- Our strategy of involvement of participants in this process was to have people who work everyday in the field and who would give us the possibility to use in practice the project results. The involved participants were school representatives and worked closely with students to test project results. We involved participants through personal meetings, direct phone calls to headmasters and teachers, public invitations to join the project, published in specific educational directories.
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Activities with Teachers and Students

The activities we organized with the target groups for the purposes of testing the project outcomes consisted of the following:

- Didactical activities with teachers: after presenting the project results to the audience we developed some activities for teachers to work on, simulating the use of materials in the classroom. At the beginning we read legends from different countries, asking them to connect the legends with common characteristics. After that we showed them how the specific legends are connected in the essays in the project portal. After this activity, we divided the teachers in groups asking each group to tell a Bulgarian legend that is not in the repository of legends and connect it to the already existing Italia, Lithuanian, Polish and Romanian legends. The third didactical activity we did was to ask the teachers from the different groups to write a story, giving them some basic characteristics of this story (we used the criteria, which were used in the development of the essays in the portal) - characters, main challenges, moral findings, objects used, places. After the groups were ready with the stories we asked them to present the stories in front of the others. These were some of the few examples we gave teachers how to work with the materials from the project, pointing out that for each legend there are more didactical activities shown by each partner. After these activities we spoke about the interactive map of the portal, which allows users to follow different trips between legends. Teachers were very happy of the presented possibilities to use project materials and further suggested that they could create such a map with Bulgarian legends from specific regions, and implement such trips between legends with students for real in the form of study excursions.
- Didactical activities with students: we asked teachers, who already tried some activities with ZAT's team, to implement some of them with students. Students were most intrigued by trying the interactive map application. Teachers shared also that students had a lot of fun when they had to present the legends in front of their classmates, getting in the role of some of the characters.
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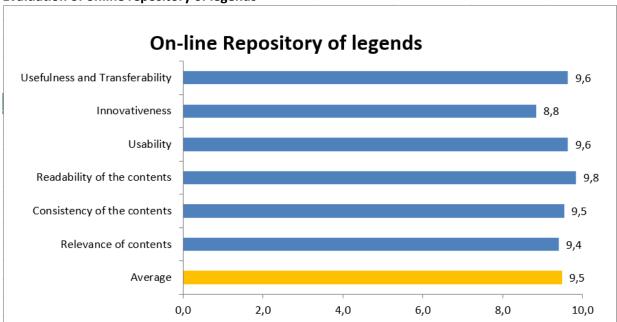


were school representatives and worked closely with students to test project results. We involved participants through personal meetings, direct phone calls to headmasters and teachers, public invitations to join the project, published in specific educational directories.

Evaluation

In the questionnaires we asked respondents to fill in, the questions were asked for the main project results: online repository of legends, essays on European legends and online interactive map. For each of the products we asked respondents to evaluate their characteristics from 1 to 10 (1 being the worst and 10 being the best)

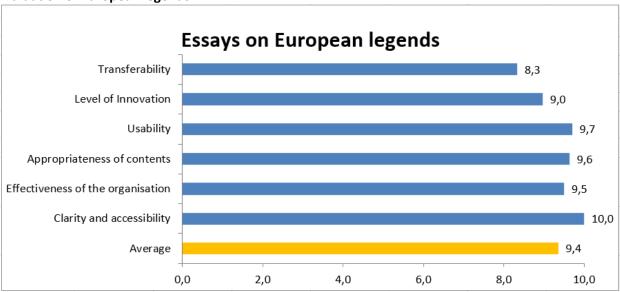
Evaluation of online repository of legends



The average evaluation of the online repository of legends is quite high – 9,5 points. The highest evaluation was given for the readability of the contents and the lowest innovativeness. We believe that this is quite a good evaluation considering that one of the main aims of the project is to develop reading and writing skills of students. Probably respondents gave lower marks for innovativeness to the online repository of legends, because legends and traditional tales are content that people are quite used to and in the digital environment there are various repositories of such traditional legends. However there are no many repositories that connect different European legends and respondents acknowledged that. We are very happy that the online repository received high evaluation in usefulness and transferability and usability of contents. We believe that this is a good sign, showing that this project product could be easily implemented in the everyday educational process in schools.

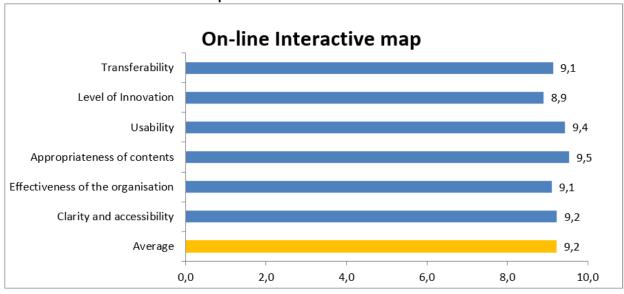


Evaluation of European legends



The essays on European legends got the highest evaluation for clarity and accessibility and usability. Transferability was evaluated lowest compared to the other criteria - 8,3 points. Probably the reason for that is that the curricula in Bulgaria is quite strict and it is not easy to add new content in subjects. From the testimonials we received it was clear that teachers in Bulgarian language and language teachers would most easily use the essays.





The highest marks of the evaluation of the online interactive map were given for appropriateness of contents and usability. It is interesting to see that the highest marks for this product (almost only 10s) were given from students who participated in the evaluation. The online interactive map is the main product around which the app is built. Teachers also shared that students enjoyed working with the app, so it is not surprise that they gave the highest marks for the project product which is most interactive and close to the nature young people use devices nowadays.



Conclusions

We believe that despite the difficult last months the project has made very positive progress and the target groups evaluated it as highly as high were the efforts of the partnership to develop products, which are innovative, interesting and important for the school education. There is project added value and achievement of targets in all partner countries. The project objectives are reached and the project outputs proved to have high potential for broad implementation not only in the partner institutions' practices but also in other institutions in the field of school education.

The data gathered clearly shows that each and every of the project results is fully developed with the active participation of all the responsible partners and is based on a careful research and evidence. The prevailing part of the respondents think that the results are aiming towards the defined need of support of the educators in the sphere of school education and that these results are innovative, usable, clear and effective in supporting the educational process.

The results from the questionnaires show very high evaluation of project products in terms of: clear contents, accessibility, structure and organization of the contents, easy usage, concrete contents, language simplicity and clarity, constant data and contents update, interactivity.