

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

As international school partnerships offer a concrete opportunity for intercultural exchange and cooperation **aces** encourages partnership projects amongst schools in Central and South Eastern European countries.

Teachers and students (aged 12-17) of schools in the participating countries are invited to find partner schools and to submit a partnership project proposal with their ideas for cooperation.

Call for project proposals 2013

Our societies are getting more and more diverse. Unfortunately, we have the tendency to fear those who are different to us (ethnicity, religious beliefs, social background, age, gender ...). We are quick to make a distinction between "us" and "others" and those who are not members of "our group" are often seen and treated less favorably. This is both discriminating and counterproductive as diversity, when respected and promoted, fosters innovation and creativity. Therefore, it is indispensable to fight prejudices and to get to know each other better. As cross-border

school projects are an ideal starting point to truly engage with other people, the overall theme of the aces call 2013 is **"I and the others: Discovering diversity around and within me"**.

Detailed information on the theme, the contest rules and the straightforward submission procedure on www.aces.or.at

The deadline for submission is 30 April 2013.

An international selection committee then evaluates and awards the best applications. The winners are supported to carry out their cross-border partnership projects.

Network events

International meetings with delegations of the winning project schools, e.g. the Academy, provide a platform for exchange, evaluation and further educational training and development.

INFORMATION & CONTACT

www.aces.or.at



Interkulturelles Zentrum

Reinhard Eckert & Christine Gamper,
Project Coordination
Vienna, Austria
reinhard.eckert@iz.or.at, tine.gamper@iz.or.at
www.iz.or.at

in cooperation with



VČELÍ DOM

Danica Lacová, *Executive Director*
Bratislava, Slovak Republic
danica.lacova@vcelidom.sk
www.vcelidom.sk

aces is an initiative of



ERSTE Stiftung

ERSTE Foundation

Knut Neumayer, *Programme Director*
Vienna, Austria
www.erstestiftung.org

aces is associated with the



EU Strategy for the Danube Region
European Commission

aces

Academy of Central
European Schools

Academy of Central European Schools

Supporting dialogue
and cooperation of
young people

Albania / Austria /
Bosnia and Herzegovina /
Bulgaria / Croatia /
Czech Republic / Hungary /
Kosovo / Macedonia /
Moldova / Montenegro /
Romania / Serbia /
Slovak Republic / Slovenia

aces is an initiative of
ERSTE Foundation

coordinated by
Interkulturelles Zentrum

in cooperation with
VČELÍ DOM

www.aces.or.at

THE INITIATIVE



aces is an initiative of ERSTE Foundation.

The programme aims at supporting the establishment of a Central European network of schools. It is designed to enable and enhance a sustainable dialogue and cooperation of young people and to create a continuous network of shared knowledge, mutual learning and innovation.



Partner countries

Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic and Slovenia are involved in the network.

Support

The initiative is supported by the Ministries of Education from all participating countries. The coordinating unit is Interkulturelles Zentrum in cooperation with VČELÍ DOM.



THE PHILOSOPHY



European citizenship - A Soul for Europe

aces supports innovative ways of teaching and learning in Central Europe in order to contribute to the process of European integration and the promotion of European Citizenship.

Schools can play an important role in opening up the perspectives of young people beyond the borders of their own country towards a common Europe, based on joint values like the state of law, personal freedom and human rights.

aces invites schools to contribute to the cross-border dialogue on European values and concepts and to become a vital part of a shared vision of Europe.*

Learning for tomorrow

aces offers concrete possibilities to take part actively and to discuss European values and topics with peers from abroad. Young people are supported in establishing personal contacts, developing friendship across borders and becoming acquainted with varying perspectives and different ways of thinking.

*Further Information:

Council of Europe
www.coe.int

Unesco
www.unesco.org

European Commission
www.ec.europa.eu/citizenship



Besides stimulating the practical use of foreign languages and the motivation to learn even new ones (e.g. “neighbourhood languages”), **aces** welcomes the use of modern communication technologies. Students and teachers may profit from it and create a common space for learning and intercultural dialogue from which knowledge and various competencies emerge.



Schools as learning organisations

aces addresses schools with their potential for developing educational quality and innovation. “Learning schools” get inspiration by comparing themselves with others from abroad: different models of school management, the respective role of leadership or unfamiliar approaches and new methods for the classroom may serve as valuable resources for the own development.



Moreover, the “European dimension” exceeds the limited national tradition of education, it raises the awareness for the diversity of positions and attitudes and deepens the understanding of the complexity of Europe and the globalised world.