



NEWSLETTER MAR'17

news

- **The WG2+WG3 workshop will be in Zagreb in March 30-31**
- **The WG1+WG2 Workshop in Jyväskylä was a great success**
- **ELN was present at dissemination events in Bogotá and in Lisbon**
- **2017 ELN events already scheduled**
- **Closing conference in Porto, nov 2018**

state of the art

The first 2 years of COST Action IS1401ELN were critical for laying the foundations of a large and dense network, currently comprising 288 researchers from 49 countries (35 COST countries, 3 NNC, 11 IPC). The fundamental aim of securing a European Literacy Network Association is actively being pursued, along with the other MoU objectives. COST funding has directly allowed 245 researchers to exchange and participate in 44 initiatives, with about 302 researchers participating in scientific events. Five WGs' workshops plus 3 training schools were also successfully organized. Two fundamental European challenges (viz., multilingualism and reading-writing link) are being addressed by the network in the form of edited books, along with the implementation of three insightful cross-country survey initiatives.

ELN is now facing important challenges: doubling current ELN membership to gain worldwide dimension and coverage; connecting with practitioners, policy makers, and other relevant literacy stakeholders to reach society at large; and capitalizing on expertise, networking, and communication challenge to bridge the gap between Literacy Science and Education.

wg2+wg3 workshop

ELN WG2 and WG3 will meet in Zagreb in March 30 and 31 to coordinate and advance their shared goals and activities. In addition to parallel meetings on methods, tools, and experiments, there will be two keynotes from Sarah Huffman and Tomas Tjus, talks presenting the advancements of specific teams, and short presentations on good practices to promote reading. Our colleague Helen Limon will describe her experience at the IBBY Lampedusa Library during a STSM. This workshop will also serve for the societal team to discuss the research and practice articulation and advance works on the ELN Charter.

wg1+wg2 workshop

ELN WG1 and WG2 met in Jyväskylä from the 2nd to the 3rd of February. The workshop joined 117 researchers, who actively participated in a rich scientific program. In addition to ELN members' talks and parallel meetings for advancing WG works, there were three invited keynotes:

Time to stop playing Humpty Dumpty

Rhona Stainthorp

Personalized literacy instruction via mobile devices

Stephanie Gottwald

Key facts we know about dyslexia

Heikki Lyytinen

The workshop was extended one day with insightful talks from Keneth Pugh and the Jyväskylä team lead by Heikki Lyytinen.

Detailed program, photos, and talks [here](#)



calendar

mar 30-31 WG2+WG3 workshop, Zagreb
mar 30 Societal team meeting #1, Zagreb
tba WG3 meeting, Antwerp
tba WG1 meeting, Malta

feb 7-9 SC meeting #6, Winterthur
feb 7-9 MC meeting #4, Winterthur
feb 7-9 Establishing ELN, Winterthur
tba WG2 meeting, Dubrovnik

sg meeting #5

The fifth SG meeting took place in Jyvaskyla on February 1. The SG reviewed the 24-Month Report submitted to COST Association for assessment, and elaborated a strategic plan to fulfil the goals and deliverables set in the MoU. The current GP3 and the Work Plan and Budget for the remaining periods of the Action were also discussed and agreed upon. To maximize the impact of the network worldwide, the SG agreed that it is critical to double the number of ELN members and prompt all participants to acknowledge ELN in their publications



mc meeting #3

The 3rd MC meeting, held in Jyvaskyla on February 2, gathered representatives from 27 countries. During this meeting, the Chair reviewed the 24-Month Progress Report. The current GP3 and remaining ones were discussed and agreed upon. WG leaders summarized WG scientific activities and SG members reported on their tasks. Particular attention was given to the strategic plan to maximize the impact of the network worldwide (i.e., networks' size and ELN acknowledgement). An important decision of this meeting concerned the Action's Closing Conference/ 1st Literacy Summit, to be held in Porto, November 1-3, 2018.

ed. meeting #3

This meeting was collapsed with the SG Meeting. The success of current projects was acknowledged (edited volumes and special issues), followed by a discussion on the International Handbook of Literacy Science. Different ideas on the structure and main topics to be encompassed were considered. Given the many orthographies represented in the Action, there was general agreement that an important contribution of this Handbook would be to provide a detailed comparison across orthographies.

eln in bogotá

An ELN symposium titled "Strengthening world citizens' capabilities by establishing ELN: Goals, current projects, and achievements" was performed at the largest conference devoted to writing research (WRAB), on February 15-19. This symposium was convened by Rui A. Alves, with representatives from the three WGs (respectively, Otilia Sousa, Mira Bekar, and David Galbraith). Na insightful discussion was made by Christiane K. Donahue.

eln in lisbon

Our Action was recently selected by COST policy support group to be displayed as a Portuguese success story at the event "Inspiring Researchers, Strengthening Europe" in February 20. The lunch networking event involved several high-level science policy, stakeholders, and decision makers. This was a lively event in which ELN was in the spotlight.

More info [here](#)

cost changed my life

Supported by STSM COST-ELN, I spent 6 months visiting professors Tomas Tjus and Erland Hjelmquist, at the University of Gothenburg. I was previously involved in literacy-related projects led by Swedish professors and my former supervisor in Croatia, professor Gordana Kerestes. These projects resulted in an extensive database on reading disabled children. The opportunity to work with leading experts in the field, on a day-to-day basis, enabled an efficient approach that would otherwise be hardly possible, and helped me, as a novice to the field, to gain knowledge pertinent to my future engagement in literacy research. Moreover, this unique opportunity encouraged me to pursue and continue my career at IDPP, University of Gothenburg.

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credits

Newsletter design and contents management: Teresa Limpo.
We thank all ELN members who contributed with photos for this newsletter.