

Green & Inclusive Schools

Inclusion and Diversity, Blended learning and Environment



AGENDA



Thursday, 11 May 2023

15:00 – 15:15	Official Opening - Agenda presentation	Webex
15:15 - 15:30	Welcome Speech Prof. Michael Paraskevas - CTI	Webex
15:30 - 16:00	Keynote Speech (1) "Generative language models and their use in education" Iraklis Varlamis	Webex
16: 00 - 16:15	Short break	
16:15 – 16:45	Keynote Speech (2) "Building an inclusive and green strategy in your eTwinning school" Irene Pateraki	Webex
16:45 – 17:15	Networking Activity	Webex

Friday, 12 May 2023

15: 00 -16:15	Workshop SLOT 1 (2 in parallel)	Webex
W1	eTwinning Schools: Collaboration in action Theodora Gkeniou	
W2	AI and VR in class: easy-peasy?	

	Angeliki Kougiourouki, Andreas Galanos, Natalia Tzitzis	
16:15- 16:30	Short break	
16:30 -17:45	Workshop SLOT 2 (2 in parallel)	Webex
W3	Sm@rt students: Raising active future citizens. Margarita Samoutian & Magdalini Koutsouri	
W4	S.I.G.S.-Sustainability in green schools Stavroula Lada	
17:45 – 18:30	Project planning – Part 1	Webex - breakout rooms - Twinspace

Saturday, 13 May 2023

9:00 - 9:30	Project planning / registration – Part 2	Webex - breakout rooms
9:30 – 10:15	Project planning presentation	Webex
10:15	Closing Session	

Dr. Michalis Paraskevas



Dr. Michalis Paraskevas is a Professor at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the University of Peloponnese. He is Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Computer Technology and Publications "Diofantos", coordinator of the Greek School Network and head of the Greek NSO eTwinning. His research interests relate to digital signal analysis and processing, information theory, next generation networks, machine learning applications and the digital transformation of Education. He has published more than 80 papers in international journals and conferences, has authored 4 university textbooks, has participated in the organization of 3 international and 7 Greek scientific conferences and in more than 50 committees of international journals and conferences. He teaches in undergraduate and postgraduate courses at Universities of Peloponnese and Thessaly. He has thirty years of specialized professional experience in the design, implementation and operation of large-scale educational networks and e-government & e-learning services. He directs many development and research projects, which have received national and international awards. More: <https://paraskevas.ece.uop.gr>

Keynote Speakers

Iraklis Varlamis

Associate Professor in Data Management at Harokopio

University of Athens



Iraklis Varlamis is an Associate Professor in Data Management at Harokopio University of Athens. He holds a PhD in Informatics from Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece and an MSc in Information Systems Engineering from UMIST, UK. He has been involved as a technical coordinator in a number of EU funded projects concerning knowledge management, data mining and Machine Learning. He has also co-ordinated several EU and National R&D projects concerning data management and personalized delivery of information. He has authored more than 200 articles concerning text and graph mining and intelligent applications in social networks and the web and received more than 4000 citations.

Speech Description "**Generative language models and their use in education**"

This discusses the use of large language models (LLMs) in text generation and their potential applications in education. It begins with an overview of the Turing machine, which allows for complex logical

processes and decision-making based on given knowledge and algorithms, and then discusses artificial neural networks, including deep and complex neural network architectures, and explains in simple words how they can be used to handle linguistic tasks. By explaining the concept of attention in neural networks, and how it is learned from large text corpora it introduces the series of GPT language models, which are trained on billions of words, for tasks such as categorization, entailment, similarity, multiple choice question answering, etc. The presentation highlights how modern language models have been evaluated for their ability to generate text articles that are hardly distinguishable from human-written articles. The second part of the talk focuses on the use of chatbots, and the advent of Chat-GPT, in daily tasks and provides a wide range of tasks that Chat-GPT can perform beyond just being a chatbot, such as writing code, composing music, and writing scripts. With this in mind, the presentation gives ideas on how LLMs and the respective chatbot, can be used in education as a tool for triggering students' critical thinking and boosting their creativity.

Irene Pateraki

Pedagogical and Monitoring Manager | European School



Education Platform

Irene Pateraki is working as Pedagogical and Monitoring Manager for the European School Education Platform, funded by the European Commission in the European Schoolnet in Brussels. She holds a Master's degree in Multicultural Education, Goldsmiths College, University of London and she has worked several years as kindergarten teacher in Greece. For six years, she was seconded in the Greek Ministry of Education where she worked as pedagogical expert in the National Support Organisation of eTwinning and contributed in the edu-gate of the Ministry of Education . She has experience in managing online communities, as she oversaw the eTwinning Ambassadors group and Creative Classroom group for several years. She has also organised and facilitated several online courses, webinars, conferences and workshops for teachers from 45 countries. She has presented her work in various educational conferences, and she is a certified teacher trainer.

Speech Description **Building an inclusive and green strategy in your eTwinning School**

Changing from a traditional school to one that is inclusive and innovative is a transformative process which requires a shift of attitudes. It takes time and teamwork among the school staff, the students but also the community. At the same time, schools are required to take action for a greener, more sustainable future and to build the sustainability competences of learners. During this presentation, the participants will learn about EU initiatives, school policies, teachers' professional development, curriculum activities etc. that the eTwinning Schools have to consider in order to reinforce their inclusive and green practices in innovative ways.

Workshop Leaders

Margarita Samoutian

Preschool teacher | eTwinning ambassador



Margarita Samoutian has been a preschool teacher in Kindergarten of Avlonari in Greece since 2012. She holds a bachelor's degree in Education Science in Early Childhood from Democritus University and a master (MSc) in

Counseling from the University of Thessaly. In 2015, she became a member of the eTwinning community implementing more than 20 collaborative projects. In 2021 and 2022, she was awarded the 1st European eTwinning Prize for the projects “eTreeHuggers: 1,2, tree hug the trees with me” and “STEAM Preschool Academy” and the National eTwinning Prize for the projects “Eco Tweet: Little Scientists” and “Ecomates: Little Detectives”. This year her school was nominated for EITA 2022 for the project “Happy School through SEL”. She has been an eTwinning ambassador, a Scientix ambassador and a EU Code Week Leading Teacher since 2020. She speaks English, French and Spanish. She is passionate about the development of a sustainable community that nurtures students’ talents through interdisciplinary activities and creates inclusive opportunities based on their everyday life.

Magda Koutsouri

TEFL primary teacher | eTwinning ambassador



Magda Koutsouri has been an TEFL primary teacher in Greece since 2004. She holds a bachelor’s degree in English Language and Literature from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and a master (M. Ed.) in Teaching English as Foreign/International Language (TEFIL) from the Hellenic Open University. She has been an active eTwinner since 2013 and an eTwinning ambassador (2015–2017, 2020 to now). She speaks English,

French and German. In 2019, she was awarded the special category European eTwinning prize, "Peyo Yavorov" for the project "No barriers to Reading" and in 2022 the National eTwinning prize for the project "Trojan Horse".

Theodora Gkeniou

TEFL secondary teacher



Theodora Gkeniou is an English Language teacher, the Europeana ambassador for EUN, eTwinning ambassador, CEDEFOP ambassador for early school leaving, and an IT pedagogical trainer in her country, Greece.

She has been working for more than 10 years in European project management, teacher training, digital education at schools, cultural heritage, mobile learning and digital humanities. Being the Chair of the Local English Teachers Union, she has been promoting informal learning and teacher mentoring, organizing cultural activities in our context, creating synergies with organizations such as museums and public libraries. She enjoys writing updates for the "teachingwitheuropeana" blog.

Andreas Galanos

Greek Language and Literature, History and Classics teacher



Andreas Galanos is a Greek Language and Literature, History and Classics teacher at the Experimental Senior High School of University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece. He holds an MA in Modern Greek Literature. An eTwinner since 2013 and currently a member of the Greek NSO. He has received both national awards (2016 & 2021) as well as the eTwinning award for Cultural Heritage in the framework of the European year of cultural heritage (2018). He was among the winners of the European Education Competition 2020.

Angeliki Kougiourouki

Primary School Teacher | eTwinning Ambassador



Angeliki Kougiourouki comes from Alexandroupoli, North-East Greece. She works as a primary school teacher, recently detached in Belgium to teach Greek Language and culture. She also holds a degree in History and a MEd in Visual Culture. One of her interests is to search and find the hidden tips in images. As an addicted lifelong learner, she found that eTwinning motivates her with a million opportunities to learn either from collaboration, communication and

project development with partners from all over Europe. Since she became an eTwinning ambassador, she also focuses on adults training with onsite and online webinars, seminars, learning events and MOOCs at National and European Level.

Natalia Tzitzzi

TEFL Primary Teacher



Natalia Tzitzzi comes from Aegina, a small island in the Saronic Gulf, close to Peiraias, the central harbor of Greece. She teaches English at the 10th Helioupolis Primary School in a town close to the city center of Athens. Natalia

holds an MEd in Teaching English as a Foreign Language. She has been an eTwinner since 2005 and an eTwinning Ambassador since 2015. She has participated as an expert and/or moderator in eTwinning Ambassadors MOOCs (2017, 2019, 2021, 2023), webinars and courses on eTwinning Schools, Student Agency, Blended Learning and Remote Teaching.

Stavroula Lada

Primary School Teacher | eTwinning Ambassador



Stavroula Lada is a primary school teacher in Athens, Greece. She teaches Greek, Math, History, Science, Religion and Social Studies. She graduated from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and holds masters degrees in Educational Psychology, in Special Education and in School Counseling and Mentoring. Stavroula is an author in international educational journals. She speaks English, French and Italian. She is an eTwinner since 2010. She is an eTwinning ambassador since 2022 and has also been an ambassador during 2015-2017.

Workshop Description

W1

AI and VR in class: easy-peasy?

Angeliki Kougiourouki, Andreas Galanos, Natalia Tzitzis

The webinar starts with the question “AI and VR in class: easy-peasy?”. Three experienced eTwinners present a collection of good practices that integrate school syllabi into eTwinning activities through the use of Artificial Intelligence apps and/or Virtual Reality environments. They proceed with hands-on activities for the participants to practice the tools and design similar simple tasks they can actually use in class right away.

W2

eTwinning schools: collaboration in action

Theodora Gkeniou

eTwinning schools are considered to be learning organisations that put the notion of shared leadership into practice, foster communication and collaboration among teachers, activate students and promote innovation and inclusion, acting as models for

other schools. This is a workshop that emphasizes on Collaboration in Action. We will explore how to build synergies among teachers within the institution as well as among the eTwinning community to create shared results, with a view to nurturing an ecosystem of innovation and creativity.

W3

Sm@rt students: Raising active future citizens

Margarita Samoutian & Magdalini Koutsouri

During the workshop, action plans that have been implemented in pre-primary and primary schools will be presented with the aim of raising awareness of school communities regarding inclusion, exploring social issues of contemporary reality such as children's rights and force displacement, as well as cultivating Emotional Intelligence. Participants will then be given the opportunity to exchange ideas and reflect upon actions that could be implemented in school communities to address relevant issues.

W4

S.I.G.S.-Sustainability in green schools

Stavroula Lada

In this workshop, educators will discover how to create and sustain environmentally friendly and socially responsible learning

environments for students. They will explore the principles of green schools, the benefits of sustainable practices in schools, and the role of educators in promoting environmental awareness. Participants will gain practical knowledge and skills to integrate sustainability into school curricula and to engage students and the local community in promoting sustainable practices. By the end of the workshop, participants will have a deeper understanding of the importance of green schools and will be equipped with the tools and strategies to implement sustainable practices in their own schools. Through interactive activities, discussion, and sharing of best practices, participants will be inspired to create positive change in their schools and communities and contribute to a more sustainable future for all.