 1st Transnational meeting of the project “Combatting discrimination and bullying”, contract number 2016-1-BG01-KA219-023713 in KA2 “Cooperation for innovations and exchange of good practices”, section “Strategic partnerships in school education only”, under Erasmus+ program of the European Commission - a project co- funded by the European Union

**Report for the First Transnational meeting – 09.01-11.01.2017**

**/**excluding the days of travel**/**

Тhe first transnational meeting started on **9.01.2017** with the seminar “The role of teachers, state institutions and NGOs in combating discrimination and bullying”. Due to severe snowfalls there was a National alert for extreme weather conditions and warning for not travelling because of closed roads. The teachers from our partner’s schools from Portugal and Slovenia were stuck in Sofia. The teachers from Turkey were stuck halfway because of cancellation of flights due to severe snowfalls. The schools in Bulgaria were closed by the Minister of education with regard of the epidemic situation of influenza.

The seminar was opened at 1:00 p. m. by the headmaster of GPCHE “Yordan Radichkov” and took place in the Regional administration hall. All 35 teachers from our school attended the seminar. The students working on the project “Combating discrimination and bullying” were informed and were present at the seminar.

A lecturer from Sofia university, Bulgaria presented the role of teachers in combatting discrimination and bullying and explained different ways how to turn the school in a territory without violence.

Then the second lecturer from NGO Organization Drom, Vidin, Bulgaria gave examples of good and working practices of the role of NGOs in combatting discrimination and bullying among ethnic groups of Roma people in the Vidin region.

The role of “Commission against Discrimination” State Institution in combatting discrimination and bullying was presented by a lecturer from Vidin Municipality, Bulgaria. Another lecturer from Vidin Municipality, Bulgaria explained to the audience the role of “Protect the child” State Institution in combatting discrimination and bullying and different situations that we need to contact this institution for support.

All the participants in the seminar achieved better understanding of the problems and how different institutions can help the school and the citizens in cases of discrimination and bullying.

The coordinator Kameliya Georgieva and Sashka Petkova, teacher of English travelled to Sofia to meet the partners from Portugal and Slovenia. The Turkish partners were still halfway due to cancelled flights in regard with continuing heavy snowfalls. The second day of the Transnational meeting - **10.01.2017** was held in the Headquarters of Human resource development center, Sofia, Bulgaria. First the schools were presented. Then a discussion was held how to measure the progress achieved in the project. The partners agreed on the selection of participants, on the way of communication and reporting. The Monitoring board needs to be appointed in each school and it will check regularly the financial management of the project. Then there was a discussion on the implementation of the project activities.

Due to the fact that the Italian partner withdrew from the project before signing the contract, there was a discussion where to do the planned activities in Italy. The partners agreed with the proposal of the coordinator the town of Veliko Tarnovo in Bulgaria (more than100 km away from Vidin) to be the venue of the activity planned to be accomplished in Italy. They decided to change the timeline of the activities and agreed to arrange the 3rd learning/ teaching/ training activity to be organized in Turkey in October and the 4th activity (that was planned to be done in Italy) to take place in Bulgaria.

The next day – **11.01.2017** – the 3rd day the schools were still closed and the partners from Turkey finally came. All the 4 partners gathered together in the Headquarters of Human resource development center, Sofia, Bulgaria. The coordinator presented to the Turkish partners briefly the decisions taken the previous days by all the other partners. They shared ideas how to evaluate activities and results and after the discussion all the partners agreed to make questionnaires to enquire the satisfaction of the participants in the activities. After the discussion on the dissemination of the results of the project and its sustainability the partners agreed to make a seminar and a mini-conference during the 2nd Transnational meeting which will be in May 2018 in Vidin, Bulgaria.

All the partners were acquainted with the discussions and PPTs in the seminar “The role of teachers, state institutions and NGOs in combating discrimination and bullying”, held in Vidin, Bulgaria on 9.01.2017. They watched them uploaded on the website of the project - <http://www.daskalo.com/erasmus2discrimination/>. The seminar was organized in accordance with the feedback of the National agency – the participants in the project to acquire a better understanding of the problems of discrimination and bullying and how state institutions can help them.

In the end of the meeting the partners filled in their names in the list of participants and received their declaration of attendance and certificates.

On the next day – **12.01.2017** the coordinator continued the Transnational meeting in the hotel premises with the Turkish partners. The coordinator presented all the decisions taken with the Portuguese and the Slovenian partners during the second day of the meeting.

All the partners agreed that no matter the severe winter conditions and the closure of all school due to the epidemic situation of influenza, the 1st transnational meeting was successful.

Coordinator: Kameliya Georgieva from GPCHE “Yordan Radichkov”, Bulgaria