

NELCA - Creating the Network of Excellent ULCA Schools

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Celebrating Three Years of Innovation, Collaboration and Educational Excellence

I would make the introduction reflective and forward-looking. Since this is the final newsletter, it should celebrate the project's achievements while emphasizing its lasting impact.

Celebrating Three Years of Innovation, Collaboration and Educational Excellence

As the NELCA project comes to a successful close, we proudly reflect on an inspiring journey of international cooperation, shared learning, and educational innovation. Over the past three years, partners from across Europe have worked together to strengthen learner-centred education, empower teachers and school leaders, and support schools in becoming dynamic learning organisations prepared for the challenges of the future.

Together, we have developed innovative methodologies, practical training programmes, strategic guidelines, and digital resources that place learners at the heart of education while fostering collaboration, creativity, and professional growth. Through transnational meetings, teacher trainings, pilot implementations, and the exchange of good practices, NELCA has created a vibrant community committed to improving education across Europe.

This final newsletter highlights the project's key achievements, celebrates the successful Final Conference in Ružomberok, and presents the lasting legacy of NELCA. While the project has reached its conclusion, its impact continues through the International Association of Innovative Teachers and Managers in Education (IAITME), ensuring that the partnerships, knowledge, and inspiration developed throughout these three years will continue to grow.

Thank you to every partner, educator, researcher, school leader, and participant who contributed to making NELCA a success. Together, we have built more than a project—we have built a network dedicated to shaping the future of education.



NELCA

IAITME Celebrates 2Y **September 30**

Established within the NELCA project, IAITME continues to bring together innovative teachers, researchers, and educational leaders, ensuring that the project's impact extends well beyond its official completion.

IAITME Logo and Website

<http://www.iaitme.com/>



IAITME

International Association of Innovative
Teachers and Managers

NELCA Final Conference and the last Management Meeting in

Ružomberok, Slovakia – 2026 March 26–28

“MAKING TEACHING MORE ATTRACTIVE”



The NELCA partnership gathered at the Catholic University in Ružomberok, Slovakia, for the project's Final Conference and the last Management Meeting. The event marked the successful completion of three years of international collaboration dedicated to strengthening innovative teaching practices and building a network of Excellent ULCA Schools. The conference brought together teachers, school leaders, researchers, and project partners from across Europe. Through keynote presentations, panel discussions, practical workshops, and interactive sessions, participants exchanged experiences gained during the implementation of the NELCA methodology and reflected on the project's impact in partner countries.

During the Management Meeting, partners reviewed the project's final results, discussed sustainability activities, and agreed on future cooperation through the International Association of Innovative Teachers and Managers in Education (IAITME), ensuring that the NELCA network will continue beyond the Erasmus+ project. The conference concluded with inspiring discussions, new professional connections, and a shared commitment to promoting innovative, learner-centred education across Europe.

Teaching That Inspires: Technology and Creativity

in Learner-Centred Classrooms

Mirjana Jankulovska, Maja Videnovik

Center for innovations and digital education Dig-Ed

Making teaching more attractive in modern classrooms means embracing innovative tools and creative approaches that actively engage learners and place them at the center of the learning process. The session *“Teaching that Inspires: Technology and Creativity in Learner-Centred Classrooms”* presents the development and implementation of three innovative training courses designed within the NELCA project.

Rooted in the Learner-Centred Approach (LCA), these courses invite educators to rethink their role—from knowledge transmitters to facilitators of active, student-driven learning. Through hands-on, reflective, and collaborative experiences, teachers are encouraged to experiment, design, and refine their own practices, discovering how creativity and

technology can unlock student potential and foster deeper engagement.

A blended learning model - merging face-to-face and online components, ensures flexibility and accessibility while promoting collaboration and peer learning. The results reveal not only enhanced digital and pedagogical skills, but also a powerful shift in mindset - toward teaching that values curiosity, connection, and inspiration.

Ultimately, these trainings demonstrates that inspiring teaching is not defined by tools alone, but by the experiences we create for learners. By bringing together creativity, technology, and a learner-centred vision, they open the door to classrooms where students are empowered to explore, create, and truly engage in their learning journey.

Designing Attractive Learning Experiences with Digital Technology

Maja Videnovik, Vladimir Trajkovik

Center for innovations and digital education Dig-Ed

“Designing Attractive Learning Experiences with Digital Technology” explores how teachers can transform their classrooms into dynamic, engaging, and learner-centred environments through the purposeful use of digital tools. This interactive workshop invites educators to rethink their role - not just as instructors, but as designers of meaningful learning experiences that spark curiosity and motivation.

Through hands-on activities, showcasing easy-to-use digital tools, participants explore how gamification principles and digital platforms can be used to increase student engagement, foster collaboration, and support active participation. By experimenting with a range of accessible tools and approaches, teachers discover how to create learning experiences that are not only

effective, but also enjoyable and inspiring.

Grounded in student-centred pedagogy, the session emphasizes learning by doing, creativity, and reflection. Participants are encouraged to design their own technology-enhanced activities, considering learners' needs, motivation, and context. The workshop also highlights the importance of aligning technology with clear learning goals, demonstrating that digital tools are most powerful when guided by sound pedagogical principles.

Ultimately, the session empowers teachers with practical strategies and ideas they can immediately apply in their classrooms, helping them create interactive, meaningful, and motivating learning experiences that truly resonate with today's learners.

New Strategic Guidelines for SMART Schools



One of the key outcomes of the NELCA project is the development of Strategic Guidelines for Transforming Schools into SMART Learning Organisations. The publication provides school leaders with a practical framework for leading sustainable educational change in response to today's rapidly evolving learning environments. The guidelines combine three complementary approaches developed throughout the project:

