The EU CONVINCE, a joint project (2018-2020) of ETUCE (European Trade Union Committee for Education), EFEE (European Federation of Education Employers) and ESHA (European School Heads Association) on democratic citizenship and inclusive education, is concluding its work with the Closing Conference which takes place on 14-15 November 2019, in Warsaw, Poland.

The project seeks to provide teachers, other education personnel, school leaders, education employers, as well as the education institution community as a whole with tools and methods to deliver inclusive quality education to all and better deal with citizenship related issues both in the classroom and in extra-curricular activities. Therefore, at the Closing Conference, representatives of ETUCE, EFEE, and ESHA member organisations have the opportunity to discuss with various education stakeholders (including parents and students associations) challenges and opportunities of implementing democratic citizenship and inclusive education in their national contexts, as well as match these challenges with good practices from different educational institutions and different countries. REGISTRATION IS CURRENTLY OPEN UNTIL 14 OCTOBER 2019.

The project Closing Conference provides the opportunity to discuss the final outcomes of the project, including a detailed report on ‘Challenges and good practices related to promoting citizenship and values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education’ compiled by the project’s researchers and published in July 2019. The research was conducted in 2018-2019 and included the online survey among members of ETUCE, EFEE and ESHA with the view to collect their views on challenges and good practices in such topics as civic education, teaching in multicultural learning context, teaching sensitive issues, digital citizenship, and other. The report also contains an extensive compendium of examples and good practices related to the implementation of democratic citizenship and inclusive education in Europe, collected through the online survey.

Furthermore, within the framework of the EU CONVINCE project, ETUCE, EFEE and ESHA have adopted the Joint Statement on Inclusive Schools Within the Context of Diverse Societies which emphasizes that only education provided in the safe learning environment by teachers and school leaders who are prepared and supported in managing the diversity in the school, is able to address the needs of all learners, including those coming from a disadvantaged background. The statement describes elements essential for the implementation of inclusive education, starting from the students’ earliest age.

For further information on the EU CONVINCE project please visit: https://www.csee-etu.ce.org/en/policy-issues/2433-education-and-democratic-citizenship

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The European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) represents 132 Education Unions and 11 million teachers in all countries of Europe, 4.2 million teachers in the EU, from all levels of the education sector. ETUCE is a Social Partner in education at the EU level and a European Trade Union Federation within ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation. ETUCE is the European Region of Education International, the global federation of teacher unions.

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