



Newsletter published by POST Research Institute

November 2009

NEW PROJECT

Education for Peace III

A one year project funded by the European Commission.

The Education for Peace III project aims to build on the previous work initiated by POST RI since 2004.

POST RI believes that peace can only be sustained through education. This is based on research that has shown that education plays a crucial role in establishing long-term peace and reconciliation after an ethnic conflict occurs. To this end, POST RI has conducted projects on "Education for Peace" since 2004. POST RI's first project (E4P I) focused on the analysis of the fifth (final) grade primary school books. Extracurricular activities were conducted in order to pinpoint the elements that generate nationalism, hatred and prejudice against the 'other'. In the second project (E4P II), the team analysed the then revised history textbooks used in lower secondary schools, in relation to the text and visual materials and noted the differences between the old and revised textbooks of that time. The team also organised a series of workshops in various areas in the Turkish Cypriot Community to meet history teachers in order to exchange views regarding the use of the new books and teaching methodologies used in schools. It was the findings of these workshops that led to the development of the Education for Peace III project.

The overall objective of the *Education for Peace III* project is to promote reconciliation, multiculturalism and dialogue in Cyprus by improving the quality of history education taught in schools. Moreover, the project aims to create an awareness regarding peace education in Cyprus, which will we believe will contribute to the current curricula through the discussion of new methods of teaching history.



EDUCATION FOR PEACE III

A project funded by European Union's Civil Society in Action Programme

More specifically, the project aims to improve Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot history teacher's knowledge of Cyprus history through the organisation of four different study tours to various historical places across Cyprus. In April 2010, POST RI will be holding a 2-day workshop with international experts in student-centred approaches to teaching. The aim of which is to provide teachers with alternative methods of teaching in order to create encourage to be more interactive in the classroom. With a greater aim in mind, the project will also involve the organisation of workshop with historians and teachers from across Cyprus to come together to discuss the teaching of of Cyprus history in an open dialogue. The project will also contribute to the debate on history textbooks by the conducting of an analyses of the new history textbooks introduced in schools in September 2009 compared to those textbooks previously used. The analyses will form part of a full report of the revisions made to history textbooks in the north of the island since 2004, thus instigating a debate on how history should be written and taught in divided societies.

POST RI'S NICOSIA CULTURAL TREASURE TOUR

Saturday, 21 November 2009

In co-operation with the Association for Historical Dialogue & Research

A unique opportunity for teachers, educators and historians from across Cyprus, to partake in a guided tour of Nicosia's historical treasures. Lunch, entrance fees and educational materials will be provided.

To avoid disappointment, please reserve your place by Monday, 16th November.

For more information please contact Mehves Beyidoglu Onen

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POST RI'S NEW OFFICE

Thanks to the sponsorship of the European Commission, POST RI is pleased to announce its new office premises.

Please visit us at: Bardak İşhanı No:3, Küçük Kaymaklı, Nicosia, Cyprus.

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This project is implemented by POST Research Institute

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.