



Dear readers,

We are pleased to present you our second newsletter and provide you with some updates on how our project LIB(e)RO progresses.

As you might have noticed, during the few last months we went through another **partner change**: Sadly, the Public Library of Leros had to resign from the project. We would like to thank their team and particularly Dimitris Stamatelos for their valuable input to the project so far. Fortunately, with Action Synergy S.A. (Greece) we were able to find another capable partner whose expertise in e-learning and second language acquisition will contribute to our project's success.

Partly due to the partner change, the publication of the national and European analyses on the situation of libraries and refugees in the partner countries is currently delayed.

However, we will provide you with a [preview of the reports](#), which will soon be published on our website, in this newsletter. Likewise, we will tell you more about some of [our activities](#), [our next steps](#) within the project and about when you can expect first project outputs on our website.

About LIB(e)RO

The Erasmus+ Project LIB(e)RO aims at supporting minor and young adult refugees getting started in Europe, learning a new language and finding their own way in a new social and cultural context through setting-up an **e-learning-platform** to be used in public libraries.

The project started in October 2016 and ends in September 2018. Its project outputs, however, will remain available afterwards for free usage.

National and European analysis - Preview

During the first phase of our project, we conducted **two types of national analysis for each partner country: a national situation analysis and a needs analysis**. While the situation analysis describes the state of existing offers for refugees by libraries and regarding e-learning, for the needs analysis we interviewed refugees, librarians and social workers and asked them about their needs and wishes for libraries as learning spaces and an e-learning platform supporting this. As a result, we found some encouraging facts about the current situation, generated important input for our e-learning platform and discovered similarities but also differences between the partner countries.



In the Austrian situation report, we concluded that Austria has a very dynamic and rich context in terms of learning offers to refugees, especially regarding language learning and integration. From the libraries perspective, even though there have been and are a lot of offers and initiatives from the libraries in relation to refugees, a platform similar to LIB(e)RO does not exist. The needs analysis highlighted the fact that librarians, social workers

and refugees need to be brought together and that the potential for libraries as a learning environment and place for encounters is high.





For Germany, we concluded that there already exist some great projects for refugees implemented by libraries. Also, there are many e-learning opportunities for refugees. However, these opportunities mainly focus on language acquisition and intercultural understanding – a fact supporting the idea of LIB(e)RO putting another focus on citizenship and human rights education. The needs analysis particularly highlighted that librarians as well as refugees are often not aware of the number of existing e-learning offers, which makes their dissemination a central task for project LIB(e)RO.



In the Greek analysis reports, we found that there is an urgent need to promote the role of libraries as socially inclusive learning spaces in a way that would increase the networking of minor refugees with local people and local organisations. Particular emphasis should be given to the training of the librarians and social workers in the transfer of knowledge through informal learning methods. Linguistic and technical issues are also very important in order to successfully introduce e-learning methods to a population that did not have any e-learning experience before.

LIB(e)RO in action

During the last months, the project partners also undertook first dissemination activities. Examples include the following:

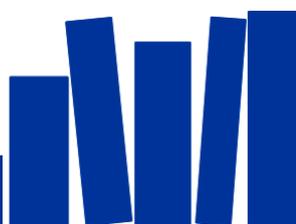
On 17th June 2017, Ursula Liebmann from komm.bib presented LIB(e)RO at the Dankfest (festival for thanking volunteers) organised by Caritas St. Pölten at Stift Melk. The presentation was given in the frame of a project fair with best practice examples. You can find a report about the Dankfest, which acknowledged the substantial contribution of voluntary workers active in supporting refugees, on the [Caritas website](#).

LIB(e)RO and the project partners were also present at the Danube Dialogue Forum 2017 organised by

Danube University Krems: on 26th June 2017, the first day of the four day event, Prof. Monika Kil and Dr. Filiz Keser Aschenberger of the Interdisciplinary Continuing Education Planning and Research Unit as well as Ursula Liebmann, representing komm.bib, introduced LIB(e)RO in a round of poster presentations. Following this, Ursula Liebmann took part in a panel discussion focusing on the question what contribution lifelong learning can make to the integration of migrants. You can find more information on the programme on the [Dialogforum's website](#).



Ursula Liebmann from komm.bib presenting LIB(e)RO at the Dankfest (festival for thanking volunteers) organised by Caritas St. Pölten at Stift Melk, Austria.



Our next steps

As stated before, you will soon find the national analysis reports on our website. The national analysis reports also form the basis for the pedagogic concept, which is currently being developed by Danube University Krems. At the same time, we have started the collection of content and materials for the e-learning platform and will keep you updated about our progress on our website and facebook page.

Where can I find more information about LIB(e)RO?

If you are looking for more information about our project and/or our project partners, you can visit us on our [website \[http://libero.uni-passau.de\]](http://libero.uni-passau.de) and/or our [Facebook page \[https://www.facebook.com/ProjectLibero/\]](https://www.facebook.com/ProjectLibero/).

If you are interested in subscribing to our newsletter and receiving information concerning the project's progress on a half-yearly basis, please write to Marielle Ratter (marielle.ratter@uni-passau.de) or register on our website [\[http://www.phil.uni-passau.de/en/european-politics/projects/libero/newsletter/\]](http://www.phil.uni-passau.de/en/european-politics/projects/libero/newsletter/).

Contact:

Danube University Krems, Austria

Filiz Keser Aschenberger

filiz.keser-aschenberger@donau-uni.ac.at

University of Passau, Germany

Marielle Ratter

marielle.ratter@uni-passau.de

Komm.bib, Austria

Ursula Liebmann

u.liebmann@komm-bib.at

WIFO (Economic Forum of the Region of Passau), Germany

Heidemarie Bartl

heidemarie.bartl@wifo-passau.de

National Library of Greece

Evgenia Vassilakaki

evasilak@nlq.gr

Action Synergy S.A.

Kostas Diamantis-Balaskas

euprograms@action.gr

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