



THE ANNUAL GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear INEPSers,

Although a little delayed, I send you the year's message on behalf of all the members of the AC of INEPS. The political and economical situation all over Europe and the USA is going through an immense crisis which has already started affecting aspects of our everyday life, and our professional activities.

We hope that our experience and "wisdom" working – many of us – for many years in the field of the difficult and some times marginal situations in and out of school, will prevent us from panicking and with drawal. We hope we will find the strength through the exchange of ideas, communication, solidarity and support of each other in the INEPS family to confront the crisis for the benefit of ourselves and our students.

Despite of the situation described above we have very promising plans for this year:

- The Finnish team consisted of Petri, Kari, Katja, Virpi, Annukka, Elisa, Hely, from Helsinki and Dennis, Olle, Asa and Helena from Gothenburg have already prepared the Organization of the 21th INEPS Congress in Helsinki 3–9 May 2009. Soon you will get detailed information, so, be prepared and book your flights.
- The next INEPS Congress (2010) will take place in Madeira after the request of the "Secretaria Regional de Educacao e Cultura" in Madeira and of course Rita's actions.
- Our colleagues from Burgas sent us the REPORT of the 20th INEPS Congress in Burgas a few days after the end of the Congress (never before we had such a quick documentation!!!). You can find it at: www.esnips.com/web/CongressBurgas and have a look to take you "into the climate".
- The EUROPLE booklet is available to anyone of you who would like to have it. You can order it through Angela (email: protasi@pat.forthnet.gr) and you only pay the sending fees. Otherwise you will get it in Helsinki during the INEPS Congress.
- We are waiting from Dolores – Ireland to decide if they will host an INEPS Youth Congress.
- "PROTASI" Patras started this September a Youth Initiatives project with the involvement of Burgas high schools and will be implemented in Patras and Burgas by students. The project will last 15 months and has to do with PL and the Protection of the Environment and Sustainable Development.
- Jens and Ingrid offered a presentation of PL in Luxemburg in June during the Conference of the PRO-SKILLS project (<http://pro-skills.eu>) invited by Angela and the coordinators of the project, so more than 11 countries were informed about PL and they will get an invitation to the INEPS Congress in Helsinki.
- The IPLE's 20th International Seminar in Co-operation with IDAP will take place in Villa Franca from 17 to 21 November 2008. We hope that those of you who will attend it, will send us photos and reports for the Newsletter.

Dear colleagues,

If you have more activities going on which are not included in this plan, please let us know, because we are "thirsty" for good news for the development of PL and alternative education. Bret is there to disseminate this information through the Newsletter (bschles36@aol.com).

With my warmest greetings

Angela Passa President of the AC of INEPS

Patras 15/10/2008