



*City of Keuruu*



*International Network of Productive  
Learning Schools and Projects*

29<sup>th</sup> of May 2022

## **1<sup>st</sup> Announcement**

### **31<sup>st</sup> Congress of the *International Network of Productive Learning Schools and Projects* (INEPS)**

***“Productive Learning – an Answer to the Educational Challenges of 2023?”***

**17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023  
Peurunka, Finland**

#### **Preface**

In February 2022, we, the AC and members of INEPS, in optimism that potentially the pandemic might be controlled by vaccinations, started to plan for the next INEPS-congress to be held in 2023. Then the war against Ukraine started - an act of aggression that brings unbearable pain, death and destruction to the people of Ukraine and Russia. A war that is demanding our solidarity with the victims, threatening the planet with World War III, questioning some of our pacifist ideals and hopes about a peaceful future in Europe. And, it is close.

After the pandemic, the war is the second “time changer” that will deeply affect the economic, educational, environmental, and social conditions in Europe. Is this the moment to go on with planning the next INEPS-Congress?

We think, yes. Most of us work with vulnerable groups in schools and projects. Education was, is and will be a key to cope with all these challenges in the long run. So let’s gather to reflect on our experiences, to discuss our common educational visions and revitalize our fruitful cooperation in Europe and worldwide.

As you know, the congress in Vilafranca del Penedès - planned for 2020, postponed to 2021 - finally had to be cancelled due to the travel restrictions. We had to search for new solutions, and are very glad that we can now invite you to the next INEPS Congress to be held April 2023, in the heart of Finland!

Finland has a long-term partnership with INEPS, as well as a lengthy tradition of seeking alternative methods to address the challenges of children and youth at the risk of

educational marginalization and exclusion. In line with the productive learning paradigm, Finland has been offering an activity based learning program for 14–16-year-old students officially since 2006. For well over 10 years the Jopo (Flexible Basic Education) leaders in Central Finland have sought to develop and maintain Jopo as a main stay within the curriculum and tray of best practices, under the banner of regional (Seutu Jopo) basic education. This has for example included organizing national seminars around the theme of flexible basic education along with consultations with the Finnish National Agency of Education.

## **Content**

### ***“Productive Learning – an Answer to the Educational Challenges of 2023?”***

**Education** is constantly on the move. It has to cope with the developments and changes in technology, economy and society in a globalizing world. Education should be **key to preparing for and influencing the future**. Therefore, it is a field of high social and political attention. The pandemic as well as the unforeseen war in Europe are current examples.

But, education seems to be constantly **“running behind”**: We deliver knowledge and train skills that might be irrelevant very soon; we struggle for better intercultural understanding even though global mobility has already created multicultural societies in many parts of the world; school curricula (not only in media education) are at risk of being outdated by emerging technologies before they are printed.

How does and could *Productive Learning* provide answers to these challenges? The **awareness of the individual** – its preconditions, needs and interests – in an educational setting of constant **social participation in real-life-situations** is supposed to help bridge “gaps”:

- between **classroom learning and the social and economic world “outside”** (school development),
- between **traditional systems in education and new ICT (digital learning)**,
- between **citizens, generations and cultures** (inclusive education and social coherence),
- between **“now” and “tomorrow”** (life-long learning).

The congress will offer an opportunity to cherish what we have accomplished – and to have a critical look what we did not. It will also touch upon what comes next:

- Which methods and instruments of *Productive Learning* have proved to be successful – and how can we strengthen and disseminate them?
- Which elements of our methodology are less or not successful, is there a need for critical revision?
- What are the crucial demands in education of this decade that we need to be ready for?
- What should we – as educators in *Productive Learning* as well as partners in INEPS – do to prepare for that?

The **City of Keuruu, Finland** is glad to invite the **INEPS-partners as well as guests** interested in activity-based and individualized education. **This is a unique opportunity to get to know international practice and experience in this field!**

**The congress will offer keynote speeches** addressing important aspects of the topic as well as **workshops** and **discussion groups** to work in depth on chosen topics. The University of Jyväskylä, Teacher Education Department and schools will open their doors.

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## PRELIMINARY CONGRESS PROGRAM

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### Monday 17.4.2023

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14:00-18:00 arrival and check-in

19:30-21:30 Welcome dinner at own cost at Restaurant Peurankello (a la carte)

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### Tuesday 18.4.2023 (open to the wider public)

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8:00-9:30	Breakfast
9:30-12:00	Auditorium (Welcome by the organiser + INEPS programme)
12:00-13:00	buffet lunch
13:00-14:00	Auditorium (Keynote – productive learning)
14:00-14:15	Coffee
14:15-16:45	Workshops (auditorium + 3 other meeting rooms)
16:45-17:15	Auditorium (closing words for the day)
17:30-18:30	Dinner at own cost
18:30-21:00	Enjoying spa and nature

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### Wednesday 19.4.2023

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8:00-8:45	Breakfast
9:00	Bus leaves for University of Jyväskylä (sightseeing)
10:30-11:00	Welcome by the University of Jyväskylä, Department of Educational Science
11:00-12:00	ERASMUS + "All in Ed" presentation (Productive Learning and Prevention of Early School-Leaving)
12:00-12:30	Walk to nearby Lakeside Alba Hotel restaurant
12:30-12:45	Welcome words by the Hotel Manager
12:45-13:45	Welcome to Finland buffet
13:45-14:45	Walk by the lake (Jyväskylä Boat Harbor)
14:45-15:45	Guided Tour of Alvar Aalto Museum
15:45-16:30	Coffee at Alvar Aalto Museum
16:30-17:30	Tour of University of Jyväskylä, Seminar Hill Campus
18:00	Bus back to Peurunka
19:00 -21:30	Dinner at own cost/enjoy spa

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### **Thursday 20.4.2023 (open to the wider public)**

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8:00-9:30	Breakfast
9:30-12:00	Auditorium (INEPS programme)
12:00-13:00	Buffet lunch
13:00-14:00	(Northern Walking)
14:00-14:30	Coffee
14:30-18:00	Auditorium + 3 meeting rooms (INEPS programme/ workshops)
18:30-20:00	Final Evening Dinner at Peurankello (a la carte) at own cost /or a poolside party

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### **Friday 21.4.2023**

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8:00-9:30	Breakfast
9:30-10:00	Closing words
10:00-11:00	Check-out
11:25 and 13:55	Bus from Peurunka to Matkakeskus (Central Station) Jyväskylä

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### **ACCOMODATION**

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- The hotel prices at Peurunka range from economy 2-person rooms at 55 euros per night, to hotel 1-person rooms at 110 euros per night (these are special prices for congress participants and include buffet breakfast).
- For those, who prefer to stay in the city of Jyväskylä (ca. 40 kms away from INEPS congress), there is a lovely lakeside hotel Alba ([www.hotellialba.fi](http://www.hotellialba.fi)). The congress has reserved 10 rooms there.

### **TRANSPORT Helsinki Airport – Jyväskylä Matkakeskus (Travel Centre)**

- By train from the Airport to Jyväskylä Travel Centre approx. 60-120€, return.
- By bus from the Jyväskylä Travel Centre to INEPS congress approx. 8€, one way.
- By taxi from Jyväskylä Travel Centre to INEPS congress approx. 60€, one way.

### **CONGRESS FEE**

For INEPS members: 280 €

For non-members: 300 €

Included in this price is a buffet lunch and coffees per day (18 and 20.4.2023), the rent of the venues, the bus from our venue to the University of Jyväskylä (approx. 80 kms to and from), and a buffet lunch, "Welcome to Finland" at Lakeside Hotel Alba (19.4.2023).

Excluded from this price is the dinner on the date of arrival (17.4.2023), as well as lunch on the date of departure (21.4.2023). The welcome dinner at Hotel Peurunka on the night of arrival can be arranged as a part of the seminar costs. The quote at the moment per head a la carte restaurant is 52 euros.

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## **PAYMENT**

You can pay by **bank transfer before 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023.**

For **reservation** please send an email to: [arttu.rousi@keuruu.fi](mailto:arttu.rousi@keuruu.fi)

A link to register with all necessary information will be provided soon.



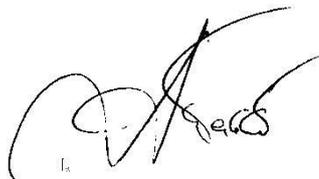
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City of Keuruu, Flexible Basic Education,  
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Angela Passa  
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### **The Administration Council (AC) of INEPS:**

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Egbert Jahn (Germany, treasurer)  
Holger Mirow (Germany, president)  
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Ekram Bodue (France)  
Simona Plienaityte-Mikaliuniene  
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