

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of the



European Schools Project  
Association

*Connecting Schools for  
a Sustainable Society*

In collaboration with  
Comenius 3 thematic networks



Co-organized by  
The University of Tartu and  
Estonian Tiger Leap Foundation



**Tartu - Estonia**  
**March 4-8, 2009**

## **Connecting Schools for a Sustainable Society**

The theme of this year's conference is not only focused on the efforts of the collaborative contribution for the social and cultural competences needed in a sustainable society, but also on the dimensions of local and global ecological sustainability. If young people are educated towards global citizenship and start to respect each other and the environment also more authentic learning is required. For this process a direct interaction with peers abroad is essential and helps them understand the world's problems. The concept of Sustainable Society will be one of the leading ideas for designing different collaborative projects. A sustainable society is a place where adults put forward the needs and welfare of the children as their highest priority. In such a society, schools have responsibilities:

- to teach students the basic principles of the people and their environment;
- to recognize their responsibilities as Global citizens and
- to develop schools in a sustainable way.

## **A working and training conference for and by educators**

ESP is the oldest network organisation in the world focussing on ICT-based innovation of education. ESP contributes to the quality of schools as sustainable social systems that are great places to be for the development of young people towards local and global citizenship. Our 23<sup>rd</sup> conference in 2009 is aimed at teachers of all kinds of school **plus** teacher trainers, educational researchers and policy makers. Teachers and principals can request funding for the conference fee and travel expenses since the conference is both a **Comenius Teacher In-service Training Course and a Comenius Contact Seminar**. Also funding for preparatory visits is possible: contact your national agency.

## **Main Themes**

Throughout the conference the main aim is how to empower and to encourage teachers and schools to work on ICT-based international projects. Main themes:

- designing, planning and evaluating Computer Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL) and other innovative projects, like e-Journalism and The Image;
- teachers' professional development in internationalisation;
- ICT-usage, project-based learning and teaching;
- advanced ICT-tools for collaborative learning and teaching.

## **Main Activities**

You will be able to:

- find partners for the development of collaborative projects;
- share experiences and exchange views with partners from other countries;
- share best practices and projects based on Collaborative Learning and Educational use of ICT;
- discuss issues of lifelong teacher competence development with colleagues;
- take part in workshops for the implementation and follow-up of Computer Supported Collaborative Learning projects;
- attend presentations which give insight into both the technical and human challenges, due to the use of ICT-innovation in education and CSCL;
- get acquainted with the latest developments in the field of interactive resources for teachers involved in innovative CSCL projects.

**Join us to participate and mutually share the latest and most meaningful learning experiences with your colleagues from Europe and beyond**



**WELCOME TO TARTU  
THE CITY OF GOOD THOUGHTS**

## **Additional information**

The conference is a Comenius in-service training course for teachers and principals. The programme offers experts' keynote speeches, different workshops on the ICT-innovation in education, school visits, social events, singing and dancing.

You are welcome to contribute with topic-related presentations or workshops at the conference. Working language is English.

More information can be found on the conference website which will be regularly updated: [www.espnet.eu/esp23](http://www.espnet.eu/esp23)

## **Comenius Contact Seminar**

Duration: Wednesday, March 4 to Sunday, March 8

Arrival: Tuesday, March 3

Fee: € 415 (€ 375 for ESP members)

Read more about the contact seminar on the conference website.

## **Conference (Comenius in-service training course)**

Duration: Thursday, March 5 to Sunday, March 8

Arrival: Wednesday, March 4

Fee: € 340 (€ 300 for ESP members)

The fees include most food, some drinks, conference materials, social evening and school visits.

## **Membership ESP Association**

Become a member of the ESP learning community of teachers!

Membership fee for 2009: € 30.

Renew or register your membership when registering for the conference.

Read more about it: [www.espnet.eu/members](http://www.espnet.eu/members)

## **Hotel costs**

The conference hotel is the Dorpat Hotel ([www.dorpat.ee](http://www.dorpat.ee)) in Tartu.

Single rooms: € 55, double rooms: € 70.

### **FUNDING**

**As the conference is a Comenius in-service training course you can apply for funding at your National Agency (NA) before September 30th, 2008**