

Officina 2021: Futures for Education and Europeaness



Report of the virtual discussion table on the subject of:

Rethinking education in times of uncertainty

Long-term perspectives, concerns and visions concerning education with emphasis on the stages of crisis, uncertainty and emergency from the secondary students of the Provincial Student Council of Rome's point of view and with concrete proposals based on the considerations of the previous Officina 2020

23rd April 2021

Participants:

The students of the Provincial Student Council of Rome Daniele Conti, Gabriele Manzo, Benedetta Gaia Meloni, Maria Monina, Silvia Pagliarulo, Giovanni Sicca

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Adriana Valente, Valentina Tudisca, Claudia Pennacchiotti, Elisa Butali (Cnr-Irpps)
Antonio Di Nallo (DGSIP-MI)
Elena Gaudio (DGOSV-MI)
Marina Imperato (DGOSV-MI)
Alessia Vaglivello (USR Lazio)
Maya Prince, Noah W. Sobe (Futures of Education, UNESCO)

The virtual table has been recorded and is visible at <https://www.officinaed Formazionefuturi.it/>
The table was conducted in the framework of the European INCLUDE Erasmus plus project

Introduction

The virtual discussion table of April the 23rd 2021, concerning the matter of “Rethinking education in time of uncertainty” and including the Provincial Student Council of Rome, is conceived within the scope of the initiative “Officina 2021: Futures for Education and Europeaness”. Its implementation was possible thanks to the CNR Institute for Research on Population and Social Policies together with the Ministry of Education as well as with the UNESCO project “Futures of Education”. The aforementioned discussion table delves into the aspects which had already emerged, with the very same participants, during the Table Officina 2020 and attempts to outline the characteristics of schools thirty years from now, on the grounds of students’ stated needs.

The virtual discussion table resorts to a facilitation process that aims at promoting shared proposals not only by means of the Lego Serious play approach that enables to comprehend “what people assume on different aspects”. But also, due to digital boards that visualize the workgroup’s elaboration process of ideas and projects in addition to action plans.

The discussion table’s itinerary

The virtual discussion table dwells on the experiences one would never want to face as a student along with the proposition of inclusive and prone-to-change schools that ease the processes of growth and learning/enrichment of each person and citizen.

By embracing aspects such as personalized learning while ruling out those regarding educational inequality and student social isolation, which was experienced with distance learning during the outbreak of COVID -19, it was possible to define desirable school paragons thirty years from now.

Every participant has agreed on the necessity of defining a kind of school open to the territory and that embodies and protects culture and learning. A kind of school that reflects the idea of taking learning outside the classroom, into parks and local realities that become key places of learning. That is why, this idea of school is fully engaged in a constant and open dialogue with the community so that the traditional learning experience, with its regular morning classes, is enriched with other activities such as conventions and debates, real experiences of representation and democracy. Even during the afternoon, this School identifies with a moment of social gathering, learning, support and tutoring between equals, not to mention with a place suitable for concerts and filled with libraries and convention rooms.

It is clear that this idea of school is so much more than the building itself and gains a further out-of-doors feature: it is rethought so to reduce the sitting time in the classroom by becoming eco-friendly and safe. As a matter of fact, this kind of school can be seen as a bridge to inclusion between people of different biography, back ground and culture for it resorts to innovative didactic methods, primarily based on experience. What is more, it is on account of this School that every single student is able to grow in a unique and different way, developing his or her fullest potential. Lastly, it is tackled the matter of equity, in the name of which it is crucial to wide access to learning

opportunities and to respect gender differences, everyone's personal resources and the so-called alias careers.