

Third annual report – Network meetings

EUROCULTURA – Italy

Reporting period: January 2025 – July 2025

Overview

The third and last annual report on the meetings of the regional network in Italy relates to the period between January and July 2025. In this timeframe, the regional network worked on the hypothesis of an internal management structure and on the development of common ideas for its development. In these months, online communication between the network members became the principal and preferred working modality. Moreover, in March 2025 the last transnational project meeting of the Reality Check partners was held in Vicenza, Italy. During the meeting days, partners got together to discuss the last steps to be taken in the project framework but also dedicated some time to meet local stakeholders who were part of the regional network or got in touch with it in the previous months. Lastly, the final hybrid conference of the Reality Check project was also held in this timeframe (May 2025) and represented another opportunity for the regional network members to meet and exchange opinions and views. The conference saw the participation of some network members and additional stakeholders who got interested in the project topics and in participating to the Training Simulation on the Modular Training Concept (WP5), which was conducted on the same occasion.

Network progress

As previously mentioned, in this timeframe the regional network in Italy worked on the design of a possible management structure and on the development of a list of ideas for its development. Principally, bilateral online meetings between interested parties were held and online communication between the network members became the central working modality, by now. Through discussions, the members agreed on the necessity to create a shared list of objectives to be pursued and common challenges to be addressed in the upcoming months. Secondly, another need identified by the group was that of creating an internal structure for the network, so as to guarantee its sustainability. For this, clear roles must be defined and assigned, and the responsibilities should be shared among partners. Another thing done by the network was supporting Eurocultura in the processes of creation of the project results of WP4 (Handbook and Toolbox) and WP5 (Modular Training Concept) with practical advice and suggestions for improvement.

Key decisions & future milestones

- Design of a clear structure and shared responsibilities between members
- To guarantee constant and transparent update within the network, it is necessary to choose a proper communication tool to be used by all members
- Creation of spaces for the collection of inputs and ideas
- Building of a visual network identity for recognition and external communication
- Setting some rules and strategies for the network's widening.

Final Hybrid Conference of Reality Check

Date & Time: May 14th 2025 – 14:00-17:00

N. of participants: 26

Description/Minutes

The final hybrid Reality Check conference was held on May the 14th 2025, between 2:00 and 5:00pm, contemporarily in the four cities where the project partners are based (Berlin, Graz, Skellefteå, Vicenza). In Italy, the event was conducted in a VET centre, the ITS Academy Meccatronico of Vicenza, specifically chosen for its relevance to Reality Check and its alignment with the project's core topics and objectives. The school is indeed a place where all lessons and activities are practice-based, and its nature is that of a bridge between VET students and the world of work. This environment was considered as a comfortable place for teachers, trainers and counsellors to be engaged in activities targeted at them.

The audience of the conference organised in Vicenza was heterogeneous: it was composed of adult stakeholders such as regional network members, teachers, trainers, and counsellors; in addition, a group of young people was invited to participate too, as a chance for the adult participants to hear their point of view and to enrich the discussion. Involving youths was seen as an added value to the event, and their contribution was considered precious also based on their previous involvement in the Voice of Users Group.

The conference followed a structured programme, divided in three main parts. First, the event began with a live videoconference happening contemporarily in all the project countries (AT, DE, IT, SE), connecting the four conferences. During this first hybrid part of the event, held in English, all the project partners briefly introduced themselves and were asked to mention project's highlights and to share some considerations on the work done and the partnership. This initial part of the conference was seen as an occasion for participants in the four countries to understand the international nature of the project and its outreach.

After this first joint moment, the conferences proceeded independently in each country. In Vicenza, we introduced the Training Simulation of the Modular Training Concept (MTC), and then developed it through a workshop, dividing the participants in five working groups. The aim of the simulation was to test some of the activities included in the training concept developed by the partnership, in particular Module 2 of the MTC. Participants worked in subgroups on some existing Reality Checks and then reflected on the creation process of a Reality Check. In addition, we proposed an adapted version of the workshop for the young participants, who were asked to reflect upon their expectations and wishes on career



orientation activities, and then to share them with the rest of the audience. The participation of both adults and youths enabled us to not only test some modules of the MTC, but also to conduct a moment of intergenerational exchange in plenary at the end of the conference.



Conclusions and Take-aways

For what concerns the reference period of this report, the main lessons learnt and take-aways from the regional network discussions and the final hybrid conference include:

- The sustainability of a network can be pursued only with a strong and shared motivation to reach common objectives; a clear division of roles and tasks, but with shared responsibilities among all members; effective communication strategies and tools, to ensure transparency and continuity.
- Workshops and activities for adults (teachers, trainers, counsellors, etc.) should be practical and immediate, as for young people. This was the most successful and appreciated characteristic of the Modular Training Concept Reality Check. Also, time specifically dedicated to networking should always be planned and included.
- Regarding young people's voices, they clearly and jointly expressed a need for practical and in-company career orientation activities. They also added a specific wish related to the transition from school to work period: they all wished they had the possibility to meet and talk to actual workers, to ask them questions about their job and their working conditions, before entering any workplace