The European Literacy Policy Network ELINET

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Opening Session (Welcome Speech)
Acknowledgements to two VIW´s (very important women) for ELINET:

Androulla Vassiliou  
European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth 2010 – 2014

HRH Princess Laurentien  
Chair of the EU High Level Expert Group on Literacy 2011-2012
Thank you to the European Commission represented here by:

Jens Nymand Christensen  
Deputy Director-General for Education and Culture

Dr. Vladimir Garkov  
Policy Officer in Basic Skills DG EAC

Special Thanks to Saatu Haetta & Daphne de Wit!
Thank you to all ELINET Teamleaders
... and to all ELINET members – here at the Opening Conference in Vienna (February 2014)
Last but not least: special thanks to the 3 teams organizing this conference
How to improve literacy policies in Europe – ELINET’s main outcomes


2. A European Framework of Good Practice in Literacy Policies (EFGP) covering all age groups and relevant policy areas

3. A sample of related Examples of Good Practice covering all areas and age groups

4. A set of 30 Country Reports on literacy policy and performance (of all age groups) in each of the ELINET countries based on a comprehensive framework.

5. A Declaration of Literacy as a Human Right
How to improve literacy policies in Europe – ELINET´s main outcomes

6. A Literacy Glossary plus Guidelines for the use of terminology in adult literacy

7. A Literacy Week across Europe (8-17 September 2015) around UNESCO´s International Literacy Day

8. Toolkits and Guidelines for Fundraising and Awareness Raising

9. Essential Indicators for successful awareness raising and fundraising for literacy

10. A European Literacy Conference in Amsterdam (20-22 January 2016) to share ELINET results with European literacy professionals and policy-makers.
Taskforces working on “cross-cutting” themes

The taskforce “Digital Literacy” produced an ELINET position paper on digital literacy, presented in the European Parliament in December 2015 (to be found on the ELINET website)

The taskforce “Reading for Pleasure” incorporated this important aspect of literacy policies in all ELINET products and approaches and organized several workshops and events

The taskforce “Future of ELINET” explored future funding opportunities, carried out a survey among members and non-members and developed a strategy paper about how to sustain the network after the end of funding.
The added values of ELINET

- ELINET focuses on the concept of “literacy” in a comprehensive way, including digital literacy, reading for pleasure, family literacy, literacy in school education, adult literacy and much more.

- ELINET follows a cross age-groups and cross sector approach (pre-primary, primary, adolescents, adults; informal, non-formal and formal learning, addressing a wide range of policymakers)

- ELINET brings together researchers and practitioners, professionals, volunteers and policymakers

- ELINET can transfer knowledge across countries helping strengthening a literacy support culture in all European countries.
Future challenges for ELINET

**Sustainability:**
Will ELINET remain an episode or establish itself as an actor in European literacy policies?

**Transformation:**
Will ELINET be able to evolve from an outcome-oriented project to a dynamic, collaborative network?

**Impact:**
Will ELINET results have an impact on improving literacy policy and practice in its member countries?

**Funding:**
Will ELINET get supported by further European or other funding?
Four messages to the European Commission

1. Value the work of volunteers
2. Develop distinct funding schemes for policy networks
3. Simplify reporting and financial documentation requirements
4. Secure ongoing support for educational policy networks with long-term tasks
One vision for the future

The final ELINET conference shall become the first of regular annual Literacy Conferences.
Thank you.