



The A to Z HANDBOOK

summer
e-CHALLENGE

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PART 1 – THE PROJECT



summer
e-CHALLENGE

INTRODUCTION

“Young people’s human and social capital is one of Europe’s greatest assets for the future... the economic crisis has hit young people hard ... Member States will continue to work together to improve their employability, their integration in the labour market, their social inclusion and participation” (EC Report 2015).

The **SUMMER e-CHALLENGE**¹ project was developed based on a needs identification of the consortium, as it acknowledges and supports:

- The changing role of youth workers to provide high-quality services based on building competences, raising quality standards, enriching expertise and reinforcing links between policy, research and practice.
- The unique potential of using the non-working time of formal schooling, which, as reported in the 2015 Eurydice Report, ranges from 13-19 weeks holidays per year in the partners countries, in the benefit of the young people. The opportunity to use this free time in

non-formal learning participation can contribute towards raising attainment (PISA) and acquiring key skills/ attitudes related to employment that might not be promoted in formal education so much.

- The great potential of the opening of education, giving young people opportunities to learn, anytime and anywhere (DG EC 2014).

This project, in line with the 2015 EC Reports on the Quality of Youth Work, aimed to design a complete “Summer e-Challenges programme” and a dynamic “e-tool” that promote, in a systematic way, the acquisition of young people’s digital and soft skills (employability/entrepreneurial), based on benchmarks and indicators provided through non-formal learning activities. With this in mind, the summer time is integrated here in a meaningful and constructive way for equipping young people with essential skills to support their participation in society, and raise, at the same, time school performance standards.

With the same approach, the project also contributes towards social inclusion with the provision of participation opportunities to young people with few opportunities.

Youth workers supported young people from 13 to 16 years with fewer opportunities, regardless of their abilities, language or background to

¹ Project Name: Summer e-CHALLENGE: Acquiring Soft & Digital Skills Through Non-Formal Free-time Practices | Project Number: 2016-1-PT02-KA205-003182 | Duration: 1/06/2016 – 30/11/2017

acquire, record and recognize digital/soft skills acquired in order to become visible and useful to support them in their academic life, career orientation and ensure better skills-match for employment, personal development, social inclusion and active participation in all forms of life (school, community and family), while bridging the gap between education and work. One of the core objectives of the SUMMERS e-CHALLENGES programme is to support their career prospects and open up new visible routes for their future.

The integration of digital technology supported the design of an innovative and dynamic Open Education Resource (OER) tool, that not only recorded data characterizing young people's achievements (and other indicators) but, at the same, generated relevant input data, that youth workers analysed to evaluate the evolution of the skills acquired during the non-formal activities, and, by this, act accordingly in order to overpass specific limitations that some of the kids revealed.

Following this approach, the objective of the Consortium was to support the developing of new methodologies, in which, evidence based data can support and upgrade youth workers professional qualities to analyse and provide valid guidance for the young people's career orientation, and consequently, contribute towards better skills match, as suggested by the Joint Report for the renewed framework for EU cooperation in YOUTH (2012/C 394/03).

In the above context, the project supports the efforts of the partners to promote the recommendations of the: EU Strategy for Youth (2009) (Field of Actions: Education – Creating more opportunities for youth, Social

inclusion, Participation), the EC Recommendation for the validation of non-formal learning (2012), the EC Recommendation on the Key Competence (2006), the Digital Agenda for Europe, e-Skills for Jobs and the Coalition of Digital Jobs.

The Summer E-Challenge project contributes towards achieving the following priorities set by the Erasmus+:

- Promotion of high-quality youth work and professionalization of youth workers by developing their digital competences.
- Promotion of empowerment focusing on autonomy, participation and the active citizenship of young people.
- Improvement of achievement in basic and transversal competences in a LLL perspective, through formal or non-formal learning.
- Promotion of inclusion by developing social, civic, intercultural competences, combating discrimination and segregation, reducing disparities.
- Enhancement of access, participation and performance of disadvantaged learners and facilitating their transitions: between education levels and from education/training to the world of work.
- Promotion of open and innovative youth work embedded in the digital era, through the creation of synergies, digital learning, promotion of the use of ICT as a driver for systemic change to increase the quality and relevance of youth policies.

- Helping sustainable investment through the use of evidence-based reforms that deliver quality in formal and non-formal learning settings.

THE CONSORTIUM

The consortium that developed the Summer E-Challenge project, consists of 4 partners, from 4 EU countries which cover a wide range of expertise. A geographical balanced representation, as well as representation from different types of organizations to meet the needs of the project, as shown in the distribution of tasks/roles (NGO, NPO, ICT and VET Provider, and public Research Centre) is ensured.

Make it Better (miB) is an NGO organisation settled in one of the most depressed regions of Portugal. It has a solid experience in coordinating and managing EU youth motilities', exchanges etc. and projects (iDecide, WeBook, CLICK) which support the needs of young people. It has an accumulated long and profound experience in relation to the acquisition of soft skills and the design of learning activities for young people. It capitalizes the experience of its promoters and team of more than



15 years of joint work and cooperation with public and private organizations in Portugal, Europe and as well in several other parts of the world (South America, Africa and Asia). It complies a multidisciplinary team of associates and workers that give powerful input in big umbrella areas, such as sustainable development, social responsibility and social economy, in the frames where most disadvantaged groups are settled.

NCSR “Demokritos” is the largest multidisciplinary research centre in



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH “DEMOKRITOS”

Greece, with expertise and infrastructure in the fields of ICT,

Energy & Environment etc. It conducts applied research, for advancing scientific knowledge and promoting technological development in selected areas of national socio-economic interest. It plays a pivotal role in graduate education and professional training. The Institute of Informatics provides services related Internet and multimedia services

such as:

- e-learning,
- e-psychology,
- e-culture,
- e-business,
- web portals,
- etc.
- e-inclusion,
- e-government,
- e-commerce,
- e-testing,
- e-learning environments

Demokritos has a long history of working and educating young people through the organisation of the Annual Summer School for young people with organised visits to laboratories in order to get hands on experience and the organisation of the Researcher's Night, where young people get the opportunity to be informed and explore various tools (robotics etc.). Its experience in the design of the Summer Challenges Programme and the high-tech background is valuable for the dynamic e-platform and the matching skills.

Euni Partners is a non-governmental organization, that works in partnership with several universities and schools in Bulgaria, aiming to improve the quality of education and training in accordance with the needs



of the labour market. It offers career – orientation support and professional training to school and university students. It participates in the project

“Student practices”, funded by the ESF of the EU, and has been involved in several youth and educational projects since 2011.

Has a vast experience in the organization of events, trainings and internships, in project management and implementation and is also consulting local authorities, schools, businesses and NGOs in the planning, developing and implementing EU funded projects and initiatives in the fields of education, culture, and entrepreneurship.

Emphasys Centre functions as a Centre for Education, ICT Training and



Research accredited by the Ministry of Education in Cyprus. It cooperates closely with school, authorities, youth centres,

NGO etc., for the provision of ICT training for all learners (professionals, NEETs, young people, senior citizens etc.) for the acquisition of validated digital skills such as the ECDL.

It has been involved in the provision of public training funded through ESF for NEETs. Its involvement in the EU projects developed through the identification of the needs of its target groups (youth, adults, seniors etc.) and its urge to support the new generation.

Its involvement in the recognition and validation of non-formal learning was the base ground the Summer E-Challenge project, as well as its experience in the organisation of summer type digital activities for teenagers. The urge to develop a specific award programme to support them to gain employability, digital and entrepreneurial skills for the future has let to this consortium. Its experience in the provision of training (i.e.KA1, work-based, custom-made) will support the design of courses for Youth Workers and the design digital activities.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT

TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETINGS

1st TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING (PORTUGAL)

The 1st Transnational Meeting of the Summer e-Challenge Project, held between 01 and 04 September of 2016 in Portugal, gathered for the first time the partner institutions delegates coming from the EU regions involved in the project (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece and Portugal).

The agenda was devoted to the definition and agreement of the administrative and operational methodologies for the implementation of the project, as well as to exchange of experiences and know-how.

2nd TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING (GREECE)

Between the 29 of May and 2 of June of 2017, the Summer e-Challenge project team joined in Athens, Greece, for a Short-term joint staff event – training in order to train, discuss and adjust the platform that supported the main activity of the project: The non-formal education activity that was held in each of the participants countries between June 15 and July 15, involving a total of 60 kids.

3rd TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING (CYPRUS)

Emphasys Centre has hosted between the 19th and 20th of October of 2017, the Final Transnational Meeting of the Erasmus+ YOUTH project titled: summer e-CHALLENGE – Acquiring Soft & Digital Skills Through Non-formal Free-time Practices. During the meeting, the partners finalized

the last Intellectual Outputs and discussed the ways in which the project's outputs will be further exploited. All partners presented their plans for the sustainability of the project's results and products through the organization of Summer SEC Activities in 2018 aiming to utilise the summer non-school time of young people and to promote the acquisition, recognition and validation of basic and soft skills with an emphasis on digital skills that young people gain in non-formal learning opportunities. Another opportunity that was presented for further use of the material was the organization of KA1 Learning Mobility for Youth Workers and Young People.

THE E-SUMMER CHALLENGES ON-LINE

As a tool to support the development of competencies in youth and promote the technical development of Youth Workers and Youth Professionals, the main aims of the **e-SUMMER CHALLENGES on-line** were:

- Support the Management the summer programme and collect data from the young people's participation
- Generate data in relation to potential skills matching for career orientation based on the assessment process explained before
- Provide communication and interconnectivity opportunities through the e-platform.

To achieve this, was required to follow various steps:

- Design a dynamic and interactive e-tool/platform which will be able to function as an **Open Learning Environment** for the upgrade of Youth Workers, offering connectivity through an e-Academy, to be created, and provide support through the e-Data and Resources Bank for professional development.
- Produce a **Prototype**, upload it and explore it for the internal pilot testing in order to review, modify and make the necessary changes before its final presentation for public use.
- Collect and upload relevant resources, material etc. to support Youth Workers professional development through a e-Bank.
- Create a network of Youth Workers, Youth Professionals, stakeholders, professionals, academics etc. interested in the area to join the e-Academy for the exchange of good practices.

- Incorporate in the e-tool two routes:

- Young people-self-regulated formative assessment for own purpose
- Professional-oriented assessment and validation for professional use based, if possible, on the 8 key competences.

- Deal and solve various issues in relation to restriction codes, access levels, privacy issues, hosting platform, language use, potential users other than target groups, confidentiality, management,

- Upload all products of the project into the e-learning platform.

The implementation of the tool during the Summer e-challenges activities, was made recurring to a sequence of three main steps:

INTRODUCTORY PHASE

Where certain information, guidelines and explanations were needed to be given to the target groups (young people, youth workers, stakeholders, etc.) and to the main users (youth).

PRACTICAL PHASE:

After the creation of the participant's profile, the Mentor and the participant will continuously upload information regarding the participation in the various activities and the challenges set. Previous knowledge and experiences gained can be recorded.

ASSESSMENT PHASE (Self-assessment and professional-assessment.):

In order to accomplish this phase, the users (young people and the youth workers/mentors) had to follow specific steps and criteria, and comply with set guidelines and rules in order to prepare and obtain the AWARD.

CAREER ORIENTATION PHASE

Based on the skills, competences and interests achieved during the activities, an analysis and link will be provided for career guidance and matching skills, with certain paths for the labour market for the young people with the support of their youth worker and mentor.

THE SUMMER E-CHALLENGE SUMMER SCHOOL

PORTUGAL Summer E-Challenge

The project's main event, the Summer e-Challenge School Programme, was implemented in Portugal, in parallel with other Summer Schools held in Bulgaria, Cyprus and Greece, aimed at young people of the Municipality of Cuba, from 3 to 14 July of 2017.

The activity, implemented in Portugal by Make it Better, and developed with the support of the Group of Schools of Cuba and of the Municipality of Cuba, provided to younger pupils a set of playful and recreational activities, through which, in an informal and captivating way, it was sought to stimulate and reinforce a set of fundamental skills for their personal, social and professional development, such as the basic skills, the skills of the digital age, and the entrepreneurial skills and citizenship. A success that according to parents, pupils and institutions involved it must be repeated on the next years.

GREECE Summer e-Challenge

From June 26 to July 7, 2017, the largest interdisciplinary research centre in Greece, NCSR "Demokritos" and namely the Net Medial Lab of the Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications, organized Summer e-Challenge Summer School for young people from 13 to 16 years of age. The Summer School was organized under the Erasmus + Program "SeC:

Summer e-Challenge: Acquiring Soft & Digital Skills Through Non-Formal Free-Time Practices".

BULGARIA Summer e-Challenge

From 3 - 14 of July, 15 young students from Blagoevgrad, took part in the Summer e-challenge Activity: Soft skills and Information literacy, organised by Euni Partners within the project "Summer e-CHALLENGE: Acquiring Soft & Digital Skills Through Non-formal Free-time Practices".

The pilot course focused on providing the youngsters aged between 12 and 16 years old, with crucial skills for navigating in the contemporary environment of rapid technological development and explosion of information, big part of it with questionable validity, authenticity and reliability. As the possibilities for parental control in internet are limited, adults have little control of the information and entertainment contents children and young adults are exposed to on daily basis. We believe therefore that it is of crucial importance to teach and train children and young adults not only in digital skills, but also in information and critical thinking skills, thus giving them the ability to navigate safely and responsibly through the vast virtual realities opening to them. Information literacy is the ability to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information" (ALA). Critical thinking is the process of actively and skilfully conceptualizing, applying, analysing, synthesizing, and evaluating information to reach an answer or conclusion (*Dictionary.com*).

Through working in different social areas like self - and body image, relationships, politics and society stereotypes and prejudices, we covered a wide range of skills, competences, attitudes and knowledge such as:

- Difference between information, entertainment and advertisement
- Difference between truth, fact and opinion
- Difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Signs of unhealthy relationships, bullying and cyber bullying
- Distinguishing advertisement, images, social media profiles vs. reality
- Internet security and safety
- Understanding the connections between fashion/ advertisement and self and body image
- Distinguishing logical and argumentative fallacies, sound from unsound arguments, valid conclusions from opinion
- Distinguishing hate –speech, sensationalism, low quality cultural, information and entertainment products
- Understanding online and social media, opportunities and limitations, advantages and disadvantages; awareness of the relationship between content, services, advertisement and pricing.

The acquired skills and competences are essential for personal fulfilment and development, active citizenship, social inclusion and employment of young people. The 2017 pilot course was organized with the support of the Nation School of Humanities “Sv. Sv. Kiril I Metodii”, and due to the high interest of students’ parents, a permanent “English language, Information literacy and Critical thinking” course will be implemented at the latest starting from the academic year 2018 - 2019.

CYPRUS Summer e-Challenge

For a course of two weeks students participated in a Summer Coding and Robotics School utilizing their free summer time by learning programming and robotics through fun activities. Career guidance sessions were organised either groups or individual one by one sessions. Visits to Universities and IT companies were organised and new routes are now open in their academic careers, whereas prospects and potentials are ready to be explored further.

MULTIPLIER EVENTS

MAKE IT BETTER | PORTUGAL.

“Disseminating Good Practices” was the title and the main focus of the Multiplier event held in Cuba (Portugal), on November 2nd of 2017, at the Fialho de Almeida School’s Auditorium (AECUBA).

The event brought together parents, students, teachers and other educational agents from the community, aiming mainly to inform and raise awareness for the importance and relevance of Summer e-Challenge replication at the end of the current school year, and in following years.

N.C.S.R. “Demokritos” | GREECE

On Wednesday the 15th of November 2017, our laboratory Net Media Lab, which belongs to N.C.S.R. “Demokritos”, held a Multiplier Event in order to disseminate the Erasmus+ Program “Summer e-Challenge: Acquiring Soft & Digital Skills Through Non-Formal Free-Time Practices”. Thirty-six (36) people attended the event. The speeches and exhibition were held at the Conference Centre of N.C.S.R. “Demokritos”, from 16:30 to 21:00 in the evening.

This multiplier event aimed to present the Intellectual Outputs of the project, and review the Summer School of Digital and Soft Skills that took place last summer, at “Demokritos”, with the participation of young people aged 13-16. Students of the Summer School, their families, and other stakeholders had the opportunity to learn about the Project and generally about Digital and Soft Skills.

The Project was presented and the Intellectual Outputs were analyzed extensively. The event started with a presentation of the Program and its goals. After that, teachers of the Summer Program presented the courses and explained the Syllabus and Framework. Finally, developers of the team had the opportunity to talk about the Digital Skills in our lives and present the e-Learning Platform that was used to support the learning activities of the courses.

The last part of the event concerned an Exhibition of the Edison Robots, which were used for the Digital Skills Course of the Summer School. Attendees had the opportunity to get hands on experience with the robots and understand what the students learned during the e-Challenge Courses in Greece.

EUNI PARTNERS | BULGARIA

On October 6, 2017, Euni Partners held Multiplier Event through the project “Summer e-Challenge: Acquiring Soft and Digital Skills Through Non-Formal Free-time Practices”. The event gathered representatives of the Regional Directorate for Education, the Municipality of Blagoevgrad, the Regional Authority of Blagoevgrad, the Municipal Youth centre, NGOs, youth workers, teachers. Professionals and stakeholders who attended the event learned about the results of the SUMMER e-CHALLENGE, its outputs, and opportunities it provides for the youth. The main aims of the Multiplier Event were to influence the professional community and stakeholders to further investigate the prospects of providing young people

with valuable opportunities for non-formal and informal learning. These opportunities included the acquisition of essential skills and competencies for life, validation of their learning, and better skills-matching links for employment. The event also informed participants about the potential that such an open and freely accessible tool and method will have on young people that builds on the stages as set by the EC to validate students' competence and skills using aspects of the validation and transparency tools.

Emphasys Centre | CYPRUS

On October 6, 2017, Emphasys Centre organised an Open Coding & Robotics day through the project "Summer e-Challenge.

During the Open Coding & Robotics day interested people (students, young people, youth workers, teachers, parents etc.) can have a first hand experience of the:

LEGO MINDSTORMS (15:30-16:30, 14+ years)

EDISON (16:30-17:30, 10-14 years)

LEGO BOOST (18:30-19:30, 8-10 years) Robots

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

- **ANNUAL FREE SEMINAR ON "ICTS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION" AT N.C.S.R. "DEMOKRITOS"**

On Saturday 30 September and Sunday 1 October 2017, Net Media Lab of N.C.S.R. "Demokritos" organized its annual free seminar on "ICTs and Special Education" at the Main Auditorium of N.C.S.R. "Demokritos", attracting over 1000 teachers, educators, psychologists, parents, researchers and students. The seminar took place three times over the course of the weekend.

Dr. Athanasios Drigas, Director of Net Media Lab had the opportunity to present the Summer e-Challenge project and its results such as the e-learning platform and the summer school that took place between 26 June and 7 July 2017 to the audience.

- **5TH HELLENIC FORUM FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION AND THE 52ND SUMMER SCHOOL OF N.C.S.R. "DEMOKRITOS"**

On Tuesday 4 July 2017, Dr. Athanasios Drigas, Director of Net Media Lab of N.C.S.R. "Demokritos" presented the Summer e-Challenge project and its results so far such as the e-learning platform during his annual speech at the 5th Hellenic Forum for Science, Technology and Innovation and the 52nd Summer School of N.C.S.R. "Demokritos".

The 250 people that attended his speech at the Main Auditorium of N.C.S.R. "Demokritos", comprised mostly of students aged 18-25 years old as well as researchers from various science fields.

- **"SPECIALIZATION IN ICTS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION – PSYCHOPEDAGOGY OF INTEGRATION"**

On Friday 13 October 2017, Dr. Athanasios Drigas, Director of Net Media Lab and Vice President of the postgraduate degree program “Specialization in ICTs and Special Education – Psychopedagogy of Integration”, which is co-organized with the University of Thrace, presented the results of the Summer e-Challenge project to the 70 students of the program during one of his lectures. In particular, he presented the e-learning platform that was developed in the framework of the project as well as the summer school that was organized and implemented between 26 June and 7 July 2017.

- **NET MEDIA LAB**

On Monday 6 November 2017, the members of Net Media Lab that participated in the Summer e-Challenge project had the opportunity to present the products and results of the project to other colleagues, external collaborators as well as teachers with which Net Media Lab collaborates.

The speakers focused on the aims of the project, the e-learning platform that was developed in the framework of the project as well as the summer school that was organized and implemented between 26 June and 7 July 2017.

The dissemination event took place at the Lecture Room of the Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications of N.C.S.R. “Demokritos” to an audience of 15 people.

- **EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE “Digital skills for new jobs: prospects and challenges”**

The Summer e-Challenge project was presented at the Conference “Digital skills for new jobs: prospects and challenges” that was organized by Emphasys Centre, on Monday 3rd of April, by Emphasys Centre.

During the conference Dr Christos Dimopoulos, Dean, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering of the European University Cyprus gave a speech about the importance of digital acquisition for all citizens regardless of their age, position or status in society.

Dr Dimopoulos emphasized the importance of being a digital literate educator who can is capable of not only using technology, but can also use tools and media to motivate students of all ages.

- **EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER FAIR 2017**

The Summer e-Challenge project was presented at the Conference “Digital skills for new jobs: prospects and challenges” that was organized by Emphasys Centre, on Monday 3rd of April, by Emphasys Centre.

During the conference Dr Christos Dimopoulos, Dean, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering of the European University Cyprus gave a speech about the importance of digital acquisition for all citizens regardless of their age, position or status in society.

Dr Dimopoulos emphasized the importance of being a digital literate educator who can is capable of not only using technology, but can also use tools and media to motivate students of all ages.

- INFO DAY – CY SUMMER SCHOOL

An info day was organised by Emphasys centre for the presentation of the Summer School program to the participating students and parents. The program was presented along with the platform and all students had the opportunity to create their user accounts at that day.

A short speech on the importance of digital jobs was given and all participants were excited for the Summer School Implementation.

- “USING ICT IN MUSIC EDUCATION” CONFERENCE

The project “The Summer e-Challenge” was presented at the European Conference “Using ICT in Music Education”, organized by Association EUni Partners on 24 – 25 May in Blagoevgrad.

During the conference were presented the opportunities for optimization of summer non-school times of young people through the acquisition, recognition and validation of basic and soft and digital skills with special focus on information literacy and critical thinking.

PART 2 - PLATFORM USER GUIDE



REGISTERING IN THE PLATFORM

You can access the on-line platform and all the Summer E-Challenge courses by following this link:

<http://summerchallenge.iit.demokritos.gr>.

It will take you to the e-learning platform's homepage(fig.1)

As a new user, you need to click on the **Log in** button in the right top corner, which will lead you to the **Login/Register new user** page (Figure 2).

Here you have three options:

1. **Login user** – which will allow an already register user to login
2. **Login as a guest** – Which will allow you to get to know better the courses without enrolling in any of them
3. **Create new account** – Which will allow you to fully engage in the available courses.

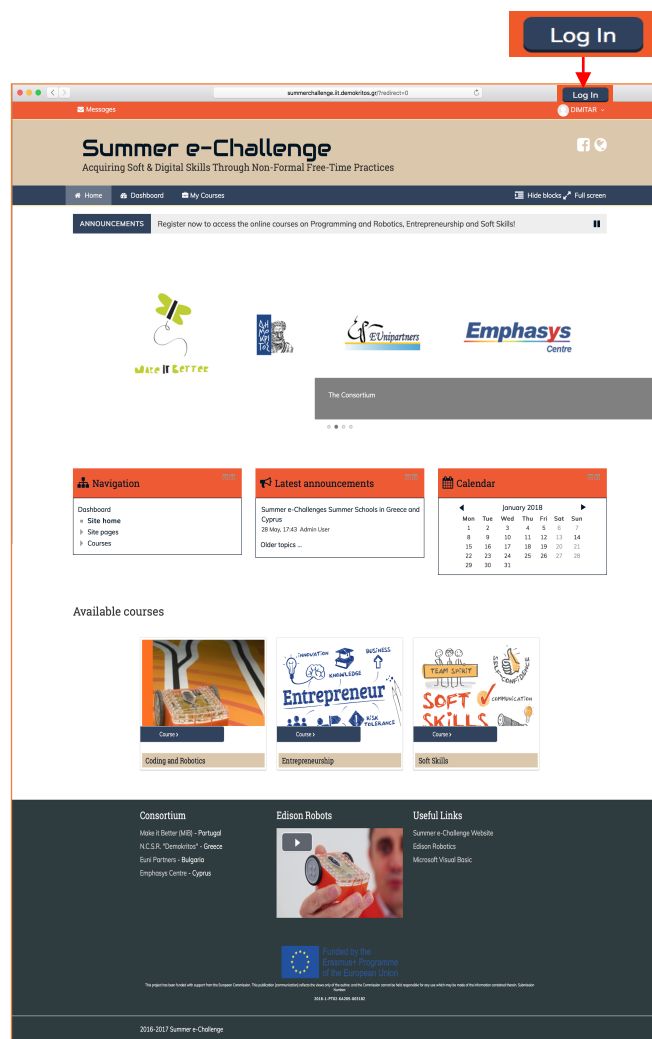


Figure 1 - Landing page to Summer E-Challenge

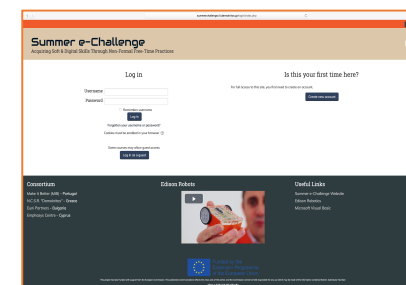


Figure 2 - Login/Register New user

In order to enrol in any of the courses you chose, select the option **CREATE NEW USER**, on the right side of the page. It will take you to the registration page where you will have to fill a form in order to access the courses area. (Figure 3).

The registration process will require you to fill the following fields (Figure 4):

- Choose your username and password
- More details (email address, name and surname, city and country).
- Personal information: birthday, gender, level of studies, existing competences, interests, skills, hobbies etc. .

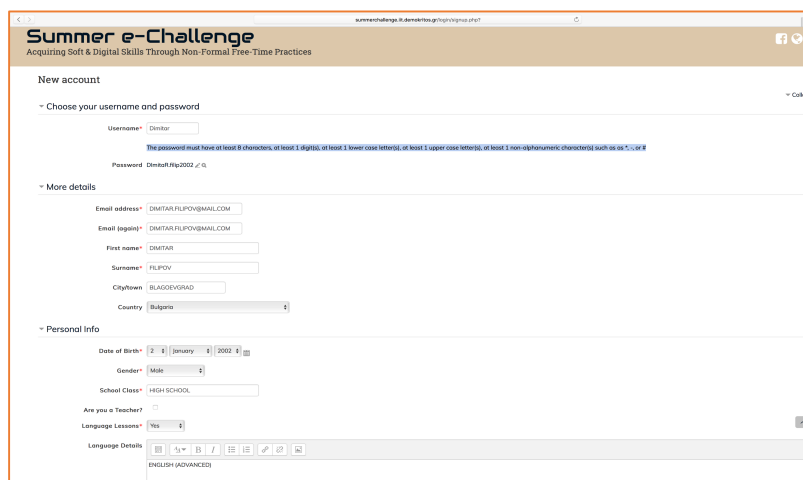


Figure 3 - Fields to be filled. The fields marked with an * are obligatory.

After filling all the required fields and creating a safe password at the end of the page there will be two buttons (figure 4):

- **CREATE NEW USER**
- **CANCEL**

The first option will verify the information you entered and, if there are any mistakes it will invite you to correct them. When all the information is correctly filled, you will proceed with your registration.

The second button will cancel your registration. Pay attention not to select it by mistake.

You can update your profile later with more information and add a profile picture.

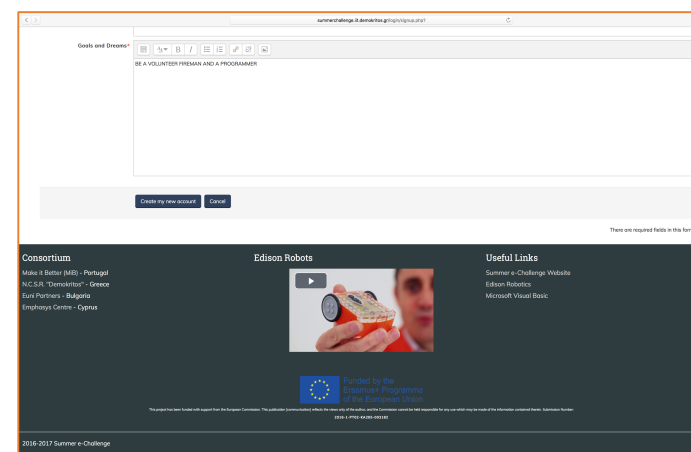


Figure 4 - Options in the end of the process of registering a new user: Create New User and Cancel.

After completing this process, you should receive an email in the inbox of the address provided in order to verify your registration. Next you

Next you will get to know how to enrol in the courses, and the main tools available for your interaction with colleagues, teachers and other members, namely the blog, the chat and other communication tools available for your support.

THE USER AREA

The user area represents the starting point of everything that you can do inside of the Summer E-Challenge course platform.

In figure 5 you will see the landing page, or home page, of your user area.

Here you have different user zones:


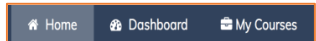
- The **USER MENU**, , where you can edit or update your personal information. This menu, when selected, will open a drop-down menu, from where you can fully manage and analyse all the information related to you and your courses.
- The **MAIN MENU**, , from which you may access different areas of the course.



Figure 5 - Landing page, or home page, of user area

- The **INFO AREA**, where various posts and announcements related to the course, activities and other news are posted.
- The **ACCESS AREA**, where you can configure your main widgets
- The **AVAILABLE COURSES AREA**, from where you can enrol in a course.

ENROLLING IN A COURSE

You can join a course in two ways:

1. By invitation sent to you by the head of the course. For example, your teacher.
2. If the course its open to public you will be able to enrol directly.


When a course its open for enrolment, the icon  will appear in the right bottom corner of the course, as it appears in the detail of the AVAILABLE COURSES AREA, shown in figure 6.



Figure 6 – Course in Coding and Robotics its open for engagement (Engagement button its highlighted with a star)

To enrol you should select the

Course >

button, that will redirect you for the course page (figure 7).

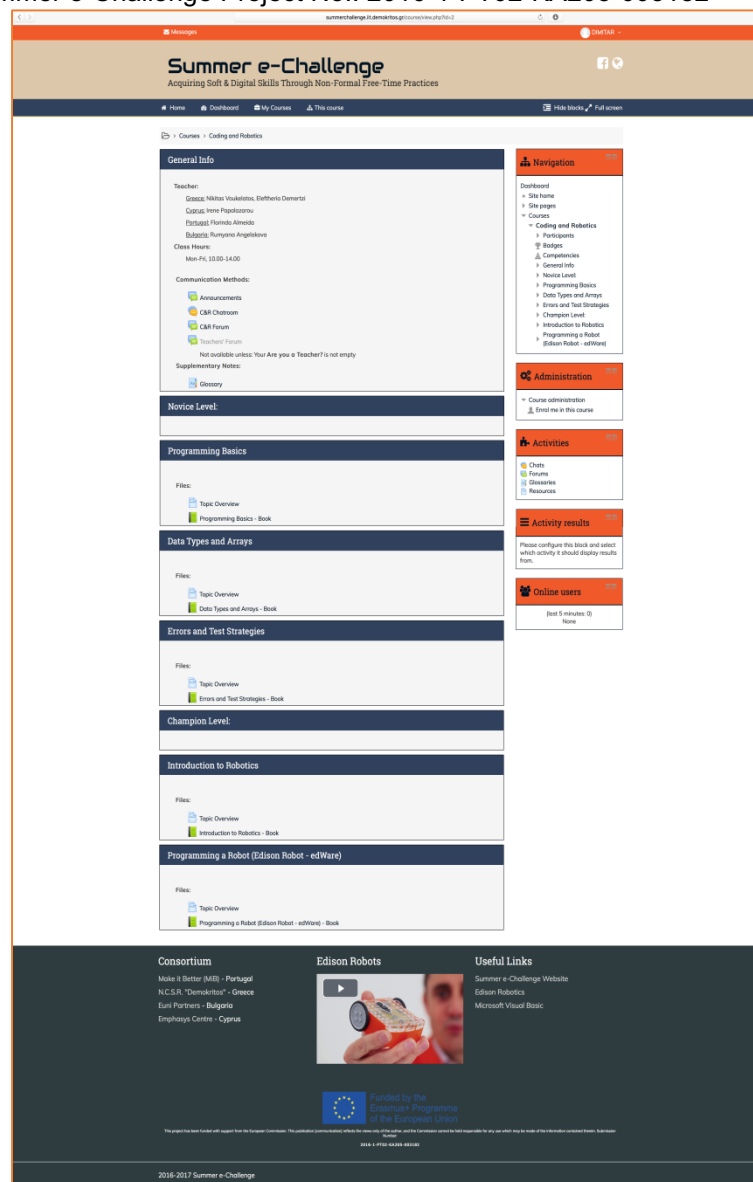






Figure 7 - The course page.

In this page, you will find again the USER MENU, and the MAIN MENU, now updated with a new item, **THIS COURSE**, .

This new item (figure 8) allows you to easily access important areas allowing you to fully explore the course.

 **People** – List the participants enrolled in the course.

 **Grades** – Gives you the results of the course(s) you are participating.

 **Chats** – Allows you to access a course chat room, where you are able to communicate with other participants (teachers, moderators, other colleagues, etc.)

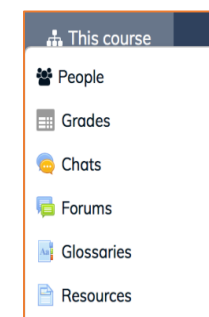


Figure 8 - Options available in the item "this course"

**Forums**

– Where it is possible to follow, discuss and answer to questions or other time of references placed by other participants.

**Glossaries**

– That present and define important basic concepts that required to be always present in mind will learning the course subject.

**Resources**

– With a full list of readings, exercises, suggested materials for knowledge enrichment, etc.

For example, in the CODING AND ROBOTICS course, the main area gives you information about the course:

General Info:

The general info area gives you the basic information related to the course, name of the teachers, timetable of physical classes (if they exist) or time schedules of teachers' availability to assist you and other material relevant for the course, for example glossaries, reading materials, etc.

The studies area has two levels: **Novice Level** and **Champion Level**

Novice Level:

In the case of this course, the novice level represents the first learning steps that a student must take in order to advance in the field. It includes the **PROGRAMMING BASICS; DATA TYPES AND ARRAYS; ERRORS AND TEST STRATEGIES** subjects, that represent the first part of the course.

Champion level:

If you achieve positive results at the quizzes, exercises and assignments in the novice level, your next step will be enrolling in **Introduction to robotics** and **Programming a robot (Edison Robot – edWare)**.

When you successfully complete the course, you will receive a certificate issued by the course developer.

You are ready to enrol in another interesting course of your choice!