

ODDA

Open Doors for Danube
Countries for ALL



Open Doors
for Danube Countries
for ALL

An international project to foster intercultural
communication between the Danube countries
February 2017 – February 2018



www.odda.eu

Coordination:

JLEU

Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen
in der Erwachsenenbildung
an der Universität Ulm (JLEU) e. V.

Who we are

Coordinated by ILEU e.V. from Ulm, five regional teams in the frame of the international educational network Danube Networkers from Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Romania and Serbia worked together on the project ODDA. From February 2017 to February 2018 we contributed to fostering the intercultural communication in Europe and in the Danube area in particular. We developed new methods on our own and evaluated to which degree Internet-based methods serve our concerns.

What we do

The aim of this project is to foster intercultural dialogues in Europe and strengthen European awareness with low-threshold communication aid in Bulgarian, Croatian, German, Romanian and Serbian. The fact that there is often no common language basis hinders people from getting in contact with their European neighbours. Using practical key words and sentences, gestures, images, music, dance etc. we create occasions for everyday communication on a primarily emotional level. This is no substitution for professional translation in important substantial contents, but for bringing people together in a simple way.

Our objectives

- To foster intercultural communication in Europe
- To strengthen awareness of cultural diversity
- To enable communication through low-threshold materials
- To overcome language barriers



Overcoming language barriers

Throughout our two partner meetings in Bad Urach, Germany, and Ruse, Bulgaria, and over the course of the project we developed specific low-threshold tools to overcome language barriers. All participants worked together in order to create materials for facilitating intercultural communication. These materials are based on theoretical input as well as on very practical implementations and creative methods. Our website contains various materials to download and apply in every-day intercultural encounters.

www.odda.eu/materials

Lectures

During the partner meetings in Bad Urach, Germany, and Ruse, Bulgaria, we listened to many different interesting lectures from experts of intercultural communication and project work. The topics were widely diversified but dealt with one common issue: intercultural communication in Europe and the importance and meaning of Europe for each of us individually.



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Communication with images

This is a key issue of our work. There are many picture-based phrasebooks like "Zeig mal!" by the German editor Langenscheidt, capturing important everyday topics. It is a big disadvantage that the pictures are not accompanied by written words. Therefore, no graphic image of the written word can be generated. Furthermore, this vocabulary can serve orientation in a foreign country but cannot provide specific personal communication occasions.

This is why we chose individual images on several topics and supplemented them with corresponding words in foreign and native languages. This served mainly the purpose of making it possible to communicate easily.

Recommendation: Picture dictionaries are helpful to convey terms when the key words are missing in the other language. In combination with the respective word, they simplify communication. Personalized picture-based phrasebooks can be created before the journey/meeting using photos or a digital photo gallery. For more complex situations it seems reasonable to rely on internet- or smartphone-based tools in order to communicate properly in a foreign language.

FAMILY & HOME & PROFESSION

FAMILIE/ WOHNORT/ BERUF

СЕМЕЙСТВО/Семейство/ MESTOZHIVENE/Местооживене/
PROFESIVA/Професия

- Elter - Parents - Roditeli/Roditeli
- Mutter - Mother - Maya/Mama
- Mutter - Mother - Maya/Mama
- Vater - Father - Basha/Baba
- Papa - Daddy - Tata/Tata
- Bruder - Brother - Brat/Brat
- Schwester - Sister - Sestra/Sestra
- Oma - Grandmother/ Granny - Baba/Baba
- Opa - Grandfather - Dyado/Dyado
- Enkel - Grandson - Vnuk/Vnuk
- Partner - Partner - Partnyar/Partnyar

- Aufzug - Lift - Acsayon/Acsayon
- Dorf - Village - Selo/Selo
- Garten - Garden - Gradina/Gradina
- Haus - Home - Kuchta/Kuchta
- Miete - Rent - Nara/Nara
- Stadt - City - Grad/Grad
- Stockwerk - Floor - Etazh/Etazh
- Wohnblock - Apartment house - Blok/Blok

Where do you live?
How do you live?
What is your house?
What is your house?
Where do you live?
What is your house?
Where do you live?
What is your house?
Where do you live?
What is your house?
Where do you live?
What is your house?

Everyday communication



Alltagkommunikation



Hi/Hello!	Hallo! Guten Tag!
How are you?	Wie geht es dir/Ihnen?
I'm fine, thank you!	Danke, mir geht es gut!
Nice to see you!	Schön, dich zu sehen!
Yes/no	Ja/Nein
Please/Thank you	Bitte/Danke
Goodbye!	Auf Wiedersehen!
Excuse me!	Entschuldigen Sie!
Sorry	Verzeihung/Entschuldigung

HOBBYS & HOBBIES & НОВИТА/Хобита



Baken
Baking
Shtakartstvo/
Стакарство

Malen
Painting
Risuvane/
Рисунане



Sammeln
Collecting
Kolektsionirane/
Колекционеране

Fotografieren
Photographing
Fotografirane/
Фотografieране



Lesen
Reading

Reisen/ Wandern
Travelling/ Hiking
Putoshestvie/ Putoshie



Helpful key words

We discussed the most important topics and agreed upon key words / useful phrases in working groups. In the beginning, the topics and the key words were agreed upon in English and German. Then, we got the input from the project partners in English and the national languages Bulgarian, Serbian, Romanian and Croatian. Topics were Greetings (21), Food and Drinks (45), Arrival, Departure, Enquiries and Emergencies (105), Family, Word and Life (41), Hobby (26), Numbers and Payment (23). In brackets is the number of key words/useful phrases; we have chosen 261 altogether. All are available on the project's website; one can choose the desired topic and the subtopic and the languages one wishes to get displayed and then print out the respective list.

Recommendation: During practical use, three important remarks were noted and should be taken into consideration: (1) Apart from key words, short questions and possible answers should be included. (2) For easier use, only two languages should be chosen – the native language and the aspired foreign language. On the right, a practical prototype in A6 is displayed. (3) Currently, the lists are in alphabetical order; sorted by the column German. For quick locating, it is helpful if after choosing the native language, an alphabetical order is created there.



Greeting & Good-bye

- 🇧🇬 Поздрав и довиждане
- 🇩🇪 Begrüßung & Verabschiedung
- 🇷🇸 Pozdrav i oproštaj
- 🇷🇴 Salut și rămas bun
- 🇭🇷 Pozdrav i zbogom



Eating & Drinking

- 🇧🇬 Хранене и пиене
- 🇩🇪 Essen & Trinken
- 🇷🇸 Јести и пити
- 🇷🇴 Mâncare și băutură
- 🇭🇷 Јело и пиће

Please select languages

Eating and drinking - General - What? - Greetings, beverages - In the restaurant



🇩🇪	🇷🇸	🇭🇷
The bill, please	račun, molim	Račun, molim
Book room - where is	gledaonica - gdje je	Gledaonica - gdje je
Cover charge extra		Dodatno plaćanje stolice
Man dish	Glavno jelo	Glavno jelo
Spice, coffee, fork	Žlica, nož, vilica	Kašika, nož, viljuka
Service included?	Uključena li usluga?	Uključena usluga?



Speaking and Translating

Translation tools on smartphones

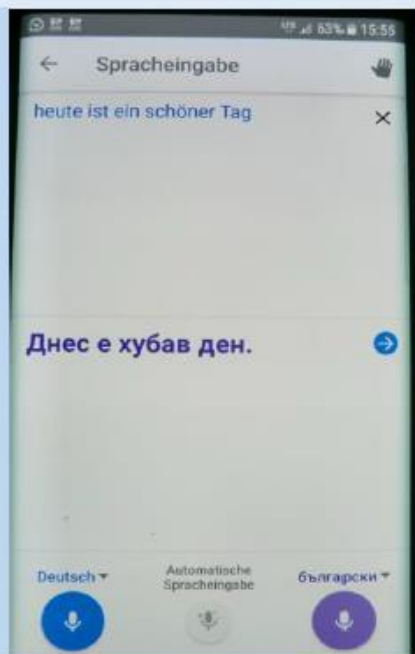
Together we chose the smartphone application (app) "Google Translator" and tested it during our meetings in Bad Urach and Ruse. This app works well, but internet connection and only little background noises are necessary. Some further apps are "iTranslate" by Apple and "Microsoft Translator", which only differ little in operation.

Recommendation: The apps are suitable for communication. The development of apps goes forward quickly and seems very promising. Our experiences are described on <http://odda.eu/translation-workshop/>.

Electronic phrase books on smartphones

Furthermore, we have tested the app "AppRater-Dialog" by Stelyan Shentov (German – Bulgarian) and purchased the full version for a small fee (<2€). For 9 topics, words and short phrases in German are available to a sufficient scale; also, a Bulgarian translation is given in Latin and Cyrillic script. When clicking on the loud speaker symbol, the phrase is played in the national language. Some other apps differ in operation and the available languages.

Recommendation: Very helpful, should definitely be downloaded on one's smartphone where necessary. There are some more apps with the same function which we will test.



Our objective for ODDA: Personalised electronic phrasebooks

Similar to the phrasebook on smartphones but with key words selected by us. The phrasebooks we tested contained very general vocabulary. We developed a tailor-made concept for a personalized phrasebook meeting our needs. We have created a prototype as a website which can be enhanced individually. For this, the key words/short phrases had to be pronounced and recorded via microphone. With a subsequent software, the audio files were saved as audio files. On the website, the key words can be clicked on and listened to in order to hear the pronunciation.

Conclusion

It is advisable, depending on the effort one can and wants to perform, to test different approaches and decide upon one or several solutions. It also depends on the individual familiarity with smartphone/computers and if internet connection is available. In any case, it is advisable to get accustomed to the electronic phrasebooks or translator apps with speech output of the foreign language before the journey/meeting. An individualized electronic phrasebook with practical conversation starters, as developed during our project, seems most helpful. We would like to continue with this approach of a personalized electronic phrase book and create one for different occasions of communication.



Deutsch Bulgarian

<u>eins</u>	<u>edno</u>
<u>zehn</u>	<u>deset</u>
<u>hundert</u>	<u>sto</u>
<u>zwei</u>	<u>dve</u>
<u>drei</u>	<u>tri</u>
<u>vier</u>	<u>chetiri</u>
<u>fünf</u>	<u>pet</u>
<u>Abfahrt - wann</u>	<u>Otpatuvane - koga</u>
<u>Alter - wie alt bist du</u>	<u>Vazrast - na kakva vazrast ste?</u>
<u>Ankunft - wann</u>	<u>Pristigane - koga</u>
<u>Bahnhof</u>	<u>Zhe Pe Gara</u>
<u>Bank - wo ist</u>	<u>Banka - kade e?</u>
<u>Bar oder Kreditkarte</u>	<u>V broj ili s kreditna karta?</u>
<u>Bitte - Danke</u>	<u>Molva -</u>

odda.eu/translation-workshop/
odda.eu/commonkeywords/

www.odda.eu

Danube game

The aim of the learning game “The Wanted Danube” is to convey knowledge about culture, nature and everyday life in the Danube countries. All contents of the game were translated into the languages of the partner countries and played and tested with different target groups such as pupils and elderly people.

The first stage of the game is based on the concept of a memory game: This game level is aimed at small children, and families with small children. Thereby, it is possible to give interesting insights in foreign countries through low-threshold methods.

The next stage of the game includes thinking about the motives on the cards and their contents together and stimulating debates.

The third stage is aimed at different learning groups (e.g. group work in school classes). Each group receives motive cards and works on these in active exchange.

For more impressions and a detailed playing instruction please visit our website and look under “Danube game”:

<http://odda.eu/danube-game/>



Implementation and experiences

In the frame of our first qualification training in Bad Urach, the workshop Danube Learning Game for young and elderly was offered twice. The participating multipliers tested this game with much engagement. The mapping of the playing cards on the displayed Danube and the explanations for the images were interesting. Of special interest were the discussions about certain motives such as Martenizi which were matched to their countries by different participants. This led to the conclusion that the Danube area is common with different traditions from the Osman or Habsburg-Hungarian past. All participants found the game very interesting but wished for different images or texts for some motives.

Experiences from Serbia

The game was tested in their country in their native language with groups of pupils and adults by all partner groups and in Serbia also with a teachers' group. The colleagues summarized: "It is a good combination of oral, personal stories and the collection of experiences with modern technology [...]. We can see many similarities [in the Danube Region] and this can be a step towards a better life in the whole region."



Discovery tours

During the partner meetings in Bad Urach and Ruse, participants were given tasks to find out about the town, its history or everyday life using the country's language in small intercultural groups. This informal method enabled the practical application of the provided vocabulary.



Songs and dances

As a very important part of cultural exchange, we taught and learned different traditional songs and dances from our partner countries. On our website you can find videos and lyrics.



Creative methods

We worked out symbols, developed messages and transformed them into drawings, paintings or models individually and in groups.



Interkulturelle Workshops

- Eine interkulturelle Lernerfahrung machen und die Grundlagen des Konzepts Kultur verstehen
- Interkulturelle Kompetenzen entwickeln
- Die Grundprinzipien der Kommunikation mit interkulturellen Gruppen lernen
- Soziale Normen und Verhaltensweisen in der Donauregion auf Grundlage der Informationen vom interkulturellen Analysetool vorhersagen können
- Nonverbale Kommunikation mit spielerischen Methoden
- Workshop Zivilgesellschaft: Was ist europäische Identität?



Europäische Soirée

Bei der europäischen Soirée repräsentierten die Teilnehmenden in Bad Urach eine wichtige Persönlichkeit aus ihrem Land, ohne den Namen der Person zu nennen. Im Verlauf des Abends stellten sie die Person, die sie spielten, vor. Durch diese spielerische Herangehensweise konnte ein tieferes Verständnis für länderspezifische Kultur und Geschichte gestärkt werden.



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