



## SEARCH FOR PARTNERS / PROJECT PROPOSAL

Contact Information	
Contact Person	Ester Busquets Poblet Anna Matavacas Roca
City/Region/Territory	Vic City Council's <u>Lifelong Learning Centre of Languages</u> (Barcelona, Catalonia)
Country	Spain
Contact details	aula@vic.cat
Working languages	English, French, Spanish, Catalan
Description of the City/Region/Territory:	<p>The <b>Vic City Council Lifelong Learning Centre of Languages</b> (hereinafter called the Centre) is a local public education centre part of the Vic City Council. Vic is a medium sized city covering 30,6 km with 46.214 inhabitants, and a 27,58% of immigrant population. The largest sources of employment in Vic are the industrial sector, in particular agri-food sector, as well as services and construction. This context creates an important need to offer language training opportunities in order, not only to facilitate the access to public services, but also to learn the local language, to participate in the city life, and to improve foreign languages to develop in multilingual contexts.</p> <p>The Centre offers flexible and adaptative support to study Catalan, Spanish, French, English and Italian. The Centre is also a space to learn from diversity and multilingualism in the city. Our methodology is based on solid and practical experience on the ground, combining personalized advice (273 students), different sized working groups (50 students), as well as rotation and cooperation with a remarkable role of the teachers as observers. By focusing on strengths and weaknesses, giving confidence and diminishing comparisons, we detect the optimal activities for each student in the different moments of the learning process, adapting to the various levels and rhythms of study. In 2019 the Centre received 323 local and foreign students from 16 yr. and above.</p>
European experience and previous projects	Vic City Council is leading the project URBACT II, <u>Healthy Cities</u> . The City Council also received EU funding from the WIF4EU programme, and the European Regional Development Fund for a <u>project</u> on touristic development connected to historical, cultural and artistic heritage. City Council's nursery schools in Vic have been also involved in cooperation programmes with equals in Reggio Emilia (Italy).



<b>Expression of Interest</b>	
<p>Brief description of the interest and partnership profile</p>	<p>The Centre is interested in joining a consortium willing to apply to future Erasmus calls on young and adult education and lifelong learning opportunities at EU level. The Centre is also open to other EU opportunities addressing multilingualism and education as a tool to achieve democratic citizenship and to reinforce cohesion in EU societies.</p> <p>The Centre is ready to join a consortium with other Lifelong Learning Centres of languages, Adult Education Schools and multilingual centres, Vocational and Educational Training Centres, etc. preferably placed in medium cities from multilingual European countries or bordered regions. The Centre is particularly interested in <b>finding an entity that could lead the proposal as well as other partners that could be interested in joining the partnership.</b></p>
<p>Brief description (Main issues, problems to be solved, needs)</p>	<p>EU cities are increasingly multicultural and multilingual. In that sense, it is needed to reinforce the exchange and cooperation in local policies regarding intercultural awareness, intercultural dialogue and diversity, especially in regions with a wide range of migration. It is needed to diminish segregation by bringing together all the citizens in the same framework of learning and increasing their linguistic skills.</p> <p>In order to achieve this goal, the Centre is interested in exchanging methodologies, good practices, pedagogical tools and innovative approaches related to linguistic competences acquisition and linguistic diversity; and disseminating this knowledge among educational entities at the local and EU level. Our Centre, as a part of the public library, can offer a major access to knowledge, and promote engagement, empowerment and dialogue among citizens. In addition, the Centre is also willing to increase its networks and capacity to operate at transnational level.</p>
<p>Specific objectives of the project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Promoting multilingual abilities and competences in order to facilitate the successful participation in an internationalized labour market, and a better understanding of multicultural societies. Training students not only the language but also to participate in civic and social life.</li> <li>-Promoting respect to all languages among the citizenship in multilingual and multicultural European societies. Migrant-receiving societies have to offer their own languages as an element of cohesion; and to maintain their cultural and linguistic heritage, while encouraging the knowledge of the languages and cultures of newcomers. Societies can be enriched by plurilingual education, promoting dialogue, recognizing all the languages, and creating positive attitudes among different linguistic and cultural groups. This is the main guarantee for social cohesion.</li> <li>-In order to achieve the objectives above mentioned, we need to support opportunities for all in acquiring and developing key competences, including</li> </ul>



	the access to lifelong learning of EU and foreign languages. It is essential to offer suitable formative places where people can develop their plurilingual competences according to their background and goals, and promoting their autonomy.
Programme to be submitted to	Erasmus+ and Rights Equality and Citizenship programmes, have several projects on this field. The Centre is also interested in post 2020 opportunities.
Deadline of manifestation of interest	--