



## What is the CVS project?

The CVS project is an ERASMUS+ project funded by the European Commission. It has developed materials that can be used by schools to foster the development of the democratic and intercultural competences of children and teachers in the primary school context.

## The CVS materials

Four sets of materials have been developed by the project:

- a training course for teachers,
- a curriculum for children,
- an App for teachers,
- a scientific study.

All of these are based on the Council of Europe's Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture (RFCDC; <https://www.coe.int/en/web/reference-framework-of-competences-for-democratic-culture>).

The materials have been developed in collaboration with teachers of five primary schools: school Vazov (Mezdra, Bulgaria), school Cirincione (Bagheria, Italy), school Orghidan (Brasov, Romania), school Slettebakken (Bergen, Norway), school Foguet (Vinaros, Spain).

The **CVS Training Course for Teachers** comprises a series of activities which empower teachers responsible for teaching democratic and intercultural competences, by equipping them with these democratic and intercultural competences. The Training Course is organized in two programmes, each lasting one week. Activities of the two-week training programme promote competences such as Openness to cultural otherness, Analytical and critical thinking skills, Empathy, Civic-mindedness, and Flexibility.

The CVS partner University of Palermo (Italy) has coordinated the development and implementation of the CVS Training Course in collaboration with CVS partner Associazione Identità, Sviluppo, Integrazione Onlus (ISI; Italy).

The **CVS Curriculum for Children** consists of a series of activities that allow 9- to 10-year-old pupils to actively exercise their democratic and intercultural competences at school and in their local communities through urban regeneration activities, making their voices heard about their needs, views and dreams regarding their closest "urban" spaces. The CVS Curriculum is based on the idea that children belong to different groups and communities and they have to take on the responsibility of each of them. Adults can help pupils to adequately manage this responsibility, starting from closer contexts (e.g., the school) and moving on to more distant contexts (e.g., the town). Children are not the citizens of the future, they are already citizens, and their voices need to be heard by policy-makers. They need to be protagonists able to express their needs, views and dreams about urban spaces in dialogue with local administrations. In order to do this, the CVS



Curriculum suggests the involvement of local policy-makers dealing with the urban sector with whom pupils can discuss their proposals.

The Curriculum is taught in two modules:

- Module 1 "Our voices for our schools"
- Module 2 "Our voices for our towns"

Module 1 uses a project-based learning approach and Module 2 uses a service-based learning approach.

The CVS partner University of Palermo has coordinated the development and implementation of the CVS Curriculum in collaboration with CVS partner ISI.

The **CVS App Supervision App for Teachers** is an IT tool put together to support trainers and teachers during the implementation of the CVS Training and the CVS Curriculum, respectively.

It provides:

- an electronic "how-to manual" for the use of the CVS Training Course and the CVS Curriculum,
- an evaluation and assessment tool for trainers and teachers as well as evaluation results for CVS researchers.

The CVS App works on desktop, laptop, tablet and mobile, and is accessible with login information via the CVS website: [www.cvs-project.eu](http://www.cvs-project.eu).

The CVS Software house partner, RODAX Management (Romania), is responsible for the development and management of the CVS App.

The **CVS Study** has tested the efficacy of the CVS Training Course, the CVS Curriculum, and the CVS App. Specifically, the study investigated:

- teachers' democratic and intercultural competences before and after the Training Course,
- children's democratic and intercultural competences before and after being taught the CVS Curriculum,
- teachers' satisfaction with the CVS App,
- parents' knowledge, skills and attitudes toward democratic and intercultural education as well as scholastic communities' views about democratic and intercultural education.

The CVS partner University of Surrey (UK) is the coordinator for the CVS research activities.

## Contact information

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Detailed information about the CVS project is available on our website: <https://www.cvs-project.eu/>