

Newsletter 9, December 2018.

Meeting in Zagreb

Another MERIA project meeting and training activity was held in Zagreb from 10 to 16 December 2018. During the training activity, the project team was working on the final versions of project results. We have selected the scenarios to be published and discussed the related teaching modules. Also, project members participated in the implementation of one MERIA scenario in XV. Gymnasium. The main activity of the training week was to discuss and



organise the topics and activities for the MERIA workshops that will be held in all partnering countries from January until April 2019. We have also discussed the program for the final conference that will take place in Zagreb in May 2019.

Scenarios and modules

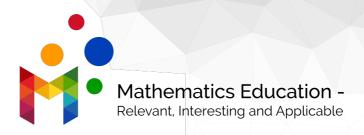
The project team analysed all feedback information on MERIA scenarios received from teachers in associated schools in the period from September until November 2018. Based on this information and the needs in each partnering country, five scenarios were selected to be published as a result called *MERIA scenarios*. These are: *Bicycle Factory, Braking Distance, Conflict Lines, Slide* and *Salary*. We have already written about scenarios *Bicycle factory* and *Braking distance* in the previous issues of the MERIA newsletter.

In the *Conflict Lines* scenario, the target knowledge is the partitioning of a plane by perpendicular bisectors of pairs of given points (Voronoi regions). The *Slide* scenario begins with the problem to model the slide with the smooth transition between a curve and a line using tangents. The *Salary* scenario is an introduction to statistical measures of central tendency, so the students will have to determine these measures (arithmetic mean, mode, median) and make decisions based on them.

The MERIA module elaborates on the MERIA scenario and contains additional materials. After the implementation of the scenarios, all information obtained in classrooms were summarized in the modules. Examples of students' strategies and possible interventions will be of use for teachers preparing to implement the scenario.







MERIA Workshop guide

Local workshops promoting inquiry based mathematics teaching and supporting teachers wanting to enrich their teaching practice with new methods will be organised from January until April 2019. Guidelines concerning the methodology and materials for the workshops will be published in the *MERIA Workshop guide*. The workshop guide will be flexible enough to facilitate different needs and restrictions in each country. It will support new trainers to perform local workshops with similar activities.



Some of the suggested topics for the workshops are: Inquiry based learning (IBL), The role of the student and the teacher in inquiry based mathematics teaching (IBMT), Theory of didactic situations (TDS) and MERIA scenarios, Realistic mathematics education (RME) and learning trajectories, Experience in implementing MERIA scenarios. For each of them we are preparing workshop materials.

Further work – local workshops

In the following months, we will organise local workshops for teachers in all partnering countries. Teachers will experience inquiry based learning, think about open tasks, about the role of context in RME, learn about phases of a lesson in TDS, try out MERIA scenarios in the role of a student and prepare themselves for the implementation of MERIA scenarios in their own classrooms.