



Mathematics Education -
Relevant, Interesting and Applicable

Nieuwsbrief 11, mei 2019

MERIA – De slotconferentie in Zagreb, Kroatië

We delen de impressies van de MERIA slotconferentie die, als hét disseminatiemoment van projectoutput, plaatsvond in Zagreb op 27 en 28 mei 2019 met veel plezier. De conferentie werd georganiseerd door het Departement Wiskunde van de Bètafaculteit van de Universiteit van Zagreb, de voorganger in dit project. Meer dan 75 wiskundeleraren en veel leden van het projectteam uit alle vier de deelnemende landen waren aanwezig en droegen bij aan een uitwisseling van ideeën in een stimulerende en kleurrijke omgeving. Er waren ook onderzoekers op het gebied van wiskundeonderwijs uit Kroatië en vertegenwoordigers van lokale beleidsorganen aanwezig.



Het plenaire deel van de conferentie werd geopend door de Kroatische minister of Wetenschap en Onderwijs, Blaženka Divjak, gevolgd door de decaan van de Bètafaculteit, Aleksandra Čižmešija, en het hoofd van het Departement Wiskunde, Igor Pažanin. Alle drie benadrukten ze het belang van stimulerende en bemoedigende benaderingen in het wiskundeonderwijs. Matija Bašić, de projectleider,



beschreef hoe het drie jaar geleden allemaal begon en hoe de gedachte achter MERIA veranderde en zich verspreide.

Project outputs, the MERIA scenarios for inquiry-based mathematics teaching, were introduced to the audience by Gregor Dolinar and Mojca Suban from Slovenia, and the project additional output, a research paper inspired by the MERIA scenario "Slide", was presented by Rogier Bos from the Netherlands.



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Plenary talks

In her plenary talk, Britta Jessen from Denmark highlighted the benefits of sharing of teacher knowledge and how this idea is embedded in MERIA modules.



Britta and Michiel Doorman from the Netherlands argued also theories that support MERIA scenarios - Theory of Didactic Situations and Realistic Mathematics Education, and questioned the future of inquiry-based mathematics teaching – is it desirable and feasible, can it be made sustainable?

Teachers sharing ideas

Different ways in which mathematics teaching can be designed, while discovering and learning relevant, interesting and applicable mathematics, were shared and discussed among participating teachers in subsequent workshops, pitches and the poster section.



Teachers discussed their experience in implementing MERIA-scenarios, students' reactions to a new instructional format, novelties that this format brought to them or to students, products they considered successful, etc. They also shared their own creative ideas and experience in designing math lessons from everyday practice.

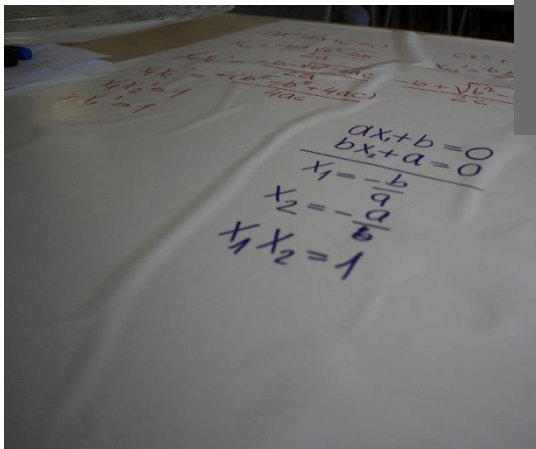




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Public session

The last and the most popular (according to evaluation of participants) event at the Conference was the Public session conducted by Eva Špalj from the XV. Gymnasium in Zagreb with participation of students from the same school.



Students worked in groups on a task and elaborated their reasoning and results, after which present mathematics teachers, moderated by Željka Milin Šipuš and Matija Bašić, discussed phases of the lesson, teacher's actions, students' approaches, and other issues observed in the lesson. Enriching experience to all!



We thank everyone for their participation and contributions to the joint work and motivating atmosphere during the Conference!



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