

# Comenius Learning Network – April 2026 - Vilnius, Lithuania

## ‘EDUCONNECT: Building Stronger Bridges: Teacher Training and Placement Partnerships’ Empowering education through partnership

### What and why?

We have a learning network between teacher training institutes ( primary education) within the framework of the Comenius Association.

The **aim** of this learning network is to create a platform for the exchange of expertise, experiences and best practices. This network promotes **professional development** through joint reflection and discussion on a generic theme, relevant to each partner institution. Moreover, it fosters a culture of **continuous improvement and innovation** through collaborative learning. Collaboration within the network contributes to the improvement of teaching strategies and methods of each partner, and results in **enhanced quality of teacher education**.

Exchanging approaches and experiences with European partners also provides a unique opportunity to learn about diverse teaching practices and cultures, which contributes to broadening and deepening one's own frame of reference. Learning with an **international perspective** strengthens the ability to deal with **different perspectives and innovations**, which is crucial in an increasingly globalised society and educational context. Thus, this international collaboration not only promotes the **professional growth** of the participants, but also contributes to the strengthening and enrichment of the curriculum of teacher education as a whole.

### Target group

- Teacher training institutes (primary) from Comenius partner countries.
- Max. 2 participants per country (of the same institute) to ensure sufficient variety of countries in the group: one focused on internship, one focused on professional development.
- Max. participants: 16 (to have a workable group focused on exchange and discussion).
- We opt to work with a more or less fixed group that goes through a series of meetings together, but new partners can also join (e.g. when places become available in the group). In this way, previous meetings and input can be built on, and a subject can be explored in depth.



# Theme

This learning network focuses on the partnership between teacher training and its working field. We zoom in thematically on 3 topics:

- 1. **Teacher Training:** how does internship take shape during training? How do we train and how do we cooperate with our schools? What does our partnership look like? How do we train our mentors?
- 2. **Bridge between education and the professional field:** how do students make the transition from ‘being a student’ to ‘starting teacher’? How do we build a bridge between education and the professional field?
- 3. **Professional field:** how does the professional field organise induction and what role can a teacher training play in this? How can we strengthen and support each other?

# Approach

We adopt a cyclical approach in which the theme of this learning network returns at each meeting, but is fleshed out each time from the focus of the host country. The vision and approach in that country are highlighted and explained, and form the starting point for all partners' learning. At the next meeting, a different partner takes the spotlight and we go through the same themes, approached from that specific context and approach, etc.

Want to join? Viko, Vilniaus Kolegija, Faculty of Pedagogy, Vilnius  
13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2026 · Deadline for registration: 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2026

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[Veerle.amelinckx@arteveldehs.be](mailto:Veerle.amelinckx@arteveldehs.be) for registration and information!

Monday, April 13th 2026	
9.00 - 12.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Registration, welcome and introduction on the programme</li><li>Presentation round of the partner institutions</li></ul>
13.30 – 15.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Teacher training in Vilnius:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Internship</li><li>Partnership</li><li>Bridge between teacher training and the professional field</li></ul></li><li>Learning from each other <b>Theme 1: Teacher training - Learning goals</b></li></ul>
15.00- 17.00	
18.00 – 21.00	
Tuesday, April 14th 2026	
9.00 – 12.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School visit in primary schools</li><li>Consultation with the headteacher and visiting a student teacher</li></ul>
13.30 – 15.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reflections on the school visits</li><li>Learning from each other <b>Theme 2: Bridge teacher training an the professional fields: from being a student to starting teacher - Learning goals</b></li></ul>
15.00- 17.00	
18.00 – 21.00	Social activities
Wednesday, April 15th 2026	
9.00 – 10u30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School visit in primary school</li><li>Consultation with the headteacher and visiting a student teacher</li></ul>
11u- 12.00	
13.30 – 15.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Learning from each other <b>Theme 3: The professional field: how do they organise induction? - Learning goals</b></li><li>Conclusion and lessons learned</li><li>Closing, agreements for the future</li></ul>
15.00 - 17.00	