

SPARK: **Supporting**
Penitentiary
Advancement **through**
Reflection **and**
Knowledge **about**
linguistic **and** **cultural**
diversity



An Erasmus+ Project: some info

Three years

Budget (total lump sum):
250k euros

**Starting: September
2025**



Partnership

Coordinator: Università degli Studi di Genova (UniGe) with interprofessional and intersectoral staff, mainly hired on a permanent basis, made up of associate professors, junior and senior lecturers belonging to the following fields: pedagogy, social psychology, law, linguistics and mediation.

Partners:

- IT: San Marcellino ODV (Jesuit Social Work in Genoa, with a general agreement with UniGe since 2017)
- ES: Universidad de Alcalá + Fundación Abrazando Ilusiones
- EE: Estonian Academy of Security Sciences
- UA: Mariupol State University + Association of Researchers of European Values in Education

Main axes

Deprivation of Liberty contexts (**DoL**) mainly, but not limited, to penitentiary and reclusion settings).

Linguistic and cultural communication barriers.

Interprofessional and intersectoral training experiences.



The Background

Higher Education Institutions: seldom present. Only 4 project found under our strand
HEI-ED : one is 'our' coordinated Cooperatively Transmediate aCT not focused on
prisons (<https://act.unige.it/en/Progetto>)

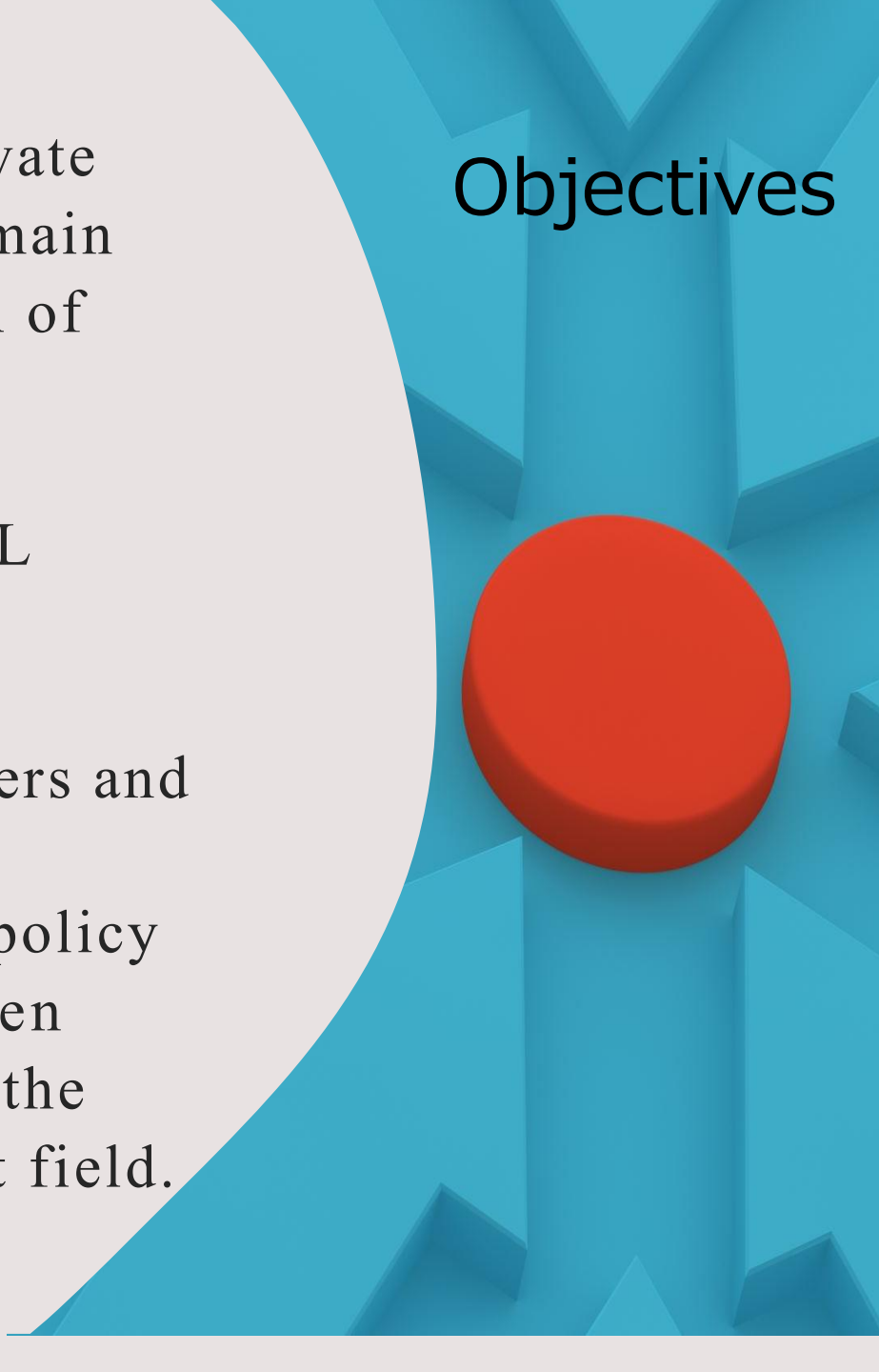
Others:

- a. GAP Graffiti Art in Prison – Uni Palermo 20-23 <https://graffitiartinprison.it/en/>
- b. Professional Training in Restorative Practices (2018-21): not Italy, not HEIs
- c. Relevance in practice placements (15-18), Norway/Sweden/DK with HEIs.

Data source: Erasmus+ Project Results Portal. Keyword: Prison. Filter: K2 (Cooperation Partnerships)

DIALOGOS is an Erasmus+ HEI-ED just closed, coordinated by UAH where UniGe, ASMA and Fundación Abrazando Ilusiones were partner which can be highly relevant, especially to go on with the training materials we created. See: <https://dialogoserasmus.eu/>

Objectives

A decorative graphic on the right side of the slide. It features a large, solid red circle in the center. Surrounding this circle are several blue, three-dimensional geometric shapes, including triangles and polygons, which appear to be floating or attached to the circle. The background of the right side is a light blue gradient.

1. To establish a sustainable network of public and private institutions dedicated to fostering training around the main axes of linguistic and cultural barriers and deprivation of liberty.
2. To develop a comprehensive, intersectoral and interprofessional syllabus to be adapted to specific DoL contexts.
3. To foster a collaborative transnational learning environment, involving also Ukrainian students, lecturers and researchers.
4. To disseminate project deliverables among experts, policy makers and citizenship at large reducing the gap between citizens' perception of detention and DoL settings and the actual everyday life of those working and living in that field.

Work Packages

WP1: Project Management UniGe

**WP2: Interprofessional and Intersectoral Seminars.
M2-M12 ASMA leading**

**WP3: Photovoice contest and linguistic workshops:
linking the outside with the inside.
M13-M24 UAH leading**

**WP4: Wrapping up outputs: dissemination and sharing
of SPARK materials and results.
M25-M36 MSU leading**



Activities

First Year

- Working Group creation (at a local/national level).
- Online joint international seminar: to interchange conceptions and experiences.
- Local/national interprofessional seminars.
- In presence international interprofessional seminar (to be held in Italy).

Second Year

- Preparing local linguistic-cultural workshops (including a Photovoice).
- Photovoice and workshops' results exhibition (local/national/virtual international level).
- International school (to be held in Spain).

Third Year

- World Cafés (to be held locally/nationally).
- Multiplier Events to be held in each country.
- Training the Trainers' online event.
- International Seminar.



Budget

Distribution of the grant amount among participating organisations

	Work package No.1 'Project Management'	Work package No.2 - Interprofessional and Intersectoral Seminars	Work package No.3 - Photovoice and linguistic workshops: linking the outside with the inside	Work package No.4 - Wrapping up outputs: dissemination and sharing of SPARK materials and results	Total (EUR)
UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI GENOVA	9 000,00	8 500,00	10 000,00	9 500,00	37 000,00
UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALA	6 000,00	9 500,00	9 000,00	12 500,00	37 000,00
SISEKAITSEAKADEEMIA	6 000,00	10 000,00	11 000,00	15 000,00	42 000,00
Associazione San MarcellinoOnlus	6 000,00	9 000,00	9 000,00	9 000,00	33 000,00
Fundación Abrazando Ilusiones	6 000,00	9 500,00	8 000,00	9 500,00	33 000,00
MARIUPOLSKYI DERZHAVNYI UNIVERSYTET	6 000,00	9 500,00	8 000,00	10 500,00	34 000,00
Association of Researchers of European Values in Education	6 000,00	9 500,00	10 000,00	8 500,00	34 000,00

Timesheets: updated every three months and sent to UniGe every six months. Template made available soon by UniGe.

To be done

September: Bilateral agreements: Mara&Paolo will send you the material to be filled and signed.

First of October: Arranging the kick-off meeting.

October-December: Creating the Working Groups made up of 2 University staff + 2/3 students from different courses + 1/2 professional(s) with DoLs experience. Ranging from 5 to 7 participants. They should be able to work throughout all the year/project.

January 26: Online international joint seminar.



Communication among us: How and How often?

- **Coordination Unit CU – UniGe:** Paolo Alongi admin + Mara Morelli. Whenever needed.
- **Steering Committee SC** – One Project Manager for each organisation. Meeting virtually every two months.
- **Transnational Meetings** with the whole Consortium every six months (online unless a presential meeting coincides).
- **Local (Working Groups WG) meetings** – monthly.

Tools: Teams/Meet/Zoom, e-mail, WA group (only SC and locally, if deemed effective).



Questions?

