



NEWSLETTER

Issue 5/2019

Welcome!

What is VINCE?

VINCE is an ERASMUS+ project that is developing training materials for university staff working in processes of Validation of Prior Learning (VPL) and Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning (VNIL) with migrant and/or refugee students. The objective is to provide university staff with tools to be better equipped when working with newcomers who want to access Higher Education (HE) and want to be more aware and integrated in European society.

Content of this VINCE Newsletter

Launch of VINCE Policy Recommendations	1
VINCE prototype course for validation professionals	1
VINCE Validation Prize 2019 – FINALISTS ANNOUNCED!.....	2
Final Symposium of VINCE – 14 November 2019	2
VINCE Partnership	2



Launch of VINCE policy recommendations



The ultimate objectives of VNIL processes for newcomers are (a) to give newcomers a chance to integrate in our society, (b) to speed up processes and (c) to prepare VNIL professionals to address new challenges. The understanding of these points and the agreement on their importance by policy makers at European, national and institutional levels, is key. VINCE policy recommendations aim to ensure that policy makers at European, national and institutional levels, take action to ensure the effective implementation of the changes needed in order to make validation procedures suited to address the needs of newcomers and refugees.

The final version of the recommendations take on board the comments and suggestions received during the **policy consultation** organised last **17 May in Thessaloniki (GR)**. Key stakeholders, including experts from CEDEFOP and representatives of NGOs and local public authorities involved in managing newcomers and refugees' needs, had the opportunity to get acquainted with the project outputs and discuss the draft policy recommendations developed by the project consortium. The stakeholders consulted agreed the recommendations are useful and valid and encouraged the VINCE partnership to finalise the draft and launch it. The official launch of this document will be done at the European Parliament in **Brussels, on Wednesday 25 September 2019 at 11:30**, in a **European round table** where key European policy-makers will be invited. More info will be available soon on the [project website](#), where the policy recommendations will be published by August 2019.

VINCE prototype course for validation professionals

The training of professionals from higher education institutions (HEIs) as well as social workers attending migrants is key to enabling newcomers to enter our higher education (HE) systems as well as their personal development and integration. However, not all the validation professionals have the knowledge and preparation needed. One of the reason for this is that there is currently no formal training available for validation professionals.



This is why VINCE has designed a generic prototype **Continuing Professional Development Course (CPDC)** addressed to validation professionals to support professionals working in HE to reflect on and improve their practice. The tool is a useful guide to organise staff training and it can be adapted to any institutional, regional or national environment. It includes a list of resource materials which comprise selected case studies of special interest. The VINCE prototype course will be available on the [VINCE website](#) by August 2019.

VINCE Validation Prize 2019 – FINALISTS ANNOUNCED!

Several institutions and individuals have responded to VINCE call and have submitted case studies illustrating practices of validation of prior learning (VPL) and validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNIL). The three finalists of the [VINCE Validation Prize 2019](#) have been selected by the VINCE's jury:

- **AUSTRIA:** Aleksandra Panek. Counselling Centre for Migrants and AST Vienna. Download the AUSTRIA case [here](#).
- **ITALY:** University of Bari. Centre for LLL for Migrants and Refugees. Download the ITALY case [here](#).
- **PORTUGAL:** Luisa Dornellas. Lisbon City Council Qualifica Centre (Department for training and development). Download the PORTUGAL case [here](#).



The authors of these cases will be presenting their work at the **Final Symposium of VINCE in Barcelona, 14 November 2019** (see post below) where they will also receive a trophy and the name of the best case of the three will be announced!

Final Symposium of VINCE – 14 November 2019!



The VINCE Final Symposium will take place in Barcelona on **Thursday, 14 November 2019**. We will discuss with key invited speakers how to improve access to higher education for newcomers and refugees through validation procedures, and present real success cases. Here you have a [preliminary programme](#) of the event, which will be updated in the coming weeks. Participation is open and free, but you must [register](#).

You may be interested in prolong your stay in Barcelona further: VINCE Final Symposium overlaps with the 2019 [eucen Autumn Seminar](#), which focusses this year on the way entrepreneurial thinking in LLL expands our perception of entrepreneurship for a more inclusive and sustainable future. A Call for contributions has already been launched, you may want to have a look and consider submitting your abstract [here](#).

VINCE Partnership

eucen (coordinators) | SOLIDAR | Université de Bretagne Occidentale | VIA University College | EC-VPL | NOKUT | Danube University of Krems | CPZ International Centre | Ludwig-Maximilians University | Fachhochschule Burgenland | University of Pécs | IVC den Helder | Club for UNESCO of Piraeus and Islands.