

INVITATION

to the **General Assembly and International Conference**
**School as the training ground for active
citizenship for parents and children**

**April 29th and 30th, 2016
in Dubrovnik, Croatia**

Co-organised by



and



Parents rights and duties, as well as meaningful parental involvement has been high on the agenda of EPA ever since it was established in 1985. For the 30th anniversary there was a survey concluded showing that this is still a grey area in most European countries. The Paris attacks in February 2015 triggered a Declaration by EU Education Ministers on the importance of rights, inclusion and active citizenship, but little has happened in the field on European level.

Parents associations all over Europe know that the ultimate safe environment for learning active citizenship, and this is not only true for those children attending the schools, but also their parents and teachers. Holding a meeting in Croatia, the newest member of the EU, but also a country that used to belong to the former Yugoslavia, is the best possible opportunity to talk about these issues. Thus the first EPA conference of the year will be about rights and duties, active and meaningful participation of children and parents in schools, and mutual understanding.

Registration is now open.

Deadlines:

- **registration, including booking accommodation until midnight 20 March**
- **registration with self-organised accommodation until 15 April**



Preliminary Programme

The conference is held in English.

Friday, April 29th, 2016

- 12:00 School visit at school Lapad
- 14:00 Lunch and registration
- 15:00 **Official opening** by the Mayor of Dubrovnik, Andro Vlahušić, the President of the hosting association, Silvija Stanic and President of EPA, Eszter Salamon
- 15:30 **Keynote session**
- Parents' role in ensuring the rights of the child** – Ivana Milas Klarić, Croatian Ombudsman for Children
- Happy childhood taken seriously – you and your child as competent partners in school** – Christopher Clouder, educational consultant and lecturer, co-founder of Alliance for Childhood
- Child participation and parental involvement in school governance** – speaker to be confirmed
- 17:00 Coffee break
- 17:30-18:30 **Round table – Rights of the child, rights of parents and participation in countries of the region**
- 19:00 informal conference dinner at Restaurant Gusta, followed by a short walking tour of the old town, with the option to join the local Wine Festival

Saturday, April 30th, 2016

- 9:30-11:30 **Workshop session 1**
- Following up keynotes**
- Training session on active citizenship and European literacy**
- Regional workshop in local languages**
- 11:30 Coffee break
- 12:00-14:00 **Workshop session 2**
- Continuing the work started in the morning**
- 14:00 Lunch
- 15:00-18:00 EPA General Assembly – only for EPA members (with one coffee break at elections)



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Participation fee:

EUR 100 per person for those eligible to reduced rate

EUR 125 per person for non-members and additional participants of members

Accommodation:

The organisers can book you accommodation in case you register by 15th March.

A single room costs EUR 75 per night, including breakfast and public transport

A double room costs EUR 95 per night, including breakfast and public transport

Please note that cancellation is only possible before 15th March. In case you cancel later, you have to pay the full fee due and also the cost of accommodation booked.

In case you organise your own accommodation, you can register for the conference until 20th April.

You can register at this [link](#)

In all organisational questions please contact Brigitte Haider

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