

**Dr Francesca Caena, external expert (attached to Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia), Italy**

"Comparative perspectives on education in Europe" - 90 min. x 2 times = 4 academic hours

The course unit aims at sharing and discussing different perspectives on education and teaching in Europe, to take full advantage of the rich variety of knowledge, cultures and experiences brought by the participants. References to recent European policies and recommendations concerning education and teaching will be embedded within a comparative framework of analysis, considering national educational systems and practices from an ecological perspective. Expected outcomes of seminars will consist in enhanced understandings of similarities and distinctive traits across a variety of European contexts and cultures of education.

### **Tasks for course unit participants**

Consider key features of your education system, which can reflect national perspectives on the main aims of schooling, the roles of the teacher, and the ideal citizen in your country, summed up in the following questions:

- what is a good teacher like?
- what is a good citizen like?
- what is a good school like?

Then choose one of the following documents (enclosed in PDF format in the attached folder), and find relevant connections between European recommendations or studies and strengths or issues of education in your country.

Prepare a very short powerpoint presentation (5 minutes) on the above tasks results.

You can prepare it in pairs or groups with your country's fellow students, if feasible.

### **Essential references**

Commission of the European Communities (2005). *A new Framework Strategy for Multilingualism*. Brussels, 22.11.2005, COM (2005)000.

Council of Europe Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (7 May 2008). *White Paper of Intercultural Dialogue: Living together as equals in Dignity*. Strasbourg: Council of Europe.

Council of the European Union (2009). *Council Conclusions on a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (Education and Training 2020)*. Brussels, 12 May 2009.

European Commission (2004). *Implementation of 'Education and Training 2010' Work programme. Key Competences for Lifelong Learning. A European Reference Framework*. November 2004.

European Commission DG Education and Culture (2005). *Common European Principles for Teacher Competences and Qualifications*. Brussels.

Eurydice (2008b). *Levels of Autonomy and Responsibilities of Teachers in Europe*. Brussels.

Eurydice (2009). *Key data on Education in Europe 2009*. Brussels.

OECD (2007). *Pisa 2006*. [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)