**O1/A6 The EURODIPLOMATS cultural-diplomacy methodological tool**

**Introduction**

***1 page by P1 (UNIC)***

The EURODIPLOMATS methodology draws upon the use of cultural diplomacy as a tool to contribute to solving the challenges of: (a) children's apathy in terms of civic participation and active citizenship in a Europe that faces severe crises (i.e. pandemic, socio-economic, refugee, ecological crises, etc), (b) raising children's voices and promoting involvement with regards to the issue of European collaboration through cultural diplomacy, and (c) social exclusion, marginalisation, and lack of social cohesion and resilience that bear detrimental consequences to Europe and its readiness to respond not only to current but also to new threats and challenges. The EURODIPLOMATS methodology seeks to bring together social cohesion and resilience in Europe with children's enactment of cultural diplomacy as a form of active citizenship. Thus, the EURODIPLOMATS methodology is innovative because it aims to build a Europe of social cohesion, robustness, and resilience through a route that has not been used in the past in school education, that of cultural diplomacy. Through this methodology, children may become empowered to act as cultural diplomats for a robust and resilient Europe.

In the sections below, we discuss the meaning and definition of cultural diplomacy. We then analyse the principles, strategies and practices of cultural diplomacy. Thereafter, we discuss the skills that allow children to practice cultural diplomacy. Last but not least, we examine the creative methodologies underpinning the cultural diplomacy approach including the collaborative art-making pedagogy, the collaborative storytelling and poetry pedagogy, and the digital-culture pedagogy, but also possible risks in using this approach.

**The meaning of cultural diplomacy**

***2 pages by P1 (UNIC)***

Cultural diplomacy entails a type of public diplomacy and soft power that refers to the exchange of ideas, information, art, language, and other aspects of culture among nations and their peoples in order to foster mutual understanding and cooperation. The goal of cultural diplomacy is for people coming from a foreign nation to develop a rich understanding of one nation's ideals and institutions so as to build broad support for social, economic, and political goals. According to Jora (p. 45) ‘genuine Cultural Diplomacy as opposed to Propaganda is a two-way communication process that includes both efforts to project a nation’s image and values to other countries and peoples as well as to receive information and try to understand the culture, values and images of other countries and their peoples’.

Arguably, cultural diplomacy is a course of action based on the exchange of ideas, values, traditions, and other aspects of culture or identity, to strengthen relationships and socio-cultural cooperation, to promote national interests and beyond. To this end, cultural diplomacy can be the vehicle leading Europe to social cohesion and resilience, and thus, leading Europe to face successfully any current or future threats and challenges.

Moreover, cultural diplomacy has the unique advantage of helping people to adapt more quickly to the demands of rapid change and the increased speed of change. Furthermore, cultural diplomacy may help the people of Europe to overcome any cultural differences and become the best platform of European communication to cooperate with each other in meeting new threats and challenges. Ultimately, the goal of cultural diplomacy is to positively influence a foreign audience and use that influence, as a means for building mutual understanding, by:

- building a positive view of the country's people, culture, and policies,

- inducing greater cooperation between the two nations,

- supporting change in socio-political policies of the target nation, and - preventing and mitigating conflict.

To this end, cultural diplomacy enacted by children may be used as an innovative and pioneer tool for building resilience and social cohesion in Europe, as suggested by the EURODIPLOMATS project.

**Principles, strategies, and practices of cultural diplomacy**

# **Principles**

***2 pages by P3 (Asociación Instituto de Técnicas Educativas - I.T.E, Spain)***

***Examples to be discussed in this section:***

* ***Intercultural dialogue and respect to diversity***
* ***Co-operation***
* ***Active Listening***
* ***Values promotion and communicating through cultural values and attitudes***

**Please read the following article before writing this section: http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/pdf/research/articles/cultural\_diplomacy/New\_Practices\_And\_Trends\_In\_Cultural\_Diplomacy\_-\_Lucian\_Jora.pdf**

***Strategies***

***2 pages by P3 (Asociación Instituto de Técnicas Educativas - I.T.E, Spain)***

***Examples to be discussed in this section:***

***-Multilateralism***

***- The use of new technologies***

***- Network cultural diplomacy***

**Please read the following article before writing this section: http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/pdf/research/articles/cultural\_diplomacy/New\_Practices\_And\_Trends\_In\_Cultural\_Diplomacy\_-\_Lucian\_Jora.pdf**

***Tools and Practices***

***2 pages by P4 (Platon Schools)***

***Examples to be discussed in this section:***

* Events (Art exhibitions, screenings of co-production films, culinary-art events etc.)
* Multilateral projects
* Town twining
* The use of new technologies (Web and social media platforms)

**Please read the following article before writing this section: http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/pdf/research/articles/cultural\_diplomacy/New\_Practices\_And\_Trends\_In\_Cultural\_Diplomacy\_-\_Lucian\_Jora.pdf**

**Skills allowing children to practice cultural diplomacy**

***2 pages by P8 (De La Salle College)***

***Examples to be discussed in this section:***

* Expressing empathy
* Openness to diverse ideas
* Interactivity and collaboration
* Questioning and reflection

**Creative and innovative methodologies**

The EURODIPLOMATS methodology lies in the use of new technologies, and innovative and creative methodologies, such as collaborative art-making pedagogy, collaborative storytelling and poetry pedagogy, and digital-culture pedagogy. These innovative and creative methodologies will allow children to share their thoughts and best practices, to create action plans ready for implementation in practice, while also developing skills for evaluating their work. The EURODIPLOMATs project is thus innovative because it uses a hybrid approach that combines new technologies, experiential learning, arts and literature, and critical thinking

1. ***Collaborative art-making pedagogy***

***2 pages by P4 (Platon Schools)***

***(ii) Collaborative storytelling and poetry pedagogy***

1. ***pages by P7 (VisMedNet)***
2. ***Digital-culture pedagogy***

***2 pages by P7 (VisMedNet)***

Here you should refer to a pedagogy that allows for digital cross-cultural exchanges.

**Risks in using the cultural-diplomacy approach**

***1 page by P8 (De La Salle College)***

**References**

***By all partners – Here you cite all the references you used in your sections***