

# #4 NEWSLETTER

May 2022



## FRIEND-SHIP

Improving students' social participation in primary and secondary schools across Europe

The FRIEND-SHIP project has traveled a long way since its departure in September 2019. From its debut with a comparative desk research on programs aimed at improving students' social participation, we acknowledged key success factors (see our [report](#)) to inform our [FRIEND-SHIP intervention program](#), a school-based intervention to improve 8 to 11 year-old students' social participation. To evaluate the main outcomes of the program, an open access [digital tool](#) was also developed to allow teachers an insight into their students' relationships and a glance at the classroom's social networks. The FRIEND-SHIP program was implemented in Austria, Germany, Portugal and Greece during two academic years with the participation of more than 900 students and their teachers from 48 classes from 13 elementary and secondary schools. A teachers' Handbook followed.



The [FRIEND-SHIP Handbook](#) was developed as a practical and brief guidebook to support teachers in implementing the FRIEND-SHIP intervention program.

The Handbook is divided into three parts. In the first part, information on social participation and inclusion is provided, as well as a description of the target audience of the Handbook and a brief explanation of the digital tool. The second part is devoted to the FRIEND-SHIP intervention program with an indication of guiding principles, aims, materials and detailed descriptions of the 12 sessions. The third part describes the implementation of the program in the four partner countries. In particular, this last part contains testimonies from participant teachers concerning the program's relevance, usability and effects, as well as teachers' suggestions to its implementation.

The Handbook was revised by experts from the four countries and is now available on our website in English, German, Portuguese and Greek.

### Coming up!

- The final team meeting will be held on 27 and 28 June 2022 at the University of Vienna.
- The Handbook is [available on our website](#), and a finalised version of the FRIEND-SHIP intervention program is being uploaded!

#### Website:

<https://friendship.univie.ac.at/>



#### E-Mail:

[susanne.schwab@univie.ac.at](mailto:susanne.schwab@univie.ac.at)  
[sepideh.hassani@univie.ac.at](mailto:sepideh.hassani@univie.ac.at)  
[katharina.resch@univie.ac.at](mailto:katharina.resch@univie.ac.at)



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