

Newsletter 2

June 2024

Unveiling TINKER's First Milestone.

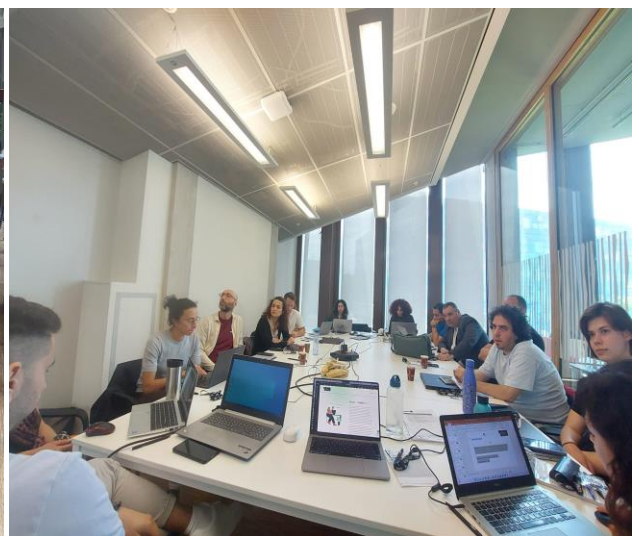
We're thrilled to continue our journey with TINKER, dedicated to transforming primary and secondary informatics education!

**TINKER
Research
Reveals
Ground
breaking
Findings**

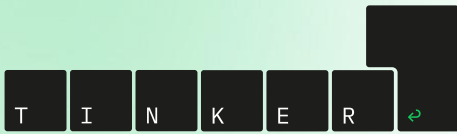
The TINKER
Transnational Report

**What's
coming next?**

The TINKER
Pedagogical Framework



The first in-person partner gathering for TINKER was held in Groningen on May 16-17, 2024, providing a valuable opportunity to emphasize the importance of **promoting authentic learning and gender inclusion in ICT classrooms across Europe**. The meeting primarily focused on exchanging insights gathered from field and desk research conducted nationally, which will help shape our approach to developing inclusive and innovative teaching methods for educators and students. This discussion and experience exchange was crucial in defining the key principles of authentic learning and gender-inclusive practices, which will serve as the foundation for the comprehensive TINKER Pedagogical Framework, which aims to assist educators with the coherent and systemic implementation of these principles.



TINKER Research Reveals Ground-breaking Findings

TINKER has released the **TINKER Transnational Report**. This comprehensive analysis compares informatics education across Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Croatia, and Italy. It delves into three key areas: the current state of **informatics education**, the use of **authentic learning practices**, and efforts towards **gender inclusion**.

While there is a universal recognition of the importance of informatics education, the report highlights significant variations in how informatics education is structured and integrated across partner countries. The study identifies significant challenges in implementing authentic learning, which connects academic concepts with real-world applications. Consistent application and lack of familiarity among teachers are common issues across the studied countries. In addition, gender inclusion remains an area in need of substantial improvement. While some efforts are made, such as representing male and female role models, comprehensive strategies are still lacking. Countries face challenges in addressing gender stereotypes and tailoring approaches for diverse student demographics.

To address these challenges, the TINKER project proposes curriculum reforms to integrate informatics as a compulsory subject in all levels of education, update curriculum guidelines to promote authentic learning and gender inclusion, and enhance teacher training programmes. By implementing these recommendations, TINKER aims to revolutionise informatics education across Europe, fostering a generation of future-ready students equipped with the critical thinking and technological skills needed to thrive.

Read the full TINKER Transnational Report [here](#).

What's coming next?



Recognizing the need for a standardized framework for informatics competencies, the consortium will create the **TINKER Pedagogical Framework** based on the findings of the transnational research conducted in the project's initial phase. This innovative, **evidence-based** framework will incorporate **principles of authentic learning and gender-inclusive approaches**, providing support for educators and improving policy and practice for more effective informatics curriculum reforms. The TINKER Pedagogical Framework will serve as a crucial reference point within and beyond the project's lifecycle.

Stay tuned for more updates on the TINKER Pedagogical Framework and how it will revolutionise informatics education across Europe.