



**EMEDUS**  
Europe Media Education

## **WP3. Formal Media Education**

# **CYPRUS**



## 1. Education System

The education system in Cyprus is centrally managed by the Ministry of Education and Culture (MOEC). Initial formal education is provided by public and private institutions ranging from pre-school to primary, secondary and senior secondary (public). Education is compulsory from age four years and eight months to fifteen years of age.

## 2. Policies in Media Literacy

In 2011, the Cyprus Ministry of Education introduced the new literacy curriculum for public schools, a program that focused on the acquisition of skills and knowledge for the development of critical literacy in children. This plan is based on the understanding that no text (which includes the media) is neutral; all texts are products, and therefore carry an agenda and a specific message.

**Cyprus is implementing a new literacy curriculum in their education system that includes a critical understanding of the media**

## 3. Media Literacy and National Curricula

No information was found on media literacy within the academic curriculum of Cyprus.

## 4. Tools to measure the Level of Competencies

In public schools in Cyprus there are no formal evaluation programs in media literacy or ICT. In all ICT courses, assessment is carried out in class as part of curriculum evaluation. The only exception is the networking course where students sit external examinations offered by the *CISCO Networking Academy* which gives certificates in *CCNA Discovery 1* and *CCNA Discovery 2*.

## 5. Teacher Media Training

Initial teacher training in Cyprus is provided by the Department of Education from the University of Cyprus, which is one of three public universities in the country. Private universities operating in Cyprus also provide teacher training which is submitted to a rigorous evaluation and accreditation process by the ECPU (Evaluation Committee of Private Universities).

**In Cyprus there are no approved or accredited teacher training programs in media literacy**

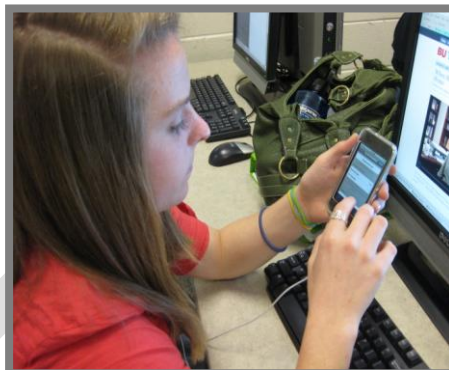
The way in which initial teacher training in media education and ICT is organized depends on the corresponding institution given that no approved and accredited teacher training program exists in those fields. Common practice, however, is to include one or two core courses related

to ICT within the department's study programs and, at the same time, ICT is used in other courses, both as a tool for teaching and learning.

## 6. ICT in Schools

The integration of ICT in primary education aims not only at the technological enrichment of the learning environment, but also aims at the essential differentiation of the education process.

Media education and ICT are not taught as separate subjects within the national curriculum of primary education in Cyprus but as a dynamic tool for teaching and learning.



Junior high schools already offer the subject of ICT which is taught for two hours a week in each of the three years. The main objective of the courses is for students to follow the curriculum of the European norms (the seven ECDL modules). In addition, students are taught the basic elements of electronic security, algorithms and programming.

**The keys to the inclusion of ICT in schools can be summarized as follows:**

- Many teachers use technology as a tool for teaching and learning.
- Most classrooms have between one and 20 computers.
- One to six computers have been placed in laboratories of the following subjects: physics, languages, history, mathematics and multimedia classes as well as counseling offices.
- In some laboratories interactive whiteboards have also been installed.
- Computers can also be found in all school libraries with Internet access.

### Annex. Country Key Features

(a)	Languages	Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic (an Inuit dialect), German (small minority) <i>*Note:</i> English is the predominant second language
	Population	5,556,452 (July 2013 est.)
	Major cities	COPENHAGEN (capital) 1.174 million (2009)

	Government type	Constitutional monarchy
	GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)	\$208.5 billion (2012 est.)
	GDP real growth rate	-0.4% (2012 est.)
	GDP per capita (PPP)	\$37,700 (2012 est.)
	GDP composition by sector	Agriculture: 1.3% Industry: 22.1% Services: 76.6% (2012 est.)
(b)	GDP per head (PPS)	125.0 (year 2011) (Index, EU27=100)
	Year of EU entry	1973
(c)	Currency	Danish krone (kr.)
	Schengen area	Member of the Schengen area since 1996
(d)	Pupils and students (ISCED levels 1-6) (1 000)	1.177,2 (year 2010)
	Pupils at ISCED level 1 (1 000)	403,3 (year 2010)
	Pupils at ISCED level 2 (1 000)	248,1 (year 2010)
	Pupils and students at ISCED level 3 (1 000)	284,0 (year 2010)
	Students at ISCED level 4 (1 000)	1,2 (year 2010)

Source: Original authorship, using data from:

- (a) *Central Intelligence Agency (2013). The World Factbook 2013-14.* Washington, DC [Retrieved from: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>]
- (b) European Commission (2012). *Country Fact Sheet: Cyprus.* Directorate-General Regional Policy. Analysis Unit C3. European Commission [Retrieved from: [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/information/brochures/pages/country2012/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/brochures/pages/country2012/index_en.cfm)]
- (c) European Union (2013). *Member states of the EU.* European Union [Retrieved from: [http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index_en.htm)]
- (d) Eurostat (2013). *Education and training. Pupils and students (tps00051).* File: educ\_ilev.xls [Retrieved from: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/education/data/main\\_tables](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/education/data/main_tables)]

## Sources

Annual Report 2011. (2012). Education Part A'. Ministry of Education and Culture.  
[http://www.moec.gov.cy/etisia-ekthesi/pdf/annual\\_report\\_2011\\_en.pdf](http://www.moec.gov.cy/etisia-ekthesi/pdf/annual_report_2011_en.pdf)

Cyprus Community Media Centre  
<http://cypruscommunitymediacentre.wordpress.com/>

CISCO Networking Academy  
<http://ctleuro.ac.cy/academics/fields-study/office-administration/>

University of Cyprus  
<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/el/>

Ministerio de Educación y Cultura  
<http://www.moec.gov.cy/>

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