

WP3. Formal Media Education

HUNGARY





1. Education System

The central government, local authorities and various education institutions share the administration and management of education in Hungary. The Ministry of Human Resources is responsible for primary, secondary and tertiary education.

Compulsory education in Hungary goes from 3 to 16 years of age. The structure of the education system has two main stages: primary (grades 1 to 4), junior high (grades 5 through 8), and a third stage of upper secondary (academic or professional), offering three branches: academic secondary, professional secondary vocational training.

2. Policies in Media Literacy

Hungary launched, in accordance with the Strategic Plan of Action for the Renewal of Digital

Europe 2020, the Digital Renewal Plan 2010-2014, which provides the general guidelines for the Hungarian Government with respect to ICT. It establishes the 'Public Education Plan of the 21st Century' that seeks to promote new technologies which encourage the acquisition of skills (including digital) and competency-based education. There is also an agency that ensures

content quality and education materials called *Educatio*. With *Educatio* the country has purchased licenses, which enables them to publish educational content on the web and expand the national education program in line with the academic portal *Sulinet*. The central government encourages the production of domestic content and promotes alliances with international companies such as Intel and Microsoft.

3. Media Literacy and National Curricula

In education in Hungary media and information literacy is treated as a competency and set of skills that cut across subjects transversally. However, there is also a specific subject on IT/ICT which is also taught in schools. In 2012 a process of reform on the content of the curriculum, as well as the general education

Media literacy is a competency and a set of skills which are acquired through transversal education

structure, opened. The objectives of the new curriculum for media literacy for 2013 are: 1. the use of computer tools: 2. knowledge of ICT applications 3. the capacity to solve problems through the use of new technologies 4. the correct use of info-communication resources and 5. the overall understanding of the phenomenon of the information society and the use of resources in libraries.

Hungary seeks to promote new educational methods that encourage the acquisition of skills and competency-based education





4. Tools to measure the Level of Competencies

In Hungary there are no tools to measure media literacy competencies in general, only for ICT. As ICT is treated as a compulsory subject, students receive an annual grade in it.

There are other possibilities for receiving ICT certifications:

- The European Computer Certificate, ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence), if the final examination is given a grade of 'excellent'.
- The evaluation platform called eLEMÉR allows schools to give self-assessment: the platform measures how ICTs are present in learning, teaching, school management and infrastructure as an indicator of the progress of schools in new technologies.

5. Teacher Media Training

In the curriculum of teacher training there is no mention of media education, only ICT as part of their basic training. In the context of in-service training for teachers, training in ICT is offered although it is not compulsory.

Portals like *Sulinet* include resources for training and support for the implementation of activities. The implemented resources, thanks to the *XXI Century School Plan*, have increased computing capabilities of teachers and increased the use of online tools and resources.

6. ICT in Schools

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

- There are fewer computers per student (at all levels) than in the bulk of the EU.
- Hungarian students have access to computers close to the average of the European Union.
- Almost all schools in the country have an Internet connection, but lower speed than in most European countries.
- The use of computers in class by students is also below the EU average.



• The *Sulinet* platform has been very successful as students and teachers use it often.

💻 Annex. Country Key Features

(a)	Languages	Hungarian 93.6%, other or unspecified 6.4% (2001 census)
	Population	9,939,470 (July 2013 est.)
	Major cities	BUDAPEST (capital) 1.705 million (2009)
	Government type	Parliamentary democracy
	GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)	\$195.4 billion (2012 est.)
	GDP real growth rate	-1.7% (2012 est.)
	GDP per capita (PPP)	\$19,800 (2012 est.)
	GDP composition by sector	Agriculture: 4.5%; Industry: 27.2%; Services: 68.3% (2012 est.)
(b)	GDP per head (PPS)	66.0 (year 2011) (Index, EU27=100)
(c)	Year of EU entry	2004
	Currency	Forint (Ft)
	Schengen area	Member of the Schengen area since 2007
(d)	Pupils and students (ISCED levels 1-6) (1 000)	1.782,7 (year 2011)
	Pupils at ISCED level 1 (1 000)	387,3 (year 2011)
	Pupils at ISCED level 2 (1 000)	402,6 (year 2011)
	Pupils and students at ISCED level 3 (1 000)	542,0 (year 2011)
	Students at ISCED level 4 (1 000)	68,9 (year 2011)

Source: Original authorship, using data from:

- (a) Central Intelligence Agency (2013). *The World Factbook 2013-14*. Washington, DC [Retrieved from: <u>https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html]</u>
- (b) European Commission (2012). Country Fact Sheet: Hungary. Directorate-General Regional



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- (c) European Union (2013). Member states of the EU. European Union [Retrieved from: 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: <u>http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/education/data/main_tables]</u>

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