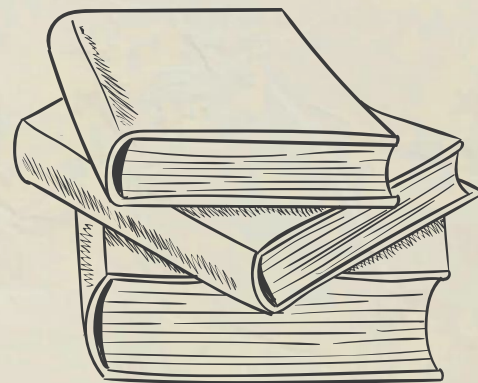


International Perspectives on Multilingual Childhoods

*Blended Intensive Program (BIP) for undergraduate students
Hosted by the University of Ioannina on 23 – 27 March 2026*



*Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds*

The Consortium

Coordinating University

- Department of Early Years Learning and Care, University of Ioannina, Greece

Partner Universities

- HAWK University, Hildesheim, Germany
- Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
- FH Campus, Vienna, Austria
- TU Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

Other partner organisations

- Daycare centers etc

Content

Internationally, even in countries with an English monolingual majority (e.g. the USA), many young children grow up in bilingual or multilingual environments, where they experience and learn more than one language at the same time. Research evidence demonstrates a range of cognitive, economic and other personal benefits resulting from early multilingualism.

Multilingualism also has social and cultural benefits, as it allows children to participate fully in the social and cultural practices of their diverse communities. However, there are challenges associated with becoming and being multilingual.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The BIP aims to support participants in identifying and discussing issues of multilingualism in their country and across countries, and the challenges they face. At the same time, it aims at empowering and supporting participants to learn about and use strategies that can support the linguistic, social, emotional and intellectual needs of multilingual children.

1. Participants to familiarize themselves with the support measures available for multilingual children in participating countries
2. To empower participants' communicative behavior within multicultural environments
3. To enrich participants' knowledge and skills in supporting children's literacy, communication and collaborative creativity
4. To equip participants with knowledge and tools to use different pedagogical approaches and methods (e.g. play, drama, books, ICT, etc) to support multilingualism in ECEC
5. To engage in a cross-cultural dialogue with students from other countries and get inspired and motivated by educational practices and systems from other countries
6. To improve language and communication skills
7. To develop cultural awareness and socialization skills

Activities

01 5 two-hour online seminars

renowned academics and experts from different countries will present the latest research and a wide range of approaches based on classroom experience. Small group discussions, breakout rooms and interactive workshops will stimulate dialogue between students and teachers

02 International Online Conference

The conference will host invited speakers from partner universities, as well as academics from the universities participating in the BIP

03 Physical phase 23-27 March 2026

- Three seminars-
- Visits to preschool programs (kindergartens and nurseries) in Ioannina
- -Cultural programme, including visits to monuments in the city of Ioannina and the wider region of Epirus



Certificate

Attendance of the BIP will be certified upon successful participation in all stages of virtual phase including seminars and the Conference.

Students will be awarded with 3 ECTS

