

After the Final Conference of MOMA each Partner of the project held a National Conference in its Country, learn more herein about each Conference!

**National Conference in Germany**

The MOMA national conference of CHANCENGLEICH in Europa e.V. took place in the "House of Diversity" in Dortmund on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2015, with the title "Application of Montessori principles in adult education". The MOMA team presented the results of the project to an audience of teachers and pedagogues from schools, vocational schools and adult education institutions.

After an introduction to the project, our first guest speaker, Ms Yvonne Oberhaus, director of the Montessori Childrens' House and Family Centre in Dortmund Scharnhorst told us about her experience with the Montessori method, with a special focus on materials and ideas to be applied in adult education.

Our second guest speaker, Ms Andrea Große-Wiesmann introduced us to different pedagogical methods and approaches from adult education in relation to the pedagogy of Maria Montessori.

Following a discussion on further ideas and possibilities we gave an insight into the results of the experimentation workshops in all partner countries. The Workshop in Germany was presented in detail, also showing the film we prepared about the progress of our participants.

The positive experience of the Workshop aroused great interest and curiosity among the audience, and we decided on a further meeting in the near future in the Montessori Children's House in order to get a deeper understanding of the Montessori method and to develop further ideas for adult education.



**National Conference in Portugal**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February, Senior University of Évora developed the last activity for the MOMA project – The final conference! In the conference there were 27 participants, most of them seniors that took part in the experimentation process. We had two teachers presenting the conclusions and also a retired teacher that used the method and know it very deeply – which was very positive, making easy the understanding of the topic "absorbent mind". Participants also took part by exposing what they felt about the experimentation and also their opinion about the topic "absorbent mind". It was a participative conference that culminated in positive feedbacks and opinions, and of course the experts concluded that effectively adults can have an absorbent mind, despite their age.



## Final Conference



**National Conference in Lithuania**

Final National conference of MOMA project called "Adults in classroom - problems and solutions" was organised in Vilnius by Roma Community Centre on 26<sup>th</sup> of February. 21 participants from different state and non-governmental organizations discussed the situation in adult education and education of Roma as well.

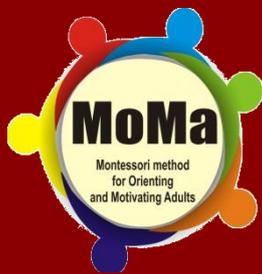
The representatives of Lithuanian Ministry of Culture Grazina Slusko and Professor PhD Vilija Targamadze welcomed the participants of the event. Svetlana Novopolskaja opened the conference and presented the MOMA project, its goals, tasks, principles, practical experience in partner countries.



**National Conference in Romania**

In Romania the National Conference took place in Technical College of Transports and Constructions, Iasi, on February 26, 2015. The Conference was attended by 45 teachers.





# MONTESSORI METHOD FOR ORIENTING AND MOTIVATING ADULTS MOMA



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For the meeting the following materials were prepared: a PP presentation with the results of the experiment at national level, a film combined with carrying out activities with both target groups of adults/scenario, a folder with several documents: report of the experiment, questionnaires, photos, custom DVDs with movies, annex with details of target groups, etc. Also we disseminated the Final Conference organized by Villa Montesca 'an innovative strategy or just an experiment?' We created Diploma for experts who took part in experiment and certificate for all teachers presented in the Conference.

## ■ National Conference in Italy

"The Montessori Method for adults: innovation or contradiction?", this was the title of the event.

The actualization of the Montessori experience and learning environment have been the central topics of the national conference of the project 'MOMA Montessori Method for Orienting and Motivating Adults'. On the occasion of the Conference the exhibition "Project of a learning space for adults", result of the 'contest of ideas', was inaugurated.

During the 28th of January 2015 two initiatives as conclusion of the EU project MoMa - Montessori Method for Orienting and Motivating Adults have been realized.

In the morning, in Perugia, by the Conference Room of the Department of Philosophy, Social, Human and Training Sciences of the University of Perugia the conference 'The Montessori Method for adults: contradiction or innovation?' took place.

After the introduction of Angelo Capecci, Director of the Department, the following interventions were presented: "Actuality and historical roots of the Montessori Method" by Floriana Falcinelli, professor of the department; "Possibility and criticalities of the application of the Montessori Method to adults" by Fabrizio Boldrini, Coordinator of the MoMa project.

The presentation of the European experiences was opened to the group of Professors Rosario Salvato, Claudia Mazzeschi and Federico Batini of the University of Perugia; then, all the project partners made their interventions: Maria Florindo, Universidade Senior de Évora (Portugal), Mihaela Poroach Colegiul Tehnic de Transporturi Iasi (Romania), Maria Angeles Serrano, Asociación de Personas Participantes Ágora (Spain), Svetlana Novopolskaja, The Public Institution Roma Community Centre (Lithuania), Ingibjörg Pétursdóttir, Gyorgyi Turoczy, CHANCENGLEICH in Europa e.V. (Germany) and Shabana Baig, Nigel Richards The BHA for Equality (UK)

In the afternoon by the headquarters of Villa Montesca in Città di Castello the exhibition «Project of a learning space for adults» related to the Contest of Ideas realized within the MoMa project was inaugurated. The following speeches opened the event: Michele Bettarelli Deputy Mayor of Città di Castello, Giuliano Granocchia Chairman of the Board of Centro Studi Villa Montesca, Paolo Vinti President of the professional Order of Architects of the Province of Perugia and Rosita Pazzaglia President of the Architects of the Free Association of Architects of the Upper Tiber Valley.

The Contest had proposed the creation, in one of the rooms of Villa Montesca, of a space aimed to favour the learning by a group of 15/20 adults and inspired to the Montessorian criteria.

Some photos of the MOMA Exhibition



Photo from the National Conference of 28th January



## ■ National Conference in UK

The MoMa National Conference for the UK was held at the Manchester Metropolitan University. The topics presented at the conference included an overview of the MoMa project, discussions on Montessori educational principles and a discussion on how these principles can be applied to adult education, particularly for the disadvantaged. The BHA works primarily in providing services for people from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups. It was clear from the discussions held in the conference that the overall consensus was that the Montessori principles if applied to adult education would be a great asset in improving the quality of education provided for adult learners while also increasing the opportunity for those adults to successfully complete their studies. When reviewing the Experimental Workshops that have been held as part of the MoMa set of activities there was great interest from the conference participants in how well the Montessori principles had been demonstrated to improve the adult learning experience. Those people representing the more disadvantaged of society were vocal in their support of the MoMa activities and reinforced how applying such principles to their own educational activities would improve the learning experience for the people for whom they provide services while also improving the outcomes. It was recognised that lifelong learning was not only an important and real concept but that such learning should also be attractive to learners and that the learning experience should be enjoyable allowing learners to enjoy their studies. The participants at the conference were clear in their support that the MoMa project had demonstrated that applying Montessori principles to adult education ensure that this was the case.

*MOMA project - European Consortium*