

CASTLE Project - Final Conference

Turin (Italy), 26 May 2017
Hotel Royal - Corso Regina Margherita 249

The C.A.S.T.L.E. project: a Chess curriculum to Advance Students' Thinking and Learning skills in primary Education (this acronym reminds of the castling move) was born from the idea of creating a strong partnership in the field of chess in schools, under the initial thrust of three partners with considerable experience in teaching chess in schools: Alfiere Bianco (White Bishop) in Italy, Deutsche Schulschachstiftung (the German school chess foundation) in Germany, Club Ajedrez 64 Villalba in Spain.

The project, funded by the EU's Erasmus+ program (€ 246.300) for the three-year period 2015-2017 included the Ministry of Education bodies in Piedmont and Madrid, the University of Turin and three leading schools: IC "B. Muzzone " in Racconigi, Grundschule Hammerschmiede Ausburg (Munich) and Ceip San Miguel Arcangel Madrid. In addition to the partner school and as stakeholder, has been added FIDE (the International Chess Federation, supporting the creation of the **video course**: "Psychomotor Development Classes on a Giant Chessboard") and six more schools in the three countries.

Official sponsor: **Le Due Torri** chess store.

Due to CASTLE, there were 50 Primary School teachers in the three countries, so they were able to give chess lessons and schedule them in their own school time.

The tools provided to them, introduced in this project in the 50 classes of Primary School, in addition to training and the use of chess instructors (20) in the role of tutors, are psychomotor activity on the giant chess board, chess "on the school desk" and chess activity on the WEB (Victor's chess house - 1 and 2).

The program of courses consists in starting-up 5 first grade classes and 5 second grade classes with psychomotor activity, 5 third grade classes with chess on the desk and WEB, the first year and in each country (900 children). During the second and third year, each class was able to experiment with the new teaching protocol, which was regularly reviewed and improved through teacher and tutor working groups.

The peculiarity of the project lies in the ability to provide new elements to the school world, which help to improve teaching through a more active use of child intelligence, with adequate measurement of outcomes through tools provided by the University of Turin and the Education bodies from two countries. Ultimately, this will be helpful in changing the educational policies of the EU Member States, in full compliance with the European Parliament declaration of 15/03/2012 favouring the introduction of "School Chess" in European education systems.



Programme

9.00 Registration of participants

9.30 Greetings and Conference Start

Councilor for Sport of the Piedmont Region - **Giovanni Maria Ferraris**

Executive Officer of the Office IV - U.S.R. Piedmont (Italian Ministry of Education)- **Franco Calcagno**

Head teacher of I.C. "Muzzone" Racconigi - **Giannino Marzola**

President of Piedmont Committee of Italian Chess Federation- **Marco Venturino**

9.45 The CASTLE project - **Alessandro Dominici** *Alfiere Bianco Soc. Sportiva*, **Luis Blasco de La Cruz** *Club 64 Villalba Madrid*, **George Raedler** *Deutsche Schulschachstiftung Monaco di Baviera*

10.25 CASTLE - Chess activity and data collection - **Antonio Battisti** *Alfiere Bianco Soc. Sportiva*, **Agnese Osella** *I.C. "Sobrero" Cavallermaggiore*, **Consuelo Giaccone** *IC "Muzzone" Racconigi*

10.45 Actions for contrasting school dropouts, 2young2fail - **Maddalena Rusconi, Elisabetta de Martino** *Fondazione per la Scuola della Compagnia di San Paolo*

11.00 Break

11.15 The little knight of the King of Chess - **Carlo Alberto Cavazzoni** *Fondazione di Vignola*

11.40 Special chess for small children - **Alessandro Pompa** *IC "Vito Volterra" di Ariccia (RM)*

12.00 CASTLE - Psychomotor activity on giant chessboard - **Alessandro Dominici, Paola Russo, Claudia Pulzoni** *Alfiere Bianco Soc. Sportiva*, **Cristina Mussano** *I.C. Papa Giovanni XXIII Savigliano*

12.35 FIDE Early Yers Skills Program - **Kevin O'Connel** *FIDE CIS Commission Chairman*

13.00 Lunch

14.30 ECU Educational teachers program - **Jesper Hall** *ECU CIS Commission Chairman*

14.55 Chess in schools in Corsica - **Leo Battesti** *Lega Corsa di scacchi*

15.20 Chess, a book, a method - **Roberto Messa** *Messaggerie Scacchistiche*

15.35 The CASTLE research - **Roberto Trincherò, Daniela Robasto** *Università degli Studi di Torino*

16.15 Break

16.30 CASTLE - The evaluation made by the teachers - **Franco Calcagno, Paola Damiani** *Italian Ministry of Education - Regional School Office for Piedmont*

17.10 The ideographic method - **Sebastiano Paulesu** *Alfiere Bianco Soc. Sportiva*

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