



E-PORTFOLIO READINESS IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

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Department for Interactive Media and Educational Technologies



Partners and Regions

- Albania
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Montenegro
- Romania
- Serbia & Kosovo
- Slovenia



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Donau-Universität Krems  
Department for Interactive Media and Educational Technologies



Partners and Regions

 Croatia	Slovenia & Bosnia-Herzegovina
 Romania	Serbia (incl. Kosovo) & Montenegro
 Bulgaria	Albania and FYR of Macedonia
 Austria	other EU countries such as UK and NL



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Why?

*“to build on the four pillars that are the foundations of education – learning to be, learning to know, learning to do, and learning to live together.”*

J. DELORS (1996)

The International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century

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## Why?

*“The importance of human capital means that the future of Europe will very much depend on higher education and development. The cases of Central, Southern and Eastern Europe are particularly problematic in this context”*

E. BUSEK (2007)  
Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact for  
South Eastern Europe



## Goals

The general objectives included:

- identifying the current status of e-Portfolio policies of all SEE countries
- analysing national or regional positions, engagements and strategies relative to eventual e-Portfolio activities
- concluding upon the current trends and emerging issues in the countries involved
- evaluating e-Portfolio readiness in the country or in the region involved



## Methodology

### Desk research included

scanning for publications of e-Portfolio or e-Learning policy papers, searching for e-Portfolio implementations, identifying other e-Portfolio activities (concepts, research, networking),

### Information sources used

Internet, information from governmental organizations, educational research institutes, universities, and schools; publications in magazines, journals, project reports, proceedings

### Empirical research applied

a questionnaire-based survey (>300)  
expert interviews



## Methodology

7 Indicators allowing for describing a broad range of e-Portfolio-related activities:

<b>Policies</b> issued	at national level and at institutional level; national LLL strategy in place, EUROPASS support
<b>Stakeholders</b> engaged	agencies, ministries, educational institutions, NGOs, companies
<b>Networks</b> active	at international level and at national level
<b>Projects</b> launched	international, national, institutional
<b>Publications</b> produced	scientific books, journals, proceedings of conferences and/or workshops, magazines
<b>Events</b> taking place	conferences, workshops, courses, lectures
<b>Systems</b> implemented (e-Portfolio software in use)	focusing on educational institutions



## ALBANIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA AND KOSOVO



<b>Policies</b> issued	2007 – 2013 strategy of VET Development in B&H recognizes LLL, no eP reference
<b>Stakeholders</b> engaged	none
<b>Networks</b> active	none
<b>Projects</b> launched	ELISA (E-learning for improving access to Information Society for SME in SEE) with e-Portfolio issues included; occasional individual use by students
<b>Publications</b> produced	none
<b>Events</b> taking place	none
<b>Systems</b> implemented (e-Portfolio software in use)	Two claims, no details

## ALBANIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA AND KOSOVO



In general ePortfolio concepts, or even the term itself, was not known.

## SLOVENIA



<b>Policies</b> issued	Slovenian National Strategy for 2006–2013 "spreading the use of ICT, Key document Information Society si2010, no specific national ePortfolio strategy
<b>Stakeholders</b> engaged	Ministries and universities
<b>Networks</b> active	EcoMedia-Europe, Educational Socrates-Comenius Network
<b>Projects</b> launched	KEYPAL (computer keyboard pen pals); The Slovenian Institute for Adult Education - using ePortfolios to engage at risk youth groups
<b>Publications</b> produced	3 by 2007
<b>Events</b> taking place	is2007 conference, SIAE organised Keypal 10th and 11th Lifelong Learning Week
<b>Systems</b> implemented (e-Portfolio software in use)	Elgg, Moodle, MediaWiki

## SLOVENIA



The development of e-Portfolio usage in Slovenia is in its earliest stage.  
The readiness may be estimated as relatively high due to several e-Learning initiatives in place and high ICT penetration

## BULGARIA



<b>Policies issued</b>	recommendations for using EUROPASS, no specific national ePortfolio strategy
<b>Stakeholders engaged</b>	Universities, secondary and tertiary schools, companies
<b>Networks active</b>	EcoMedia-Europe
<b>Projects launched</b>	At two universities ePortfolio obligatory E-Portfolio R&D at least at five mayor universities. ELISA, MOSEP, More Self-Esteem with my e-Portfolio, Leonardo da Vinci project. e-Portfolio Readiness, project
<b>Publications produced</b>	9 from 2003 to 2008
<b>Events taking place</b>	CompSysTech, TENCompetence Workshop, 5th Scientific Poster Session for Students and Young Scientists
<b>Systems implemented (e-Portfolio software in use)</b>	Elgg, Moodle, Share Point Server 2007

## BULGARIA



There are quite a few implementations in Bulgaria and several universities are using ePortfolios and are engaged in research.



## CROATIA



<b>Policies issued</b>	Strategic Development Framework 2006– 2013; Education Sector Development Plan 2005 – 2010; e-Croatia 2007 Programme; EUROPASS in place. None of the policies explicitly include the term ePortfolio
<b>Stakeholders engaged</b>	Ministries , universities
<b>Networks active</b>	none
<b>Projects launched</b>	The Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sport - ePortfolio as institutional knowledge management system; Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb - Omega ePortfolio; IP Centre - e-Portfolio based on ELGG.; E-campus developed by the Faculty of the Electrical Engineering and Computing (FER) of the University of Zagreb includes ePortfolio.
<b>Publications produced</b>	1
<b>Events taking place</b>	none
<b>Systems implemented (e-Portfolio software)</b>	Elgg, moodle

## CROATIA



There is quite some e-Portfolio activity to be noticed including top-down approaches.



## ROMANIA

<b>Policies issued</b>	National EUROPASS Centre [NEC] established 2007. Some important steps by authorities; no specific ePortfolio strategy
<b>Stakeholders engaged</b>	Several universities; Romanian Society for Lifelong Learning from Bucharest
<b>Networks active</b>	EcoMedia
<b>Projects launched</b>	E-Portfolio Readiness; EPVET 2007 EUCEBS project – Leonardo da Vinci project for evaluating competencies. PELLEA project - Portfolio Evaluation in Life long Learning improving Employability of Adult learners
<b>Publications produced</b>	1 by 2007
<b>Events taking place</b>	EPVET 2007 "ICT Strategies in European Schools - the Romanian Perspective"
<b>Systems implemented (e-Portfolio software in use)</b>	Not known



## ROMANIA

One could notice that the concept of portfolio in general was known;  
ePortfolios are in use at several institutions;  
The implementation of ePortfolios is now in a very dynamic phase;  
All in all, in Romania the ePortfolio implementation process is on its way.



## Summary

- no noteworthy ePortfolio-related activities could be observed in **Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Kosovo**.
- in **Croatia** there were several implementations and also intentions to apply ePortfolio in the course of a future e-Croatia programme.
- the development of ePortfolio usage in **Slovenia** was in its earliest stage but the readiness may be estimated as relatively high.
- as to **Romania** one may say that the e-Portfolio implementation process is now on its way. In the course of this project an ambitious university-wide implementation strategy has been initiated.
- There are quite a few implementations in **Bulgaria** and several universities are using ePortfolios and are engaged in research in this field.
- Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, and Croatia** are making strong progress in the area of e-learning.
- In general, none of the **SEE countries** did show strong involvement in ePortfolio activities, however, the landscape turned out to be quite heterogeneous.



## Conclusions

- the relationship of ePortfolio development at national levels seems to be tied proportionately to the level of progress made in implementation of the **Bologna** process and **Lisbon** Strategy objectives
- Not coincidentally, the difference between the stronger performing nations and the weaker nations is directly related to the **penetration of ICT** in education.
- It appears that policy directives are most effective at driving ePortfolio development when **funded from public authorities** (infrastructure, lack of human capacity skills).
- It seems that the most effective route to implementation resides with bringing the relevant government **authorities'** focus upon ePortfolio as a highly effective tool for **increasing ICT usage** in the educational system.



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Vielen Dank!

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„ePortfolio & Digital Identity 2008“

E. Bratengeyer, Maastricht, 23.10.2008

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