



immerse

INTEGRATION MAPPING OF REFUGEE
AND MIGRANT CHILDREN

Press release

27 December 2022

Immerse yourself! The artistic exhibition which encourages children and young people to express their feelings of “belonging” within the IMMERSE project

- More than 120 poems and drawings are digitally exhibited at the IMMERSE Hub.
- The IMMERSE Hub is the first virtual network aimed at uniting the efforts of entities involved in the integration of refugee and migrant children in Europe.
- Through the hub, experiences and recommendations for the integration of refugee and migrant children can be shared.

The **IMMERSE YOURSELF! Poetry and Drawing Exhibition** on the subject of “Belonging” is now live in the IMMERSE Hub. Students aged 7-18, from schools and centres, contacted as part of the larger IMMERSE project, in all 6 participating IMMERSE countries, were invited to submit their drawings and their poetry that expresses what “Belonging” means to them, to be exhibited online in the IMMERSE YOURSELF! group within the IMMERSE HUB. The campaign aims to be inclusive and aims to highlight the voices of the children, who express in first person their feelings of integration through their drawing and writing skills.

The digital gallery currently has over 120 wonderful and imaginative drawings and poems from primary and secondary schools in Greece and Ireland. At the beginning of 2023, the invitation to the exhibition will be reactivated and the Horizon 2020 project hopes to add to the wide variety of drawings and poems on display, those of even more students. The digital exhibition can be viewed by signing up to the IMMERSE HUB and joining the [IMMERSE YOURSELF! Group](#), then clicking on the link to the [exhibition gallery](#).

The **IMMERSE hub** is an online platform aimed at creating a virtual community of professionals, institutions and other actors interested in the socio-educational inclusion of refugee and migrant children. The platform provides a common space to share experiences, ideas and concerns, and a place to obtain relevant information, resources and the best practices and initiatives. Through the hub, it will also be possible to disseminate the activities and results of the project and, ultimately, raise awareness within the society about the relevance of including this sector of the population. Migrants represent 10% of the EU population and each year around 2.5 million asylum seekers arrive, almost half of them children. The integration of this particularly vulnerable group is essential to build the society of tomorrow.



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IMMERSE aims to improve the socio-educational inclusion of refugee and migrant children in Europe through the development of new indicators and research tools. Among its purposes is to develop a set of recommendations for European entities and stakeholders involved in integration, incorporating the perspective of children, their families and the educational community. IMMERSE is a European Commission's funded project within the Horizon 2020 programme. The project involves 11 organisations from 6 countries (Germany, Belgium, Spain, Greece, Ireland and Italy). It began in December 2018 and will last 4 years.

For more information and interviews:

IMMERSE website: <https://www.immerse-h2020.eu>

IMMERSE hub, link for registration: <https://bit.ly/39k6fJP>

IMMERSE promotional video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkdI5rvo9pU>

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