

## **European Generation Link (EGL) and TANDEM**

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### **Abstract**

“European Generation Link (EGL) – Promote European Citizenship through Intergenerational and Intercultural Learning” was a successful Grundtvig project carried out from October 2006 to September 2008. “TANDEM – How to establish intergenerational and intercultural communication and how to provide for transfer and transparency of competences in VET” started in December 2009 with a duration of two years. Based on the EGL project it adapts the approach of intergenerational learning successfully implemented and tested by EGL. TANDEM brings together two groups of society who are among the most affected by low participation in the labour market and social exclusion: young low-level educated individuals and older migrants. These groups are also hard to reach by educational measures and often show low motivation and poor course success. The idea draws on EGL where older people with a migration background passed on their stories and experiences from having lived in different European countries to young people who consequently documented these encounters within an interactive electronically library ([www.europeangeneration-library.org](http://www.europeangeneration-library.org)). One of the main impacts envisaged was to increase tolerance and reduce prejudices and xenophobia among different cultures and generations. The TANDEM project adapts the original products, models and materials to make them suitable for the incorporation within vocational training in the selected target countries: Norway, the Netherlands, Greece and Bulgaria. An important difference between EGL and TANDEM is the focus of the latter on work related aspects, whereas EGL dealt more generally on day-to-day life situations of low-level educated youths and older migrant people. Both projects are based on the assumption that not only do the young have much to learn from the old but they also have much to teach them. This paper aims at elaborating on the didactical approach, the products and the practical values of these projects in detail.