

INTRODUCTION NOTE

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Hello to all present here and thank you for joining us at the five-day Workshop organized by the DUTH, within the ERASMUS+ REHEED project.

The collaboration of Democritus Un. Of Thrace with most of our Egyptian partners and Universities was started almost ten years ago, through the Tempus platform, with the project “Virtual Reality in Cultural Heritage Education (VirCult)”.

The aim and scope of this project was to develop a new postgraduate program in museum studies, which will utilize newly developed ICT-based teaching and learning tools including 3D laser scanning and virtual reality modelling.

Next project was the “Education and Capacity Building in Museum Studies (EduMUST) which was started in 2017.

Aim and Scope of this project were:

1. Develop and implement a new postgraduate Diploma and Master programs in Museum Studies.
2. Update and modernize current undergraduate and postgraduate courses and develop new practical modules related to museum studies.
3. Develop 3D online-based virtual Reality interface utilizing 3D models of museum artefact collections as an innovative teaching and learning tool in museum studies.

The last one project is the **ReHeEd (Reframing Heritage Education)** is an international educational and scientific project funded by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union and carried out by seven partner universities from Egypt, France, Italy and Greece.

The project aims at reframing and developing heritage education by creating a generation of qualified specialists in heritage education in different aspects of heritage studies; a discipline which is of extreme importance not only in Egypt, but in our countries too.

Moreover, it aims to develop research in the field of heritage education by introducing new ICT technologies in documenting, preserving, presenting, and interpreting heritage collections.

As such, **ReHeEd** fits extremely well within any governmental strategic plans and national priorities for the preservation of cultural heritage and for the development of **cultural diplomacy, for which both Egypt and Greece, despite their unique and highly timeless intangible and tangible heritage, still have much to do to reach the level and the extent they deserve.**

This workshop, which is conducted in the context of **ReHeEd** WP2, aims to replace the educational visit of EG staff in EU partner institutions and offers the opportunity to exchange ideas and information with EU academic and administrative staff, on the academic contents, teaching and training methodologies used for **heritage education.**

Under normal circumstances, during this period we would have the opportunity to host our Egyptian collaborators and guide them to the various organizations and museums in Greece, which have developed exemplary applications of educational programs about the intangible and tangible cultural heritage.

Our goal today, is through this series of lectures, to substitute as best as possible the live presentation of these applications.

In this workshop, we have experts from across the country representing recognized organizations and who will stay with us for the next few days, sharing thoughts, knowledge and opinions with the rest of us.

Their experience have been repeatedly presented and verified by trainees of different ages and we hope that our colleagues from Egypt, who I already believe have similar

experience, will find interesting ideas and in general this reflection will result in a more complete approach to education. at various levels.

Both Egypt and Greece, as well as Italy and France, which participate as partners, have some of the most important cultures on which today's western civilization is based. Consequently, the recording, processing, and dissemination of the tangible and intangible heritage, is an obligation for the current successors, who live in these countries.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank all the experts around the country. who accepted our invitation to participate in this workshop presenting their experience and achievements for education, dissemination and finally for the protection of cultural heritage

I wish everyone a successful, safe and fruitful workshop.

Thank you

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