

Service-Learning and Digital Empowerment

(Virtual) Spaces as Opportunities to establish service-learning at the national/local level

J. Bartmann, R. Laven, U. Medicus, F. Paudel, W. Weinlich

University College of Teacher Education Vienna

Rolf.laven@phwien.ac.at

Type of contribution: practical experiences for discussion

The Purpose of the Contribution

Within the scope of the contribution, the possibilities of the analogue and virtual level should be in focus to establish Service-Learning. Here based on an “artistic meeting-and encounter zone” which is in a vulnerable area of the center of Vienna, possibilities of Service-Learning in the implementation are shown as representative of the analogue space. In this project “engaged Learning is seen as support to ensure students participation with a curricular connection outside of the classroom interacting in informal teaching-learning settings outside the school building and to network the educative institution with its partners, communities and neighborhood. The possibilities in virtual spaces are referred to using the Erasmus+ project Service-Learning as a pedagogy to promote Inclusion, Diversity and Digital Empowerment (SLIDE). It aims to intertwine the Service-Learning (SL) pedagogy with Digital Empowerment (DE) to promote inclusion (I) and diversity. The advantages of digital empowerment and Service-learning are presented from the student’s point of view based on the results of focus groups.

Furthermore, there is a discussion about the possibilities these spaces open for Service-Learning.

How and to what extent it advances the practice and the impact of the contribution

In bringing together the different spaces, the potential of Service-Learning is discussed, which is significant and forward-looking.