

## Best Practices from Cyprus<sup>1</sup>

1. General information	
Name/title of the Best Practice	<b>'Imagine'</b>
Period of realisation [ <i>Timeframe of the practice (period/duration). Is it finished?</i> ]	2017 on going
Type ( <i>program, project, activity, event, multimedia, etc.</i> )	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Educational Program on Anti-racism Education/ Education</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">is funded by the Federal Foreign Office of the Republic of Germany. The project is also supported by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and the UN Office of the Special Advisor (OASG).</p>
Sources of information ( <i>where information can be found about this best practice</i> )	<a href="https://www.ahdr.info/peace-education/58-education-for-a-culture-of-peace-imagine">https://www.ahdr.info/peace-education/58-education-for-a-culture-of-peace-imagine</a>
Administering organisation ( <i>name &amp; address, if any</i> )	Association for Historical Dialogue and Research and the Home for Cooperation under the auspices of the Bicommunal Technical Committee on Education
Provide information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Contact details: name &amp; email</i></li> <li>○ <i>Certification/accreditation</i></li> <li>○ <i>Financing: how is the organisation funded</i></li> </ul>	<p>Loizos Loukaidis, 'Imagine' Project Coordinator, at <a href="mailto:loizos.loukaidis@ahdr.info">loizos.loukaidis@ahdr.info</a> or <a href="mailto:cyprusimagine@gmail.com">cyprusimagine@gmail.com</a></p>
Country of origin/Location of the program	Cyprus
Other countries participating	two communities on the island (Greek and Turkey)
Partnerships or collaboration involved (e.g., institutions, organizations, associations, communities)	
Target group/beneficiaries ( <i>vulnerable group, immigrants, ages, gender, parents, teachers, other stakeholders, etc.</i> )	primary, lower secondary and upper secondary educational levels
Parameters	
Short description of initiative/Best Practice	<p style="text-align: center;">The program aims to increase contact between the two communities in Cyprus and promotes peace, understanding and anti-racism on the island in the context of a holistic understanding of a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence inspired by UN documents, resolutions and plans of action. The program</p>

<sup>1</sup> Criteria:

- *Implemented in Primary Schools the last 5 years*
- *Promote inter/intracultural skills*
- *Funded or supervised by a reliable national/international agency, organisation*
- *Accessible at platforms, such as e-Twinning, School Education Gateway and the Eurydice Network*

	<p>also aims to decentralize and reach rural areas in the island which have fewer opportunities to engage in activities that bring members of the two communities together. Participation to the project is completely voluntary and free-of-charge. The project is based on a step-by-step approach, and the methodology employed in the workshops is adapted to different age groups and educational levels</p>
Goals and objectives of initiative/Best practice	<p>In 2022, 6117 students, accompanied by 714 teachers were trained in the Imagine Project. Another 518 teachers were trained in Peace Education both mono-communally and bi-communally and another 92 head teachers participated in the 'Imagine' Head Teachers conference.</p>
Key components and activities of initiative/Best practice	<p>Trainers visit classes interested in participating in the bi-communal activities and create safe spaces for discussion about stereotypes, discrimination and racism as components of the prevailing culture of violence and also facilitate experiential activities exploring these concepts. An important aspect of this activity is also to prepare students for contact with fellow students from the other community.</p>
Duration of the Best Practice/program	<p>On going</p>
Required resources or equipment	<p>N/A</p>
Staffing requirements	<p>Teachers, and the bicommunal teacher trainings have previously been facilitated by local experts in addition to international experts from India, Israel and Germany.</p>
Costs for the participants, if any	
Services that are/were developed ( <i>i.e. counselling, capacity building, teaching, mentoring, supporting, accompanying, participant involvement in planning and decision making, training, coaching, etc</i> )	
<b>Evidence and Effectiveness</b>	
Has the Best Practice/program been evaluated?	
If yes: Impact/Results of the Best Practice on the target group/beneficiaries	<p>The 'Imagine' project has systematically been mentioned in the United Nations Secretary General reports since its initiation where it has received recognition and appraisal.</p>
If no: Subjective opinions/comments about the Best Practice/program and its impact on the target group ( <i>i.e., from participants, parents; if available</i> )	

Recommendations for implementation In what way can pupils and other beneficiaries benefit from this best practice related to inter/transcultural competence, inclusion, etc.?	
Additional comments or information	
How is the supply adapted to individual needs (participants or beneficiaries)?	