



Dear member,

Welcome to the first edition of the REaDAPt e-newsletter, which will be published quarterly throughout the duration of the project and will provide you updates on our progress.

READAPT is a two year project part-funded under the European Commissions' DAPHNE violence prevention programme. It is concerned with supporting and enhancing the resilience of young people living with violence at home.

READAPT addresses the question of what works with young people living with violence by providing a robust evaluation of the attitudinal change induced by three different grassroots preventative projects located in the UK, France and Spain. READAPT seeks to extract lessons learnt from these evaluations in order to:

- revise practice in the host sites;
- assist a new country (Malta) to develop new interventions;
- establish good practice guidance with the assistance of the experts in Sweden;
- disseminate information about a successful violence prevention programme across Europe

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What is READAPT?

Launched in March 2011, READAPT is pioneering an innovative cycle of implementation, evaluation, and development work to improve the quality of domestic abuse prevention initiatives for children and young people in Europe. Evaluation and quasi-experimental methods are currently being applied to relationship education and domestic abuse prevention tuition programmes in the UK, Spain and France, while a new package of intervention will be designed, piloted and rolled out in Malta.

This cycle of implementation, evaluation and development work will ensure effective and sustainable development across the partner sites involved. It is anticipated that in excess of 2000 children will take part in the research across the UK, Spain and France and that a further six secondary schools and approximately 450 children will benefit from the interventions that follow in Malta during the lifetime of the funded duration of the project. Teachers and educators located across over 50 European schools will be engaged with the project.

The project is led by academic criminologist Professor David Gadd, psychologists Dr Claire Fox and Becky Hale at Keele University, in collaboration with social work Professor Margareta Hydén at the University of Linköping. This academic team are supporting three grassroots projects that are currently delivering domestic abuse prevention

REaDAPT partnership please [click here](#).

work with children and young people. These projects include:

- Relationships without Fear, being delivered by ARCH North Staffs in the UK.
- The Masks of Love delivered by Dirección General de Prevención de la Violencia de Género y Reforma Juvenil In Murcia Spain.
- Girls and boys: Lets go for Equality delivered by Du Côté des Femmes de Haute Garonne, in Muret (close to Toulouse), France.

POLICY UPDATE

European Commission ensures better protection of crime victims
[\[READ MORE\]](#)

18 May 2011

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence [\[READ MORE\]](#)

7 April 2011

These partners are working closely with MRDDF – the Malta Regional Development and Dialogue Foundation – to establish new countrywide provision in Malta. They are also supported by the Brussels-based not for profit organisation, the West Midlands European Centre, who are assisting with the dissemination of the results of the READAPT project on a Europe-wide scale. In addition to academic publications, the project will produce a resource kit for educators seeking to establish their own preventative education initiatives and a toolkit for researchers looking to evaluate relationship education programmes. The project's outputs will be showcased in a brochure for policymakers and on the following dedicated website: www.readapt.eu

Engaging children in Relationship Education and Domestic Abuse Prevention Tuition is the key to delivering on the EU's commitments to ending violence against women and promoting and protecting the rights of children and young people. It is crucial however that such interventions have a proven track record of effectiveness. It is also critical that researchers and practitioners engage with each other to enhance the effectiveness of existing provision. It is a key aim of the READAPT project to promote sustainable and evidence led developments in Relationship Education and Domestic Abuse Prevention Tuition within the EU.

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Current Activities

DON'T FORGET...

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Since the launch of the project in March 2011, all the partners have been working hard to implement the READAPT questionnaire for children, designed by experts from Keele University with particular expertise in children's social development and bullying in schools. The Attitudes towards Domestic Violence (ADV) Questionnaire developed for schools in the UK, France, Spain and Malta will analyse children's experience and attitudes of domestic abuse. Specific training on how to administer the questionnaire in conjunction with schools, parents and children has been provided.

In France, near Toulouse, specific workshops on the READAPT project have already been organised in several high schools, and 200 young girls and boys will complete the questionnaire. A local press campaign is being organised in Muret in France working with local radio stations to promote the project and raise awareness about domestic violence and the impact on children.

In Murcia, Spain, the Directorate General for Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Youth Reform within the Regional Government of Murcia is expected to collect the questionnaires that are being administered in

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50 schools in Murcia. Murcia has also developed a preliminary proposal of the new educational toolkit based on best practice from existing interventions in the UK, Spain and France.

In the UK, Keele University is working closely with ARCH to administer the pre and post-tests for those UK primary schools receiving Relationships without Fear and matched control groups schools. After the post-test, focus groups with children will be conducted in two of the intervention schools. A strategy is in place to engage with 'users' of the research which will include working closely with teachers and children to translate the findings into practice. Teachers will be asked for their feedback on the programme and will be asked about teacher implementation of the programme to address the issue of integration into schools and long-term sustainability.

EU Agenda

READAPT will be following closely all developments on the EU Agenda for the Rights of the Child, published by the European Commission on 15th February 2011. In particular the EU Agenda would like to "continue the implementation of the 2007 EU Guidelines on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child that focus on combating all forms of violence against children" and "revise, by 2013, the EU legislation facilitating the recognition and enforcement of decisions on parental responsibility with a view to ensuring, in the interest of the child, that decisions can be recognised and enforced as quickly as possible, including, where appropriate, the establishment of common minimum standards."

POLICY DOCUMENT



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