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EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNICAL RESEARCH - COST ACTION
TRANS-DOMAIN COST ACTION TD1309

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THE WIDEST EUROPEAN NETWORK
ON PLAY FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Action Chair : Serenella Besio (IT)

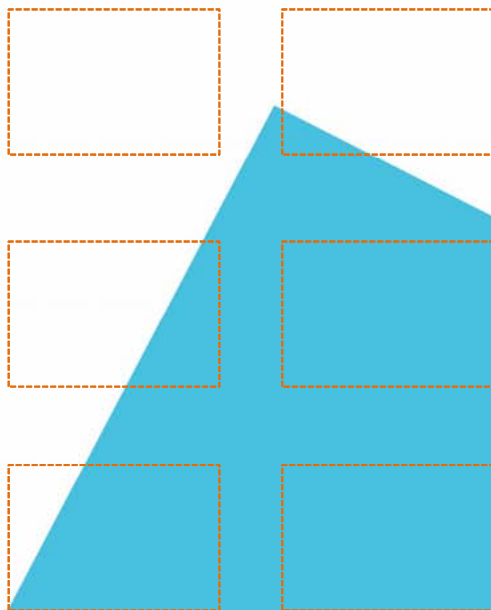
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Play for Children with Disabilities

2014-2018



28 PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:
AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA
CROATIA, CYPRUS, DENMARK
ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE
GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY
IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, LITHUANIA
MALTA, MACEDONIA
NETHERLANDS, POLAND, PORTUGAL
ROMANIA, SERBIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN
SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

MORE THAN **80** RESEARCHERS
AND PRACTITIONERS INVOLVED

LUDI CHALLENGE

Children with disabilities usually face many difficulties when participating in play activities due to functional limitations and/or to environmental barriers.

Children with disabilities' play activities are often based mainly on educative or rehabilitative objectives, instead on playfulness and amusement.

LUDI ambition is to spread the belief that children with functional limitations are first and foremost children with natural needs and rights.

LUDI wants: to spread awareness on the importance of giving children with disabilities the opportunity to play; to ensure equity in their exercise of the right to play; to put play at the centre of the multidisciplinary research and intervention addressed to children with disabilities.

LUDI intends to grant the issue of "play for children with disabilities" the status of a scientific and social theme of full visibility and recognized authority.

LUDI MACRO-OBJECTIVES

The network has three main objectives:

- collecting and systematizing all existing competence and skills: educational researches, clinical initiatives, know-how of resources centers and users' associations;
- developing new knowledge related to settings, tools and methodologies associated with the play of children with disabilities;
- disseminating the best practices emerging from the joint effort of researchers, practitioners and users.

SCIENTIFIC IMPACTS

The Action aims to return to clinical, educational and family contexts the idea of a child who, despite his/her disability, can rely on play as the strongest spring of his/her own development. Nonetheless, play must be supported, encouraged, and enhanced through appropriate relationships, contexts and effective tools.

TECHNOLOGICAL IMPACTS

An increased usability of tools and technologies for play, jointly to accessible products and assistive technologies, will allow inclusive play situations among children with disabilities and those with typical development. Together they will be able to share, with different modes of functioning, the same play environment.

LUDI EXPECTED RESULTS

SOCIETAL IMPACTS

LUDI will develop tools and theoretical-critical methodologies of effective intervention for children with disabilities. New knowledge, besides enriching the scientific psycho-pedagogical sciences, will give more effective therapeutic and preventive value to educational and rehabilitative interventions. New knowledge, hopefully, will contribute to change the current thinking on every child's play.

POLICY IMPACTS

The widespread awareness that will result from the dissemination and the application of these studies will have a positive impact also on the recognition of the right to play for children with disabilities, and on the adoption of measures to allow the exercise of this right.