European funded project on professional development for mathematics teachers

TIME is the acronym of the project *Teachers’ inquiry on mathematics education* under KA2 Strategic Partnership action of the European educational programme Erasmus+. Project gathers experts from four countries, Croatia, Denmark, Netherlands and Slovenia, and 13 institutions – University of Zagreb, as the coordinating institution, Croatian Mathematical Society, XV. Gymnasium and V. Gymnasium from Croatia, University of Copenhagen, Midtsjællands Gymnasium and Matematiklærerforeningen from Denmark, Utrecht University and Utrechts Stedelijk Gymnasium from the Netherlands, University of Ljubljana, National Education Institute of Slovenia, Jesenice Gymnasium and Gymnasium Franc Miklošič Ljutomer from Slovenia. Project leader is Matija Bašić from the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science of University of Zagreb.

Project TIME is a follow-up to project MERIA (Mathematics Education – Relevant, Interesting and Applicable) led by a similar consortium. In MERIA, the project team has developed guidelines and methodology to introduce inquiry-based mathematics teaching in secondary schools. The main results are MERIA teaching scenarios organized around a rich mathematical problem with realistic context which asks students to be actively engaged in solving the problem and learning relevant mathematics. Nonetheless, project impact analysis has shown that teachers appreciate the materials and the professional development provided by the project team, but lack time and experience to engage in their own design of similar lessons.

The main objective of the TIME is to explore how a community of math teachers working together in one school can improve their practice through joint study, planning and interaction between themselves and with university professors. Throughout the project the team will try to recognize and document how such a community can reach a high level of independence and sustainability in creating innovative teaching and learning materials and upgrade their professional knowledge.
TIME will consist of two parts: TIMELess and TIME^2. In TIMELess the project team will investigate the methodology of Lesson study developed by Japanese elementary teachers and adapt it to the context of European high schools. TIME^2 will be dedicated to design heuristics and teachers will design new innovative materials themselves.

TIME project started in December 2019 and will end in August 2022. Project activities started with the kick-off meeting organized at the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia, on 17th February 2020. For more information visit the website www.time-project.eu.