

## Erasmus+ project prevents ESL

Early school leaving, ESL, is a major problem for many schools in the European Union.

This is why four secondary schools in Denmark, Sweden, Italy and Spain have decided to start an Erasmus+ project to prevent ESL. The project is called PESE, Preventing Early School Leaving in Secondary Education, and has its foundation in the eight key competences for lifelong learning, with a focus on communication in the mother tongue, communication in foreign languages and mathematical and digital competences.

- Together we can find ways to fight ESL. Our project will concentrate on best educational practice, says Mr. Ole Jelby, International coordinator and German teacher in Helsingør Gymnasium.

Like EU's Strategic framework – Educating & Training 2020, the four schools will exchange and gather experiences of best practices and disseminate information of what works

- We have so many promising educational methods to learn from one another, says Mr. Jelby, and it is vital for both the students and society's future that we minimize school drop-out rates to at least below 10% - the fewer the better.

The Erasmus+ project will commence with mathematic and digital competence January 23 – 27 2017 in Helsingborg/ Helsingør. Math teachers from all four schools will then share information in lectures and workshops. Later, in spring 2017, the mother tongue teachers will meet in Bilbao and finally, in autumn 2017, the foreign language teachers will meet in Milan.

The aim is to find pedagogical strategies to improve [quality and efficiency](#) of education and thereby enhance all levels of teaching and learning.

The participating teachers in Helsingør, Helsingborg, Milano and Bilbao are convinced that the Erasmus+ project will increase educational motivation for both students and teachers, reduce ESL and enhance the possibilities for more students to successfully graduate.