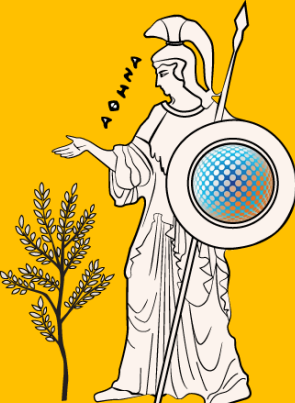




From Collaboration to Transformation: How eTwinning shapes digital, STEM and AI-ready teachers

Michael Paraskevas,

*Professor at the University of Peloponnese,
Vice President of the CTI "Diophantus",
Head of the National Support Organization eTwinning*



ATHENS
iLRN 2026
GREECE





What is eTwinning?

eTwinning is the Community for Schools in Europe

- European school cooperation action since 2005
- Safe digital environment for collaborative projects
- Teachers and students from different countries work together
- Promotes cooperation, creativity, digital skills, intercultural understanding and European identity



eTwinning in Numbers

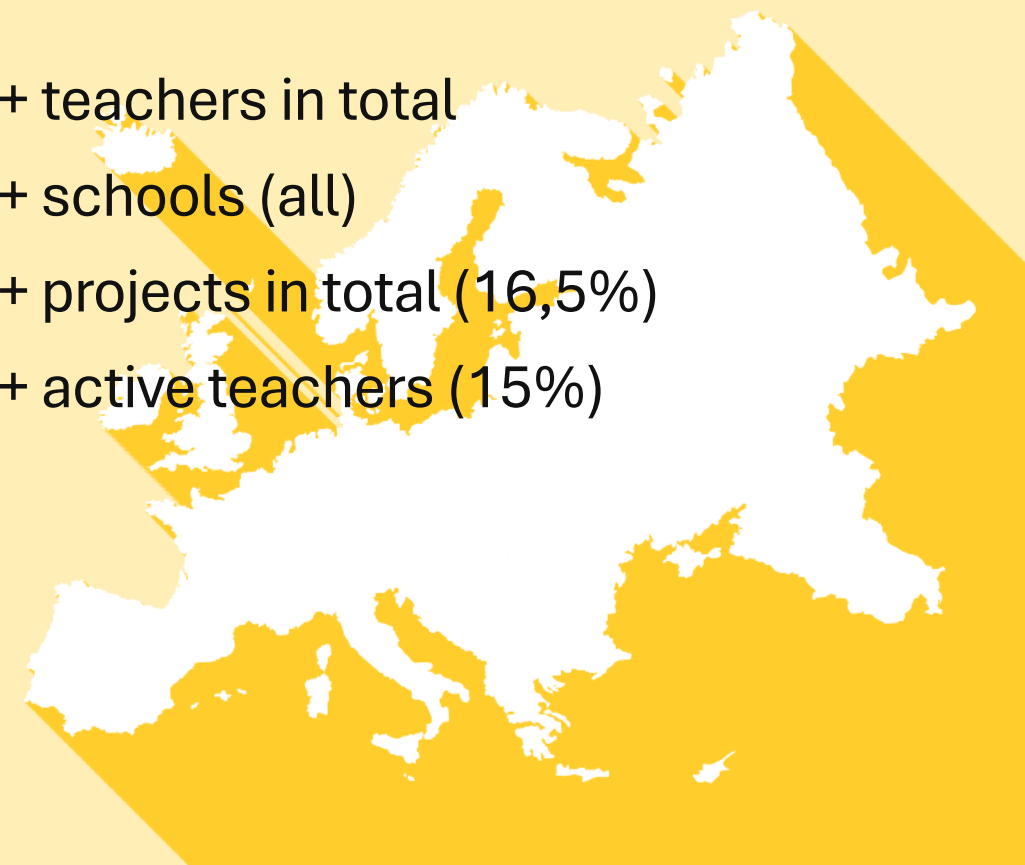
A European community with strong Greek participation

Europe

- 45 countries
- 1,300,000+ teachers in total
- 300,000+ schools in total
- 160,000+ projects in total
- 330,000+ active teachers
- 200,000+ active schools

Greece

- 58,000+ teachers in total
- 15,000+ schools (all)
- 26,000+ projects in total (16,5%)
- 28,000+ active teachers (15%)



Is eTwinning Successful in Greece?

The Greek success model

eTwinning in Greece succeeded because it did not operate only as a platform, but as an **organized ecosystem**.

Key factors

- Systematic pedagogical and technical support
- Large-scale professional development for teachers
- Active network of eTwinning Ambassadors
- Connection with innovation, STEM, AI and European values
- Recognition and reward of quality



Is eTwinning Successful in Greece?

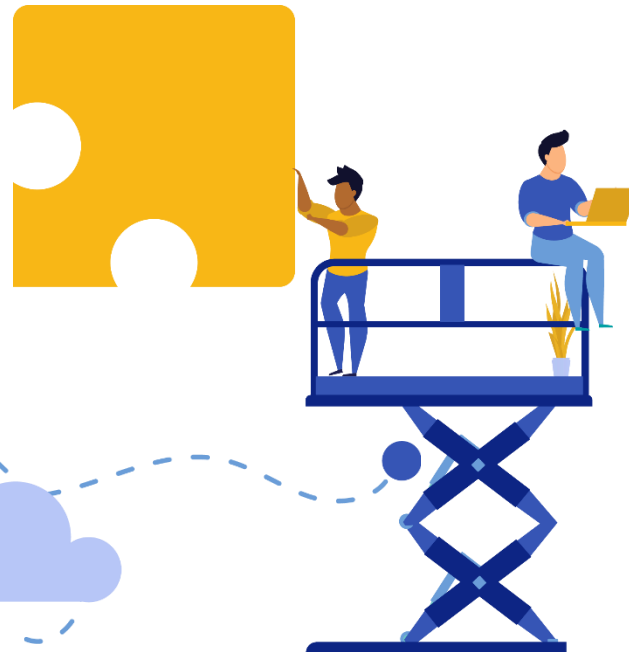
Professional Development

- MOOCs, webinars
- Open courses
- PDW, Contact Seminars



Recognition & Rewards

- Labels
- Awards



Support

- Pedagogical
- Technical





National Support Organization (NSO) of eTwinning

The Hellenic NSO of eTwinning:

- Operates under the responsibility of CTI “Diophantus”, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.
- Provides pedagogical, technical and organizational support to teachers.
- Supports registrations, ESEP, TwinSpace, projects, Quality Labels and awards.
- Organizes training, information activities and the sharing of good practices.
- Coordinates the network of eTwinning Ambassadors.

Turns a European action into a **living and active national community**.



A Community with Continuous Support

From registration to a quality project

- Support in using ESEP and TwinSpace
- Help with registrations, projects and Quality Labels
- Recognition and rewards through Quality Labels and awards
- Pedagogical guidance for designing collaborative projects
- Technical support through an organised helpdesk
- Continuous communication with teachers and schools



Strategic Goals of the Hellenic NSO

1. Improve the quality of eTwinning projects
2. Increase teacher participation
3. Support teachers
4. Support Higher Education Institutions
5. Strengthen teachers' digital skills, especially in AI



eTwinning Ambassadors

- Are experienced volunteer teachers with active participation in the action
- Support teachers in their areas of responsibility
- Organize webinars, face-to-face events and workshops
- Guide teachers in designing quality collaborative projects
- Share good practices and strengthen the community

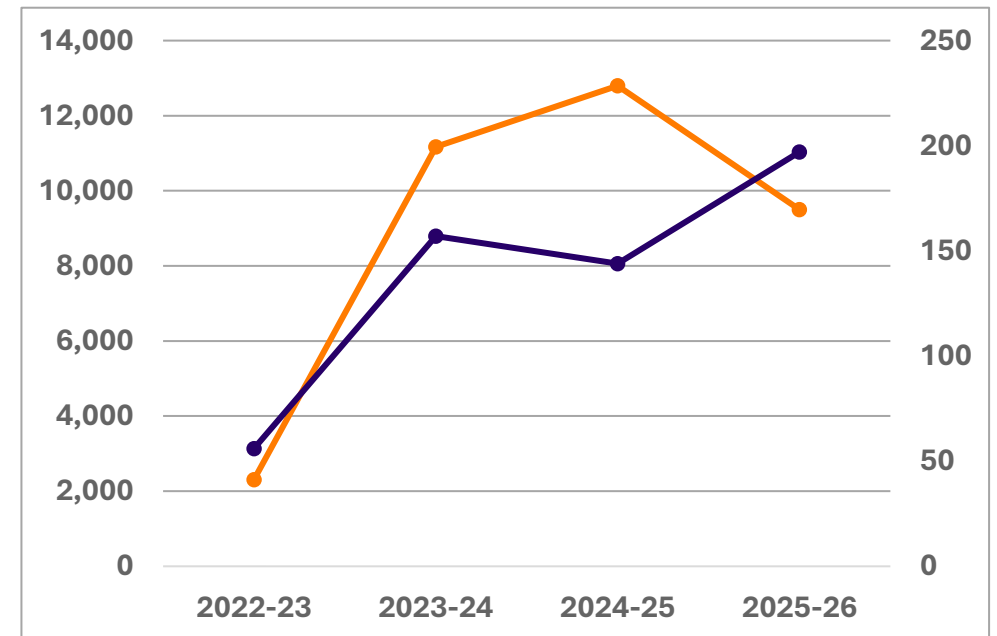


Webinars & Training Activities by Ambassadors

Large-scale, decentralized and targeted support

Activity 2022-2026:

- 554 online training sessions
- 35,777 teacher participations
- **Topics:** ESEP, TwinSpace, project quality, eTwinning Schools, digital tools, Skills Labs, Initial Teacher Education, etc.
- A combination of information, guidance and motivation





Professional Development for Teachers

The community grows when teachers are empowered

- Webinars and Ambassador events
- Long-duration **open online courses**
- **MOOCs** for broad and flexible access
- Pedagogical guides
- PDW and Contact Seminars at European level
- **Special topics:** STEM, AI, Initial Teacher Education



Open Online Courses

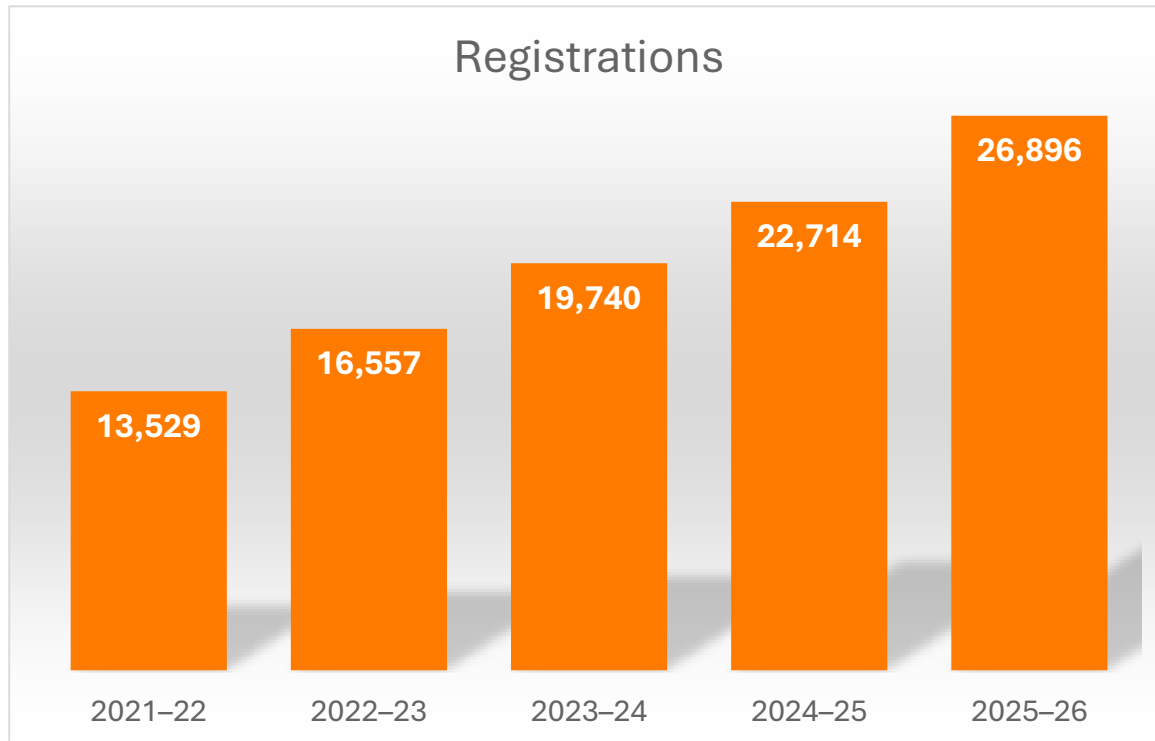
Structured, long-duration training

- **18** online courses, **200** hours each
- Annual cycles from October to April
- **Topics:** ICT, Web 2.0, multimedia, mobile devices, educational robotics - STEM, AI, interactive learning systems, etc.
- Free or open source tools and permanently available training material
- More than **1,500** volunteer trainers



The Scale of the Open Courses

More than 99,350 registrations in five (5) school years



School year 2026-27: **three (3) new** courses:

- “R1: Game-Based Learning, Computational Thinking and Educational Robotics in Kindergarten”
- “Educational Technology, Design Thinking and Active Citizenship”, in cooperation with Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- “Creating an eTwinning Project - Quality Criteria” - compulsory course

Quality and Measurable Impact

Training changes digital skills

- Evaluation using the **Selfie4Teachers** methodology (official tool of European Commission)
- Improvement in digital skills was recorded:
 - Trainees: **+17%** (37% to 54%)
 - Trainers: **+15%** (60% to 75%)
- Connection between training and classroom practice
- Skills for collaborative eTwinning projects





Online Courses in English

The Greek experience as support for other communities

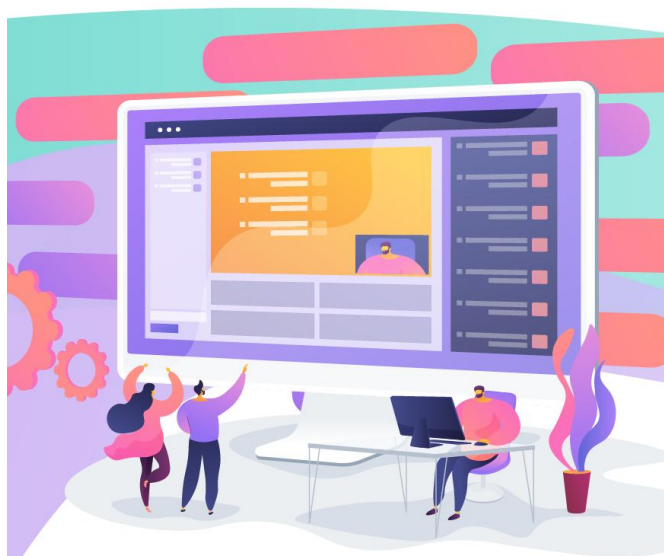
- Courses in English
- **Topics:** AI (I & II), Arduino Basic
- Offered to teachers of European Schools (88 registrations)
- Support training of eTwinners from 8 countries: Albania, Cyprus, Ireland, Jordan, North Macedonia, Palestine, Turkey, Tunisia (183 registrations)
- International use of the expertise of the Hellenic NSO



MOOCs eTwinning



MOOC



No.	MOOC title	Offered	Trained participants (teachers, students)
1	“eTwinning & Skills Labs: Collaborative Actions for Developing Knowledge, Skills and Competences”	2022, 2023 (2025, 2026 self-paced)	8.069
2	“Introduction to eTwinning, the European Action for Education”	2023 (2025, 2026 self-paced)	7.087
3	“The European eTwinning Action in Higher Education”	2024 (2025, 2026 self-paced)	1.214
4	“Designing a Quality Collaborative eTwinning Project”	2024	1.911
5	“Using AI in Education and in eTwinning Projects”	2025	3.029
Total			21.310



Cooperation with Educational Policy Bodies



eTwinning within the national education ecosystem

- Institute of Educational Policy: Connection with Skills Labs
- State Scholarships Foundation (NA Erasmus+): Promotion of KA1/KA2 mobility and cooperation actions in schools
- National Digital Skills Academy: Nine (9) digital courses for developing digital skills
- National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA): Free eTwinning courses for teachers

eTwinning and Skills Labs



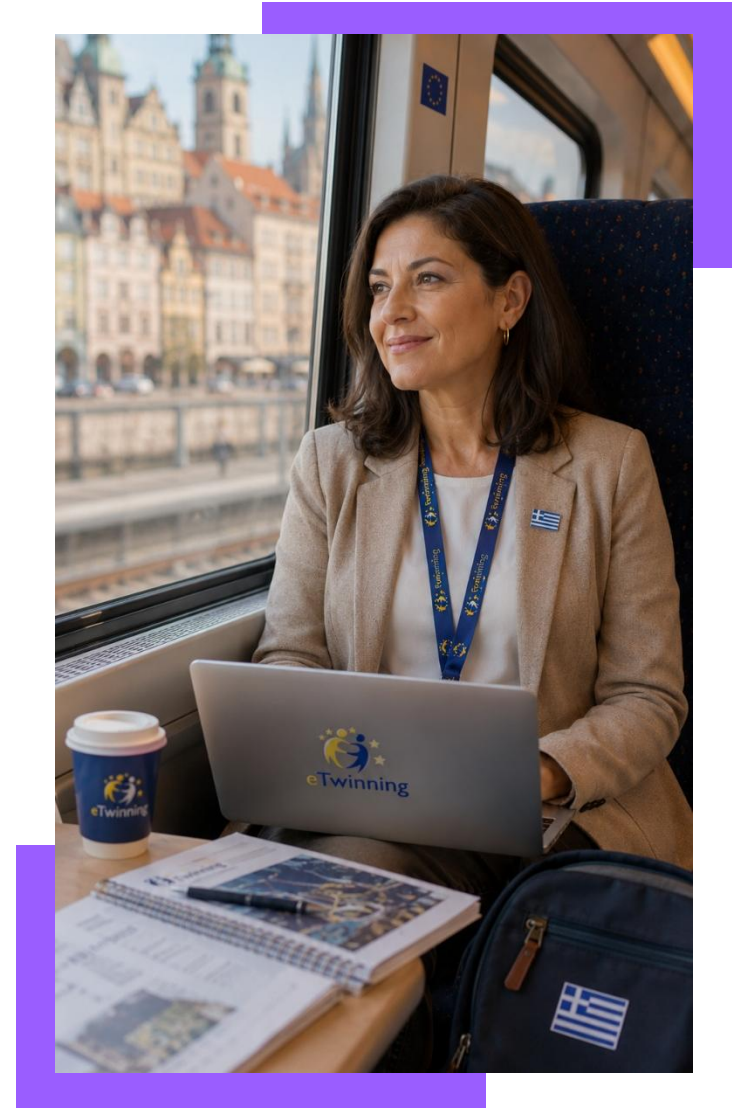
Turning national actions into collaborative European projects

- Cooperation with the Institute of Educational Policy
- **MOOC** (2022) on using Skills Labs through eTwinning
- **8,069 teachers** have attended the course
- Turning school activities into collaborative projects between schools
- Creation and publication (2023) of an **e-book with good practices**

eTwinning and Erasmus+

From collaborative projects to international mobility

- Cooperation with the **State Scholarships Foundation** (National Agency of Erasmus Plus)
- Information for schools on **KA1** (mobility) and **KA2** (cooperation, innovation)
- eTwinning as a first step in European cooperation
- Development of school partnerships before larger European projects
- Connection between school innovation and European mobility opportunities





Initial Teacher Education (ITE)

eTwinning in the education of future teachers

- Cooperation with **23** education-related departments from **13** Greek universities - Support from 21 ITE Ambassadors
- Integration of eTwinning into courses and in student teaching practice (**37** university teachers)
- Collaborative projects with students, schools and European partners (**50** projects)
- Students trained: **2.227**
- **9** departments with a National QL and awards
- Connection of university departments from **45** countries
- Research results are published in the WELCOME journal

Results & Recognition 2024-2026

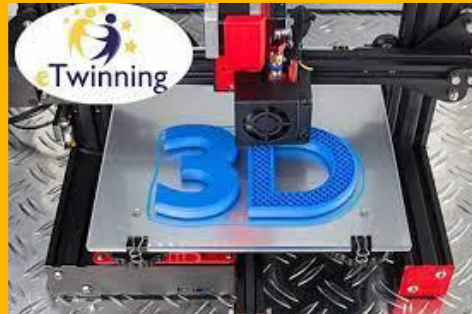
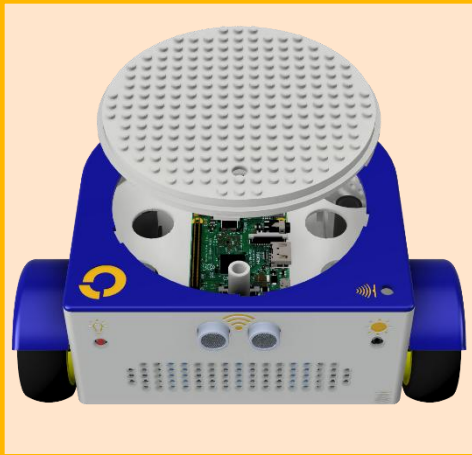


Education & Training	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher educators who integrated eTwinning 	37
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in training activities 	1.180
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registrations in the “eTwinning ITE” MOOC 	940
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in the asynchronous eTwinning Seminar 	107
Projects & Teaching Practice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National & European projects with students 	41
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects in teaching practice (Kindergarten) 	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects in teaching practice (Primary School) 	1
Distinctions & Awards	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Departments with a National eTwinning ITE Label 	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participations in the European eTwinning ITE Award competition 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special National eTwinning ITE Award 	3

STEM @ eTwinning

Educational robotics in collaborative projects

- **1,000+** schools with STEM equipment and support
- Selection of schools based on eTwinning criteria
- Appropriate equipment according to school type
- Technical and pedagogical support for STEM projects
- Teacher training through open courses, MOOCs, webinars
- National and European distinctions for STEM/eTwinning projects
- Special STEM award in the National eTwinning Competitions
- Publication of pedagogical guides (e.g. BeeBot at Kindergartens)
- Articles in the WELCOME online journal



STEM 5 and Inclusion

Innovation reaches schools with greater needs

- 100 schools in the STEM 5 action
- Special education, minority, second-chance and remote schools
- Equipment:
 - 3D printers in 50 schools
 - micro:bit kits in 50 schools
 - Robotics kits in 5 university departments for student training
- Connecting STEM, eTwinning and equal access to innovation



International STEM Activity



“Ancient Greece resources for STEM in eTwinning”

- Multilateral Contact Seminar, Pylos, May 2025
- 50 eTwinning teachers from 8 European countries
- Use of Ancient Greece technology as a context for STEM learning
- Connection of mathematics, science, engineering, design and technology
- Support for teachers in designing new European eTwinning projects
- An example of linking cultural heritage, innovation and cooperation



AI in eTwinning

From enthusiasm to pedagogical and responsible use

- Integration of AI in eTwinning projects and school teaching
- **Two (2) open courses** of 200 hours and **two (2) MOOCs**
- Focus on possibilities, limitations and pedagogical uses
- Attention to ethical issues
- **21,000+** teachers trained (2023–2026)
- Policy framework for using AI in eTwinning projects (announced)
- Sharing good practices through competitions, guides, the WELCOME journal and social media



International Activity on AI

Multilateral Contact Seminar: **“Applications, tools and perspectives of AI in education for Secondary School Teachers”**, Patras, May 2024

- 70 eTwinning teachers from 13 European countries
- Focus on the pedagogical integration of AI in secondary education
- Talks, workshops and presentations of AI tools
- Transnational communication and cooperation between teachers
- Creation of new eTwinning projects on AI



COURSE

Pedagogical Use of AI in eTwinning Projects and Classroom Teaching



- **Goal:** Contact with AI tools for teaching, lesson preparation and student assessment. Awareness of ethical issues linked to the introduction of AI in education.
- **Duration:** 200 training hours (October-April).
- **Content:** What is AI? Use of AI for teaching and for supporting students and teachers. Large language models and their use in education. Chatbots. Ethical guidelines for using AI in teaching.
- 2023-2026: **17,784 teachers trained** (= 12,898 + 4,886).



MOOC

Using AI in Education and in eTwinning Projects

Course goals

- Understand the possibilities and limitations of AI in education.
- Develop skills in using AI tools.
- Use AI tools in eTwinning projects to improve cooperation.
- Highlight ethical use of AI in the school environment.

Structure

- Introduction to AI, education and eTwinning
- Chatbots & Prompt Engineering
- Multimedia applications and AI tools
- Assessment, correction and lesson planning

Offered in 2025: **3,029 teachers trained.**

Recognition and Rewards

European Awards

- 2006-present: **85+ Greek schools** have been awarded in different categories.
- 2022-2025: **28 Greek schools** and **43 teachers** in European award-winning projects
- 3 Greek schools** participated in the best projects (overall prize) at European level.

National Awards (20 in total form 2006)

- 2022 - 2025: **88 schools** and **3 university departments** were awarded

National & European
Quality Label



WELCOME
Online journal



National & European
eTwinning Awards



eTwinning School
Label





National Competitions & Awards

Recognition of quality and reward of school innovation

National Competitions:

- **20th (2025): 19 schools** and **1 university department** were awarded tablets.
- **19th (2024): 17 schools** and **2 university departments** were awarded tablets.
- **18th (2023): 20 schools** were awarded 3D printers and tablets.
- **17th (2022): 32 schools** were awarded 3D printers and tablets.



National eTwinning Conferences

The community meets, learns and shares

National Conferences:

- **10th** (2024), Athens: 16 keynote talks, 105 presentations, 16 workshops (300 participants, 4,000+ online)
- **11th** (2025), Thessaloniki: 8 keynote talks, 125 presentations, 19 workshops (260 participants, 4,000+ online)
- Award ceremonies and sharing of good practices
- **12th** (2026), Volos, 13-15 November 2026



International Missions of Greek Teachers

Professional development, networking and European outreach

- Participation in conferences, PDW, Contact Seminars and multilateral activities
- Selection of both award-winning and new eTwinning teachers
- Development of skills, partnerships and new eTwinning projects
- 2024-2025: **84 participations** from Greece (56 teachers, 22 NSO members, 6 university teachers)
- Active contribution of the Greek community through presentations and workshops

WELCOME: eTwinning Online Journal



The community creates and shares knowledge

- Launch: July 2023
- Two (2) issues per year | ISSN 2945-1485
- **6 issues** and **101 articles** so far
- Articles by teachers, researchers, students and pupils
- Open repository of good practices, educational scenarios and research papers



eTwinning Publications and Pedagogical Guides

From projects to pedagogical knowledge

- Pedagogical guides with methods and examples
 - Good practices from national eTwinning competitions
 - Educational scenarios and activity plans
- Material ready for classroom use
 - Publications on STEM, educational robotics and Skills Labs
 - Sharing experience from real eTwinning projects with the wider community



Support Mechanism

Organized support for a large and active community

- Start: February 2024
- Support request management system
- Requests can be submitted through the platform or by email
- Actions are recorded and the teacher is informed
- More than **7,200 support requests** so far
- Main categories: ESEP, Quality Labels, awards, TwinSpace, project registrations



Challenges

- Technical issues related to the ESEP platform
- Increased workload for validation
- Management of large-scale MOOCs
- Growing demand for teacher training related to AI

Excellent cooperation with CSS



What Does the Greek Experience Teach Us?

- Cooperation needs stable support
- Training must be connected to classroom practice
- Innovation needs a pedagogical framework
- Recognition strengthens quality
- eTwinning works as a laboratory for European educational change



Thank you !

eTwinning connects schools, empowers teachers and brings Europe into the classroom.

It turns collaboration into digital, STEM and AI-ready teaching.

eTwinning Portals

- <https://school-education.ec.europa.eu/el>
- <https://www.etwinning.gr>
- <https://seminars.etwinning.gr>
- <https://mooc.etwinning.gr>
- <https://welcome.etwinning.gr>
- <https://support.etwinning.gr>



HELLENIC MINISTRY OF
Education, Religious
Affairs and Sports



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union