

## 1<sup>st</sup> NEWSLETTER OF THE GENERATION AI PROJECT

### Teaching kids about Artificial Intelligence May 2021

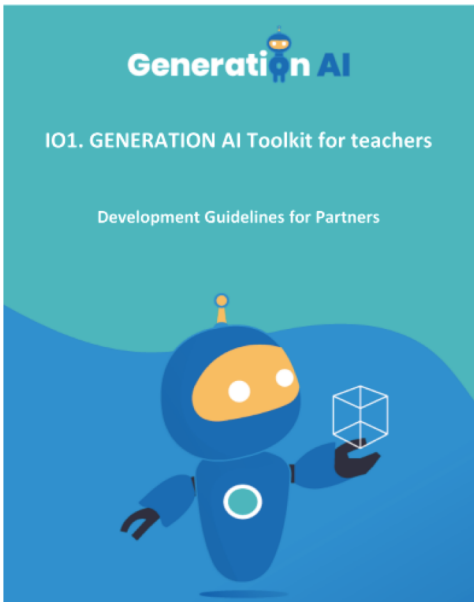
#### General

Generation AI is a 2-year EU Erasmus+ project that aims to support educators and young learners in developing an evidence-based understanding of the complexities and basic principles of AI, computational thinking, and how they can be integrated in teaching, learning to promote creative problem solving, resilience and design thinking. A secondary goal of the project is to support teachers and learners to become more critical consumers of technology applications across their life span.

As AI and related technologies expand and grow, it becomes crucial for parents, educators, and policy makers to better understand, monitor, and regulate its uses and how it can impact children's basic human rights, such as access to educational opportunities. The potential impact of artificial intelligence on children needs to be addressed, since children are the first Generation AI, who throughout their lifespan AI will play various roles to their development. There are several examples of AI tools and applications, with which children are surrounded with, including the learning algorithms powering YouTube Kids' content, Amazon's Alexa, the smart toys which listen and keep track children's interactions, and other educational robots.

By teaching children the basics of AI technology, their workings and limitations, is one of the best ways to supporting children develop the skills and knowledge needed to protect themselves from excessive use and possible abuse. This is important because although the benefits of AI and the potential for strong education value on one hand, it also possesses strong limitations on the other by placing children under scrutiny and strict monitoring, and often times without them knowing it.

## Outputs



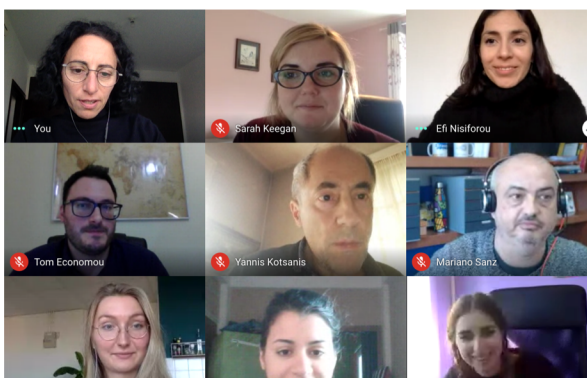
Output 1 is almost finished. During this output, partners engaged in a review of the current Artificial intelligence practices in school education with a focus on Primary Education (PE) as a novel component to uplift STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education and cultivate the digital skills of teachers and young learners. The objective of this output is the

development of a practical and innovative Toolkit that is expected to support primary school teachers, teacher trainers, policy makers to develop, design and implement appropriate AI practices in their teaching and learning practices. The emphasis was placed on the development of students' digital skills (e.g. computational, design, critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, and decision making).

## Meetings

During the kick-off took place on-line on 12 January 2021. It was a fruitful meeting for everyone following the initial planning of the work and effort. Partners also had the chance to discuss and collaborate in the context of the intellectual outputs. Diverse opinions were expressed, and partners made the relevant decisions.

In this meeting partners also had the chance to discuss about project management and implementation as well as the partner roles and responsibilities. Finally, the dissemination plan and the quality assurance plan were presented and agreed upon.



Generation AI team during the on-line kick-off event, January 12 2021