

Contributors

Bjørg Eva Aaslid is a researcher at SINTEF Technology and Society, Department of Health Research, Group of Work and Health in Oslo, Norway. Aaslid was a research assistant at the Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research, on the EU Sixth Framework Project, 'Towards a Lifelong Learning Society in Europe: The Contribution of the Education System' (LLL2010). Her research areas are: school development, quality in education, lifelong learning, learning environment and work environment in the educational sector.

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Ellen Boeren started her research career at HIVA (Research Institute for Work and Society) at the University of Leuven, Belgium. She successfully defended her PhD thesis 'Participation in adult education: a bounded agency approach' in 2011. She is interested in lifelong learning policies, motivational aspects of adult learning, European comparative research and survey methodologies. She is currently employed as a Chancellor's Fellow at the Moray School of Education, University of Edinburgh, UK.

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Paul Downes is Director of the Educational Disadvantage Centre and Senior Lecturer in Education (Psychology) at St Patrick's College, Dublin City University, Ireland. His areas of research interest include lifelong learning, early school leaving, phenomenology, psychoanalysis, developmental psychology and structuralism. He has been a member of various Expert Advisory Groups to the European Commission, including the Network of Experts on the Social Aspects of Education and Training (NESET).

Leta Dromantienė is a Professor in the Social Policy Department and Dean of the Social Policy Faculty at Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania. She was national coordinator of the LLL2010 project. Her research areas are social cohesion, social policy, educational management and lifelong learning. She is editor-in-chief of the editorial board of *Social Work* and a member of the editorial board of *Social Studies*.

Galin Gornev is a Professor at the Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia. He served as a Bulgarian representative and a member of the Standing Committee on the Social Sciences (SCSS) of the European Science Foundation (2005–2011). His research interests are in the fields of human agency and social structure, science and society, social conflicts and disturbances in communication, and transition to a hydrogen society.

Günter Hefler is Senior Researcher and Project Manager at 3s Unternehmensberatung GmbH in Vienna, Austria. Within the LLL2010 project, he was responsible for the cross-country comparative synthesis of findings of subproject 4 studying the role of formal adult education in small and medium-sized enterprises. His areas of research include comparative studies on lifelong learning and continuing vocational training, workplace learning, and adult learning and development.

John Holford is Robert Peers Professor of Adult Education and Director of the Centre for Research in Higher, Adult and Vocational Education at the University of Nottingham, UK. His main current research interest is in lifelong learning policy, especially in Europe, in adult learning of citizenship, and in the history of adult education. He is Editor of the *International Journal of Lifelong Education*, and a convenor of the Policy

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Angela Ivančič is a part-time researcher at the Institute for Developmental and Strategic Analysis (IRSA) in Ljubljana, Slovenia and a contracted Assistant Professor at the Faculty for Social Sciences, Ljubljana University. Her current research interest involves the study of socio-cultural dimensions of knowledge creation and transfer in a comparative perspective.

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Jörg Markowitsch is founder and Senior Partner of 3s Unternehmensberatung GmbH in Vienna, Austria. As former Head of Department for Continuing Education Research and Educational Management at the Danube University Krems he led the Austrian research team of the LLL2010 project. He is a member of various scientific boards and EU expert groups. His areas of research include comparative studies in vocational education and training, lifelong learning and European educational policy.

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He has participated in many international and national research projects dealing with adult participation in education and learning. His research interests are participation in education, motivation to learn, didactics of adult learning and e-learning. He is also a member of the editorial board of the *Andragogic Perspectives*, a Slovenian journal on adult education.

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Maria Veits is a sociologist, independent researcher and curator based in St Petersburg, Russia. She is a co-founder of the Creative Association of Curators TOK, an organization that realizes multidisciplinary projects in the fields of contemporary art and social sciences. Among other projects organized by TOK, such as public and visual exhibitions, lectures, publications and other initiatives aimed at knowledge production, Maria is currently a curator and sociologist of the project Design Platform. Its mission is to apply socially integrated innovative design practices to the social sector, including educational organizations, for the improvement and transformation of the learning environment.

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