

Engagement in intergenerational learning by experienced older people

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Fast technological and social change ask for older people who hold competences and knowledge for living in a world of persistent change and are also prepared to constantly learn how to use new technologies, able to deal with new transformations in society and to be involved in family and community active life. Demographic changes have had a lot to do with continuous lifelong learning by adults and older people. They have to have knowledge and digital skills which are necessary for these new circumstances. Acquisition of key competences will be required throughout whole life and digital competences are unique in the sense that they need constant adaptation to technology's fast evolution.

Older learners should experience benefits of education to enable them to flexibly adapt to these changes. The concept of experienced older people engaged in ICT learning in a non-formal and intergenerational approach is an interesting concept. What do digital competences mean to them? Why do they need them and how do they change through the acquisition of such competences? Why do they prefer non-formal education? What is the importance of intergenerational learning for them?

This communication presents an intergenerational practice of ICT learning in a non-formal context and aims to search for the provision of answers to the previous questions; it also discusses and contributes to the debate on the future of learning for older people in Europe.