



Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme
Leonardo da Vinci



GRJAL

Research **GR**oup in
Inter**A**ction and e**L**earning

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This presentation has been made under the auspices of the Lifelong Learning Programme – Leonardo da Vinci VETPRO Project “eLearning in flamenco rhythm” (Ref. 872A8A24631B9423). This project has been funded with support from the European Commission under the Lifelong Learning Programme. This presentation reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

<http://grial.usal.es>

Presentation (i)



- The research **GR**oup in **InterA**ction and **eL**earning (GRIAL) is born at the University of Salamanca in response to the need of establishing stable and officially recognised research groups
- It is an **interdisciplinary** group, composed of permanent members from different fields of knowledge
 - Computer Engineering
 - Classic Languages, Rethoric and Communication Theory
 - Philosophy, Pedagogy and Educational Sciences
 - Law, Economics, Social Sciences
 - Documentation
 - [...]

Presentation (ii)



- It is an **international** group, with researchers in different countries of Europe and Latin America
- It is an **intergenerational** group, where the expertise of internationally recognised researchers joins the enthusiasm of young researchers and PhD students
- It is an **intercorporate** group, where the academic world meets business and public institutions
- It is a research group, but it carries out many more activities
 - R&D&i GRIAL
 - GRIAL Education
 - GRIAL Services

Our research work



- Our group has a considerable amount of funded research projects, both national and international, such as the following



Partner in Europe

COMENIUS



plan
avanza2,,

- Our main research interests
 - Human-Computer Interaction
 - eLearning (αLearning – Web-based education)
 - Software Engineering
 - Elearning Methodology
 - Communication Theory and Dynamics
 - Online Tutoring
 - Semantic Web and adaptive multimedia systems
 - [...]

Grial R&D&i



- Our group has developed R&D&i activities in cooperation with companies and has cooperation agreements with different technological partners



- Development of software products and research



- Solutions for Public Administration



- Development and improvement of their eLearning products

- Development of the platform (forums and user interaction)
- Development of new functionalities (work in progress)

Our teaching services



- University M.A



M.A. in *eLearning*
<http://grial.usal.es>

- Lifelong learning diplomas



Tutor online
<http://www.tutoron-line.info>

- Short specialised courses



Specialization profiles in *eLearning*
<http://grial.usal.es>

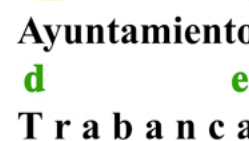
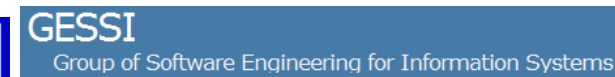
- On-demand courses

Our services



- Software Development
- Consulting
- Learning Objects Development
- Instructional Design
- Virtual Campus Implementation & Maintenance
- eLearning/portal 2.0 Solutions
- Personal Learning Environments Development
- mLearning Solutions
- [...]

GRIAL works with...



<http://grial.usal.es>



<http://grial.usal.es>

Recent prizes and distinctions



- Latin-American Prize to Excellence in eLearning (Online Education Madrid 07)



- Registered as Research Group of Excellence (GR-47)



- Best Paper in Session Award to "Blended learning University students' perception of digital competence". In 2010 EABR & ETLC Conferences (Dublin, Ireland, June 7-10, 2010). The Clute Institute For Academic Research
- Final Undergraduate Project Prize 2010 for the work "CLAYMOBILE: Adaptation of the Moodle contents for mobile phones"

Virtual University USAL



- GRIAL group lead the implementation of the Virtual University in the USAL
 - ✓ Implementation of new virtual campus
 - ✓ Methodological design
 - ✓ Digital contents policy

Some actual projects



- Multicultural Interdisciplinary Handbook (MIH): Tools for Learning History and Geography in a Multicultural and ICT Perspective
- ELVIN (European Languages Virtual Network)

MIH - Participants



- Universidad de Salamanca (Spain)
- Pädagogische Hochschule Tirol (Austria)
- Hafelekar Unternehmensberatung Schober GmbH - Innsbruck (Austria)
- Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres - Créteil (France)
- University of Augsburg (Germany)
- University of Siegen (Germany)
- Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia (Italy)
- Społeczna Wyższa Szkoła Przedsiębiorczości i Zarządzania (Poland)

MIH - Project Overview



- The aim of this Project is to build and share a set of tools that includes a HandBook, Digital Modules and a Teacher Training Course
- They will offer a structured path through European Contemporary History and Geography where the countries concerned will be those of the Project partners

MIH - Project Objectives



- Further the development of a common European identity by having schools participate in the culture of other countries using their languages and their collective symbolic imagery
- Contribute to the creation of a new generation of school HandBook and ICT-based contents that can support teachers involved in CLIL experiences, or who are simply interested in them
- Implement digital educational contents in schools

MIH - Project main results



- A HandBook and Digital Materials, that deal with a choice of historical and geographical topics, selected among those that have had an important impact in the national imagery in the last two centuries. The final version of HANDBOOK and Digital Modules will be available in all the languages of the partner countries
- A Teacher Training Course addressed to both future and in – service teachers. The training develops the topics dealt by the HandBook and explains its methodology and issues

MIH - Impact



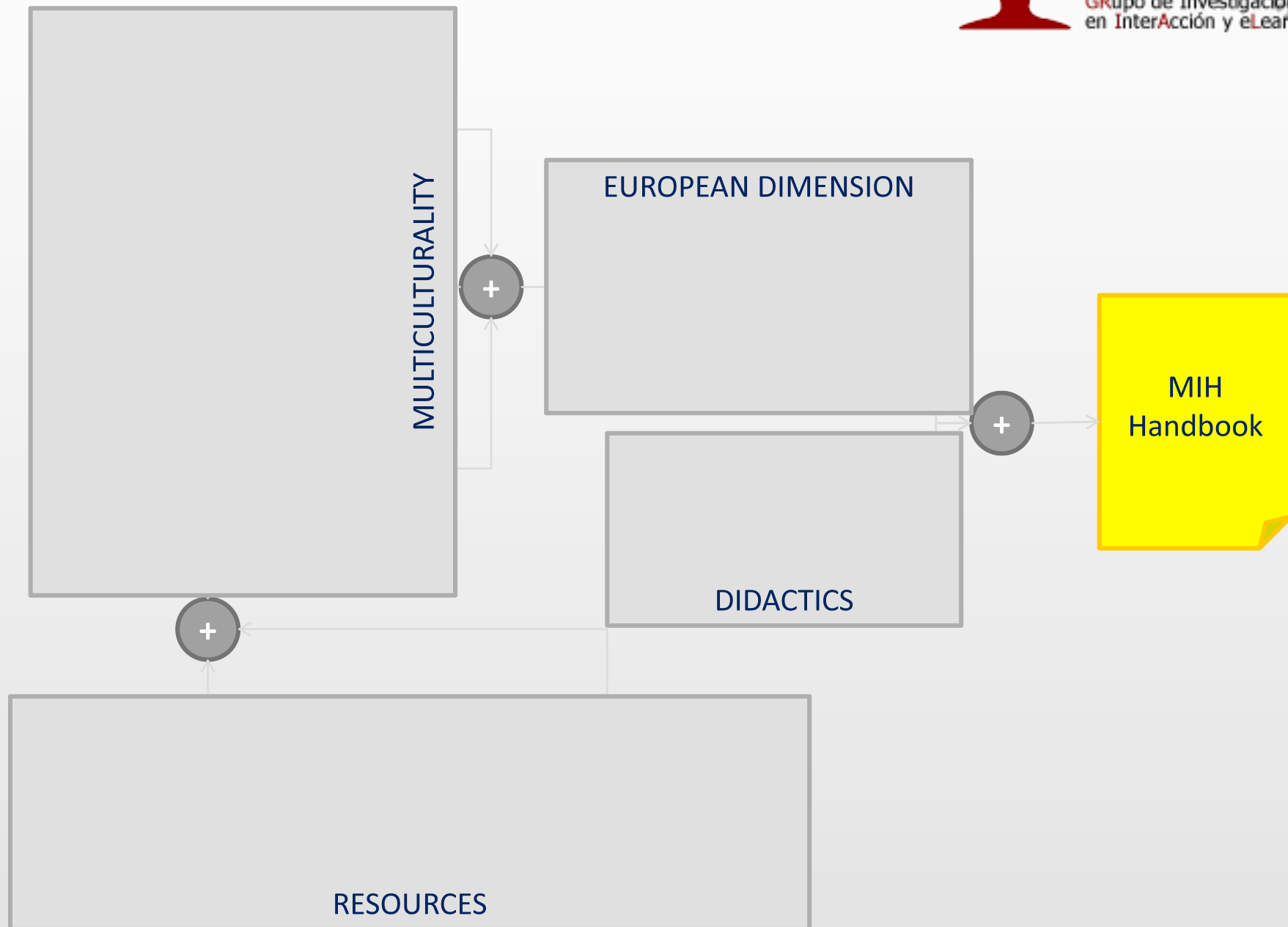
- Immediate beneficiaries, who will also be involved in evaluation and pilot testing, are
 - Future teachers of Languages, History and Geography enrolled with the partner institutions.
 - Teachers currently in service in associated schools as well as those that can be reached in the course programme

MIH - Project Steps



1. Define key topics and methodology based on comparative studies and collaborative engagement
2. Draft initial version of the handbook and implement quality evaluation
3. Write the final version of the handbook in English and in the five languages of the partnership
4. Develop a storyboard of the modules and produce the podcasts
5. Design the teacher-training course
6. Run a pilot study of the toolset and related quality evaluation

MIH - Learning Object Model



MIH – More information



<http://www.mihproject.eu>

<http://twitter.com/mihproject>

<http://www.facebook.com/people/Comenius-Mih/100000911645603>

ELVIN - Participants



- Escuela de Administración Pública de Castilla y León (Spain)
- Cork Institute of Technology (Ireland)
- Universidad de Salamanca (Spain)
- Universidade de Coimbra (Portugal)
- Instituto Nacional de Administraçao (Portugal)
- Corvinno Technology Transfer Center Nonprofit LTD (Hungary)
- APROCODI (Spain)
- Rigas Tehniska Universitate (Latvia)
- Latvian School of Public Administration (Latvia)
- Ecoclean TM (Bulgaria)

ELVIN - Project Overview



- ELVIN aims to research and develop the connection between social networks, professional profiles and language learning in an informal educational context, with a special focus on language learning in public administration and higher education

ELVIN - General information



- Project title: European Languages Virtual Network
- Acronym: ELVIN
- Programme: Lifelong Learning Programme
- Sub-programme: KA2 Languages
- Call for proposals: DG EAC/31/08
- Action: KA2 Multilateral projects
- Sub-action: Awareness raising and development of new materials and/or online communities
- Start date: December, 2009
- End date: November, 2011
- Duration: 24 months

ELVIN - Aim of the project



- To create a Multilingual Online Social Community of language learners
 - Objectives addressed
 - To support the realisation of a European area for lifelong learning
 - To help improve the quality, attractiveness and accessibility of the opportunities for lifelong learning
 - To promote language learning and linguistic diversity
 - To exploit the use of ICT in learning
 - To promote informal learning scenarios

ELVIN - Social network (i)

- ELVIN Social network



- The social network constitutes the basic structure of the ELVIN system



ELVIN - Social network (ii)



Elvin Project | Social Networking Platform Beta V2.0



Welcome to the **Elvin Project Beta V2.0 Social Networking Platform**.

Log in

Username

Password

Log in

☐ Remember me

[Register](#) | [Lost password](#)



Latest files

Latest groups



Learn Spanish

open group / 1 members

ELVIN (European Languages Virtual Network) is a European Union (EU) Lifelong Learning Programme Project aimed at creating an informal social network to support and facilitate language learning.

The Elvin project aims to research and develop the connection between social networks, professional profiles and language learning in an informal educational context.

Newest members



Latest blog posts



Blog: **Paul's Blog Post**
Paul Walsh 43 days ago



Blog: **another blog thig**
Maria Murray 43 days ago

Latest bookmarks



Bookmarked: **Learn French from BBC** ([Visit resource](#))
Paul Walsh 43 days ago



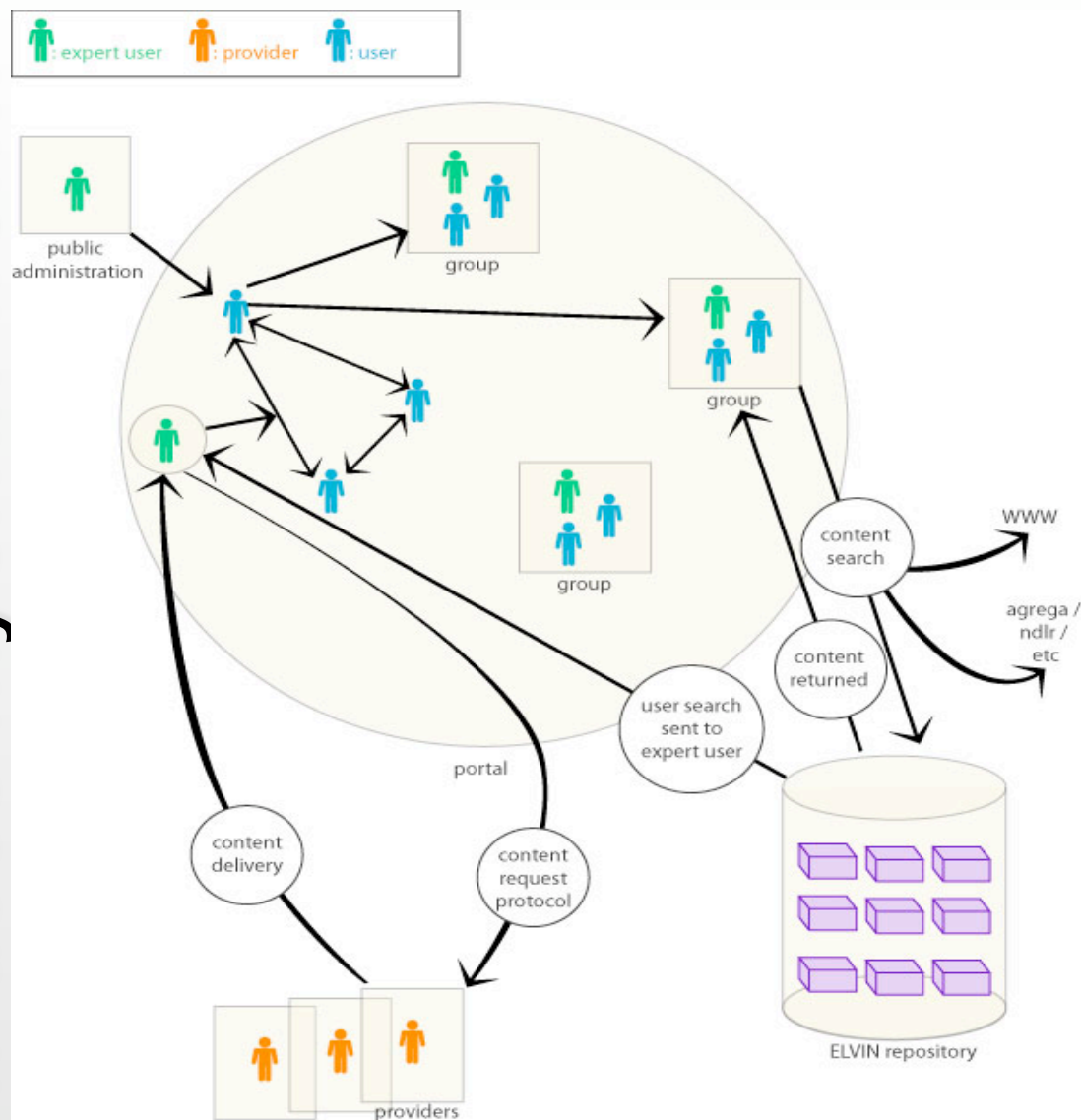
Bookmarked: **Revise French with BBC's Destination Death** ([Visit resource](#))
Roisin Garvey 44 days ago, Comments (1)

ELVIN - Type of users



- Two different users populate the system
 - Normal users
 - These are the users registered in the Elvin platform to practise languages
 - Expert users
 - These are the users that will act as online tutors and facilitators within the portal
 - This will be supported by a training course and manual
 - These users will guide and manage the groups created in the social network in order to guarantee a satisfactory use of the resources and the contents

How does myelvin work?



- Users can react with individual users or groups. Interactions are supervised by expert users.
- The elvin repository, associated repositories and the web provide content according to user searches / profiles.
- If content exists in the wider web / agrega the user is directed to content.
- If content exists in ELVIN repository the content is fed to users via activity page.
- If an exact match is not found, the content request goes back to the expert user, the expert user formats the content request in order to meet provider specifications. The request is sent to the provider.
- In the meantime the users are supplied with alternative content and informed specific content is being developed. They receive emails / text alerts when the content is ready & sent to the group / individual

ELVIN – Repository (i)



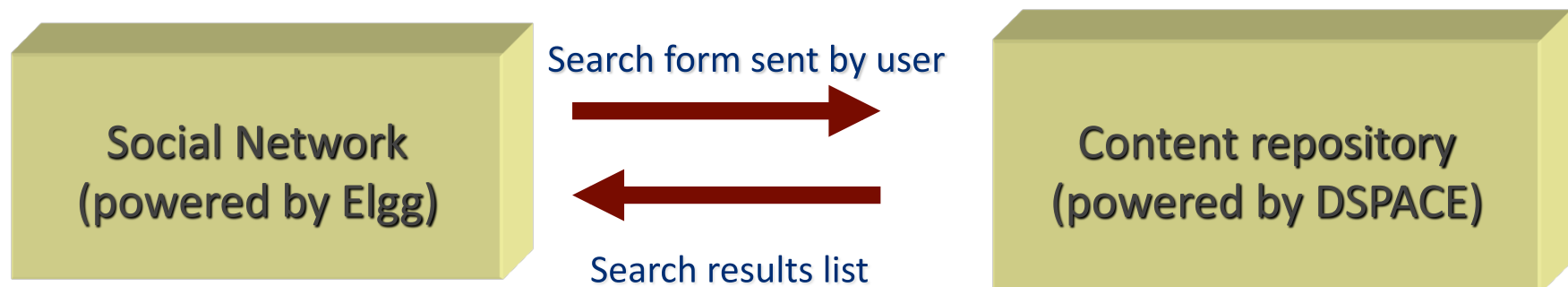
- A key objective of the project is to provide social network users' with **relevant content related to their professional interests** in the field of public administration
- The relevant up-to-date content for language learners is stored in a **searchable repository** powered by **DSPACE**
- DSPACE is an **open source** software that enables open sharing of cataloged content



ELVIN – Repository (ii)



- Social Network – Content repository Wrapper
 - ✓ The access to the content repository will be transparent to the user
 - ✓ A wrapper to connect both systems is being developed based on web services



ELVIN – More information



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Elvin

European Language Virtual Network

The Project aims to create a portal in which European language learners from a variety of different linguistic contexts can come together within a social Framework, first in the field of public administration and later in other sectors.



<http://www.myelvin.com/>

GRIAL contact



- <http://grial.usal.es>
- <http://www.facebook.com/grialusal>
- http://twitter.com/grial_usal





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