



**INSTITUTE FOR PRODUCTIVE
LEARNING IN EUROPE**
*Affiliated Institute of the Alice
Salomon University*



**International Network of
Productive Learning Schools and
Projects**



Schleswig-Holstein
Ministry of General Education and
Vocational Training, Science,
Research and Culture

**Ministry of General Education and
Vocational Training, Science,
Research and Culture**

March 2026

Invitation

**33rd Congress of the *International Network of Productive Learning Schools and Projects*
(INEPS)**

“Opening Doors – From School To Vocational Life”

How *Productive Learning* improves career prospects

18th to 22nd May 2026

Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein/Germany

What is the focus of the conference?

The 33rd INEPS-Congress takes place in Spring 2026 in the north of Germany. It will focus on a crucial period in the life of each student: when obligatory secondary education comes to an end and students have to make decisions with high impact on their lives.

Successful transitions following lower secondary education are key topics of education in European countries and world-wide due to its urgency: Deficits and failure in this process cause risks for the wellbeing of the individual as well as the society as a whole, relying on the participation and the qualification of its members. Early school leaving and a lack of skilled personnel are “two sides of this coin”. Subsequently vocational orientation contributes to a wide spectrum of future social needs – from health and integration via social coherence to economic development.

To address important aspects of this process, this conference will focus on:

- How can school help young people to come to well reflected and sustainable decisions about their future education and training?
- How can secondary education help the adolescents to enter the world of work with confidence, self-assurance and well prepared?
- What strengthens young people to successfully manage the transition from school to vocational training?
- Which partners have to be involved and how do they cooperate successfully?
- And how does Productive Learning pursue all these targets?

Why is the conference relevant and why should you consider your participation?

Take advantage of the opportunity to get insights into the curricular and methodological integration of Productive Learning in Schleswig-Holstein:

- Three days of learning at self-chosen practice places and two days of learning in school,
- curricular integration of all subjects (in practice and learning fields in school),
- communication group and individual counseling as constant elements of the educational process.

The two-year approach in class 8/9 leads to regular school leaving certificates and offers transmissibility for all kinds of upper secondary education. Within the last years almost 90 % of the participants, many of them considered as “at risk of dropping out” – reached their certification and more than 60 % continued in vocational training immediately.

It’s a **unique chance** to get to know the **practice of Productive Learning in Germany** developed through decades as well as **international practice and experience in the INEPS!**

Who invites to the INEPS-Congress in Kiel and what does it offer?

The Institute for Productive Learning in Europe (IPLE) in cooperation with the Administration Council of INEPS, the Ministry of Education in Schleswig-Holstein and the eleven schools offering Productive Learning in Schleswig-Holstein are glad to invite all INEPS-partners as well as guests interested in the topic and Productive Learning.

The conference includes:

- welcome by the ministry of Education and the minister Dr. Dorit Stenke
- insight into practice at up to 11 schools offering PL in Schleswig-Holstein
- key-speeches and discussion groups addressing important aspects of the topic
- special workshop for guests and newcomers
- options to foster co-operation and build new partnerships
- cultural side program

Congress Program

Monday, 18th May	
14:00 18:00	Arrival of participants Boat trip with PL students and teacher, Sightseeing in Kiel Welcome Dinner
Tuesday, 19th May Europa-Universität-Flensburg	
08:45	Departure in Kiel (by congress bus)
10:15 10.30	Opening, Introduction to the conference program (Holger Mirow, INEPS) Curriculum and methodology of vocational orientation, needs and preconditions of students today, educational competences of educators, the contribution of Productive Learning: successes, challenges, career reviews Panel discussion followed by open talks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Florian Frenz, economics and its didactics, Universität Flensburg - Jonas Gebhardt, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, tbc - Jens Koll, Educator of Productive Learning - Nils Stolze, Eckener-Schule Flensburg (vocational training) - Ingrid Romero, City-as-school, New York - Angela Passa, Protasi, Greece Moderation: Holger Mirow, INEPS

12:30	Lunch at University
13:30	Visits to partner companies of Productive Learning in Flensburg and sites of Learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - vehicel manufacturing “Flensburger Fahrzeuggesellschaft” FFG - shipyard “Flensburger Schiffbaugesellschaft” (FSG) - vocational school “Eckener Schule”
16.00	Visit of Flensburg and dinner
19:30	Return to Kiel (by congress bus)
Wednesday, 20th May Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Kiel	
09:30	Gallery walk: Schools of Productive Learning in Schleswig-Holstein
10:30	Welcome by University President Prof. Björn Christensen Welcome by Daniel Guzmán, IPLE Reception by the Minister of Education in Schleswig-Holstein, Dr. Dorit Stenke
11:00	The cooperative task of vocational orientation and transition management: demands, strategies, crucial points and future perspectives Panel including representatives of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ministry (Bildungsministerin Dr. Dorit Stenke) - the chambers (Industrie und Handelskammer, Handwerkskammer) tba - the labor office (Agentur für Arbeit), tba - enterprises offering learning sites/internships for students, tba - the schools (principle, PL-educator) tba Moderation: Daniel Guzmán. IPLE
12:00	Lunch at the Mensa
13:00	Presentations of international experience concerning Productive Learning, vocational orientation and transition management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ingrid romero, City-As-School New York/USA - Angela Passa PROTASI prevention center, Patras/Greece - Florence Candiru, Food for the Hungry, Uganda - Yenny M. Mendoza Maguiña, Food for the Hungry, Peru, tbc - Clara Muyere, Nouvelle Chance, Paris/France - Jukka Somerharju, Flexible Basic Education (Jopo), Finland - Dr. Aukse Petruskeviciute, Vytautas Magnus University Education Academy (Lithuania) tbc -
14:30	World café offering discussions with international partners
15:45	Workshops preparing for the school visits on Thursday Schools offering a visit get in contact to their guest to inform about the topic, program, and meeting points for the visit
17:00	International Market of PL
18:00	End of the congress day
	Evening program in Kiel (optional)

Thursday, 21st May Visit of Productive Learning at schools all over Schleswig-Holstein	
8:00/8:30	Departure according to the appointments made on Wednesday
10:00 - 16:00	<p>School visits and thematical focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comenius-Schule Quickborn: Individual productive tasks in PL - GemS am Lehmwohld, Itzehoe: The „matching“ of students and places of practice in PL - Leif Erikson Schule, Kiel: Ways from PL to vocational training - Schule Ossenmoorpark, Norderstedt: Individual counseling and the planning of learning processes in PL - Schule am Brook, Kiel: Opening up of learning opportunities at practice sites - Theodor Heuss GS, Preetz: Development of competences in PL - Gudewerdt-Schule, Eckernförde: How students become aware of their interests and find suitable sites of learning in practice - Gemeinschaftsschule Wentorf: Subject-related learning in school and practice - Bruno-Lorenzen-Schule, Schleswig: Successful cooperation with mentors at sites of practice <p>The school visits may include activities in the classroom, discussions with students and educators, visits of learning sites in companies and institutions.</p>
	Evening program in Kiel (optional)
Friday, 22th May Visit to Lübeck and Travemünde	
08:45	Departure in Kiel (congress bus)
10:30	Reception at Productive Learning Schule am Meer, Travemünde Exhibition and talks to the PL-students and teachers
11:30	General Assembly of INEPS
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Walk by the sea, transfer to Lübeck, city walk
16:00	Congress review of visits and discussion groups (at Brauberger Hof)
17:00	Farewell dinner (Brauberger Hof)
19:30	Departure from Lübeck to Kiel (congress bus)
Saturday, 23rd May	
	Departure of the participants

Transport Airport Hamburg - Kiel

- By train (return tickets starting 38 €), app. 2 connections per hour

Accommodation

Recommended hotels in Kiel:

B&B Hotel Kiel-City	Rooms: Single 79,- €/ double 89,- €, breakfast additional 13,90 € → We have reserved a room contingent valid until 31.03.2026 Booking via the following Email: kiel-city@hotelbb.com Code: INEPS 2026
Hotel Berliner Hof, Kiel	Rooms: Single 104,- €/ double 124,- €, breakfast included; → We have reserved a room contingent, valid until 06.04.2026, and a smaller contingent until 20.04.2026 Booking via following Email: reservation@coffee-fellows-hotels.com Code: INEPS 2026

Further options:

- unique by ATLANTIC Hotels Kiel
- Hotel am Kieler Schloss by Premiere Class
- Holiday Inn - the niu, Welly Kiel

Congress fee

For INEPS members: 250 €

For non-members: 300 €

This congress fee includes facilities and materials, three lunches and two dinners, coffee breaks and some of the transports during the congress days.

Please send the attached registration form by mail to produktives.lernen@iple.de.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Kiel!

Alexander Kraft, III 3;
Ministry of General Education and
Vocational Training, Science,
Research and Culture

Daniel Guzman, IPLE

Holger Mirow, INEPS

Congress Office:

The **Administration Council (AC)** of
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In cooperation with the Ministry of Education
and the schools offering PL in Schleswig-
Holstein

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Arttu ROUSI (Finland)

Aukse PETRUSKEVICIUTE (Lithuania)

Naima FREITAS (U.S.A.)

Annex: What is Productive Learning?

Productive Learning is an educational approach developed by the Institute for Productive Learning in Europe ([IPLE](#)) and the International Network of Productive Learning Projects and Schools ([INEPS](#)). It was inspired by [City-As-School New York](#), a pioneer since 1972 in curricular integration of “out of school” resources for formal education and long standing member of INEPS.

Today more than 100 schools in Germany and INEPS partners in more than 10 countries are using Productive Learning

- to individualize educational offers according to the needs of the students,
- to connect school based learning and real-life experience to improve education and vocational orientation,
- to facilitate the transition from school to vocational training and further studies for all students, also the ones considered “at risk” of dropping out.

Find more information here:

www.iple.de

www.ineps.org

www.cityas.org

www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/landesregierung/ministerien-behoerden/III/iii_node