

ETHICS IN EDUCATION

Living together in Europe: the *human being first*, not economy and bureaucracy.

How? By teaching *Philosophy* (Ethics) and *Religion* using *theatre techniques*.

Philosophy provides the tools: *reason* and *self-control*.

Religion provides a common ground of basic *existential questions*.

Goal is to promote the *human rights' culture*.

Teachers need to have: “heart”, faith, love, hope, *openness*, ecumenical spirit, dynamism, *broad cultural interests* (theatre, music, dance, literature etc.)

EXAMPLE OF COURSES

- a) - Ethical dilemma or question:
the plank of Carneades or *should we eat meat?*
- Students (individually or in groups) give several answers.
 - **Dialogue:** teacher directs conversation to a moral answer.
 - Teacher presents a quote or passage (philosophers, theologians, holy scripture, ancient theatre etc.) with a similar moral answer.
- b) – Story (novel, newspaper, classic text etc.)
- (Moral) questions on this story.
 - Conversation/improvisation that leads to a specific realization.

BE CAREFUL: *In both cases, it has to be the student that gives the answers, not the teacher.*

FAITH COMMUNITIES' ACTIONS

Two Orthodox examples

CHURCH OF GREECE

Operates several *shelters* for *unaccompanied minors* through its NGO “*Synyparxis*”.

Focus: not just the essentials (bed and food), but *education* and *psychosocial support* in order to give these minors a fair chance to become *European citizens*.

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Supports *interchristian* and *interreligious dialogue*

Organizes *Forums, Symposia, meetings* and even *marches*, being next to those in need and those under discrimination.

“War in the name of religion is a war against religion”.

His All-Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople Bartholomew 1st