

## **Anna Brancaccio: Erasmus Plus Key Action 2 and the SMART Project**

Anna Brancaccio underlines how challenging it has been to present the project at the very first Erasmus Plus call in April 2014, in particular within Action 2, which is the most complex action, as it can influence and suggest changes and modifications to the national school politics.

The SMART subjects themselves, Mathematics and Science, have always been seen as complex and difficult, but it has been considered fundamental to investigate how in Europe they were being approached, taught and learnt.

The choice of making the study of the different Sciences unitary has made it necessary to investigate how the other European school systems had managed to do it. In the comparison, the Italian school system has proven to be better than it was thought.

Thanks to the international partnerships, it has been possible to share experiences and best practices in order to improve the national school politics. The aim is the acquisition of the same competences in the different European countries. As far as the competences are concerned, during the first SMART International meeting there has been a strong debate on whose competences to improve: the students' or the teachers'? The SMART Project focuses on the teachers' competences: in effect, some of its intellectual outputs are the Open Online Courses (OOCs) for teachers of Mathematics and Science.