# 8. SU "Vasil Levski"

Name of the organisation	on: 8. SU "Vasil Levski"
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Type of organisation:	
	School ■ University □ Public Authority □ No Profit □ NGO □
Other (Specify)	
Fields of action:	
SMEs □ Equal opportunities □	Youth □ Universities □ Public Authorities □ Schools ■ Unemployed □
Other (Specify)	
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# **Description of the organisation**

8. SU "Vasil Levski" is a state run primary school with 500 students aged 5 to 14 years. There are preschool classes, sport clubs and a large variety of extracurricular activities. About 4% of all students have special educational needs. While the majority of the students are of Bulgarian ethnicity, there is a small number of Roma children attending the school. Most students belong to Christian or atheist families and just a few come from an Islamic background.

#### **Experience of the organization in previous European projects**

This is the first international project in which the school participates.

### Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

We at 8. SU "Vasil Levski" teach about religion in a secular context. Students learn about religious freedom and tolerance in civil rights and citizenship classes, and about Eastern Orthodox religious beliefs, customs and practices in history classes. We organize excursions to historical monasteries on a regular basis. Holiday issues of the school newspaper include a section comparing celebratory traditions around the world. In the previous school year, 8.SU participated in a project promoting human rights education through action methods, drama and creative art.

### Contributions that can be provided to the project

8.SU "Vasil Levski" will engage teachers and students in the development and testing of the intellectual outputs envisioned by the project. We will provide coverage of the project on our website and social network accounts and publish articles about it in the school newspaper. If possible, some of us could participate in TV and radio talk shows in order to bring attention to the ongoing work or its outcomes.

#### Reasons of involvement in the project

We at 8.SU "Vasil Levski" are committed to promoting freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination among the young members of our society. We believe that the diversity of our world's many religions, cultures and ethnicities enriches us all. It is our mission to help our students in developing capacities for independent judgement, critical thinking and ethical reasoning.

## **Contact Person's Experience and Expertise**

Victor Velchev is a M.A. in Arts and Social Work and a B.A. in Psychology. Currently he is pursuing a postgraduate degree in Cultural management. He has expert knowledge in the fields of educational psychology, experiential learning, social inclusion and restorative practice.