

LOST2

e- NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 4 | May 2024

Welcome

to the last e-Newsletter
of LOST2 project!

Since the beginning of 2025, LOST2 was all about reaching out students (including those enrolled in Law School and Criminology) and to professionals working in organisations that are active in the Missing People and Missing Children fields and in Search and Rescue teams from Italy, Greece, Norway, Portugal and Spain, to test the contents of the project's training qualification - "Expert in the Research of Missing People & Minors".

Moreover, the last phase of LOST2 implementation period was dedicated to disseminate the main results achieved in the project through events that culminated with LOST2 Final Conference held in Brussels (BE), in May, titled "LOST2: Bridging Gaps, Saving Lives: Strengthening Search and Rescue Across Europe", and that had in its panel of speakers all LOST2 partners and representatives from Missing Children Europe, Child Focus Belgium and Don Bosco International, organisations that are key actors in the areas addressed by the project.

Information about these and other LOST2 activities conducted between January and May 2025, and on how the project's main results and outcomes can be found and further implemented, is available on the next pages.

Enjoy your reading!

LOST2 Team is:

- ARLAB Regional Agency for Employment and Learning in Basilicata – IT (Coordinator)
- p-consulting.gr – EL
- SIULP Union of Italian Workers Unitary Police – IT
- OMNIS – IT
- Asociación SOS desaparecidos Missing Person – ES
- EfVET European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training – BE
- The Smile of the Child – EL
- EUROMASC AS – NO
- APCD Associação Portuguesa de Crianças Desaparecidas – PT



Contact LOST2 at <https://lost.team/contact/>

All the activities addressed in this e-Newsletter (and others) are further described in LOST2 website and social media.



Access these channels and discover more about LOST2 and how its results will contribute to the creation of a unified European search and find system focused on missing people and minors, with involvement of experts and other professionals working in the field.

Online Training Experimentation: LOST2 Training Platform



After the first round of pilot sessions carried out in 2024 aimed to test the contents of the “Expert in the Research of Missing People & Minors” training qualification, LOST2 partners in Italy, Greece, Norway, Portugal and Spain dedicated their time organising the second phase of the pilot events between April and May 2025, this time with the purpose to test LOST2 online training platform and the updated contents, and to collect feedback that would allow to fine-tune the Platform, before it is made publicly available at LOST2 website.

With more than 80 participants involved in all pilots conducted (among who were search and rescue teams part of Police Forces, Fire Brigades, psychologists and students from Law School and Criminology), some of these sessions were carried out with support from public authorities (e.g., the Greek Ministry of Protection of Citizens).

During these sessions, participants were invited to access to the Platform, to create their own accounts and to enrol in the different modules, an opportunity to test not only the functionalities and navigation features of the online training platform, but also to participate in LOST2 training. Thus, some of these sessions lasted more than one day, to make sure participants would successfully complete the modules.

Interested in creating your own LOST2 online training Platform account and to enrol in the different modules of the “Expert in the Research of Missing People & Minors” training qualification? Then access to LOST2 **Training** section of the project’s website, at <https://lost.team/training/>.



Did you know?

- **Nearly 40% of kids who use online platforms** have been approached by someone attempting to manipulate them.
- Grooming often leads to **self-generated child sexual abuse material (SG-CSAM)** and, in some cases, **sextortion**.

Learn how to report exploitation cases and contribute for preventing online grooming, [here](#).

LOST2 National Multiplier Events: A chance to go further

At least 100 people attended the different multiplier events of LOST2, carried out during the month of May, aimed to present the project and to discuss its results to understand the level of impact they potentially have on beneficiaries and end users. As such, all of the multiplier events conducted focused mainly on LOST2 “Expert in the Research of Missing People & Minors” training qualification, and on the project’s online training Platform, which was explored by participants who were invited to access and navigate it to understand how it works.

Among the attendees were police officers, educational professionals and students, volunteers working in Missing Children associations, psychologists, representatives of human rights organisations and social workers, all part of LOST2 target audience.

These events were disseminated beforehand by partners to invite participants using their own and the project’s channels and tools of communication (e.g., poster, flyer and social media channels), an approach that turned out to be successful in raising awareness for the existence of the project and for the expected impact of its results in the work conducted in the scope of missing people and children’s cases.

Overall, the feedback collected by partners was very positive! Here are the comments made by some of the participants of these events:

- “There is the need for good practices in communicating with authorities about missing persons.”;
- “The need for an immediate activation protocol in the event of the disappearance of children, adolescents, and elderly people with medical conditions.”;
- “More psychological training for the media involved in the search.”;
- “The e-learning course was extremely useful and provided me with practical tools to search for missing persons.”;
- “The psychological support provided during the course was essential to better understand the needs of the families of missing persons and to offer them concrete help.”.

Some participants asked about a follow-up of LOST2 given that, for them, such project could address all of these issues.



Going further

In the case of APCD, there is the possibility that LOST2 “Expert in the Research of Missing People & Minors” training qualification is used as a post-graduation course in Criminology on a private university in Lisbon, Portugal, as a result of the presentation made during this partner’s multiplier event.

Moreover, SOS Desaparecidos collected interest from some organisations attending its event to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the use of the training materials to train their professionals.

Only time can tell if there will be a LOST3 project but, for the time being, LOST2 partners are proud of the results achieved and of the impact those results can have on their end-users, illustrated by the comments made by the participants of these Multiplier Events.



Did you know?

- Every year, approximately 250,000 children are reported missing across Europe.
- In 2023 alone, the 116 000 hotlines received 67,345 calls related to 7,274 cases of missing children.
- More than 51,000 unaccompanied migrant minors vanished in Europe between 2021 and 2023 — many falling victim to trafficking and exploitation.
- In France, 40,989 cases of missing minors were reported in 2023.

Access to [this article](#) to understand the causes and risks associated with Missing Children cases, and how you can help reporting them.

LOST2 Final Conference

“LOST2 Final Conference – Bridging Gaps, Saving Lives: Strengthening Search and Rescue across Europe”

An European perspective into the Missing People and Children phenomena

While the remaining Multiplier Events were conducted at national level, this event had a European scope as it targeted participants coming not only from Belgium but also from other countries.

LOST2 Final Conference, organised by EfVET, took place in Brussels on May 21st and gathered 16 participants, including Vocational Education and Training (VET) Managers, Students, Project Officers, Directors of European Organisations active in the VET sector, and VET Experts, coming from Belgium and also from Finland and Türkiye.

In addition to all LOST2 Partners, who presented all of the results achieved in the project (including their national reports, developed back in 2023 and that focused on the status of Missing People and Children and on the skills needs to be covered by the project’s training qualification), this conference included in its panel of speakers Sandrine Pépit (Vice-President of Missing Children Europe), Sara Sechi (Executive Secretary of Don Bosco International) and Nel Broothaerts (Deputy CEO and Chief Prevention and Development Officer of Child Focus Belgium), who provided information about the work carried out by their own organisations, their perspective about the phenomena of Missing People and Children, and how it can be, collaboratively, addressed across Europe through a stronger EU search and rescue system.

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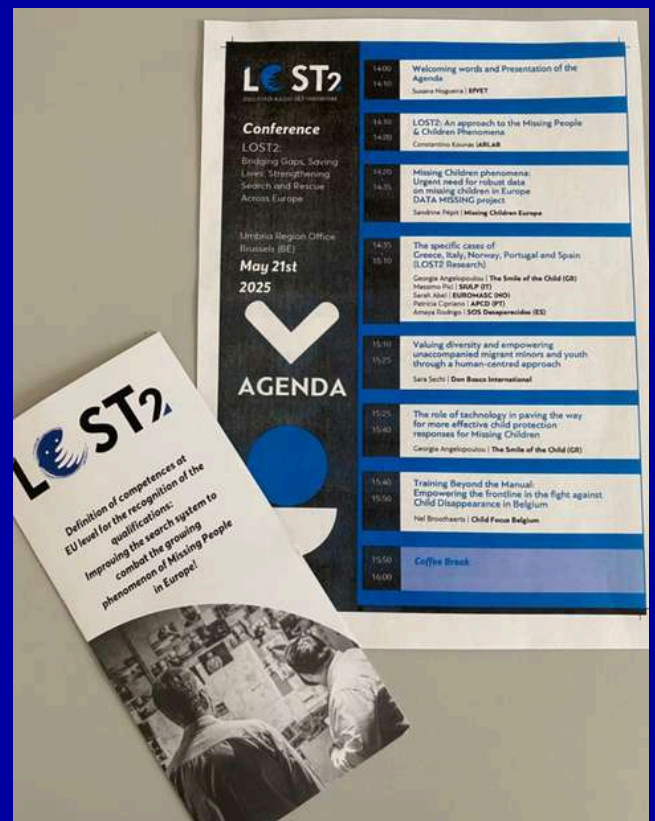
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Overall, participants were very satisfied with the conference, particularly with the quality of the speakers' interventions. The event was seen as an opportunity to understand the Missing People and Missing Children phenomena, to discuss it with professionals and experts, and to know more about LOST2 and how to use its results.

Like it happened with the previous Multiplier Events, the participants of this conference had the chance to provide their feedback:

- “[LOST2 training qualification could be] included in the curricula/training of police officers.”;
- “Members of Search and Rescue Teams could receive certification via e-platform for specific modules and gain skills which they could add on their personal CVs”;
- “Lost2 should be scaled up in order to be a post graduate study”;
- “Raise awareness about the new profile and the online training”.

Still according to the comments made by some participants, this Final Conference allowed participants to get a clear perception of the Missing People and Missing Children phenomena in the countries represented in LOST2 partnership, and to understand the efforts conducted daily by the organisations (internal and external to the partnership) and by their professionals in the search and rescue operations, and the different approaches implemented and that support those operations.



LOST2 Final Project Meeting

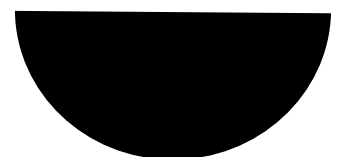
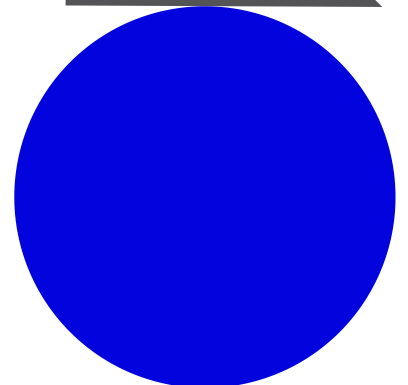
(Brussels (BE), May 20th and 21st, 2025)

Partners met one last time in Brussels, hosted by EfVET, on LOST2 Final Project Meeting, aimed to discuss the implementation of the project and to understand if it reached its foreseen results.

At this point, partners were able to identify some last actions to be taken (e.g., realisation of the final multiplier events in some countries, the need to finalise the online training Platform's fine tuning based on the pilots' results) and to define deadlines to carry out those actions.

This meeting also allowed partners to prepare for LOST2 Final Conference, held in May 21st.

For more details about this final meeting, please access to this [article](#), available at LOST2 website.



LOST2 outcomes and results: Who can use them and how?

LOST2 results were designed and developed to benefit law enforcement services and public institutions, Missing People/Children associations helping them and supporting families, migration authorities and their hotline operators, guardianship institutions, child protection Non-Governmental Organisations and associations working with immigration, and last but not least families and local communities and the European Parliament Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs.

LOST2 Partners working in the areas addressed by the project will uptake the project's results and use them to train their own search and rescue teams, an opportunity to upskilling and/or reskilling professionals. Moreover, other organisations can use LOST2 results not only to train their staff/professionals, but also to advocate for the need to have a national and/or European common frameworks and standards aimed to support all above mentioned professionals and to contribute for the robustness of the European search and rescue system, with support from policy and decision makers.

All of the main results of LOST2 project are available on its website, at <https://lost.team/>.

These results include:

Reports focused on the national contexts of the Missing People and Children phenomena;

Competence Dictionary (the basis for the design and development of LOST2 new job profile and training programme);

Online training Platform, containing all of the 7 courses and their respective training materials that are part of the "Experts in the research of Missing people & and minors" training qualification;

Dossier with the necessary documentation to present to national qualification and certification bodies, to foster the formal recognition and certification of LOST2 training qualification;

List of organisations working in the Missing People and Missing Children phenomena, at national and European levels.

If you are interested in using any of these LOST2 results in your own organisation, then please fill in [this form](#).

LOST2 website will continue being the main channel of communication with the partnership. Feel free to use it for further information about the project!



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THANK YOU



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