

## Positive Behavior Support European Network (PBS Europe Network)

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) is a schoolwide prevention framework originated in the United States of America (USA) and it has been successfully applied in more than 23,000 elementary and secondary schools. PBS is based on the principles of prevention science, organization management, and human behavior and aims to design school environments that increase the likelihood to produce positive school climate and successful student academic and social outcomes. Initial efforts of several European researchers, focused on transferring and adapting the PBS scientific knowledge in a culturally relevant manner across Europe.

### Rationale

Due to globalization trends, economic crisis and terrorism attacks societies and education systems in Europe are rapidly changing in population size and socio-cultural composition over the last decade. As a result, students from various ethnic, language, and socio-economic backgrounds are integrated in public schools and teachers are called to address student diverse needs. European Commission (EC) has issued policy initiatives urging its Member States to work nationally and transnationally building systems for an inclusive education and promoting social cohesion by addressing the European values (non-discrimination, tolerance, freedom) within a schoolwide comprehensive framework (EC, 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016).

### Mission

To improve student socio-emotional, behavioral, and academic outcomes in European school settings by promoting the values of inclusion, tolerance, citizenship, and freedom. To this end, members of the **European Positive Behavior Support Network** (hereafter, “*EU-PBS Network*”) are dedicated to follow the science and principles of PBS as well as utilize its applications in a culturally responsive manner to produce meaningful social and academic changes in the lives of children and teachers across school and community settings in Europe.

### Expected goals

The EU-PBS Network is aiming to:

1. Become a professional platform among European researchers, professional stakeholders, and educators and share knowledge, research, and experience about PBS implementation across European settings.
2. Develop professional partnerships with academic institutions and professional organizations to conduct collaborative research on PBS implementation, policy and practice.
3. Become an advocate of the science and practice of PBS to European and national policy-making bodies.
4. Collaborate with professional communities to promote and support PBS implementation across school sites in Europe.

### Participating countries (to date)

1. Belgium	2. the Netherlands	3. United Kingdom
4. Norway	5. Finland	6. Iceland
7. Ireland	8. France	9. Germany
10. Turkey	11. Cyprus	12. Denmark
13. Spain	14. Greece	15. Croatia

### Contact and information

Sui Lin Goei, Ph.D., Windesheim University of Applied Sciences, [sl.goei@windesheim.nl](mailto:sl.goei@windesheim.nl)

Lefki Kourea, Ph.D., University of Cyprus, [klefki@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:klefki@ucy.ac.cy)