

## European Hands-on Universe

Rosa Doran(1) , Roger Ferlet(2), Ana I. Gómez de Castro(3), Robert Hill(4) , Cathy Horellou(5), Lech Mankiewicz(6) ,Anne-Laure Melchior(2), Margarita Metaxa(7), Alessandra Zanazzi(8)

(1)NUCLIO - Núcleo Interactivo de Astronomia (Portugal), (2)Université Pierre et Marie Curie (France), (3)Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), (4) NISO / Space Connections (UK), (5)Chalmers Tekniska Hoegskola (Sweden), (6)Centrum Fizyki Teoretycznej Polskiej Akademii Nauk(Poland), (7)Philekpaideftiki Etaireia (Greece), (8)Fondazione IDIS-Cittá della Scienza onlus (Italy)

Hands-on Universe is a project born at UC@Berkeley. A project devoted to enrich the teaching of Astronomy within the classroom environment with a different approach, more connected to the new technologies. Its main goals are not only to promote the use of such technologies but also to reawaken on students the taste for STEM (Science, technologies, engineering and math) related issues and also to increase their scientific culture. Eight countries in Europe decided to adopt the method and, funded by MINERVA, formed the European Hands-on Universe. Several resources were produced and a data reduction software developed <http://www.euhou.net/>. Other European countries are interested and should join this coordinated effort in the near future. At an international level there are 20 countries using this approach. There are plans to develop scientific cooperation among these countries. Pilot scientific research projects in schools are being tested in EU-HOU schools, Russia and USA. There is also a game being developed to be used as a new tool for teaching scientific content in the classroom environment. An effort to develop an international network of scientific / educational collaboration is the next step.