

# Promising horizons...

ARGUNAUT'S vision

- ARGUNAUT will leave a recognizable mark in Europe's trend toward modern and advanced teaching, learning, decision-making and other activities based on moderated e-discussions.
- The participation of pupils and students in moderated discussions (or other activities) as an enriching learning experience is not new to the research and teachers/educators community; but giving the moderator a powerful tool and methodological background to accomplish his/her mission more effectively, and with a wider and deeper knowledge of the discussion/activity picture (the participants, their interaction, the questions/problems at stake, etc.) is a new contribution of high practical relevance.
- A big change - There is a definite trend toward the use of advanced ICT to support collaborative activities in which sharing is the dominant interaction form, and from which knowledge emerges dynamically. The inclusion of argumentation as a crucial ingredient of this interaction, and the recognition that duly prepared (and assisted) teachers should play a decisive role in the process, constitute the main added value of this project and the seed for its expected impact. The teaching strategies we will observe and refine, and the AI and visualization techniques we will develop, will constitute a theoretical and practical landmark for designers of CSCL and CSCW environments and instructors seeking to obtain support in these activities.

# Navigating challenges

## Background and objectives

Discussions have already demonstrated their value to learning, negotiating, decision-making and other interactive, social activities. However, as learning activities, discussions need to be supported and structured.

**The ARGUNAUT project addresses the development of a method and software tools to support high-quality, learning-oriented e-discussions within small groups.**

Teachers, tutors, facilitators or moderators, will still be needed in the discussion – indeed, they will keep their essential roles and decision-making power – but, supported by an advanced artificial intelligence (AI)-based system, they will be able to concentrate on tasks that require their unique human capabilities. We envision that the proposed tools will significantly increase the educational productivity of the discussions, which will be tested in four educational settings: higher, secondary, vocational and professional education.