“SPREAD THE SIGN – SYRIA” is a European project funded under the Erasmus+ programme for the period 2017-2020. It is implemented with the cooperation of five organisations from five different countries of Europe (Sweden, Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece and Cyprus).

“SPREAD THE SIGN – SYRIA” is a continuation of the successful idea, running for the past 10 years, to create a database of every sign language in a visual way. Thousands of words are already part of the SPREAD THE SIGN virtual library (www.spreadthesign.com). Through this project we will have the chance to expand this virtual library by adding also the Bulgarian, Greek and Cypriot sign languages. Moreover, the Syrian sign language will be also recorded and uploaded in the database, something very important in this crucial period.

The long journey has already started with the kick-off meeting of the project held in Thessaloniki, Greece on 25-27 October 2017. During the meeting, representatives from the partner organisations had the change to discuss the project implementation in detail, analyse the set objectives and forthcoming activities and plan the next steps. They got back to their countries with a clear understanding and common view on the project implementation and the first steps towards achieving high-quality results.
**SPREAD THE SIGN - SYRIA** aims to:

- support the social inclusion and **integration of deaf/hearing impaired** Syrian migrants
- provide **equal educational opportunities** to deaf/hearing impaired Syrian migrants and people with hearing disabilities from the partners countries
- **raise awareness of the educational needs** of these disadvantaged groups
- support adult educators in their work with hearing impaired people
- enrich the online visual dictionary "SPREAD THE SIGN" with **video recordings of the Syrian, Greek, Cypriot and Bulgarian sign languages**
- offer an **open platform and App for sign language learning** to people all over Europe
- **organise national conferences** to spread the project products and results

**PROJECT PARTNERS:**

**EUROPEAN SIGN LANGUAGE CENTRE** (Sweden) – coordinator

**UNITED SOCIETIES OF BALKANS** (Greece)

**MERT ÖZTÜRE SPECIAL EDUCATION VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL** (Turkey)

**SYNTHESIS CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION LTD** (Cyprus)

**KU TU EOOD** (Bulgaria)

For more information on the project, please visit [www.spreadthesign.com](http://www.spreadthesign.com) and [https://www.facebook.com/spreadthesignofficial/](https://www.facebook.com/spreadthesignofficial/), or contact:

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A new experience of a long trip has already begun!