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Learning 'cultural diversity' is based on international cooperation: ICC@home

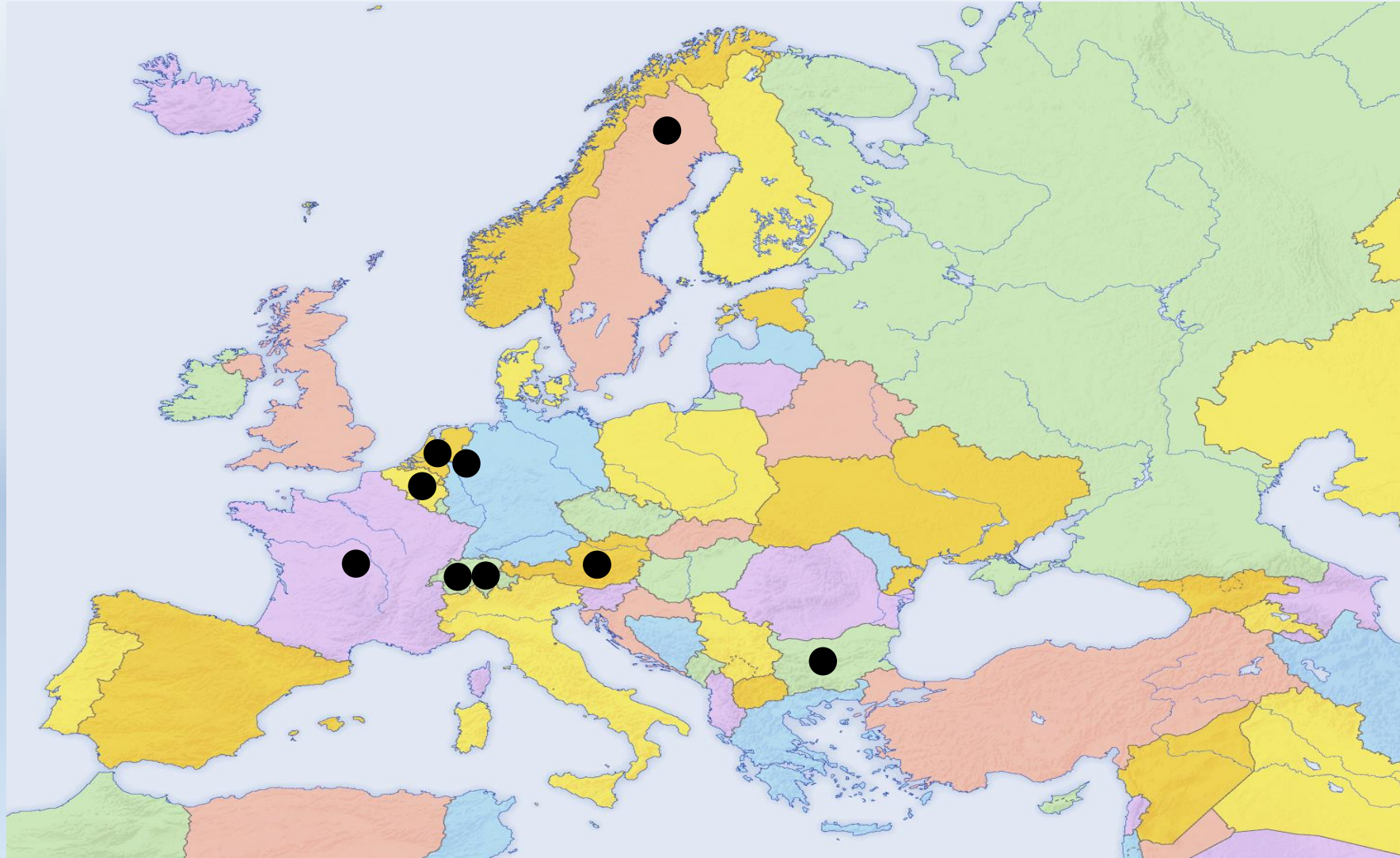
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International Cooperation



Background & Starting Point

New challenges:
Information age,
internationalization, globalization –
require new sets of skills for OTs

**International & intercultural
learning – evidence:**
Enhances key skills &
subject-specific competences
(COTEC, 2010; Darawsheh & Chard, 2015; WFOT, 2009)

- QUESTIONS:**
- How can we create such learning opportunities for our students “at home”?
 - How can we ensure a learning process fostering competences, i.e. combination of knowledge, skills, attitudes & motivation to act ?

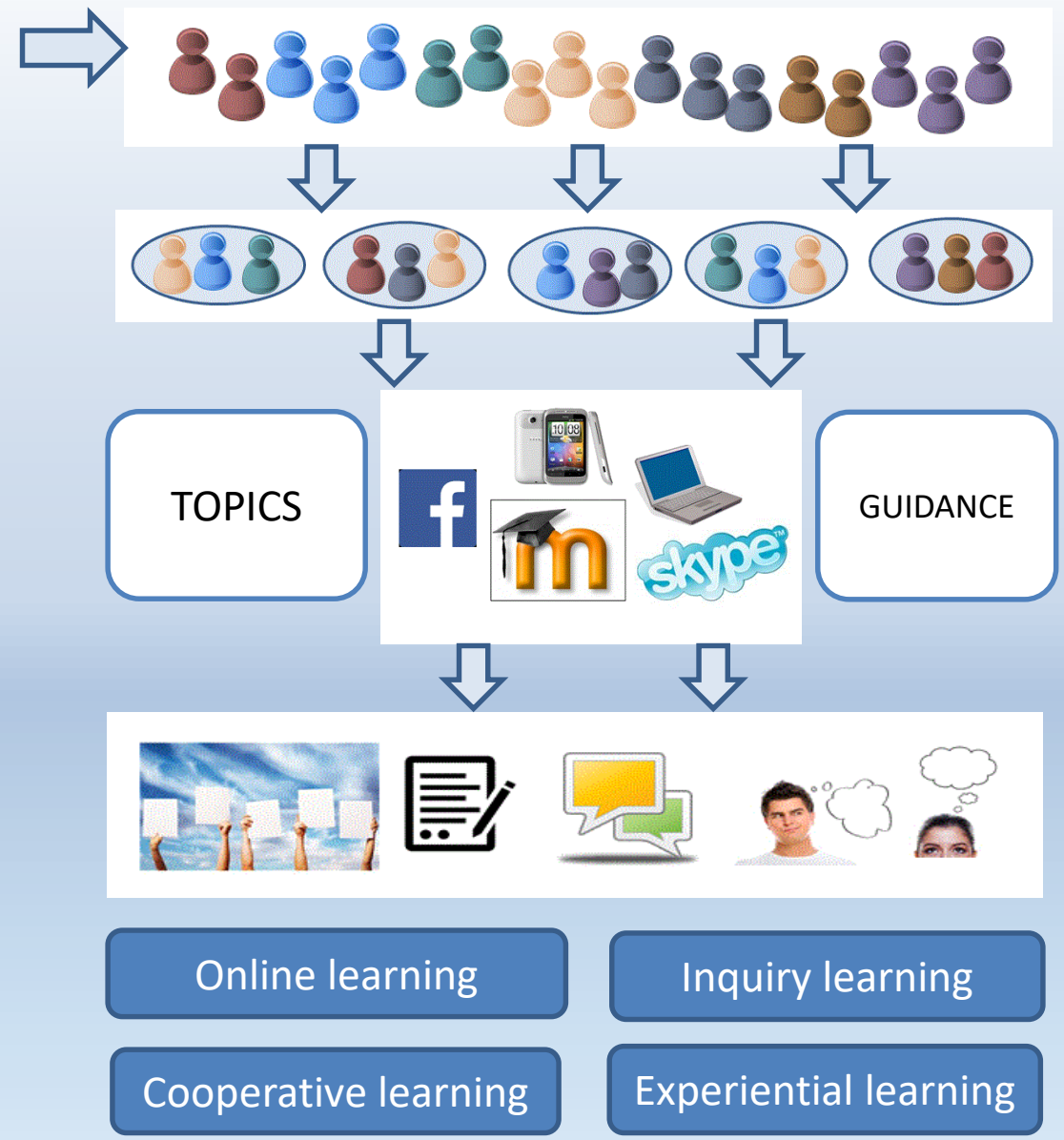
ANSWER:
International Case Comparison@home





STRUCTURE & PROCESS

- WHO:** 30-40 students & instructors from 9 Higher Education Institutions
- WHAT:** OT case comparison & discussion of a specific broad topic
- HOW:** E-learning platform & social media
- PRODUCTS:** Evidence based papers, evaluation & reflection, discussion blogs
- METHODS:** Embedded in constructivist approaches and intercultural & online learning theories



Characteristics of Module

- No curriculum changes
- Flexibility
 - Implementation of this module in different ways
 - Variable number of students every year
 - Topics are flexible
- Relative simplicity of administration
- Manageable work load for tutors and students
- Increases students' motivation
- New roles for students, promotes variety of competences
- Benefits for instructors and their institutions



Learning Culture Diversity

Raise awareness for cultural diversity

“ICC@home was a great way to learn about OT from other OT students in Europe.” **(German student)**

Develop intercultural skills and critical competences

“I think to have the possibility to take part in a case comparison together with other OTs is unique.” **(Austrian student)**

“Teamwork: coming together is a beginning, keeping together is a progress, working together is success.” **(Belgian student)**

Capabilities for life-long learning

“For me this project has resulted in being more confident in English communication as well as getting a broader knowledge of the variety of opportunities for patients in other countries which I didn't find in the current Swedish system.” **(Swedish student)**



Conclusion

- Increasing knowledge and understanding in OT, health care systems, national & international policies, cultural values.
- Applying OT approaches for specific client groups within the different professional and socio-cultural settings of their countries.
- Achieving cross-cultural competences, including the ability to function in a multicultural setting through the collaboration with fellow students from different countries.



- The project has proven to be a relatively simple and effective way of international and intercultural learning at home.
- The concept of ICC@home is adaptable to most curricula worldwide.



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Thank you for your attention from all ICC@home partners!



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