

Beatrice Gregus and Sandra Rintler



Vocational Skills Education System' – Skills & Academic Education with Benefit for Economy and Society

- **As an example: the Education Center of Nursing and Social trade (Vocational Education and Training VET and Professional Education and Training PET), Thurgau, Switzerland**
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- Beatrice Gregus, Rector and Teacher of Trade and Sandra Rindler, Teacher of Trade and Bachelor in Science of Nursing, present the Swiss 'Vocational Skills Education System', where skills and academic education are rotationally taught.
- This System has a long tradition in Switzerland and it is one of the keys to a successful access to the economic world and crucial for a low unemployment rate of the youth. The Swiss VET and PET system enables young people to enter the labour market and ensures that there are enough qualified workers and managers in the future. The VET and PET sectors are closely correlated with the labour market and are an integral part of the education system.
- It opens the door to lifelong learning and development of economic power and social and political competence; a model that has currently been studied by many nations and that is applicable anywhere – an extremely empowering concept.
- An introduction to the *Journey through Conflict* process through the showing of a 25 min video of the process in action in Northern Ireland/North of Ireland;
- Ample opportunity for comments and questions in connection with the above video;
- An interactive exploration of the relevance of this process, and the sharing of life histories in particular, to processes of conciliation and humanisation in other contexts, such as South Africa.

Connection: to theme of Conciliation

Key words: humanisation; storytelling; life histories

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