



ALLIANCE ELIANT STATEMENT

ASSESSING THE DEVELOPMENT OF EMPATHY AND ATTENTION OF CHILDREN NEEDS A HUMAN-BASED APPROACH

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A recent study by the advisory network of experts working on the social dimension of education and training in the European Commission (EC), NESET, presented the effects of the use of digital technologies on children's empathy and attention. The group of experts formed their conclusions on the basis of a literature review encompassing a selection of scientific articles and relevant EC official reports.

The conclusions and recommendations of the report are a doubtless contribution to the knowledge about the impact of digital use on the development of children's capacities. However, the ELIANT Alliance draws attention to the benefit of broadening the research framework. An analysis assessing levels of empathy and attention between children in an analogue learning environment compared to children in a digital educational setting would increase the relevance and credibility of the results in the study. Both empathy and attention are human capacities, naturally integrated within the human being, yet their development is to a large degree dependent on the external environment, especially in the early years of living. Therefore, taking into account the variety of learning environments, both analogue and digital, which we have available in present times, is a necessary component for acquiring an objective answer to the impact of digital use on empathy and attention of children.

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The ELIANT team works to raise awareness on human-based approaches to education and seeks to contribute to the healthy growing up of children today. We encourage researchers to focus on comparing the effects of digital learning with analogue methods of teaching, as to enable policy makers to take the right decisions for creating a better education for the future.

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You can access the full study under the link:

<https://nesetweb.eu/en/resources/library/effects-of-the-use-of-digital-technology-on-childrens-empathy-and-attention-capacity/>

For more information about ELIANT's work, please follow the link:

<https://eliant.eu/en/home/>