The third TICE Mediterranean conference, organized by the Universities of Genoa, of Nice Sophia Antipolis, of South Toulon Var, of Aix Marseille III together with the ITD/CNR (National Research Council Institute for Educational Technology), held in Genoa, 26th-27th May.

These Mediterranean-based international conferences are aimed at promoting discussion and debate about methods, techniques and experiences developed by researchers, teachers and practitioners in the field of education.

This year theme was «Human being and distance education: different aspects of evaluation».

“In order to meet the constantly growing demand for life-long learning, educational systems are engaged in an ongoing process of adaptation: new opportunities are arising, market offer is continuously increasing, and new coalitions between public and private sectors are emerging.

In this scenario there is a clear need for reflection, in order to assume the right perspective on pedagogical strategies and on their impact on the human factor.” (TICE Med 2006 Web site)

Nathalie Van de Wiele, ePrep, had the opportunity to present the PALETTE project on May 26, in a parallel session.

During this session, the first communications have presented three examples of the evaluation of human being’s role in a virtual community:
1-the first one (E. Mazzoni: “Dal semplice tracciamento delle interazioni alla valutazione di ruoli e funzioni dei membri di una comunità di rete: una proposta derivata social network analysis”) showed a qualitative method,
2-the second one (M. Sidir: “De l’analyse des traces à l’analyse des usages dans un environnement éducatif médiatisé”) showed a semi-quantitative method,
3-the third one (M. Ranieri: “Comunità e gruppi di apprendimento collaborativo: per un metodo etnografico di valutazione”) showed a quantitative method.

In this context, the PALETTE project appeared as an expected project to provide the virtual communities described in these three communications with a set of appropriate tools (especially for M. Ranieri). The conclusions of the exchanges after the presentation were: “we are waiting for the tools that will be developed by PALETTE”!