

2021

(in 21 pages)



Publications,
Services,
Projects,
Events,
+more.

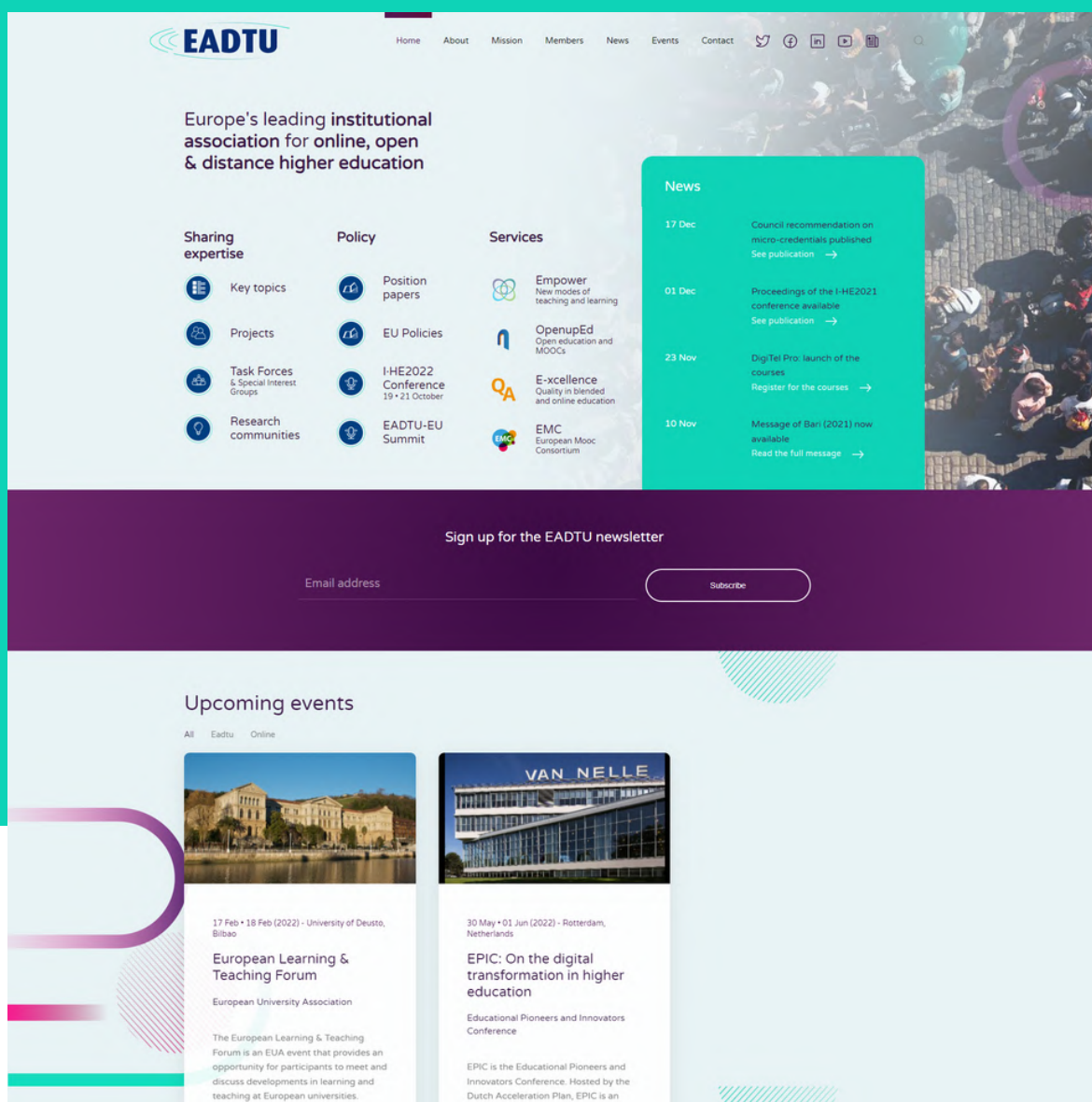
WEBSITE LAUNCH

In 2021, we launched our brand new **EADTU website** ! We invite you to visit our new website which is enhanced by a fresher look and more intuitive navigation.

The new website gives better access to EADTU's services on QA in online education and MOOCs, expert pools for innovating higher education and the use of digital education and MOOCs for the labour market (E-xcellence, OpenupED, Empower and the European MOOC Consortium).

Visitors are also offered a much easier way to learn about EADTU's events, publications, position papers, projects and task forces.

We will be continuously updating the website with content from EADTU and its **members**.



WELCOME TO BIFRÖST

Bifröst University, from Iceland, has joined as a new member of EADTU. We are looking forward to a very fruitful and close cooperation.

We asked Þorbjörg Valdís Kristjánsdóttir (or short 'Tobba'), international Coordinator at Bifröst, to introduce Bifröst to us:

"Bifröst University (BU) is a vivid university, located in the heart of a rural area in the western part of Iceland surrounded by unique nature and lava field. It was founded in Reykjavík, Iceland, in 1918 on the model of Ruskin College, Oxford, then moved to Borgarfjörður in 1955, situated 110km north of the capital.

BU is the only university in Iceland which makes digital learning its core pedagogical method/strategy and is the leader in online education amongst Icelandic universities.

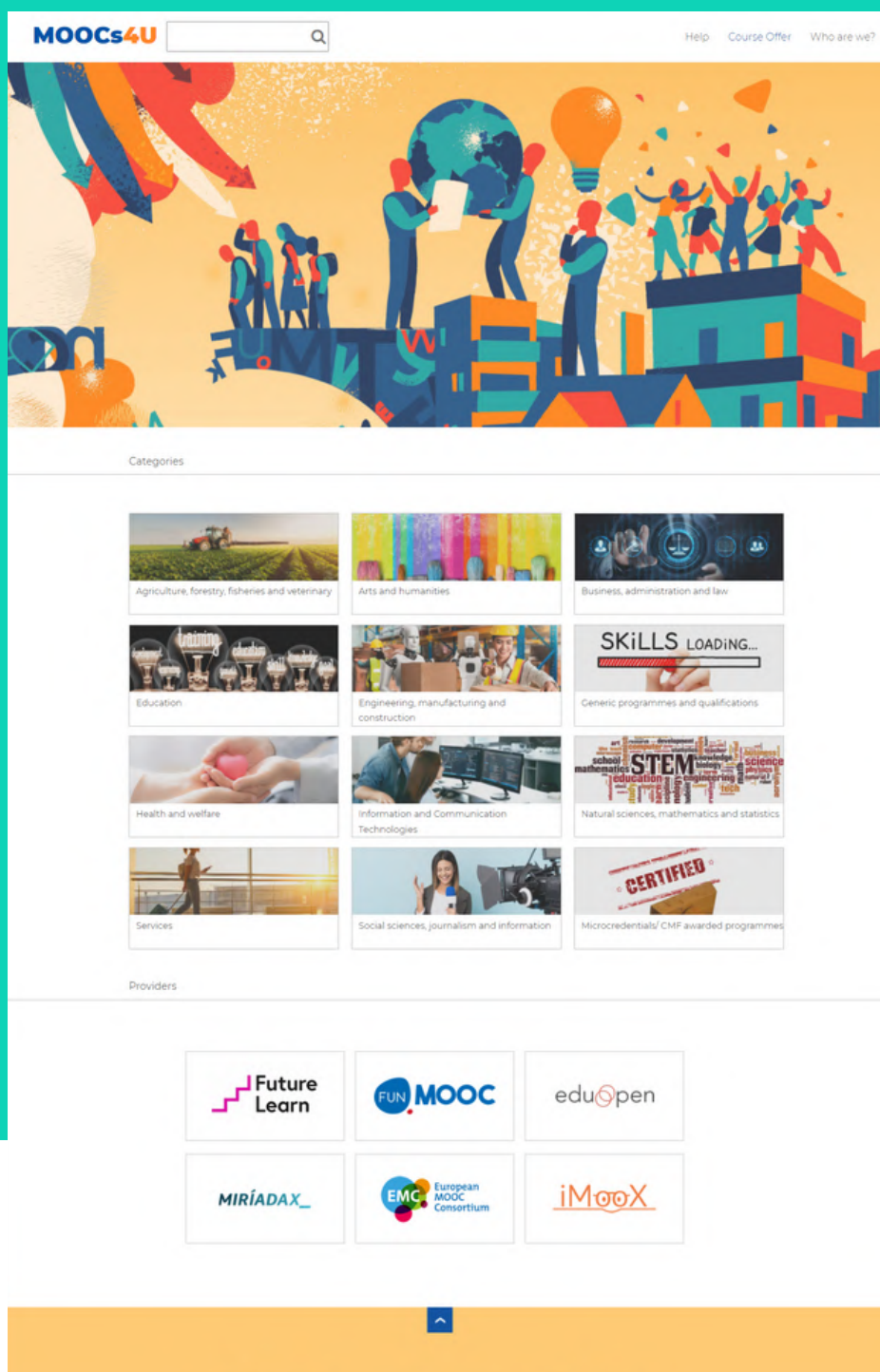
The online platform has proven to be one of the main attractions, due to the opportunity for many individuals to attend university, regardless of geographical location"



MOOCS 4U

The EMC-LM portal **MOOCS4U** is ready!

On the portal, we collect various MOOC offerings, relevant for the labour market, coming from the following providers: FutureLearn, MiriadaX, EduOpen, FUN and iMOOX. More will follow soon!



PICK YOUR COURSE

On Thursday 18th of November 2021, the official **DigiTeL Pro Launch** took place.

Three courses on synchronous hybrid, blended and online education were launched, starting in March 2022.

During the launch, experts provided an opportunity for continuous professional development (CPD), primarily for course and curriculum developers and for all those who support teaching staff and learners, secondarily for leaders who direct these processes in higher education. Relevant post-Corona issues were addressed, e.g. activating learning, interaction and collaborative learning, inclusiveness, and assessment and feedback.

The courses will not only address immediate needs but guide universities towards sustainable, high-quality digital education for the future, including continuing education and professional development. The courses will also cover innovative models of multi-campus and international education and blended and virtual mobility.

Register for the Synchronous Hybrid Course

Register for the Blended Education Course

Register for the Online Education Course



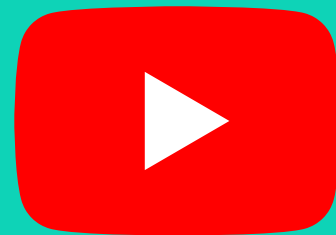
MOOCS FOR THE LABOUR MARKET

The **EMC-LM project** is a successful outcome of the European MOOC Consortium (EMC), coordinated by EADTU. It combines the world of education & training (universities, platforms) and the world of work (Public Employment Services, companies, sectoral organisations).



FINAL CONVENTION

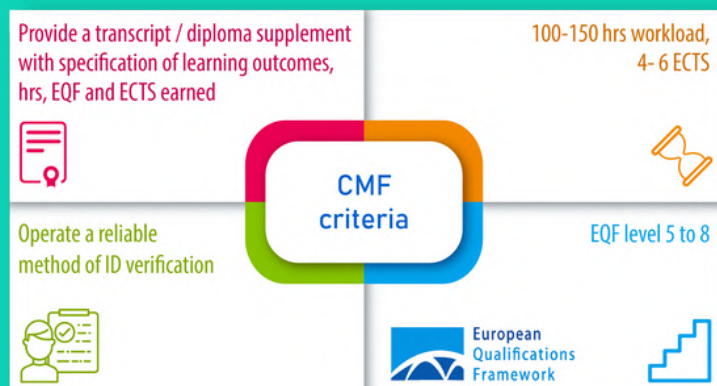
The EMC-LM project was closed with the **Final Convention** on 15 December 2021. 120 representatives from MOOC platforms, universities, employment agencies, sectors and companies as well as national and European governments shared their reflections during the event.



EMC & CMF

The **European MOOC Consortium** is strengthening the credibility of massive open online courses (MOOCs) as a learning approach in higher education by taking a leading role in developing the discourse relating to MOOCs and other innovative developments in online learning in Europe.

EMC developed the **Common Microcredential Framework (CMF)**. CMF uses the European Qualification Framework (and other national qualification frameworks of recognised universities) to provide high-quality courses that award academic credit.



EADTU published a **paper** in 2021, introducing the Common Microcredential Framework.

MCE

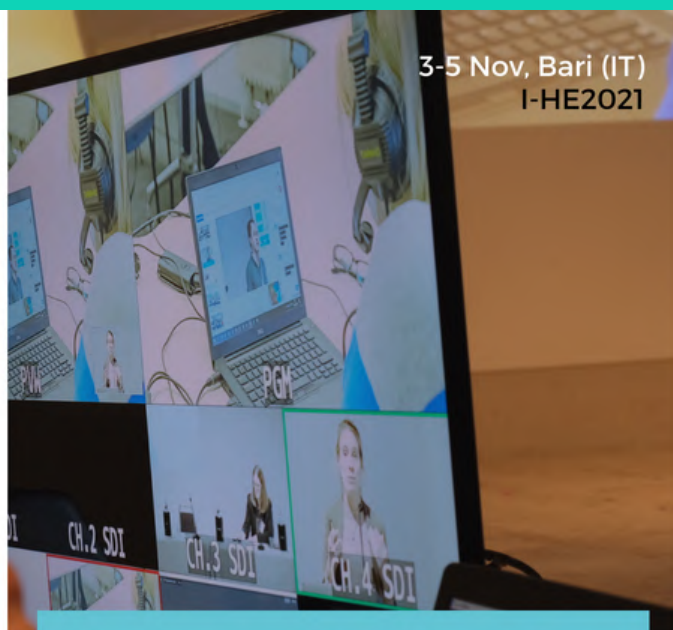
The MCE project, starting in 2021, will contribute to the further conceptualization of microcredentials. Read more on page 18.

I-HE2021 BARI

From 3 - 5 November 2021, the Innovating Higher Education Conference was organised in close co-operation with the Universities of Foggia and Bari. This year's title was 'Higher Education in the New Normal: the role of online, blended and distance learning'

The **Proceedings** of the Innovating Higher Education conference 2021 at the University of Bari are now available. The publication of the Proceedings, including the **Message of Bari**, is a reflection of a successful conference.

A recording of the plenary sessions during Day 1 is uploaded on our Youtube account (check **Part 1** and **Part II**).



Proceedings of the Innovating Higher Education Conference 2021



MICRO CRED ENTIALS



MICROBOL, STACQ, ECCOE AND MORE

EADTU member institutions are actively involved in European and national discussions about microcredentials.

This year, a report of the **Working Group on Microcredentials in Higher Education** has been published. The **Microbol project** has produced a report on the use of the Bologna tools to facilitate the integration of microcredentials into the Bologna process.

EADTU has contributed to both reports and EADTU developments are appreciated as exemplar approaches to microcredentials.

Under the **E-SLP project**, EADTU has also developed guidelines for the (collaborative) design and recognition of microcredentials.

EADTU further participated in the **STACQ** project, coordinated by NUFFIC. The project supports institutions in their evaluation of micro-credentials. The project aims to make it more accessible for them to include online and non-formal learning in their recognition and admission practices.

Lastly, EADTU is an active partner in the **ECCOE** project, facilitating the endorsement and appropriation of open, online and flexible higher education. In support of this overarching objective, the project aims to increase trust in technology-enabled credentials among students, higher education institutions (HEIs) and employers.

WEBINAR



In the last **Empower Webinar Week** of the year, we outlined a European concept of Microcredentials, discussed possible Microcredential implementation strategies and extrapolated present trends by asking 'Where next for Microcredentials'?



TF & SIG

In 2022, EADTU initiated a Special Interest Group on Online Assessment and a Task Force Diversity and Inclusion.

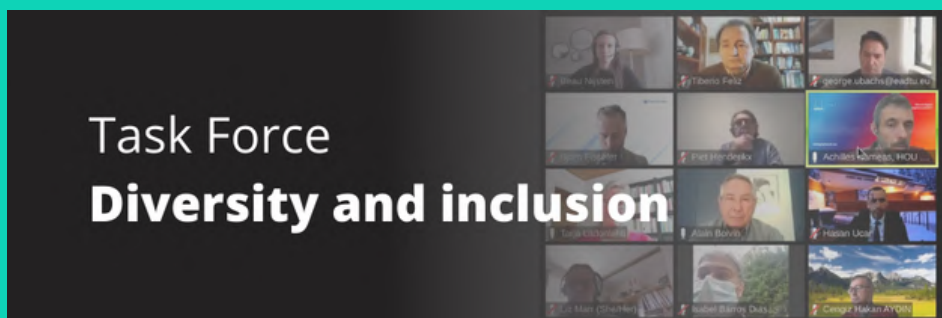
Full reports will be published on the dedicated websites in May 2022.

This **SIG on Online Assessment** will share expertise on institutional strategies and expertise and experiences on online assessment. We explore how universities currently address the challenges of online assessment and how they implement of various supportive measures.

Part of this is making inventory of several operational examples fit for exchange. The group of experts consists of 17 EADTU member university representatives with a specific field of expertise or interest in the field of online assessment.

Within the dedicated **Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion**, open and distance teaching universities share their variety of policies, approaches, expertise and experiences in this field. The TF is divided in the following subgroups:

Gender • Migrants / ethnicity • Specific learning disabilities (eg dyslexia) • Functional disabilities • Prisoners • Athletes/Artists/Army staff • social inclusion • digital accessibility



E-SLP OUTCOMES

E-SLP is a project about European Short Learning Programmes (SLPs) for continuous professional development and lifelong learning.

The project ran until mid 2021.

Short Learning Programmes (SLPs) or short degree programmes are a group of courses (units, modules or other learning building blocks) with a common subject focussing on specific needs in society and which are part of larger degrees. Different typologies and names exist throughout Europe.

The numerous results of the project - **reports, policy recommendations and more** - are all captured on the dedicated **E-SLP website**.

The screenshot displays the E-SLP website interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for ABOUT, OBJECTIVES, PARTNERS, OUTCOMES, NEWS, and CONTACT, along with a search icon. The main header features the 'e)SLP' logo and the text 'European Short Learning Programmes'. Below this, two columns provide introductory information: 'About E-SLP Project' and 'About SLPs'. The central part of the page is dedicated to 'SLP Characteristics', presented in a grid of eight boxes, each with an icon and a title: Level, Study time, Recognition and accreditation, Relation to formal degrees, Target groups, Online and blended, Flexibility and scalability, and Society and Market driven. Each box contains a brief description of the characteristic. The footer area includes funding information from the Erasmus+ Programme and project details such as the number, duration, start and end dates, and the coordinating organization.





The Erasmus+ KA3 project "Online Pedagogical Resources for European Universities" (**OpenU**) addresses the EU Commission priority to foster excellence, innovation and inclusion in higher education by creating a European digital hub, called BLOOM, that provides the digital infrastructure for higher education policy experimentation.

EADTU developed the educational framework and delivers the guidelines and models on;

- Joint masters
- Joint microcredential programmes
- Joint microcredential courses
- Mobility windows; university collaboration and mobility
- MOOC design and development and Mooc-based microcredential/pathways
- Blended learning
- Virtual classrooms / synchronous hybrid education

The Erasmus+ KA3 project - OpenU

INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

OpenU addresses the EU Commission priority to foster excellence, innovation and inclusion in higher education by creating a European digital hub, called BLOOM, that provides the digital infrastructure for higher education policy experimentation.



CONNECTING

Launched in February 2019, the OpenU project brings together representatives of ten European higher education institutions, six ministries of higher education and research, (France, Germany, Belgium, Latvia, Portugal, Spain), and four European networks around the topic of digitalisation in higher education.



POLICY & PRACTICE

The project's objective is to contribute to the emergence of innovative policies, encourage mutual learning and strengthen long-term strategic and structural cooperation between European higher education institutions.



INNOVATING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

OpenU attaches great importance and value to the objective of fostering international cooperation and exchange between HEIs in Europe. It supports the development of European university alliances and the transferability of innovative practices.



THE PROJECT IS FUNDED UNDER ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME, KEY ACTION 3: SUPPORT FOR POLICY REFORM - INITIATIVES FOR POLICY INNOVATION - "FORWARD LOOKING COOPERATION PROJECTS"

Start date: 20-02-2019
Coordinator: Université Paris 1
Pantheon Sorbonne



EADTU - EU SUMMIT

EADTU's annual **EADTU-EU Summit** is a returning opportunity to discuss latest developments and new policy lines in higher education.

The Summit is a unique moment in bringing together European umbrella organisations and stakeholders in Higher Education (HE) as well as the national representatives of national governments.

On the 17th of June 2021, **the 9th EADTU-EU Summit** took place online.

We look back at a successful event with many interesting presentations.

We addressed post COVID approaches to digital education by synchronous hybrid; blended and online education; the role of microcredentials and recognition of credited and non-credited microcredentials and short learning programmes; smart regions and digital education by university alliances.



OPENUPED

OpenupEd is a community of European universities that offer MOOCs to 'open up' education to the benefit of individual learners and wider society. OpenupEd is a member of **EMC**, coordinated by EADTU.

NEW WEBSITE

This is an impression of the new OpenupEd website, developed in 2021 and to be launched in early 2022.



SPECIAL ISSUE

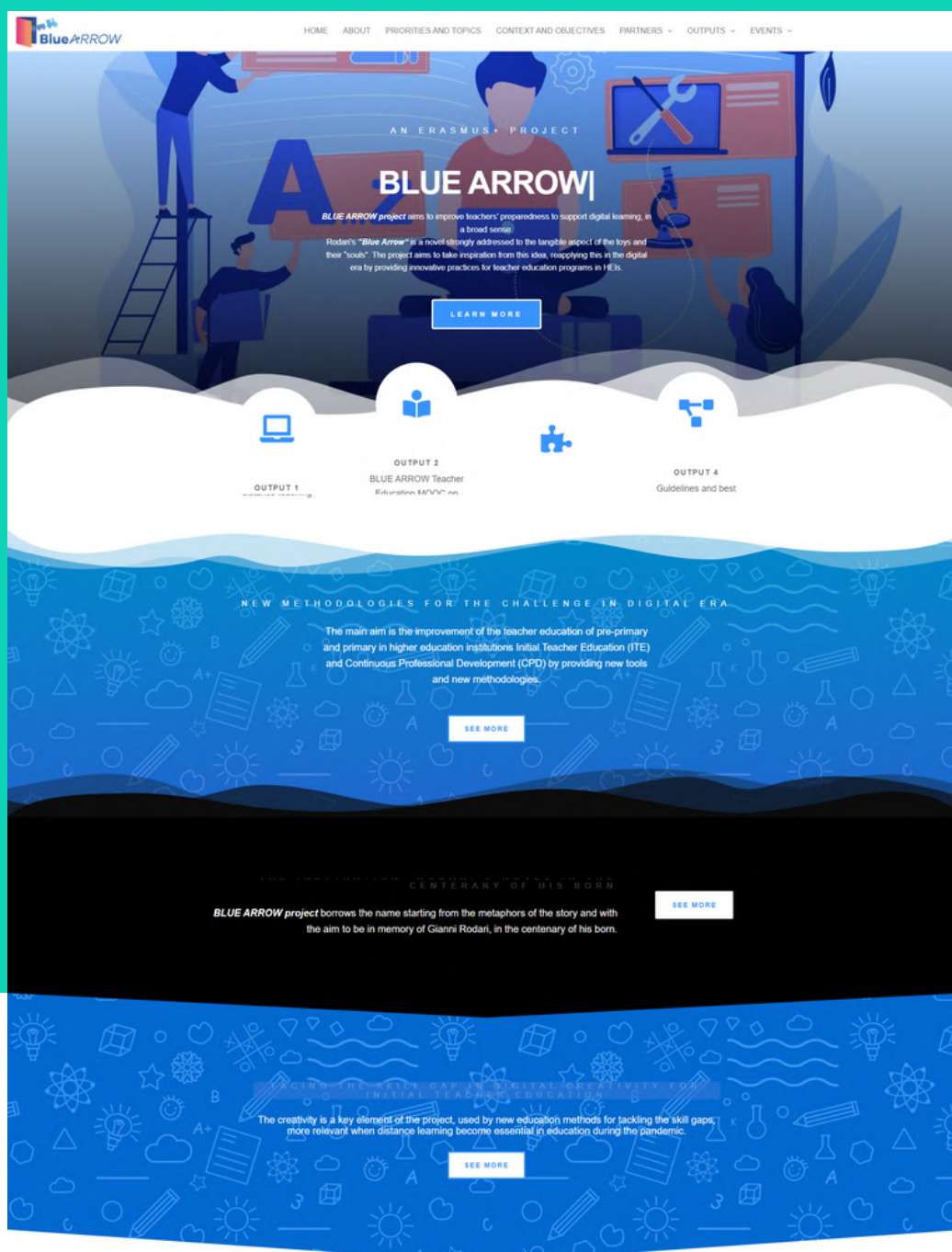
In a **special issue** in March 2021 we share the effect of the pandemic on the demand for online learning and MOOCs, as well as COVID-19 related publications, projects, courses and events.



BLUE ARROW

Launched in 2021, **Blue Arrow** aims to improve teachers' preparedness to support digital learning, in a broad sense.

Rodari's 'Blue Arrow' is a novel strongly addressed to the tangible aspect of the toys and their "souls". The project aims to take inspiration from this idea, reapplying this in the digital era by providing innovative practices for teacher education programs in HEIs. The project is coordinated by the University of Foggia



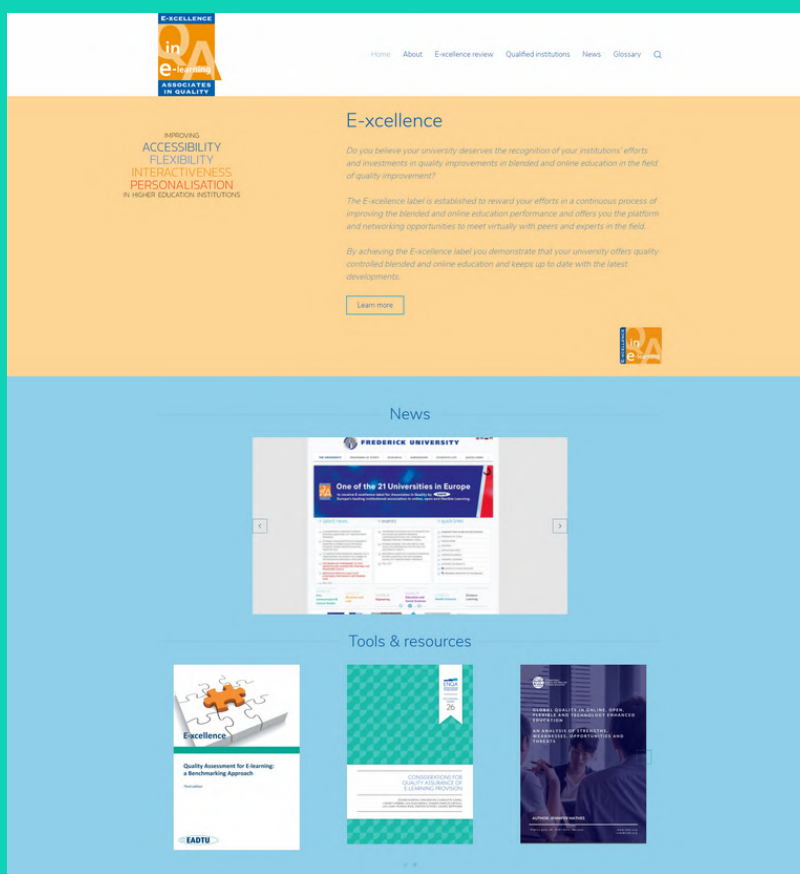
ENVISIONING REPORT

The fifth edition of the **Envisioning report** for Empowering Universities, by the expert pools of the Empower programme.



E-XCELLENCE & QUALITY

The **E-xcellence** quality label is established to reward efforts in a continuous process of improving the blended and online education performance and offers the platform and networking opportunities to meet virtually with peers and experts in the field.



INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR OPEN AND
DISTANCE EDUCATION

EADTU is the **ICDE Focal Point** on Quality in Europe. EADTU contributed to the latest report from the ICDE Quality Network, published in 2021, on **Global Quality Perspectives on Open, Online and Flexible Learning**.



COMING SOON...

Besides running projects, EADTU was active in the following - successful - project applications, with starting dates in 2022.

MCE

MCE, coordinated by **EADTU**, will contribute to the further conceptualization of microcredentials as cornerstones for the expansion of continuous education and professional development (CEPD) and to transformative institutional developments in interaction with policies and frameworks.

EDEH

The Digital Education Hub, coordinated by **DAAD**, will be an important building block in promoting cooperation and exchange in the field of digital education across all sectors of education and training in Europe.

TUNED

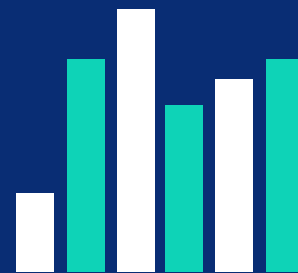
The goal of the TUNED project, coordinated by **Foggia University** is to promote new teaching skills based on collaborative learning. To do this, it will involve teacher trainers from different higher education institutions and experts in innovative teaching methodologies in hybrid environments.

NEFELE

NEFELE, coordinated by **SUPSI**, aims to improve career-building support for adolescents. Lasting 3 years, the project will strengthen the support provided by middle school teachers in this regard through specific training courses, also creating tools aimed directly at boys and girls.



SOURCES & SOCIAL SHARES



75 presentations added
by EADTU to Slideshare

EADTU uploaded **90 videos**
to Youtube

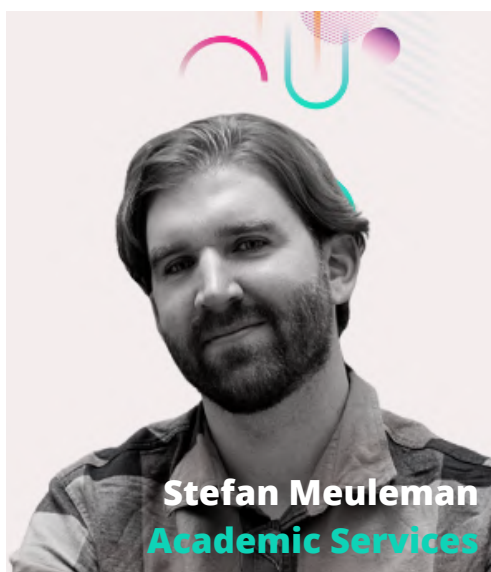
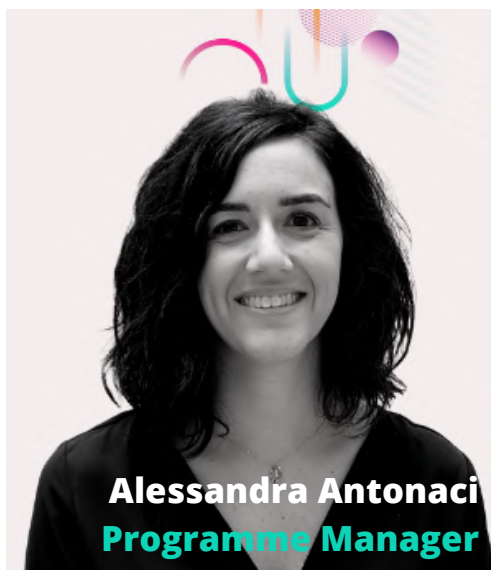


EADTU sent **21 newsletters**
to 40.000 subscribers

15 public events hosted
by EADTU on Eventbrite

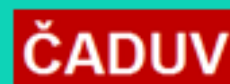


EADTU TEAM



EADTU MEMBERS

EADTU and its members have built up a long experience and in-depth expertise in the field of online, open and distance higher education. Our activities are set up in permanent interaction with our member institutes and their experts. More about EADTU's members can be read on the dedicated **page** on our website.



DISTANCE EDUCATION CENTRE OF LATVIA

