

RECREATE #1 newsletter, November 2018

Dear Reader.

welcome to European project RECREATE, which aims to help higher education institutions with establishment of more innovative learning spaces and curricula in order to create a new generation of entrepreneurs. In this newsletter you will find more about the project itself, hear reasons for joining the project from the lead partner, learn about the findings of the needs analysis the partners have already exectuted, and also get an update from the last partner meeting in Coventry.

About Recreate

Research shows, that future economic growth and jobs will increasingly have to come from innovation in products, services and business models. But are we really teaching our youth the right skills to undertake this problem?

In order to create a new generation of entrepreneurs, we need to provide students in higher education more innovative learning environments and curricula that stimulates independence, creativity and an entrepreneurial approach to harnessing knowledge. This is where RECREATE comes in. Together with the consortium of 6 partners from Italy, Slovakia, Poland, United Kingdom, The Netherlands and Germany, we will prepare following outputs:

A research

with the focus on the concrete obstacles and skill gaps that make the collaboration between universities and business difficult (already done, read more about it in the following of this newsletter!)

Training plan

with 6 modules, each focusing on a specific issue.

An innovative e-learning space

for the RECREATE training plan.



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Words from the lead partner, Lodz University of Technology (TUL)

TUL has decided to implement RECREATE project because it is fully in line with our internationalisation and development strategy. It is vital for us to enhance the skills and employability of our students so the project is of great importance for us. We also would like to increase the soft skills of our students and boost their entrepreneurship. As a unit that supports didactics and the development of elearning technologies, we noticed that we will be able to prepare an interesting platform that is going to help our partners. We have extensive experience in programming and supporting education through e-learning.



In addition to the standard possibilities of online materials in the form of films, books or tasks, we can also program and design quizzes, interactive tasks and exercises that are performed by participants, and for which they receive points or prizes. Thanks to this, you can easily reward the most hard-working people, and thus make participants try for the result. An important advantage is that the platform described above is heavily exploited by students of the Lodz University of Technology, it is also constantly being developed with new possibilities supplementing elearning didactics.

RECREATE Needs Analysis done!

RECREATE aims to stimulate the acquisition of key competences, such as creativity and digital skills through innovative learning environments such as open educational resources, and flexible learning approaches.

In a first step a needs analysis was done. The main aim of this study was to clearly assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the target groups in the selected countries considering the theme of the project, i.e. knowledge-based entrepreneurship. 256 researchers, students, university technical staff, potential entrepreneurs and incubators from 6 European countries contributed to RECREATE questionnaire. Based on the outcome of the survey results training materials are already being created and they are planned to be piloted in a so called Learning/Teaching/Training Event organized by the coordinator, Technical University of Lodz. The topics of the materials that are being created are:





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Taking a look on the fields of interest provided as multiple choice answers in the questionnaires it is positive to mention no country goes against the overall results. All country results are mostly in line with each other, which is an interesting finding of the survey as the number of participants from each country was not equal.

The report can be downloaded

HERE

Partner meeting in Coventry

Since the beginning of the project, the partners have already met two times, first time in Lodz (Poland) and second time in the beautiful facilities of Coventry University (UK). The University has many buildings where students can actively self-learn. The tour around the university also displayed various flexible workplaces where students can unite and work on common assignments. In the library there hundreds of lockers with laptops available and daily used by students for learning projects.

During the Coventry meeting we discussed about the various methods of rewarding students with ECTS points for executing the training curricula prepared in the project. To attract them to go through all of the materials they need to be rewarded in a way. That's why we decided that students will earn a "RECREATE" badge standing for some ECTS points. Next meeting will be held in January 2019 in Furth (Germany).



FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER



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Lodz University of Technology



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