



EU 2020 digital agenda

A Digital Academy for the development of new European leaders

European universities, business schools, corporate universities, small & medium enterprises, business education networks will be cooperating in a Knowledge Alliance for the next 3 years to develop a virtual Academy for managers and leaders in the digital age

The project's kick off meeting Le@d3.0 Academy took place in Milan, on the 22nd and 23rd of February, at the ISTUD Foundation headquarters.

Best practices like *Coursera & Stanford University online courses* demonstrate that it is possible and effective, both for learners and for training providers, to offer a variety of open online learning resources. These pilot experiences are totally changing the scenario of learning and training and the related business models. And today, as never before, Academy & Industry have to be open to innovate and work together on the development of EU educational open platforms - underpinning innovative business models - so as to overcome fragmentation of efforts and resources.

Le@d3.0 Academy (project financed by the European Commission–Erasmus PLUS Programme, Knowledge Alliance Action) intends to create a long lasting co-operation between the Academy and Industry. The challenge is to widen the use of social learning and open educational resources by trainers in order to develop soft e-leadership skills that are required by the labour market in the digital age. Le@d3.0 Academy wants to become the learning virtual platform and an international academy for trainers from Universities, Business Schools & Industry that work on the development of the horizontal skills set of the “e-leader”.

The project workplan stretches over 3 years. The focus is on identifying new leaders' soft skills (i.e. decision making, people management, strategic vision, design, creativity, intra/entrepreneurship) and developing them using innovative methods and Web3.0 based learning programs.

9 full Partners from 7 EU countries (Italy, Germany, UK, Poland, France, Belgium and Portugal) will work together to design and develop the international Le@d3.0 Academy, involving trainers of the academic and business world as well as students, managers and entrepreneurs.

The partners engaged in the project are Universities: **Coventry University** and **Münster University** of Applied Sciences; large corporations: **Auchan Group** and **Unicredit Group**; Business schools: **Fondazione ISTUD** and **OIC Poland Foundation**; international network for Business Education: **EFMD** - European Foundation for Management & Development; SMEs: **Gruppo Pragma** and **Advancis Business Services**. 2 Associated partners have also joined the project: **University Of Economics And Innovation In Lublin** and **INIPA**, the training school of the Italian Farmers Association (Coldiretti).

In the next 6 months the project partners will develop the Research phase: the aim is to identify the e-Leadership skills portfolio, the training and learning strategy and methodology on which the Virtual Academy will be set and, correspondingly, the training-of-the-trainers needs and programs in the context of Virtual Learning Environment and Open Educational Resources

The methodology of the project is based on an open approach to learning processes in terms of knowledge production and capitalization as well as in terms of knowledge acquisition and transfer. The trademark of the project will be wide, international, multi-actor and open cooperation with a strong added value.

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