



# NICE Academy Newsletter

**SUMMER 2025**

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear NICE community,

I hope you are enjoying the beginning of the summer which for many means a bit of a holiday. While we continue to prepare for the academy in Malta in September I wanted to also let you know the outcome of the recent election of the new board of NICE. As you will be aware, all Foundation members of NICE have the opportunity to vote, and I want to thank them all for taking part in this election. I also want to thank all those who presented their case for joining the board. We are excited to welcome new faces to the board who bring new perspectives, skills and expertise. So, I'd like to welcome Dione Mifsud from the University of Malta and Rebeca Garcia from The University of Santiago De Compostela to the new board. This will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September, and the full list of members are:

Anne Chant  
Teresa M. Sgaramella  
Filiz Aschenberger  
Laurent Sovet  
Jan Woldendorp  
Dione Mifsud  
Rebeca Garcia  
Yvor Broer

The exact roles each will play will be communicated at the academy in Malta and also indicated on the website at that time.

But I wanted to take the opportunity to first say thank you to those current board members who have stepped down from the board.

Maria Cristina Ginevra from the University of Padova has been responsible for supporting Teresa in the communications function of the organisation and has managed the website and its content for the past 3 years. I want to express the board's and community's gratitude for effectively managing this function quietly and often behind the scenes. Thank you Cristina.

Emma Harrison from Canterbury Christ Church has had the role of evaluating our activities and soliciting feedback for us to reflect upon. However, she has also become our expert in the Conftool which we use to manage delegates at our academies as well as being a

problem solver before and during such events. Thank you Emma and we all wish you well for the future.

Lea Ferrari has been a part of NICE since the very beginning as the first NICE Erasmus+ project and has been a pillar of everything we have done since then. Her academic and organisational skills have been essential in moving from the earlier NICE projects into the current NICE Foundation and I think it's true to say that we could not have established ourselves as a foundation without her. She has been the lead in the curriculum for NICE, managing abstracts, the scientific committee and programme as well as the programme of webinars. Lea we will miss you very much, but you will always be a part of the NICE family.

So, we look forward to seeing you all in September at what will be a truly memorable academy in Valletta, Malta. If you have not yet seen the details of the event please look at our website.

Enjoy your summer and see you soon.

Kind regards,

Dr. Anne Chant

Chair and on behalf of the Board of NICE Foundation

## NICE LIFE

### 2025 NICE Academy Malta



**Registration for the Academy is Still Open!**

[Click here for registration](#)

Don't miss this unique opportunity to connect, learn, and grow.

The schedule for keynotes, presentations, workshops, and networking activities will be published on our website very soon.

**Stay tuned and check back in the coming days for all the details—and don't forget to secure your spot!**

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COST GRANT AWARDS

COST COCAG announced a **second open call for applications for grant awards** for 2025 for activities to be completed and the report sent to the COCAG admin for approval **before October 15<sup>th</sup> 2025**.

Among the options you will also find:

- **Dissemination Conference Grants (DCG)**
  - grant funds an oral presentation by an Action Participant of the work of the Action in a high level conference fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.
- **YRI Conference Grants funds**
  - a presentation (poster/oral presentation) of their own work by a Young Researcher and Innovator (YRI) in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.
- **ITC Conference Grants**
  - grant funds an oral presentation of participants own work within the scope of the Action by an Action Participant affiliated to a legal entity located in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.

Please find more information about the Grant application process and application templates [here](#)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 2nd International Conference on Lifelong Guidance

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*February 11 - 13, 2026.*

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#### Join the Conversation on the Future of Guidance Across Contexts

Hosted by the Spanish Association of Guidance and Psychopedagogy (AEOP) in collaboration with the University of Jaén, this distinguished conference offers an essential platform for academics,

researchers, and practitioners to critically engage with current challenges and emerging directions in guidance across diverse settings.

**Key Details:**

- **Organizers:** AEOP and the University of Jaén
- **Focus Areas:** Guidance in educational, social, and occupational contexts
- **Location:** Aula Magna, University of Jaén, Spain
- **Topics:** Artificial intelligence and guidance, Equity and diversity, New training challenges, Mentoring and life support
- **Submission of proposals until September 15, 2025**
- **Limited Registration until December 22, 2025**

Contact: [congreso.aeop2026@ujaen.es](mailto:congreso.aeop2026@ujaen.es)

More information on the [website](#)

Click here for registration

# PROJECTS

## INCLUDE<sup>3</sup>



## Project Information

**Name:** Include<sup>3</sup>

**Project ID:** 2022-1-DE02-KA220-VET-000088595

**Period:** 01/09/2022- 31/08/2025

**Programme:** Erasmus+

**Website:** <https://include3.eu/>

**Stakeholders:** University of Applied Labour Studies of the Federal Employment Agency, VHS Bildungsinstitut (Adult Education Centre), OZARA, eMundus, SYNTHESIS Center for Research and Education,

**The program is addressed to:** Inclusion experts, people with intellectual disabilities, students and teachers at the participating educational institutions



[Click here for the project's Newsletters](#)

## OBJECTIVES

The aim of the project is to identify, disseminate and implement good practice on transitions from sheltered employment to the primary labor market in Europe. Innovative practical examples in the fields of vocational training, vocational guidance and transitions from sheltered employment to the primary labor market will be collected and subsequently evaluated with regard to transferable aspects. They serve as the basis for a new counseling method.

The Include<sup>3</sup> method enables counselors who are employed in sheltered workshops or work closely with sheltered workshops to match needs of people with cognitive impairments and needs of the labor market.

[Click here for more information](#)



## PROJECT OUTPUTS

The project has undertaken several activities focused on building on European good practices to improve pathways for people with intellectual disabilities to find meaningful employment.

Key activities included a report on effective job placement strategies and the creation of targeted materials for decision-makers in workshops, job training, and businesses. To share successful examples, the project produced podcasts and video case studies, shared via its website, blog, and events.

A major outcome is the Include<sup>3</sup> method curriculum, designed to train career guidance professionals in inclusive counseling that links sheltered vocational education with the broader labour market. Implementation guidelines, a self-learning module, and an evaluation report support its use. Case studies based on real experiences are also being developed.

To inform the method's design, six focus groups were held in Germany, Belgium, Cyprus, and Slovenia with people with intellectual disabilities, employers, and inclusion experts. Findings from these sessions shaped the curriculum's principles and standards.

### AVAILABLE MATERIALS:

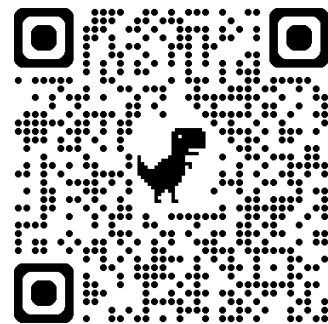
- [National Reports](#)
- [Transnational Report](#)
- [Focus Group Report](#)

**Scan the QR Code for all 9  
units of the Curriculum**

- [Policy Documents](#)
- [Podcasts](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Guidelines for Method Development](#)
- [Curriculum](#)
  - 9 units of Didactical Resources, covering topics such as:
    - [Connecting labour market needs and individual needs](#)
    - [Sheltered Workshops](#)
    - [Elaborating strength and aspirations of people with disabilities](#)

#### AVAILABLE LANGUAGES:

English, Slovenian, Greek, German, Lithuanian



Listen to the Podcast on  
SoundCloud



## Innovative European Career Guidance



### Project Information

**Name:** Innovative European Career Guidance - IEUCG

**Project ID:** 2021-1-IT01-KA220-VET-000035649

**Period:** 01/01/2021-01/07/2024

**Programme:** Erasmus+

**Website:** <https://ieucg.eu/>

**Stakeholders:** Associazione Nazionale Orientatori, University of Turku, Agenzia Para El Empleo, IDEM Creactions, [European Vocational Training Association \(EVTA\)](#), PsychMed Analytics

**The program is addressed to:**



**Career and employment professionals:** Career guides and counsellors, Coaches, Employment Centres, Occupational psychologists and consultants, and HR employees.

**Education and training providers:** Educators, VET (Vocational Education and Training) providers, Training Centres, and Higher education institutions (including professors and academic staff involved in occupational orientation).

**Learners and job seekers:** Students and unemployed individuals looking for opportunities to foster their careers elements.

[Click here for the project's Booklet](#)



## OBJECTIVES

The project is a Cooperation Partnership in Vocational Education and Training, involving six organizations from Italy, Finland, Spain, France, Belgium, and Ireland. The project's central goal is to innovate career guidance and develop a new generation of professional European Career Guides capable of supporting individuals in managing their career journeys, particularly through learning, skills, work, and transitions in evolving times.

The project is built around four core elements:

**REFLECT** – fostering self-awareness and purpose

**GROW** – promoting lifelong learning, soft skills, upskilling, reskilling, and networking

**GO OUTSIDE** – exploring the job market, building personal branding, and expanding networks

**MANAGEMENT AND EVOLUTION** – supporting career management, transitions, and resilience (antifragility)

## PROJECT OUTPUTS

Key activities of the project include a report on career guidance policies and systems across Europe, and a *Handbook on Guidance to Post-COVID-19 Jobs and Transitions* focused on adapting to labour market changes. Training modules on pedagogy and psychology for career counselling are being developed, along with a *Digital Toolkit for Inclusion in Career Guidance*, an open educational resource to support inclusive practices.

The project also organizes seminars and webinars as multiplier events, proposes a new professional profile—*European Innovator in Career Guidance*—and maintains a website hosting multimedia resources. Dissemination efforts include newsletters, social media, traditional media, and leaflets in partner languages.

An international network is also being established. All results will be available as digital Open Educational Resources to ensure wide accessibility and long-term impact.

### AVAILABLE MATERIALS:

- [Report: Career Guidance in Europe \(ENG\)](#)
- [Handbook: Guidance to Post-Covid19 Jobs and Transitions](#)
- [Training Modules](#)
- [Toolkit \(ENG\)](#)
- ["Antifragility In Career Guidance" Manual](#)

## AVAILABLE LANGUAGES:

English, Spanish, Finnish, French, Italian

*Our Website*

Publications

Contact Us



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Network for Innovation in Career Guidance and Counselling in Europe

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