

MEETING MINUTES

Date:December 12, 2023

Location: Polytechnic Institute of Santarém, Portugal

Participants:

- **Prof . Maria Potes Barbas , Coordinator of the Research Hub Digital Literacy and Social Inclusion**
- **assoc. prof. Agnese Hermane, Vice Rector of Academic Affairs**

Prof . Maria Potes Barbas extends a warm welcome to all participants in this collaborative meeting between the representative of the The Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC), Latvia and **the Reasearch Hub** from the Polytechnic Institute of Santarém, Portugal. It is a pleasure to gather at The Research Hub 'Digital Literacy and Inclusion', based at the Polytechnic Institute Santarém.

The Research Hub, established on February 5th, 2020, serves as an extension of the research unit, Centre for Research in Arts and Communication (Algarve), which has earned the classification of Very Good by the Foundation for Science and Technology.

This meeting takes place within the framework of the working group initiated by The Research Hub in Santarém. The group is dedicated to advancing and promoting research mechanisms, particularly in the areas of digital literacy and the inclusion of disadvantaged individuals in the labor market. This initiative addresses the societal challenges prevalent in these domains of activity.

The overarching objectives of the Research Centre: Digital Literacy and Inclusion are:

- To enhance knowledge derived from Scientific and Technological Research in Digital Literacy and the Inclusion of disadvantaged individuals in the labor market.
- To strengthen excellence in digital literacy as an effective strategy for labor market inclusion.
- To assess the effectiveness of innovative resources and methodologies through empirical scenarios, aiming to promote the employability of this target group.
- To prototype a holistic inclusion support model, tailored for people with disadvantages, that can be globally replicated (e.g., companies, HEI's, NGO's, etc.). This model incorporates practices, resources, methods, linkages, and correlations in the digital

literacy domain, with the ultimate goal of achieving successful and sustainable social and labor inclusion.

Agnes Hermane said thank you for sharing the mission and activities of the Research Hub. To facilitate the identification of common research objectives, she provides a summary of the key points of The Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC).

The Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC) is an autonomous institution of higher education, research and culture, which had been established by the state and which implements first level higher education programmes, bachelor's, master's and doctoral study programmes in the thematic field of education "Arts", as well as carries out research activities and long life education programmes. The LAC is a unique education institution with a focussed orientation towards a specific niche of education, research and artistic creativity. Its frame is formed by the cultural and creative ecosystem, centred on the film, theatre and dance art, as well as intangible cultural heritage, cultural management and creative industries.

Cultural and creative ecosystem integration:

Both institutions share a focus on cultural and creative ecosystems. Collaborative efforts could explore how digital literacy initiatives can be integrated into the cultural and creative industries, fostering innovation and inclusivity.

Interdisciplinary approach in arts and education:

The Latvian Academy of Culture's commitment to arts education aligns with the Research Hub's interdisciplinary approach. Collaborative projects may involve exploring the intersection of digital literacy with various art forms and educational programs.

Digital literacy in cultural management:

Given the LAC's focus on cultural management, collaborative initiatives could explore digital literacy strategies within the context of managing cultural institutions and projects.

Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage:

Both institutions may share an interest in the preservation of intangible cultural heritage. Collaborative efforts could involve digital literacy initiatives aimed at documenting and preserving cultural traditions and practices.

Creative Industries and Innovation:

The LAC's focus on creative industries aligns with the Research Hub's goals. Collaborative projects may explore the intersection of creativity, innovation, and digital literacy, particularly in the context of film, theatre, dance art, and creative industries.

Long-Life education programs:

Both institutions engage in long-life education programs. Collaborative initiatives could involve the development of digital literacy courses for continuous education, targeting professionals in the cultural and creative sectors.

International collaboration in arts and culture:

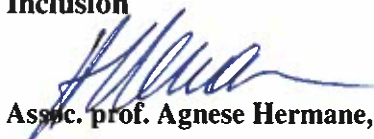
Given the international focus of both institutions, collaborative projects may involve joint research, workshops, or cultural exchange programs with an emphasis on digital literacy in arts and culture.

These potential common objectives indicate areas where the 'Digital Literacy and Inclusion' Research Hub and The Latvian Academy of Culture can explore collaborative initiatives to advance digital literacy within the cultural and creative spheres.

Thank you for your engagement and participation, and I look forward to the prospect of a mutually beneficial collaboration.



Prof . Maria Potes Barbas , Coordinator of the Research Hub Digital Literacy and Social Inclusion



Assoc. prof. Agnese Hermane, Vice Rector of Academic Affairs