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# E-Digilit

Enhancing Digital Literacy of  
University Students  
(E-DigiLit)

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## E-Newsletter I

# Introduction

Welcome to the first e-newsletter of E-DigiLit Project.

We, as E-DigiLit project team, want to talk you about our project.

At first, the biggest reason behind our preparation of this project is that the skills that the university students should have in order to adapt to the digital world in the information age have started to gain a great importance. It is a fact that digital literacy became one of the most important key competencies in the digital age as survival skill. Developments in information and communication technologies have affected every field as well as the field of education and have changed the learning environment rapidly. As the most fundamental value of the 21st century is knowledge, the production and sharing of knowledge has become compulsory. In the process of sharing information, the concept of literacy is important. Today's literacy, which is the result of rapid development of technology and different disciplines, is gathered under the title of digital literacy. Individuals with digital literacy skills have the ability to use, access and produce the right information, and to use technology in the learning-teaching process. In other word, digital literacy is considered as the most important basic skill that an individual must have in this digital age.



# The Aim of the Project

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Therefore, The European Commission has brought digital literacy skills to the agenda as one of the competencies that information societies should have. Likewise, Turkey Council of Higher Education has started to work on the development of digital literacy skills in the context of digital transformation in higher education. As Dokuz Eylül University, we developed this project by bringing together higher education institutions with the same common problem in Europe. Project consortium designed the E-DigiLit Project to meet the need of university students by improving their ability of surviving in the digital age. In this context E-DigiLit aims to:



Develop a learning environment for digital literacy skills.



Improve the digital literacy skills of university students



Contribute to the capacity building of universities on digital literacy



Facilitate the access to sources related to digital literacy

With this project, an elective digital literacy course will be offered to the students along with educational materials (videos). Besides, for the academic staff who will offer this new elective course to the students a digital literacy course curriculum and an online guideline will be developed. E-Digilit project which has duration of 30 months will improve university students' digital literacy skills in a planned and academic approach. This project will also prepare students for changing labor markets and for active citizenship in more diverse, mobile, digital and global societies. On the other hand, capacity of universities will be improved and cooperation among partners will be strengthened thanks to the face-to-face and online project meetings.

Within the scope of the project it is planned to organize 4 conferences as multiplier event at the end of the project and 5 transnational project meetings in each partner country (2 of them will be in Turkey) throughout project timeline.

# Project Management Activities

The kick-off meeting of the project has successfully organized in İzmir by on 16-17th of January 2020 in İzmir, under the coordination of Dokuz Eylül University with the full participation of representatives from project partner institutions. In the kick-off meeting partners presented their institutions in detail which resulted in a good understanding and communication among partners. Then, a clear understanding of tasks to prepare the outputs of project was settled up by Dokuz Eylül University and APEC Education Consulting. Besides, decisions were taken to apply two surveys and to prepare the elective course curriculum.



After the kick-off meeting project partners came together in online meetings three times up to now. In these online meetings partners could find to talk about the details of activities to produce elective course curriculum.



# What has done up to now?

In the first 9 months of the project, a new questionnaire for decision makers and academic staff was prepared and implemented for common understanding. The survey results were gathered in the Needs Analysis Report and shed light on the preparation of the questionnaire to be applied to the students. This new survey tool was developed and applied to at least 200 students studying in different departments and different classes in each country. A draft elective curriculum was created by making use of the survey results and the literature review prepared by Coventry University, one of the project partners.



# E-DigiLit Partners

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TURKEY- Project Coordinator  
Dokuz Eylül University  
[www.deu.edu.tr](http://www.deu.edu.tr)



SPAIN- Partner  
Fundacion Universitaria San Antonio  
[www.ucam.edu](http://www.ucam.edu)



UNITED KINGDOM-Partner  
Coventry University  
[www.coventry.ac.uk](http://www.coventry.ac.uk)



CROATIA- Partner  
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