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# NEWSLETTER

## Follow up: piloting of HEI module, last stages of online course development and launch of the Ambassadors Network



### WHO WE ARE?

AccessCULT is funded by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union and aims to IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE across Europe through exchange of good practice and by developing, implementing, testing, improving and promoting an innovative multidisciplinary HE module for students, future experts, and adult training for existing cultural workers.

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS & PROGRESS UPDATE

After more than a year of remote working, the AccessCult project partners finally met in Turin (Italy) for the first face to face meeting from 7th – 8th June 2022 ([4<sup>th</sup> partner meeting](#))

During 2022 partners carried out the planned activities, mainly the implementation of the six months training for HEI student's (Intellectual Output 3) at the University of Ljubljana, University of Klaipeda and University of Burgos. The development of the Online Course for Cultural workers (Intellectual Output 4) is almost complete, and will be tested during the remaining months of the project

Moreover, the [first Round Table](#) (out of 4), or Multiplier Event 3, was held in Lithuania on 21<sup>st</sup> June and attended by the heads of Klaipeda city cultural institutions, educators of museums and galleries and exhibition curators, initiators of cultural projects, representatives of people with various disabilities, teachers, social partners and stakeholders.

Finally, the ambassadors' network and the [European Point of Cultural Heritage Accessibility](#) has been launched and is recruiting experts to join and advocate for accessibility.

### ACCESSIBLE MUSEUM AMBASSADORS NETWORK

The network has been created to promote dialogue on accessible cultural heritage between diverse stakeholders. It is a community of professionals and researchers from around the world who advocate for inclusion and accessibility in museums and cultural heritage experiences (on site or online) that aims to bridge the gap and enhance understanding between cultural heritage professionals and cultural heritage visitors with disabilities.

The key role of each ambassador is to promote accessibility of cultural heritage and to provide a bridge between cultural heritage professionals and visitors with diverse needs. More info at: [AccessCult Ambassadors Network](#)

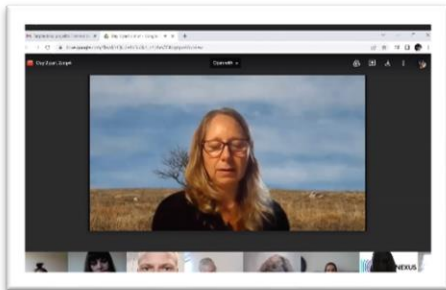
## HIGHER EDUCATION MODULE "ACCESSIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR ALL" (IO3) – IMPLEMENTATION

During 2022, the HEI study module for with students has been implemented in the University of Burgos, University of Ljubljana and University of Klaipeda, through a 6-month long testing phase.

### University of Burgos

From the call made by the University of Burgos, 26 people were interested in participating in the implementation phase of the HEI module. It was decided to give the opportunity for all of them to participate. They are currently in the process of reviewing the module materials and providing feedback to improve and finalize the teaching materials o.

### University of Klaipeda



Students of the second cycle study program "Professional Ethics and Ethical Audit" have participated in the higher education study module "Accessible Cultural Heritage for All" through a 6-month long testing phase held in Lithuania from February-June 2022. Students attended and evaluated 12 lectures remotely on the MsTeams platform. During the training and implementation, under the guidance of Klaipeda University lecturers doc. dr. Ernesta Molotokiene and doc. dr. Rosita Vaiciule, students

acquired new knowledge, skills, and competencies in the field of accessibility for all to cultural heritage. Students evaluated the HE module and shared their experiences by completing questionnaires.

### University of Ljubljana

The University of Ljubljana has implemented a face to face module with first-grade students at the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts. Their regular study program already includes lectures on museology and topics on (cultural) heritage, therefore the new teaching focus was on understanding the needs of people with disabilities and different practices of accessibility in museums, archives and libraries.



Some of the teaching was classroom based and some a part on the "field" in collaboration with different individuals and organizations: sign language interpreter (MA Boštjan Jerko), The deafblind association of Slovenia DLAN (ms. Marjana Kenda), National Archive of Slovenia (PhD Gregor Jenuš), Slovenian Theatre Institute (MA Sandra Jenko), Slovene Ethnographic Museum (ms. Katarina Nahtigal) and Specialized library for blind and visually impaired (ms. Katarina Černe). Students found the complementary course on accessibility interesting and useful not only for their future work, but also for their everyday life to better including people with disabilities.

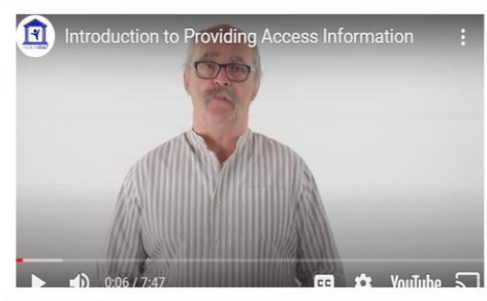
# ONLINE ADULT TRAINING "ACCESSIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR ALL" (IO4) – FINAL STAGES

The development of E-learning for cultural professionals to improve access to their cultural venues is now in the final stages. The leader, Culture Coventry has started testing the e-learning course with their 10 cultural professionals.

Following feedback from the Train-the-Trainer event, the online course now features video content presented by two presenters who guide learners through the course. We have prioritised video content to make the course quicker to complete but also to give it a friendly, guided feel. Case studies have recently been produced on all the key points within the course which will support learners in producing solutions for their own venues.

Our next focus is to test these improvements across all partner countries with cultural workers, responding to feedback from the sector.

A YouTube channel has been set up to host the new video content with subtitles in five languages. The next stage of production is to translate the course text into Spanish, Lithuanian, Italian and Slovenian.



Module descriptions have been modified to give clarity over their contents:

1. Providing Access Information
2. Supporting Visitors at Your Venue
3. Managing Access

## Mobility visit for 15 students from Univ. of Burgos, Klaipeda and Ljubljana:

Hosted by University of Coventry during October 2022 (for 14 days or 30 days). The trip will further develop student understanding of accessibility in cultural heritage. Students will:

- Learn about Coventry the UK City of Culture 2021
- Undertake practical training in accessibility within a cultural heritage environment
- Interact with specialist accessibility organizations in the United Kingdom
- Experience learning in an English classroom and simulated environments

To express interest: <https://coventry.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/visit-to-coventry-uk>

## MORE TO COME IN THE NEXT MONTHS:

Final implementation of Online Adult Training. The organization of 3 Round tables in Spain, Italy and Slovenia. Completion of Ambassadors Network and European Point of Cultural Heritage Accessibility. 10 pilot museums for students together with People with Disabilities and mobility visits for 15 students in the UK. More information at [accesscult.eu/](https://accesscult.eu/) and [facebook.com/accesscult/](https://facebook.com/accesscult/)