

## Newsletter

01/2020

### Starting date

01.11.2019

### Duration:

24 months

### Partners

Lodz University of  
Technology (Poland) -  
project coordinator



University of Thessaly  
(Greece)



University of Aveiro  
(Portugal)



University of Library  
Studies and Information  
Technologies (Bulgaria)



Euroakadeemia (Estonia)

# High5 project

## Transdisciplinary Methodology for Integrated Design in Higher Education

**AIM:** Creation of a new methodology of solving engineering/business problems - **Integrated Design approach**. It is based on already existing methods and approaches:

- Design Thinking
- Problem Based Learning
- Sustainable development,
- Circular economy,
- Innovation thinking,
- Entrepreneurial skills.



### Key Actions:

- Formation of Integrated Design on the bases of common knowledge and experience
- Elaboration of Materials for both teachers and students
- Creation of on-line course for teachers
- Conduction of student's team projects during International summer schools
- Evaluation of projects
- Preparation of Integrated Design course program
- Collecting good practices in handbook form
- Boosting creativity of various target groups
- Organizing Project's Final Conference to share with the world: Integrated Design

## Contact Us

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### Project website

[high5project.eu](http://high5project.eu)

### Email

[high5project@gmail.com](mailto:high5project@gmail.com)

## Starting in Łódź – Kick-off meeting

Project started in November 2019 with the meeting of project coordinator with partners from Greece, Estonia, Portugal and Bulgaria. During 3 days-stay in Łódź all the participants took part in open inauguration held in Factory of Engineers of XXI century, discuss key aspects of the project during working sessions as well as get to know each other and socialize.

Inauguration in a form of conference with networking session for academic teachers, students and researchers interested in modern forms of didactic and problems solving techniques was conducted. Among participants were also representatives of University College London (UCL) who visited the TUL as part of the observation of good practices related to innovative didactics. After welcoming all the guests by Vice-Rector Witold Pawłowski the topics of development of TUL in the field of internationalization and interdisciplinarity and the importance of improving the quality of education and initiatives aimed at it were vastly discussed. The main assumptions of the HIGH5 project were discussed by its coordinator, M.Sc. Anna Laska-Leśniewicz. All the project partners presented their universities and experience and were willing to answer questions concerning their role in project consortium as well as crucial aspects of educational process.



*Teams from all partner universities at DT4U workspace lab at Lodz University of Technology*

After plenary sessions the meeting in team of project consortium was continued. The aim was to discuss the strategy and action plan for the next two years so as to create of international programs and teaching materials for project work with students, using and combining various techniques under the banner of Integrated Design. Fruitful discussions were conducted through several hours including also evening meetings and common meals.

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## What connects medieval Tallinn and Teachers Trainings?

The main activity of High 5 project in February was a training in Estonia. Capital of that country is Tallinn, whose Old town is one of the best preserved medieval cities in Europe and is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Thanks to the hosts (Euroakadeemia), the Teachers Training took place only few meters from greatest monuments and touristic attractions like: Toompea Castle or medieval inns where visitors can for example eat game-based dishes or drink traditional beverages in chambers without electricity. Going back into the past with medieval Tallinn was an extra component to understanding the idea of Sustainable Development (SD) and its complex aspects.



*Trip to medieval part of Tallinn city*

To gain the common understanding of that topic all the project members attend Inspiring lectures conducted by:

- Kristina Martin from Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
- Juri Martin from Euroakadeemia
- Alar Konist and Rein Munter from Tallinn University of Technology.

The project consortium believe in active learning so the key point were the workshops and field trip maintained by Tatiana Põlajeva. Within a case studies concerning sustainable live approach and exploring knowledge of 17 SD goals all the participants could check what is their impact on our Planet. We encourage you to check it yourself and count yours global footprint on: <https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>.

One of the major problems that we were able to define is that SD is commonly flattened to just pro-ecological thinking. Nevertheless, following the most famous definition from the report “Our common future” of United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development:

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*“...Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs...”*

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In that way the needs do not end up with green surroundings and clean oceans but also: responsible design, production and consumption (taking into account the whole product life cycle materials, labor etc., striving for equality in reaching education, good health and well-being and many, many more.

The Teachers Training was a perfect occasion to discuss the form and content of materials in Integrated Design concerning ecological aspect and SD. We will let You know about them soon.



*High5 project group in Tallinn*

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