

NEWSLETTER



ZWW INTERNATIONAL

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Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present the **third edition** of ZWW International Newsletter! In this issue, we will be sharing important updates on our ongoing and upcoming international projects and activities. We cordially invite you to subscribe to stay up to date with all upcoming events and important news.

The Center for Lifelong Learning (ZWW) is a central facility and responsible for lifelong learning at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU). The center manages more than 360 seminars and conferences on a wide range of different topics every year. For almost 20 years the ZWW has been working beyond national borders in a number of international projects on different topics. You can read about our past projects [HERE](#).

A QUICK LOOK AT OUR SUMMER SCHOOL 2025



From 04 to 22 August 2025, 60 students from 20 different countries convened in Mainz to participate in our Summer School Programme. Over a period of three weeks, participants enrolled in daily German-language courses ranging from A1 to C1 levels. These courses were complemented by a variety of afternoon activities, including excursions to nearby cities and cultural studies such as Intercultural Training, German history, German literature, German politics, and so on. Should you wish to enhance your German language skills and explore more interesting aspects of Germany, please visit our webpage for further information.

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A SHORT UPDATE ON OUR CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

We are currently coordinating 6 Erasmus+ projects in the field of Higher Education and Adult Education, with the main goal of improving accessibility, development, and digitisation of international adult education. In the projects we are accompanied by partners from various European countries. All projects are EU-funded.

Mobility4LLL

Expanding Language Learning Opportunities



JGU supports mobility programmes that foster language exchange between Germany, France, and Spain. Our latest initiative, launched in September 2024, offers older learners 50+ the opportunity to engage in enriching language tandems and cultural excursions.

Participants will connect with native speakers from our partner universities in Dijon and Valencia, improving their language skills while experiencing authentic cultural exchange.

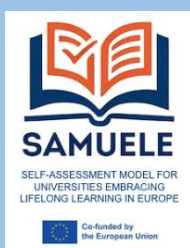
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Preparatory visits
15 April 2025, Dijon

Both preparatory visits for the 50+ group mobilities in Dijon (06–11 October 2025) and Valencia (02–08 November 2025) have been successfully completed. Together with our partners at the Université de Bourgogne Europe and the University of Valencia, we worked on the strategic framework and pedagogical aspects of the programmes. The constructive exchanges and on-site visits offered valuable insights and laid a solid foundation for the success of Mobility4LLL initiative.

Self-assessment Model for Universities embracing Lifelong Learning in Europe



The primary objective of this project is to develop a comprehensive and transnational Self-Assessment Model Framework tailored to the specific context of University Lifelong Learning (ULLL) in European universities. This project started in January 2025 and will last till the end of 2027.

SAMUELE has issued a call for good practices in University Lifelong Learning (ULLL) with the SAMUELE ULLL Award for outstanding contributions. Should this subject be of interest to you and you wish to make a contribution, please visit our website for more information.

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Peer Learning Seminar
18 June 2025, Brussels

In a first step SAMUELE has conducted a national survey across 18 EU countries on how they organise and implement ULLL within their institutions and collected an extensive questionnaire from +100 HEIs. As part of the project, the peer learning seminar in June 2025 was organised to gain initial insights into the data analysis of the conducted survey.

Stories4all

Developing methods and tools for teachers to integrate digital storytelling in teaching activities to address the need for inclusive educational interventions



The objectives of the project are to develop methods, tools, and skills for creating digital stories inspired by diverse cultural backgrounds to promote cultural and language awareness to address the need for inclusive educational interventions that promote empathy and creativity by adopting a community building approach in the developing the appropriate skills of its target group and facilitating them to design and implement engaging learning activities exploiting the cultural capital of EU countries.

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2nd Transnational Partner Meeting
15–19 September 2025, Chania

The second *Stories4All* transnational meeting in Chania, Greece, marked the start of the project's new phase. Partners explored digital tools like *eShadow* and *Coursevo*, combined Design Thinking with Shadow Theater, and developed creative storytelling ideas. A hybrid training followed, bringing together participants worldwide to create, present, and reflect on their own digital stories. Further details with first training results are available [here](#).

AI in Language Learning

Artificial Intelligence in Adult Education and Self-Learning: Providing personalized and adaptive learning experiences with emphasis on language learning



This project's main goal is to raise awareness and motivation for teaching and learning opportunities with AI-technologies. The project will familiarise teachers and self-learners with the advantages of AI-supported learning and encourage them to create more engaging and interactive learning experiences by using AI technologies such as speech recognition, machine translation, and natural language processing. If you are interested or have any questions, please send a message to ai-erasmusplus@zww.uni-mainz.de.

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3rd Transnational Partner Meeting
23–24 September 2025, Palermo

In September, the team met for its 3rd TPM at PRISM in Palermo. The focus was on **planning new podcast episodes for self-learners** and **preparing for the launch of the pilot phase for the developed project materials**, which are to be used from November onwards. All interested self-learners and (language) teachers who would like to try out and help shape the tools and content are welcome to participate.



Co-funded by
the European Union

AI in Higher Education

AI-Powered Teaching Guidance for Educators



The AI in Higher Education project, which began in December 2024 and will last for 30 months, aims to empower educators with cutting-edge tools and methodologies, enhance collaboration between universities and AI experts, and promote ethical AI usage in education. Interested educators and educators in training who would like to stay up to date with the project developments and receive guidance on AI Tool applications for Education may follow us on social media.

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2nd Transnational Partner Meeting

13–14 October 2025, Chania

The 2nd Transnational Partner Meeting, hosted by the Technological University of Crete in Chania, focused on the next steps of the project: **Developing video tutorials** and **Creation of strategies and guides for AI tool integration**.

FOREU4ALL / ALLIES

Enhancing Inclusive Lifelong Learning in Europe



Under the umbrella of the FOREU4ALL, ALLIES (Alliances for Lifelong Learning, Improvement, Empowerment, and Skills) project/topical group aims to strengthen collaboration among European university alliances to promote inclusive lifelong learning for all. Through sharing best practices, developing common standards, and supporting non-traditional learners including underrepresented and vulnerable groups, ALLIES seeks to enhance access, quality, and recognition of ULLL across Europe. The project is scheduled from May 2025 to October 2028

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FOOD Includes

Reaching, recruiting and engaging excluded learners by harnessing the power of food



The Erasmus+ project aims to develop innovative and flexible learning opportunities in the field of "FOOD" in order to promote social inclusion and create better qualification opportunities in adult education. By designing educational initiatives as "outreach pedagogy", disadvantaged adults will be targeted and given access to training opportunities anchored in food projects.

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Winter School

Coming Soon: The Winter School 2026!

We're excited to announce the launch of our brand-new Winter School, starting in spring 2026! This two-week online programme offers students from around the world the chance to improve their German language skills. Beyond language learning, participants will discover key aspects of German culture and gain valuable insights to prepare for a future stay in Germany.

The Winter School is a perfect opportunity for those who cannot join our Summer School but still wish to experience the spirit of international exchange and learning.

Intercultural Training

The Center for Lifelong Learning (ZWW) offers intercultural trainings to institutions, teams or classes, both in the university context and in other professional fields. These courses provide valuable insights into different cultures and help participants develop a more conscious approach to managing cultural differences. Our target groups so far have included: international students, health care workers, entrepreneurs, educators and more.

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Forecast Next Newsletters

In the upcoming newsletters, we will introduce more events and projects that will further strengthen our international exchange and the promotion of lifelong learning:

UNESCO-Project: We are glad to give you an insight into our newly launched UNESCO research project which is conducted as part of a second agreement with the Shanghai Open University (SOU). The project focuses on intergenerational learning at universities worldwide.

FOOD Includes: As the FOOD Includes project reaches its conclusion, the Final Conference on 10–11 November 2025 in Barcelona will bring together all partners to share outcomes, success stories, and future visions for inclusive and sustainable food practices in education.

BELONG@HEI: This new project aims to foster a stronger sense of belonging and inclusion for women and underrepresented students in Higher Education. The Kick-Off Meeting will be held in Mainz on 28–29 January, setting the stage for an inspiring exchange of ideas and collaboration.

VISUALITY: This new project aims to empower educators with structured visual pedagogy, enhancing accessibility and engagement for disadvantaged learners in HE and adult education. The project Kick-Off will take place on 27 November 2025 in Copenhagen.



Team ZWW International von links nach rechts: Iris Thimm-Netenjakob, Mark Reinhard, Milena Ivanova, Alexander Nguyen Thanh, Elisabeth Leisten, Hong Van Le, und Agathe Kapche Fotso

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You are automatically receiving this free newsletter because you have already taken part in past events or research projects as part of our Erasmus+ projects. If you want to unsubscribe, please send an e-mail to projects@zww.uni-mainz.de.

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