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DIGI-Story
Digital Storytellers: Empowering Youth Through Media Literacy and Transmanedia

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2º NEWSLETTER DIGI-STORY

DIGI-STORY INTERNATIONAL TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS IN LISBON

From 26 to 29 May, Lisbon hosted the DIGI-Story international training event, an international learning experience that brought together students, trainers and project partners from Portugal, the Czech Republic and Spain.

The training represented an important milestone for the project, offering participants the opportunity to develop digital competences, strengthen media literacy and explore new ways of using storytelling as a tool for participation, creativity and responsible communication. Over four intensive days, young people worked in an intercultural environment where collaboration, reflection and practical learning were at the centre of the experience.

The event was designed as a dynamic training space in which participants could move beyond theoretical learning and apply digital concepts to real-life contexts. Through group activities, practical challenges and creative tasks, students were encouraged to analyse the digital world critically and to understand their own role as active, responsible and ethical digital citizens.





LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

One of the main strengths of the training was its experiential approach. Rather than limiting the learning process to classroom-based sessions, the programme used the city of Lisbon as an open learning environment. Participants explored several iconic locations, including Praça do Comércio, LX Factory, Alfama and Belém, transforming these spaces into real-life contexts for observation, analysis and digital content creation.

These visits allowed students to connect digital storytelling with urban culture, heritage, communication and social participation. While discovering different areas of the city, participants analysed how places, people and messages can be represented through digital media. They also reflected on how online narratives are constructed and how digital content can influence perceptions, behaviours and public participation.

Throughout the training, participants reflected on key topics such as:

- Digital storytelling and active participation
- Ethical content creation
- Fact-checking and misinformation
- Digital wellbeing and sustainability
- Responsible communication in virtual spaces
- The role of young people as digital citizens
- Creativity, teamwork and intercultural cooperation

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CREATIVITY, MEDIA LITERACY AND RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION

BA central objective of the training was to help participants become more aware of the impact of digital communication. In a context where young people are constantly exposed to online content, misinformation, social media trends and algorithm-driven platforms, the development of critical digital skills is essential.

For this reason, the training placed strong emphasis on media literacy and ethical communication. Participants explored how digital content is created, shared and interpreted, and how online messages can affect public opinion and individual wellbeing. They were also encouraged to think critically about the reliability of information, the importance of fact-checking and the responsibility involved in producing and sharing content online.

The creation of transmedia narrative content allowed students to combine different formats, including images, videos, written messages and digital tools. This process helped them understand how stories can be adapted across different media while maintaining coherence, impact and ethical awareness.

At the same time, the activities addressed digital wellbeing and sustainability, encouraging participants to reflect on the balance between digital participation and healthy online habits. This dimension was particularly relevant in helping young people consider not only what they create online, but also how digital environments affect their attention, relationships, emotions and everyday lives.



AN INTERNATIONAL AND COLLABORATIVE EXPERIENCE

IBeyond the development of digital skills, the training also created a valuable space for intercultural exchange. Students from Portugal, the Czech Republic and Spain had the opportunity to work together, share experiences and learn from different cultural perspectives.

This international dimension strengthened the European character of the project and helped participants experience cooperation in a practical and meaningful way. By working in mixed teams, students practised communication, problem-solving, creativity and mutual support. These competences are essential not only in digital contexts, but also in educational, social and professional environments.

The training also reinforced the role of young people as active participants in European projects. Their involvement, ideas and reflections contributed directly to the learning process and demonstrated the value of youth participation in building more inclusive, creative and responsible digital spaces.

> My experience on this training course was very positive. I really enjoyed meeting all my new colleagues during the training, I enjoyed meeting people from other countries, and I learnt a great deal from this training."
>
> **Gonçalo Inácio, Portuguese student**

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LOOKING AHEAD

The Lisbon training was an important step in the DIGI-Story project, showing how digital storytelling can be used as an educational methodology to promote creativity, critical thinking and responsible participation among young people.

The experience also highlighted the importance of learning through practice, cooperation and real-life contexts. By combining digital tools, media literacy, ethical reflection and intercultural exchange, the training contributed to preparing participants to engage more consciously and responsibly in today's digital society.

The knowledge and materials developed during the training will continue to support the next stages of the project, contributing to the creation of meaningful educational resources and activities that can be transferred to other learning contexts.





NEXT STEPS FOR THE DIGI-STORY PROJECT

Following the Lisbon training, the project will continue building on the knowledge, experiences and materials developed during the event. The results of the training will contribute to the refinement of educational resources and future activities aimed at promoting digital storytelling, media literacy and responsible digital participation among young people.

Partners will continue working together to ensure that the methodology can be transferred and adapted to different educational contexts. The lessons learnt in Lisbon will support the development of more engaging, practical and inclusive learning experiences.

The DIGI-Story project will therefore keep promoting digital creativity, critical thinking and ethical communication as essential competences for young people in today's digital society.

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