

Promoting intercultural awareness and intercultural differences through digital storytelling

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Abstract Id: 96

Submitted: 08/10/2021

Event: PIconf 2021 - Challenges for a Global Higher Education: Digitalisation, Open Science and Bioethics

Topic: Digitalisation, & information technology

Keywords: Intercultural awareness, digital learning, storytelling, Erasmus+ project

Storytelling is a way to understand ourselves and the world; it serves as a dialogue between people to inspire, educate, entertain, record events, and pass along cultural expectations. It can be an essential means of promoting inter-culturalism. The digital way of telling stories allows students to tell their story through different media such as audio, video, texts and images, social media, interactive elements (e.g. digital maps), and music. The creation of stories digitally allows authors to develop their understanding of the world as they see it through the search and organization of information and reflection.

Creating digital stories is also part of the project Mediterranean Countries Towards Internationalization at Home (Med2Iah) held in the period from 2020 to 2023, in cooperation with four Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and one NGO from Programme Countries from Europe (2 from Slovenia, one from France, one from Spain, one from Italy) and twelve Partner HEIs from Mediterranean Partner Countries (3 from Morocco, three from Tunisia, two from Egypt, two from Jordan, two from Lebanon), students from 12 partner countries will create digital stories on the topic of inter-culturalism in 2022. It is expected that between 200 to 300 digital stories will be completed by students from Morocco, Lebanon, Tunisia and Egypt. The purpose is to promote intercultural awareness and cultural diversity.

Covid 19 has significantly affected internationalization. Digitally implemented internationalization can be understood as a new reality. Online digital stories on inter-culturalism can also be a tool for intercultural learning and virtual exchanges.