Internationally active – professionally valuable in the era of post-Covid 19, case of Slovenia


Submitted: 11/10/2021

Event: PIConf 2021 - Challenges for a Global Higher Education: Digitalisation, Open Science and Bioethics
Topic: Digitalisation, & information technology
Keywords: Internationalisation; higher education teachers; university teaching; Erasmus+ project

This paper aims to present the situation in the area of the Internationalization of Slovenian Higher Education. The focus is on the internationalization activities of higher education academic and non-academic staff and the challenges of internationalization faced by Covid 19.

The research carried out in the project shows, that respondents find internationalization firmly beneficial for their work, especially by increases of their international networks leading to new scientific contacts and allowing for the exchange of knowledge and experience. To improve their international activity level, they suggest better financial resources and reducing their teaching time. COVID-19 pandemics also influenced the internationalization activities of the respondents a lot, in particular, the outgoing mobility opportunities for faculty/staff and participation at international events like conferences, short study visits, exhibitions, etc.

In the project we investigate, how can new technologies change the internationalization of higher education. More than ever, we wonder what opportunities are offered in online virtual mobility, online teaching and learning, research, an online collaboration of universities and online internationalization overall. The importance of virtual mobility and internationalization through online learning is increasing; however, E-learning does not mean only transferring education from classrooms to online environment but requires consideration of specific academic pedagogy for online teaching.