Web meeting

Wednesday, 16ᵗʰ May 2018

10:30 – 12:00 CET

How can EPR members promote the developments of digital skills?

Notes

Participants

Gry Nielsen	Arbeid & Inkludering i NHO Service (Work & Inclusion)
Frank Gottwald and Marleen Schiffer	BFW Köln
Didier ROCHE	CRM
Patrick Ruppol	GTB
Pari Meravoglou	Theotokos
Mirko Miceli	EPR
Alicia Gomez Campos	EPR
Ronald Schollaart	EPR

Summary of the Web Meeting

The topic of skills has been identified of great interest for EPR members. After a survey was sent and collected with input from EPR members on the topic, an online mutual learning exchange to share practices, including identifying key issues for members to build future collaboration, was organised to help understanding what are the different experiences EPR members have in relation to working with digital skills.

➢ Main goal of the Web Meeting: to understand what EPR is doing on the topic of skills and what EPR can do with members on this topic.
➢ Update on EPR members' promotion of digital skills: EPR members were asked to give an update on their work to promote the development of digital skills:

- **BFW Köln:**

Digital skills are currently very important in Germany and have a double focus: to train participants for the new working life and to strengthen staff in digital skills using new methods and tools.
  ➢ Example shared: BFW Köln has an ongoing internal project run by staff using a wide range of technical equipment.

New competences, education and training are needed to adapt to the future. An App is being developed to support internal services for participants.

Ongoing idea of developing a digital laboratory with a well-equipped room for staff to go there with participants and try out new techniques.

- ✓ A summary in English will be put together and shared with other EPR members.
- ✓ Upcoming project: Adults are the participants and are in rehabilitation processes. Mix them with young participants and they develop digital content. New project for autumn.

- **GTB:**

➢ Example shared: In GTB mediation for persons with disabilities is put in place to help them learn and be up to date with digital skills. They can be offered to go to a vocational training centre. The Belgian region of Flanders has special training centres for persons with disabilities and some offer learning in digital skills.

- ✓ GTB would like to see if this training can be included into the public system and what kind of assistance shall be provided or what experiences are there at European level to offer training and what support can be provided for training on mainstreaming skills.
- ✓ GTB highlighted the development of skills related to social media is needed.
- ✓ GTB identifies 3 target groups for its training: those with a learning disability, those with a mental disability and others with a physical disability.

- **Arbeid & Inkludering i NHO Service (Work & Inclusion)**

EPR member in Norway does not work currently with digital skills and people in VET.

National stakeholders in Norway, funded by the State, lead an ambitious national curriculum on digital skills.

- ✓ Example shared: Online platform to develop digital skills on different areas.

Arbeid & Inkludering i NHO Service has developed a learning management platform for everyone to use. This platform was shared with other participants of the web meeting by using the sharing screen tool of the webinar. The platform is a very useful tool for clients and staff developed to improve all types of skills. Arbeid & Inkludering i NHO Service said this platform can produce online courses and share them with others hence helping improving digital skills. The courses are not focused on people with disabilities but addressed to everybody based on the principle that learning does not depend on a disability but on skills to be developed. Some of these courses, based on an e-learning method, include information about how to develop a CV, how to apply for a job, management skills…Each course developed is different.

- ✓ EPR members were interested in knowing what was the business model behind the development of these courses. It was explained no business model was put together to develop this platform. Members of the platform share the costs of taking care of the resources to keep it up to date.

- **Theotokos Foundation:**

EPR member Theotokos has 370 students. Between them a number of the 14-35 year olds have learning disabilities and autism.

- ✓ Practice shared: Computer training programme to learn basic skills.

Theotokos explained to the web meeting participants the computer training programme they have created where participants can learn basic skills on the computer and link these to other activities running in the foundation and everyday life.

Some of the activities they do consist of making newsletters, doing research in different topics such as cultural subjects or other things they are concerned about like for example bullying, smoking, …

Staff are always available to help and supervise them. Once they have gathered information about a concrete topic, they do a presentation to the Foundation about it.

- ✓ Theotokos mentioned the importance they are giving to raising awareness about the use of mobiles and social media as it can pose problems for students.

> ➤ **Special training on IT skills:**

All participants to the web meeting confirmed there are IT Training in their centres.

<div style="background-color:#7FB2D9; text-align:center; font-weight:bold; color:#1F5C8B;">Common challenges and mutual interests</div>

/ Common challenges:
- ➤ To address both staff and trainee's development of digital skills together.
- ➤ Clarify what will be interesting for participants to learn in the digital area.
- ➤ Training students for future labour market demands in digital skills including social media.
- ➤ How to best use digital skills for PWD to be able to work from home.
- ➤ Define the right focus: develop digital skills or practical implementation of digital skills?

/ Mutual interests:
- ➤ Understand how EPR members can better work together on the topic of digital skills based on mutual learning and experience/ideas sharing.
- ➤ Develop programmes to train staff and students on digital skills and find ways to empower them.
- ➤ Develop ideas for project applications.
- ➤ Identify future trends related to digital skills.
- ➤ Develop a module for both staff and trainees using digital methods. Learning digital skills in English by doing.

/ Possible future steps- Ideas to move forward:
- ➤ Focus on digital skills is important for both staff and trainee's clients.
- ➤ Develop a new model to train digital skills with participants - Concrete proposal to create a common platform for training on digital skills: Use example presented by Arbeid & Inkludering i NHO Service (Work & Inclusion) for finding the basis together to develop a process on mutual learning. Use this model to develop at European level a system to train on content for business and office management in English. Use classroom model and *learning by doing*.
- ➤ Different members to see together with participants what they would like to focus on regarding digital skills.
- ➤ Link to Job Carving and Partnership with Employers events. Raise awareness among employers about the importance for PWD to work from home part of their working time.
- ➤ Follow up discussions in Germany about the platform they develop.
- ➤ Check European Commission's proposals on digital skills and identify what is interesting for EPR members in order to develop this platform.
- ➤ A Digital skills definition and framework to work with for EPR members to be established by the end of September. EPR members to send any materials collected to related the development of the proposed platform by that time.

Action point: EPR will collect the documents/ frameworks/ classification EPR members are currently using to define "digital skills" within their organisation. This work will provide EPR and members with more information and a better understanding of the definition of "digital skills" used in the different contexts. Members will also share information about the programmes to assess and promote digital skills.