

OER-CODEX: Open Educational Resources for Collaborative Online & Distance Education and eXchange

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Abstract

OER-CODEX is an Erasmus + Action Type KA220 HED project, focusing on cooperation partnerships in higher education (2022-02 to 2025-01). Partners are TU Dresden, DE, VDU Kaunas, LT, FH Krems, AT, EMUNI, SI. Triggered by the experiences of the current Covid 19 pandemic, pushing teachers and students into home offices and enforcing home schooling / distance education, the already ongoing digitalisation initiatives in higher education received strong attention. While early adopters easily shifted into the new mode and used the digitalisation initiative for further improvement, most educational institutions and educators were confronted with unexpected challenges in the digitalisation of Higher Education.

OER-CODEX intends to address organisational, technical and pedagogical needs by developing Open Educational Resources (OER) in forms of online course modules with special focus on online collaborative learning and teaching as an important digitalisation approach. The project initiative (1) acknowledges the 21st Century Skills, as formulated by the OECD and its Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), (2) is structured along the DigCompEdu framework of the EU, (3) qualifies educators to engage in blended learning activities at their institutions, based on best practices, (4) motivates educators to generate and add own OER content, and (5) provides an openly accessible and extensible, self-sustaining OER pool for online collaborative learning and teaching methods.

The research method follows the Design Science Research Model with aspects of Action Research. Designed OER artefacts will be evaluated based on prototyping, observation of first applications, and user feedback from interviews and focus groups.

Keywords: OER, COIL, Distance Education, 21st Century Skills, DigiCompEdu