

Al Pioneers Newsletter No. 5 June 2025





JOIN AI PIONEERS NETWORK

Come join the discussion and share your experiences using AI in vocational training and adult education

Al Pioneers

2025

FINAL CONFERENCE

Al and the Future



WELCOME TO THE FIFTH AI PIONEERS NEWSLETTER!

We are excited to share the latest milestones of <u>AI Pioneers</u>, our Erasmus+ Forward-Looking project dedicated to international network formation and promotion of ethical and effective integration of AI in adult education and vocational education and training (VET).

As we approach the final phase, we're excited to share recent milestones, new collaborations, and upcoming opportunities of our project.

Inside this issue, you'll find:

- An invitation to our Final Conference in Bremen a hub for innovation, workshops, and networking.
- **Highlights from our recent project meeting in Verona**, focusing on ethical AI and network sustainability.
- Insights from two successful webinars co-hosted with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the European Training Foundation (ETF).
- Updates on our presence at international conferences and events,
- Invitation to share your ideas and feedback for the hub of AI in VET practitioners.
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- And a list of our ongoing project results.

Whether you're an educator, policymaker, or AI enthusiast, this project connects you to a vibrant community committed to responsibly integrating AI into vocational and adult learning.



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JOIN US AT THE AI PIONEERS FINAL CONFERENCE 2025 "AI AND THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION"

📅 22–23 September 2025 | 🏛 University of Bremen, Germany

We kindly invite you to join us for an international conference exploring the future of AI in adult education and VET. Hosted at the University of Bremen, the event brings together researchers, educators, and practitioners to discuss the latest insights, innovations, and challenges in integrating AI into learning and training.

For the academic community, the conference provides an opportunity to present and discuss the latest research findings and theoretical developments in the field of AI in adult and vocational education.

For practitioners, the focus is on concrete use cases and best-practice models. Learn how AI tools are already supporting learning processes today, how schools and training institutions are integrating AI into their teaching practices, and what skills educators and learners will need in the near future.

Expect two days of inspiring keynotes, hands-on sessions, and networking with leading experts from across Europe. Topics include ethical frameworks, competence needs in the age of AI, international studies, and best-practice models.

Key questions to be addressed include:

- What research exists in the field of AI in VET and adult education?
- Which theoretical developments could be of interest for VET and adult education?
- What examples of best practice are recognisable in practice?
- What skills requirements arise from AI in the work environment?

Why attend?

- \checkmark Discover practical AI use cases and tools for education
- \checkmark Connect research with real-world implementation
- ✓ Expand your professional network
- ✓ Join the AI Pioneers community participation is free!

Register now: <u>http://unihb.eu/aipioneers</u>

Sollow us on LinkedIn for the **program updates!**





Registration is now open via Eventbrite - spaces are limited!

We look forward to welcoming you!

- AI Pioneers & ITB, University of Bremen

https://aipioneers.org/



THE THIRD TRANSNATIONAL PARTNER MEETING IN VERONA

The third transnational meeting of the Erasmus+ AI Pioneers project took place on 12–13 June 2025 in Verona, hosted by the University of Verona. The gathering brought together project partners to reflect on progress and plan the final phase of the project.

Ahead of the meeting, participants had the opportunity to visit a vocational training centre operated by Fondazione CNOS-FAP ETS. The study visit offered valuable insights into the practical application of artificial intelligence in vocational education.



The meeting itself focused primarily on the upcoming AI Pioneers Final Conference, scheduled for 22–23 September 2025 in Bremen, Germany. The conference agenda promises a rich program, including keynote speeches, interactive workshops, panel discussions, and presentations that explore the integration of AI in both vocational and adult education. It will also serve as an important platform for networking and community-building within the AI Pioneers network.

Partners also discussed next steps for consolidating the project's outcomes and ensuring the sustainability of the network beyond the project's completion.



Key themes for the coming months include the ethical use of AI, the long-term structure of the AI Pioneers network, and the development of communities of practice.

A special thank you goes to **Thuy Reynolds** from the AMES Australia International Specialised Skills Institute for her thoughtprovoking presentation on AI integration and student engagement in VET in Australia, which added a valuable international perspective to our discussions.

The final project meeting will take place at the end of September in Bremen, and will be hosted by the project coordinators from the Institute Technolgy and Education (ITB).

Stay tuned for more updates as we approach the final phase of AI Pioneers!

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"SHAPING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN THE AGE OF AI EMPOWERING INCLUSION, INNOVATION AND ETHICAL GROWTH"

EDEN DLE Annual Conference "Shaping the Future of Education in the Age of Al Empowering inclusion, innovation and ethical growth" took place at Bologna University in Bologna, Spain, on 15-17 June. The Al Pioneers project was featured through two oral presentations and an interactive action lab, highlighting key research and tools for the responsible integration of artificial intelligence in Adult and VET.

AI PIONEERS

One presentation introduced an evaluation schema designed to help institutions navigate ethical kev challenges—such as transparency, fairness, and data protection-when adopting AI. The second offered a multilevel view of AI in VET, combining practical case studies, insights, and survey findings network on educator competencies. The Action Lab brought these ideas into practice, engaging participants in real-world scenarios and collaborative discussions on how to apply ethical principles in educational settings. Together, these sessions reflected the project's contribution to shaping a values-driven approach to AI in education.





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Action Lab <u>"Artificial Intelligence and Ethics in Education – An Evaluation</u> Schema".

Chaired by: Dr. Alexia Antzaka, Dr. Giedre Tamoliune, Ms. Ana Dias, Ms. Frieda Klaus and Dr. Ludger Deitmer



Presentation <u>"AI Ethics in Education: A Framework for Responsible Integration</u> and Alignment with EU Values"

Presenters: Dr. Alexia Antzaka, Prof. María Orcasitas-Vicandi, Prof. Gorka Roman Etxebarrieta, Mr. Asier León Nuñez, Dr. Natalia Louleli



Presentation <u>"Artificial Intelligence in Vocational Education and Training: A</u> <u>Micro, Meso and Macro Perspective From the Al Pioneers Project</u>". *Presenters: Ms. Frieda Klaus and Dr. Ludger Deitmer*



NETWORK EVENTS

During the last months, we delivered more than 15 dynamic workshops—both online and on-site in Germany, Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain and Portugal, bringing together over 580 participants from diverse VET sectors. These events played a key role in fostering a vibrant, interconnected community of practice comprising trainers, teachers, and pioneers dedicated to advancing AI in education and training.

Through these collaborative efforts, we:

- Z Expanded our European Reference Network
- V Fostered cross-sector collaboration for practical knowledge exchange
- Supported competence development across VET and adult education
- V Forged strategic partnerships, including with organisations from Australia
- Z Explored synergies with networks and projects beyond our initial scope.



Al Pioneers is now firmly established as a leading force in integrating Al in education and training across Europe—and beyond.

Stay connected, share your practices, and help shape the future of AI in learning!

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COLLABORATION AND CONSULTATION SEMINARS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION JOINT RESEARCH CENTER AND THE EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION

5TH CONSULTATION WEBINAR "RESEARCH BASED DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING"

On 17th February, we had the pleasure of hosting a webinar "Research-Based Digital Transformation in Vocational Education and Training," with guest speakers Cesar Herrero and Anastasia Economou from the European Commission's Joint Research Center (JRC). The session explored how evidence-based research is influencing the future of education and skill development across Europe.

Recordings of the Consultation webinars on our <u>YouTube Channel</u>



6TH CONSULTATION WEBINAR "TEACHING WITH AI: LESSONS LEARNT AND IDEAS FROM THE ETF NEW LEARNING CLUB"

On 19th May, a enriching webinar took place with quest speaker Fabio Nascimbeni (ETF - Community of Innovative Educators). In this online event, Fabio Nascimbeni and Roberto (STEPS) Righi presented lessons learned, emerging themes and future plans for the ETF new learning club dedicated to "Teaching with Artificial Intelligence". In this webinar, we also had the opportunity to meet several members of the club from different countries who gave us their views on topics relevant to AI in education.

HELP US SHAPE THE FUTURE OF AI PIONEERS

YOUR INPUT MATTERS

We're Redefining Our Website for You

When the project ends next year, we plan to redefine the AI Pioneers website as a hub for AI VET projects and practitioners to exchange knowledge, practices, and ideas. This will be a **VET-specific space**. We want your input so that we can make it the most useful resource for our AI Pioneers network members!

> Let us know by completing <u>the short survey</u> OR by joining the conversation on <u>LinkedIn</u>.



AI PIONEERS NETWORK

Join us in collaboration!

#AIPioneers

https://aipioneers.org/



AI PIONEERS' RESOURCES

NEWLY DEVELOPED PROJECT OUTPUTS

Our working group on ethics and policy is proud to announce the release of the Handbook on Policy and Ethics in AI Education, developed as a key complement to our Evaluation Schema for supporting VET and Adult Education centres in assessing the ethical use of AI. Designed as a practical resource for educators, administrators, and policymakers, the handbook offers a clear framework to keep ethical considerations, such as privacy, fairness, and responsible use, at the core of AI adoption in education.

Notably, the handbook includes:

- Real-world case studies and examples of effective AI policies in VET institutions
- An in-depth look at **ethical skills** in the context of AI in education: their importance, application areas, and concrete examples



This resource will soon be available on our website in English, as well as in all partner languages: German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.



Supplement to the DigCompEdu Framework

Outlining the Skills and Competences of Educators Related to Education



<u>Evaluation Schema for Al in Education on Data, Privacy, Ethics, and EU</u> <u>Values</u>



AI Toolkit with Practical Use Cases

ALL PROJECT OUTPUTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PROJECT WEBSITE

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and find inspiration in the advancements and opportunities offered by Artificial Intelligence in the field of education! Together, we are creating a smarter and more accessible future for education and professional learning.

