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BANUU - Designing new pathways for employability and entrepreneurship of Iraqi students in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage project's "Training on Entrepreneurial Startup Projects" took place in Istanbul between 5-18 February. Koç University hosted 17 students from the following institutions: the University of Kufa, University of Mosul, University of Al-Qadisiyeh and University of Baghdad. While taking workshops titled: "New Perspectives of Leadership"; "Design Driven Innovation for Cultural Heritage"; "Open Access Sources Useful for Cultural Heritage Related Startup Projects" they also had the chance to discuss and develop their startup project ideas with KWORKS (Entrepreneurship Research Center).
On February 17th - 18th, KU’s new KA220-HED - Cooperation partnerships in higher education project titled: "Disinfo Academy For HE Students" kick-off meeting occurred. National Training Center (the coordinator Bulgaria), Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski (Bulgaria), and University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), and Asociatia Eurocomunicare (Romania) are the project partners. Specific objectives are: to identify, study and understand the practices, methods, and approaches used by university students and related to information verification; to critically analyze, update and extend the existing fact-checking to design an online course compatible with the updated and validated fact-checking methodology; to model efficient pathways for increased outreach and impact of fact-checking.

Prof. Zeynep Cemalcılar and Assoc. Prof. Lemi Baruh of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities attended the meeting.
Based on a collaboration between Koç University, the Universities of Oldenburg (Germany) and Copenhagen (Denmark), Edinburg (UK), the State Archaeology Department of Schleswig-Holstein (Germany), and the Ocean Decade Heritage Network (Denmark), this Erasmus Mundus Design Measures project will establish a Joint Master's program combining principles of Maritime Cultural Heritage Management, Marine Spatial Planning, and Climate Change.

Istanbul (23-24 February) and Copenhagen (2-4 May) Project Meetings took place to design the new joint master's degree "Sustainable Ocean Management". As a result of fruitful discussions, the framework of the degree was established and the team will write a proposal for the EMJM call.
The Art of De-biasing project team had their TPM in Leiria, Portugal. Prof. Zeynep Cemalçilar of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities and Prof. Tolga Etgü of the College of Sciences attended the meeting.

The team discussed and worked on the Test-me-now platform, developed training strategies, and produced data results to be shared soon. All the videos on de-biasing are recorded, the platform is already collecting data, and the strategies were finalized. At the final information event of the project, the project team will share and discuss the results with teachers. The partners from Artevelde in Ghent will host the event on October 4th, 2023.

For more information on the project please visit the website.
Podcasting-Based Social Impact Learning Environment project is led by Stories for Impact (Estonia), in partnership with Koç University Social Impact Forum (KUSIF), Geri Norai (Lithuania), and Latvian Social Entrepreneurship Association (Latvia). Between April 17 - 21 "Social Impact Podcasting Bootcamp" took place in Tallinn, Estonia. This was a peer-to-peer training for podcasters who would like to improve their technical skills and are already producing or would like to produce podcasts on topics related to social and environmental impact.
UNIC CITYLABS FESTIVAL

The UNIC community just wrapped up the 3rd CityLabs Festival, hosted in 2023 by the University of Deusto in beautiful Bilbao. Over 150 members from across ten universities participated in a series of workshops, experiential walks, and debates to unpack Bilbao’s unique urban experience and distill lessons in co-creation and revitalization for post-industrial cities. It was an invigorating couple of days, packed with activities, insights, and at least one joyous basque-style dance.

Koç University UNIC delegation attended the UNIC CityLabs Festival held in Bilbao, Spain from April 24-27, 2023. The UNIC CityLabs event brings together students, citizens, academics, and city stakeholders to identify and solve social problems faced by super-diverse post-industrial cities. This event is part of UNIC’s efforts to develop innovative and sustainable methods of university collaboration while promoting social inclusivity and advancing societal impact.
We are open to new project ideas and collaborations!

If you are a KU affiliate and interested in developing a project idea please contact oyozer@ku.edu.tr

If you are interested in being a partner with KU please fill out the project partner form.

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