

## DiFree Newsletter - Issue 1 June 2022

Welcome to the 1st *Newsletter Issue* of EU-funded project Erasmus plus Digital Freelancing (KA220-HED - Cooperation Partnerships in Higher Education, (in short *DiFree*), running from 1st February 2022 to 1st February 2025.

The Project aims to disseminate information about digital freelance jobs and how to succeed in those professions in Europe. The selected target consists of graduating students and new graduates who are approaching the job market and assessing the opportunities offered by independent entrepreneurship, which is rarely considered as a valid alternative in many countries. Young professionals who are considering the possibility of becoming a solo self-employed person may also be interested in the project and find tips here for effective self-promotion, besides insiders' and professional mentors' views of the digital freelance job market and of self-made entrepreneurship.

*DiFree's* main goal is, therefore, to supply freelancers-to be with useful tools to cope well in the world of self-employment, which is more and more digital, even when conducted in a hybrid work environment, increasingly relying on permanent learning and continuous skills development, and dependent on acceptance from communities of practice.

The objectives of the project are to develop a manual that informs its readers about freelance professions requiring digital skills, and to create open-source educational material and free resources, such as a collector of multilingual digital CV and E-portfolio models, and physical and virtual places where hopeful freelancers can find reliable information, advice, and examples of good practice.

After the Kick Off Meeting of the 24-27 May, where *DiFree* was officially launched, the Consortium Partners -  
 Università della TusciaTuscia (IT),  
 Centro Ricerche e Studi dei Laghi (IT),  
 Universidad de Cadiz (ES),  
 University of Panteion (GR)  
 and Instituto Politecnico do Porto (PT) -  
 are all eager to start working on this youth empowering project.





**Dear Reader,**

*It is an honor and a privilege to write this short note as Scientific Coordinator of the Difree Project and Editor of its Newsletters.*

*The first translational partners' meeting ended a few days ago and we are glad to share with you a few insights into this engaging Erasmus Plus Project and the event hosted by the Consortium Coordinator, the University of Tuscia, in Viterbo, Italy. We are also glad to invite you to contribute to our publication.*

*Difree Newsletters will not only contain short updates on project progression and provide information about past and future events organized by the Consortium but will also introduce discussion topics pertaining to digital freelance jobs, remote contract work, self-employment development skills and best online tools. In due time, they will also introduce and explain the use of the outputs generated by the Consortium team members. To attract and involve readers, and promote Difree objectives, the Project website will post a permanent Call for short articles on translabouring, remote and virtual work – especially in fields usually neglected by online blogs or gurus' comments on digital freelance jobs.*

*There is plenty of information online about digital freelance jobs which typically involve work fields such as (digital) marketing, graphic design, web content and the like. However, many more professions can be conducted online and indeed have started to be conducted via the web using digital tools. The aim of the brief articles to be published in the Newsletters is that of exploring professions that are not normally associated with online environments. Some of them have long been conducted online before Covid 19 – such as in the sectors of language consultancy and editing; some others have started to be conducted online, especially after the Pandemic, such as Virtual Assistants, carrying out both personal and administrative secretarial online duties. Others will increasingly become re-motable in a near future job market relying on learning agility and permanent up-skilling or re-skilling.*

*The success of a Newsletter is based on the number of readers, subscriptions, contributors and, of course, reviewers. So, please read us, follow us on our social media, write to us, and feel free to contribute to our publication.*

**Anna Romagnuolo**