Report on Webinar Entitled "Connecting an Erasmus+ in-house system to the EWP network: Case of Izmir Institute of Technology (IZTECH)"

As part of the "Supporting Universities in Digital Transformation of Erasmus+ (SUDTE)" funded by the Turkish National Agency a webinar meeting was held on February 16th, 2023. The title of the webinar was "Connecting an Erasmus+ in-house system to the EWP network: Case of Izmir Institute of Technology (IZTECH)". The webinar aimed to share the experiences of IZTECH as a case for an institution connecting its in-house system to the EWP network. For this purpose, the challenges that had to be overcome and solutions to the problems encountered during connection to the EWP network were discussed in the webinar.

In line with the SUDTE project's mission to investigate challenges in the digital transformation of Erasmus+, this webinar is intended to help in-house users with their connection to the EWP network. In order to reach HEIs that use Erasmus+ in-house system.

We obtained contact information for in HEIs that were identified as "self-system" and "in-house" in the Erasmusjet database. This is described in "Report on Erasmus+ in-house system users' satisfaction survey results" that can be found on the SUDTE website. In addition, we contacted our project partner EUF for a wider spread call for the announcement of the webinar date and time. We also reached Turkish National Agency to reach Turkish HEIs. The announcements contained a registration link to collect the interested participant's information. Based on the registration data, 32 participants from seven different countries showed an interest in the webinar.

In the webinar, the lead engineer coordinating IZTECH's EWP network connection Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tuğkan Tuğlular from the Department of Computer Engineering presented the process of connecting to the EWP network. In total, 17 people participated in the webinar, from four different countries. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tuğkan Tuğlular presented that they used scrum methodology for the software developments for the in-house system's EWP connection. In the scrum methodology, at each sprint, a feature of the EWP software is analyzed, designed, implemented, and deployed but could not be tested in some cases validated. The design of the software follows the Model-View-Controller pattern. He also discussed software architecture. According to the IZTECH team's experience, the design of the EWP software has some shortcomings for in-house developers. The first and most important being impossible to test a feature alone. Some third-party providers do not pass some of the validator tests. The team also observed a lack of complete specifications with explanations and examples in the EWP repositories and a lack of testing scenarios. Due to these problems, the decision at IZTECH is to discontinue in-house development after the finalization of the SUDTE project.