

Post-digital and inclusive higher education: transformation and well-being of the individual and the system (PIVO: TDPS)

Lead researcher: Full. Prof. Ina Reić Ercegovac, Faculty Dean, Department of Psychology

Project timeframe: 1.10.2025. - 30.9.2029.

Budget amount: 132.141,25 euro

Project goal:

Today's higher education is facing a series of challenges due to rapid global changes, technological progress, labor market dynamics and social inequalities. Higher education institutions need to transform into innovative and flexible systems, responsible to the community in which they operate. The key participants in the system are students and employees, as well as leaders at various levels (board members, heads of teaching, scientific and professional units, team leaders). Their empowerment in building the resilience of the entire system to continuously emerging challenges is the determinant of a successful higher education institution. The project will connect different levels of the system (education policy; structural level; philosophy and values; practice and behavior; personal experience of the individual) and different participants (students, teachers/scientists, leaders) with the aim of gaining new insight into the elements in focus of this project: changes, inclusiveness and well-being in higher education in the post-digital era. The purpose of the project is to analyze educational policies in higher education from a critical-constructivist and positivist position, using qualitative and quantitative methods (document analysis, interviews, focus groups, questionnaires and experiments); to examine various aspects of changes in the system; to conceptualize transformative and inclusive leadership in the higher education system and examine its correlates and the possibility of implementing transformative and inclusive practices; to examine students' mental health and to develop recommendations and other supporting materials that can help in the practical implementation of educational interventions and institutional support systems for student well-being.

Members of the project team:

- Full. Prof. Ivana Batarelo Kokić, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Full. Prof. Darko Hren, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Full. Prof. Ivana Bulog, Faculty of Economics in Split
- Full. Prof. Ivana Tadić, Faculty of Economics in Split
- Full. Prof. Goran Kardum, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Assist. Prof. Katija Kalebić Jakupčević, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Assist. Prof. Ivan Buljan, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Assist. Prof. Ivana Jadrić, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split

- Assist. Prof. Toni Maglica, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Sani Ćavar, PhD, senior assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Bruno Barać, PhD, senior assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Lana Pehar, PhD, assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Paula Andabak Pivac, assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Vedrana Vučković, assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Petra Poljak, assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split
- Marko Galić, assist., Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split