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Newsletter 1. Erasmus+ Project AIRECH - AI for REsilient Crafting Hub
Erasmus+ KA220 Project No. 2025-1-IT01-KA220-VET-000351799

Launch of the Erasmus+ Project AIRECH - AI for REsilient Crafting Hub



On November 13, 2025, the Kick-Off Meeting of the Erasmus+ KA220-VET project AIRECH – AI for REsilient Crafting Hub was held online.

All partners of the international partnership connected to officially start the collaboration. The lead partner Cisita Parma coordinated the meeting, attended by representatives of VET training centers, craft companies, and technology partners from Italy, Lithuania, Slovenia, and the Netherlands.

Objectives and main activities of the Project

The project involves three excellent artisan sectors:

- Production of Parma Ham PDO (Italy)
- Traditional Jewelry Craftsmanship (Lithuania)
- Historical Textile Processing (Slovenia)

For each of these sectors, a generative AI-based Conversational Agent will be developed, an advanced digital tool that will serve both as a digital archive for the safeguarding and preservation of the know-how of these precious and ancient crafts, and as an innovative, stimulating, safe, and ethical teaching tool. These AI assistants will help students and teachers in the learning process, facilitating the transmission of skills.

The **main activities** will take place over two years and will last until October 2027, divided into Work Packages:

- Building the knowledge base and developing the AI agents
- Training, testing, and validating the AI agents (one for each artisan sector)
- Dissemination and valorization of the results for the replicability of the model

The Partnership

Seven partners from three European countries, including specialist training centers, craft companies, and technology partners. The pairings:

Italy: [Cisita Parma](#) (lead partner and VET training center) and [Tanara Giancarlo Spa](#) (Parma Ham PDO producer)

Lithuania: [Menų ir dizaino mokymo centras](#) (VET school for jewelry craftsmanship) and [Kauno prekybos, pramonės ir amatų rūmai](#) (Kaunas Chamber of Commerce)

Slovenia: [Strokovni izobraževalni center Ljubljana](#) (VET school for historical textiles) and the craft workshop [Andreja Stržinar](#)

Technology partners: the Italian company [Ex Machina Italia](#) (developer of the AI agents) and [Fontys University of Applied Sciences](#) (ethical and social validator from Brainport, Netherlands)

Next steps of the Project

In November, four online sessions of technical alignment and training (“AI Confidence”) were held, aimed at all partners and fundamental to train and align them to fully play their role in the activities. The coming months will be dedicated to collecting and organizing useful materials to build the knowledge bases of the three AI agents, one for each artisan sector involved.

During the Kick-Off Meeting, the official project logo was also chosen, a symbol of the shared identity of the partnership. From the very first meeting, a strong atmosphere of cooperation and motivation was felt, with widespread enthusiasm representing a solid starting point for the success of AIRECH.

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