

## **Workshop ID: P5**

### **Title:**

## **Transferrable skills in European research educations**

### **1) Short Description**

*This workshop extends a warm invitation to Doctoral Students, Early Career Researchers, Supervisors, and organizers of PhD-programs fostering the exchange of insights on the nature and scope of transferable skills nationally and within the European research landscape. Cultivating transferable skills is paramount in equipping research students for their professional trajectories beyond academia. These skills encompass effective communication, adept time and project management, and leadership qualities. While traditionally cultivated within specific contexts—be it educational, research-oriented, or empirical—such skills prove adaptable across various domains and transitions.*

*Mobility opportunities, career advancement prospects, effective communication, interpersonal management, and integrating doctoral students into the broader research milieu serve as catalysts for identifying and honing transferable skills. Moreover, they foster cross-disciplinary collaboration, enriching the research community's fabric.*

*Ensuring that transferable skills cultivate coherence necessitates engaging in cross-disciplinary dialogue. This dialogue should define the essence of transferable skills, delineate activities aimed at their development, and facilitate exchanges within the research community. While structured activities within the formal curriculum, such as courses, are foundational, complementary endeavors like writing seminars, collaborative projects, and conference participation are equally indispensable.*

*The "world café" seminar format emerges as a transformative intervention, facilitating the co-creation and dissemination of knowledge and community-building endeavors. Central to its efficacy is the structured dialogue format, enabling participants to engage in meaningful exchanges and fostering lifelong learning as an integral aspect of professional growth. The cyclic nature of conversations and participant rotation maximizes knowledge sharing and fosters diverse perspectives.*

*The world café format presents a unique opportunity to discuss transferable skills within national and European contexts. It serves as a tool for forging connections among participants who might not otherwise interact, laying the groundwork for formulating knowledge platforms spanning disciplines and academic institutions. Topics for discussion may encompass formal curriculum components like courses and supplementary activities like writing seminars, collaborative ventures, and conference engagements.*

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### **2) Detailed Description**

#### ***Transferrable skills in European research educations***

*The workshop invites Doctoral Students, Early Career Researchers, Supervisors, and organizers of PhD-programs to get the opportunity to exchange experience of transferable skills as well as experiences and ideas of activities promoting such skills through a café seminar.*

*Transferable skills are essential in preparing research students for a career after their research education. These skills, such as effective communication, time and project management, and leadership, are, if learned and discussed, typically so in one context, e.g., educational context, research context, empirical context, however suitable in multiple or when moving between.*

*Opportunities for mobility, career development, communication, interpersonal management, and the possibility for doctoral students to become involved in the broader research culture are triggers for formulating transferable skills. But transferrable skills also trigger learning and working in a cross-disciplinary research community. For transferrable skills to contribute to a sense of coherence, a dialogue of what transferable skills could and should entail as well as activities to develop such skills, a cross-disciplinary dialogue for sharing and exchanging experiences in a research community is needed. Examples of activities organized through the formal curriculum, such as courses, are essential. However, there is also a need for additional activities like writing seminars, collaborating, and participating in conferences to expand connectivity between and within contexts.*

*This workshop aims to stimulate knowledge sharing and development of what transferrable skills entail, or perhaps should entail, nationally and within European research educations.*

#### **Workshop format – A world café seminar**

*A world café is a seminar form that is, in essence, an intervention for co-creating and sharing knowledge and development or community building amongst individuals. Its defining characteristic is how communication is based on conversations structured as dialogue. The structured dialogue is proposed to create a flow between participants, resulting in shared meaning and opportunities for knowledge and lifelong learning as an integral part of work or education. The café's unique contribution is the interventional form of structured conversation in short cycles, which mixes participants between cycles to maximize knowledge exchange.*

*Hence, it formulates an opportunity for defining transferrable skills in a national and European context amongst participants who would otherwise not meet and a tool to formulate initiatives for long-lasting knowledge platforms across disciplines and higher institutions. Examples of activities to be discussed could be related to the formal curriculum, such as courses and additional activities like writing seminars, collaborating, participating in conferences, etc.*

*The cafés are hosted by two café facilitators guiding the participants through four cycles of 30-40 minutes each. In the first three cycles, one participant is assigned table host with the position to anchor that table's conversation through multiple changes of visitors and potential changes of table hosts. The table host is responsible for holding the collective interpretations and evolving the topic at this table, and the other participants transfer their understanding, evolving stories and understating between tables.*

*Topics to be discussed during the workshop are: i) Knowledge and lifelong learning in research education in a cross-disciplinary research community ii) Transferrable skills in a national and European context iii) Social sustainability as a basis for transferable skills.*

*The workshop requires no prior preparation for participation.*

*Other:*

- *The workshop takes place in the afternoon of Sunday, June 16th.*
- *Target audience: Doctoral students, ECR, PhD-program organizers, Supervisors*
- *Workshop participation deadline: three weeks before conference.*

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### **3) Organizers (Workshop Chairs):**

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### **4) Submission link\site\email**

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