# BACK 2 BASICS

## BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN HIGHER EDUCATION AND LABOR MARKET BY FOSTERING DIGITAL SKILLS

### NEWSLETTER 3

**MAY 2024**

- Back2Basics project released a set of videos
- "Bridging the gap between HE and the labor market" – Training Course
- The Back2Basics Pilot Programme has started
- 3rd Back2Basics Partner's Meeting
- The Multiplier Events are on!
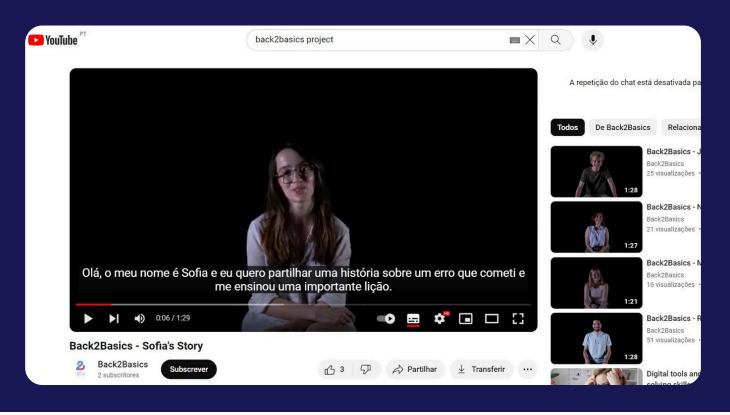- What's next?

**READ MORE NEXT**

# BACK2BASICS PROJECT RELEASED A SET OF VIDEOS

Higher education (HE) students are one of the main target groups of the Back2Basics project and as such a multimedia package is being developed addressing the project's core topics and emphasizing the practical significance of digital tools in today's labor market. Five short videos were already released, and they are available on the **Back2Basics YouTube page**. These videos delve into real-life scenarios, addressing common mistakes and uncertainties that recent graduates often encounter as they enter the workforce. Covering diverse topics, from cybersecurity challenges to copyright protection issues and even the implications of unhealthy digital lifestyles, these videos serve as a catalyst to raise awareness about common pitfalls in the labor market. The ultimate goal is to inspire young people to proactively acquire the digital skills necessary to navigate and overcome these challenges confidently.

Partners:

Co-funded by the European Union

# "BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN HE AND THE LABOR MARKET" — TRAINING COURSE

In July 2023, the second Back2Basics' Training Course was held in Aveiro, Portugal and we brought together 13 university teachers for 4 days. In these sessions we addressed challenges associated with the effective use of IT tools and shared practical tips ready to be applied in daily teaching practices. This course not only fostered collaboration among educators but also equipped them with actionable strategies to navigate the intricacies of incorporating technology in their teaching methodologies.

Based on this course, a modular training package, primarily designed for Higher Education teachers, has been developed and will soon be accessible on the project's website. Despite the progressive digitization of the world and the fundamental role of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills in today's job market, HE continues to rely on traditional teaching approaches that may not adequately equip students for the digital demands of the workforce. This courseware addresses this gap by providing HE teachers with targeted educational resources. The aim is to empower educators to better prepare their students for the contemporary labor market, ensuring alignment with the evolving digital landscape.

# THE BACK2BASICS PILOT PROGRAMME HAS STARTED

We're thrilled to share that the Back2Basics Pilot Programme is currently underway at the University of Aveiro, in Portugal, and the University of Macedonia, in Greece. This pilot aims to empower Higher Education professors by utilizing digital tools to enhance their pedagogical practices. The key objectives include promoting students' basic digital skills to prepare them for the job market, implementing innovative digital teaching techniques, bridging theory to practice for educators, and evaluating the impact of digitally-enhanced classes.



During this pilot, professors from Portugal and Greece will have the opportunity to exchange knowledge and practices with colleagues in the community. Additionally, they will explore training materials provided by the "Back2Basics" team, designed to enhance various digital skills highly valued by the labor market. Professors will also be challenged to convert traditional lesson plans into digitally-adapted class scripts, fostering students' work-valuable digital skills.

So far, ten professors from diverse disciplines such as Marketing, Maths, Biology, Management, Information Systems and English, along with more than 500 students, are actively participating in this pilot programme The initiative promises to be a transformative and enriching experience for all involved.

Partners:

BIO LIVING

universidade de aveiro — theoria poiesis praxis

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA

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# 3RD BACK2BASICS PARTNER'S MEETING

The third Partner's Meeting of the Back2Basics project was held in Aveiro, Portugal, in July 4th, and was hosted by University of Aveiro. The partners discussed the progress of the project and the next steps for the outputs coming up ahead, mainly the implementation of the Pilot Program in both partner universities and the Multiplier Events happening in each country.

# THE MULTIPLIER EVENTS ARE ON!

The Back2Basics Multiplier Events started in Spain! In October 2023, **GRI – Gabinete de Recolocación Industrial** organized the first event, while also marking the occasion of the *Erasmus Days*.





Under the title *"Europe at your feet: Challenges, employability and digital skills",* the seminar had the goal of presenting the objectives of our project and addressing the digital skills most in demand by the labour market. In addition, the event counted with the intervention of Guillermo Pérez Sánchez, Professor of Modern and Contemporary History, representing the University of Valladolid and the Institute of European Studies, who addressed the challenges in terms of democracy, integration, sustainability, education and employment in Europe. There was also a workshop – *"Everything you always wanted to know about LinkedIn and were never told*" – where the participants were offered an interactive training on the importance of online communication and Netiquette, with a special focus on key tips for using the LinkedIn platform in a professional way, improving the employability prospects of young people.

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# WHAT'S NEXT?

As we step in the last phase of Back2Basics, the partners are finalizing the last outputs of the project.

Three Multiplier Events are on the horizon—one in Greece and two in Portugal. During these events, partners will disseminate the project's results and its broader impact. Key stakeholders, including university staff, recruitment agencies, third sector institutions, private sector entities, companies, and the general public, will be actively engaged in these events.

The Pilot Programme, designed to digitally enhance the learning context in Higher Education, will continue until June 2024. The results thus far have been positive, shedding light on both successes and challenges associated with implementing such transformative changes. A comprehensive report detailing the outcomes of this pilot initiative will be compiled and shared by the end of the project.

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