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The conference topics include the following thematic sections:

1 E-learning & Enhensing Soft Skills

- Key competences and soft skills in the digital society
- E-learning for humanities and social sciences
- Self-learning based on e-learning and Internet technology
- E-learning and online learning
- Blended learning
- Legal, social, human, scientific, technical aspects of distance learning and e-learning in different countries
- European and national standards of e-learning quality evaluation
- Psychological and ethical aspects of distance learning and e-learning
- E-collaboration and e-communication in e-learning
- E-environment of the Contemporary University
- E-learning in a sustainable society. Ecosystem and green university
- Comparative approach in research on e-learning

2 E-learning & Enhensing Key Competences. Methodology and Tools Development

- Use of e-learning in improving the level of specialists and students' digital competences
- Innovative Educational Technologies, Tools and Methods for E-learning
- Modern ICT Tools for e-learning in the time of COVID-19 and after pandemic – review, implementation, opportunities for eff ectiveness of learning and teaching
- MOOCs – methodology of design, conducting, implementation and evaluation
- Education 4.0 and Education 5.0
- E-learning and effectiveness using of Learning Menagement System (LMS, CMS, VSCR, SSA, CSA
- Cloud computing environment, social media, multimedia resources
- Methodological tools. E-tutoring. (Video)tutorial design
- Simulations, models in e-learning and distance learning
- Successful examples of M-learning, e-learning
- Evaluation of synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning, methodology and good examples

3 E-learning in the Transformation of Education in Digital Society: Training of the specialists and LLL

- Contemporary trends in world e-learning in conditions of globalization, internationalization, mobilities
- Effective development of teachers' digital skills
- E-learning and Lifelong Learning
- E-environment and Cyberspace Security Development of Key and Soft Competences and E-learning
- AI and Cyberspace. Cybersecurity
- Networking, distance learning systems

4 E-learning & AI, STEAM Education

- Artificial intelligence (AI), augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR)
- SMART Universities. SMART Technology in education
- AI in Education: perspective and challenges
- AI Apps: ChatGPT and Beyond
- Students and teacher competences in area AI
- Ethical and Social Aspects of AI
- Machine Learning. Learning Analitics.
- Immersive learning environments. Blockchain. ChatBots
- E-learning and STEAM Education
- Robots and Coding in education
- Internet of things. 3D printing
- STEM education contemporary trends and challenges
- Distance learning in humanities and science
- Quality of teaching, training in area e-learning
- E-learning for science and technologies

16th Annual International Scientific Conference Online
Theoretical and Practical Aspects of Distance Learning

Subtitle: E-learning & Enhensing Soft Skills

A two-day conference DLCC2024 organized by
the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Education in Cieszyn
Faculty of Information and Materials Sciences in Sosnowiec
University of Silesia in Katowice (Poland)

Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th October 2024

The Conference is organized under the auspices of
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Europejskie Miasto Nauki Katowice 2024

European City of Science Katowice 2024

Funded by the European Union

The theme and the priorities of the conference reflect the conceptual principles underlying the modernization of education and the reform of the educational systems in European countries, as well as national development strategies for the 21st century. One of the European Union's key educational objectives is the provision of equal opportunities for all with regard to access to learning and knowledge, regardless of gender, financial and physical ability, and place of residence. That is why, distance learning has now been granted a status of high priority. If introduced on a wide scale, distance learning and teaching may make a significant contribution towards the achievement of educational goals in member states.

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Education at the University of Silesia, Poland has extensive experience in the implementation of distance learning in other departments across the university. The Faculty's Distance Learning Platform operates smoothly and continues to expand. The conference is designed to bring together all agents involved in e-learning – university students, faculty staff, and educators – to explore and share experiences with e-learning and distance learning, both at home and abroad. The partners and the co-organizers of the previous editions of the DLCC conference **2009–2013** include the **University of Ostrava** (**Czech Republic**), **Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica** (**Slovak Republic**), **Silesian University in Opava** (**Czech Republic**), **Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra** (**Slovak Republic**), which are also involved in many activities in the field of e-learning and ICT in particular in the framework of a joint project **"E-learning as a road to communicating in the multicultural environment"**, supported by the International Visegrad Fund (IVF). Among our participants there were researchers and scientists from different countries.

Strengthening and widening the international cooperation led to another international scientific project **IRNet** *International Research Network for study and development of new tools and methods for advanced pedagogical science in the field of ICT instruments, e-learning and intercultural competences* (www.ir-net.us.edu.pl). The project was financed by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme, within the Marie Curie Actions International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (2014–2017) with participating 10 Universities from 9 countries: **University of Silesia in Katowice** (US), Poland, (Coordinator), **University of Twente** (UT, The Netherlands), **University of Extremadura** (UEx, Spain), **Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra** (UKF, Slovakia), **Lisbon Lusíada University** (LU, Portugal), **University of Ostrava** (OU, Czech Republic), **Curtin University in Perth** (CU, Australia), **Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University** (BGKU, Ukraine), **Dniprodzerzhinsk State Technical University** (DSTU, Ukraine), **Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia**, St. Petersburg (HSPU, Russian Federation).

The start of the new international project "FITPED – Work-based Learning in Future IT Professionals Education" 2018–2021 (www.fitped.eu), with participation of Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakia (coordinator), University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland, Pedagogical University of Cracow, Poland, Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain, Helix5, Netherland, Teacher.sk, Slovakia and "FITPED-AI – Future IT Professionals EDucation in Artificial Intelligence) was determined by the digitization of the society and the automation of many processes which bring new opportunities and types of jobs as well as an important contemporary important direction – artificial intelligence will be one of the fastest-growing areas in the coming years, creating many high value-added jobs. The number of employees employed in the IT sector is continually growing. The employees in the European Union urge that there is an increasing lack of IT specialists, mainly in the field of software development, data analysis and data science. The theme of the conference is: **"E-learning & Enhensing Soft Skills".**

The official language of the conference is **English**.

Dissemination of conference proceedings
Conference materials and authors' papers will be reviewed and published in a **monograph** entitled
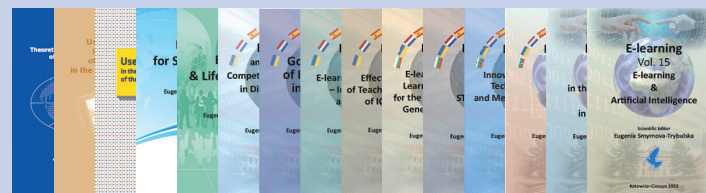*E-learning & Enhensing Soft Skills*
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International Journal of Research in E-learning (70 p. (2023 – 100 p.)
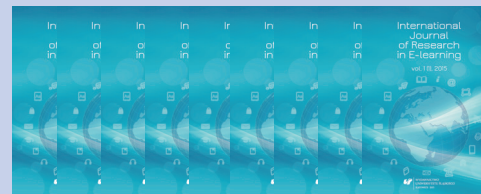https://www.journals.us.edu.pl/index.php/ijrel
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Conference will be held in presence mode.

Important dates:
25th June 2024 – the 1st deadline for submission of registration forms and the final deadline for submission of the abstracts and monograph chapters (2024). Registration fee payment.
1st August 2024 – 2nd deadline for submission of registration forms and IJREL articles (2024).
1st October 2024 – End of registration fee payment. Distribution of the complete conference programme.

Conference registration fee includes:

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