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USR: TOOLKIT OF PRACTICES

The Toolkit of USR (University Social Responsibility) practices is the second important project output and focuses on good practices covering social responsibility and interactions between the university and its local environment. The toolkit contains 21 examples of implemented USR-practices, which are collected using a common methodology: desk research of the existing literature describing these practices and semi-structured interviews within universities. All USR-Practices are supported visually with interactive material.

An explanation of the 5 criteria is provided as introduction to the compendium of practices.

The Toolkit offers university managers, key researchers, marketing departments, students, counsellors and others a practical insight into possible, successful and proven USR-practice examples to stir their imagination and the transfer of practices to other countries and universities throughout Europe. The Toolkit is available in EN, DE, SI, RO, PT, ES and can be downloaded [here](#).

The content of the USR Toolkit is divided according to 5 main criteria:

- Socially responsible research, teaching, and support for learning
- Public engagement
- Socially responsible university governance
- Environmental and societal sustainability
- Fair practices.



Cover of the UNIBILITY Toolkit of Ideas

MEETING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN VIENNA: A STAFF TRAINING WEEK

From May 9th to May 13th, 2016, the UNIBILITY partners delivered the joint Staff Training addressed to staff members from marketing, organisational development, management or social projects of the participating universities. In total 33 people registered for the training, from Austria, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Romania and Slovenia. The training week was hosted by the Postgraduate Centre of the University of Vienna, in Austria.

The five-day training involved both input about social responsibility in the university context as well as practical analysis of good practice examples, how universities can manage their social responsibility policies and how they can have an impact on local businesses, the community and society as a whole. The training was conducted with different didactic principles: theoretical inputs with plenary presentations, lectures and discussions on USR, talking practice sessions using the open space concept, and practical action planning workshops, with each workshop covering one particular field of USR implementation. All activities were evaluated at the end.

In this sense, the training was conceived to support staff members in promoting their university's impact within society, institutional profile building and setting up strategies and action plans to transfer their USR practices to the community context.

Training materials about USR are rare and were prepared prior to this event to be used further in the participating universities after the training. Also, two main deliverables of the UNIBILITY project

were presented: the USR Reader and the USR Toolkit of practices. All participants contributed to the training sessions with their active involvement, questions and sincere willingness to spread the word and to introduce projects or actions at their own universities.

The training was conducted by members of the UNIBILITY-project and, according to the results of the evaluation survey, the event was held in a cooperative, attractive, relaxed and successful way!

This makes us look with optimism to the future: in July 2016 UNIBILITY-partners are preparing the Student Training Week on USR which will take place in Barcelona, for the duration of five days.



BARCELONA SUMMER SCHOOL IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

After the Vienna Staff Training Week, the UNIBILITY partners will be organising a student training and capacity-building week about the social responsibility of universities and higher education institutions.

The training will take place in the premises of the University of Barcelona from Monday July 18th to Friday July 22th 2016 and is open to approximately 35-45 students from the project partner universities. More information on how to register are available on [this page](#). Confirmation of acceptance to the training will be sent following registration.

The training will involve both input about social responsibility in the university context as well as practical analysis of good practice examples of how universities can manage their social responsibility and have an impact on local businesses, the community and society as a whole.

The costs for the summer school can be reimbursed if students attend the whole week of training. The University of Barcelona offers to students the possibility

of residence within its premises. Students are responsible on their own for booking hotels/hostels and their flight, and must keep all tickets and all receipts in order to get reimbursement after the trip.

The programme of the event as well as more information are available at [this page](#).



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