



APPLY FOR **TRANSFORM4EUROPE** PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

The **Transform4Europe** Alliance invites academic and non-academic staff of T4EU and other universities, stakeholders and other interested persons to participate in professional development training (webinars), which will take place in May, 2026. The webinars will cater to and foster various skills, including various training topics – that may be of useful for every non-academic staff members from across the Alliance.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity and register for the webinars to further develop your competencies. The programme times are Central European Time (CET). You can convert the times for your location [here](#). The list of available **webinars in May** and registration forms can be found below.

Webinars for Academic and Non-Academic Staff in May:

Webinar title	Target Audience	Lecturer	Date/Time
<p>"Co-design in teaching: how to involve students in shaping your course". This training session will introduce practical ways to apply co-design principles in higher education, helping academic staff engage students more actively in shaping learning processes. Drawing on experience from creative education and curriculum development, the webinar will focus on simple, implementable methods that support student involvement, feedback loops, and collaborative learning. The session will combine short inputs with practical reflection tasks.</p> <p>Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):</p> <p>By the end of the session, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• understand the principles of co-design in teaching and its relevance in higher education;• identify practical ways to involve students in shaping course content and learning processes;• apply at least one co-design method in their own teaching context.	Academic Staff	Lecturer Marleen Soosaar . She is a learning designer at the Estonian Academy of Arts (EKA). She supports the development of teaching practices with a focus on creative education. Her work includes consultations and training in curriculum development, internal training for academic staff to enhance student-centred learning, and the use of digital learning environments.	May 15 10.00–12.30 CET, MS TEAMS. Registration
<p>"Mental health: challenges and resources". The webinar offers a timely and practical reflection on mental health challenges in the professional context. Throughout the session, accessible strategies will be explored to manage stress, strengthen resilience, and promote well-being in everyday work life. With a close and applied approach, the goal is for each participant to leave with useful tools to support both their own well-being and that of others in the workplace.</p>	Academic and Non-Academic Staff	Lecturer Professor Cátia Branquinho , Universidade Católica Portuguesa. She is Clinical and Health Psychologist, with a PhD and postdoctoral training in Educational Sciences, specialising in Health Education.	May 19 10.30–12.30 CET, MS TEAMS. Registration

<p>"Innovative teaching methods: Training university students conforming to the ResearchComp Framework". This webinar introduces innovative, student-centred teaching methods aligned with the ResearchComp Framework, aimed at developing core research competences from the early stages of study. It focuses on practical approaches to embedding inquiry-based learning, critical thinking, and real-world problem-solving into everyday teaching practices.</p> <p>Join us to explore how your courses can actively shape adaptable, analytical, and evidence-driven professionals for the future of work.</p>	Academic Staff	<p>Albena Antonova is assistant professor at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. She has participated in numerous projects on topics such as knowledge management, e-learning technologies and digital transformation in education, new technologies in teaching and learning, smart services, gamification, Gen AI and others.</p>	<p>May 21 13.00–15.00 CET, MS TEAMS. Registration</p>
<p>"AI is not magic: How it actually works?". Many people regularly use generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot or Google Gemini) and are impressed by their apparent intelligence, often perceiving them as something close to "magic". This training is aimed at non-specialists who use AI systems but have little insight into how they work. The goal of the training is to demystify AI by showing that modern AI systems are based on data, mathematics, and pattern recognition rather than understanding or intention. Using practical, hands-on examples in Orange (https://orangedatamining.com), we will explore how machines learn from data.</p>	Academic and Non-Academic Staff	<p>Associate Professor Dr. Nino Bašić, University of Primorska. The lecturer does not assume any background in programming, mathematics, or machine learning. The speaker is not an AI specialist, but a regular user of AI tools, approaching the topic from the perspective of an informed outsider. Through simple and concrete examples, the audience will see that AI is not some form of dark magic, and that robots aren't plotting a Terminator-style takeover anytime soon.</p>	<p>May 26 10.00–12.00 CET, MS TEAMS. Registration</p>
<p>"AI in our workplace(s): Hype and reality". The impressive capabilities of „large language models“ such as ChatGPT, Claude and Gemini have sparked huge interest and promise to have a deep, potentially disruptive impact on many different sectors of society. Virtually every organisation's board and top management is pressuring everyone to use so-called „AI“, usually without specifying exactly how, and without addressing the deep and still unsolved reliability issues of this technology. Yet, more than three years after ChatGPT was launched and despite an unprecedented amount of investment, many people are still struggling to see significant changes in their daily work. In this seminar, we will attempt to provide a balanced view of this (impressive) technology and distinguish between hype and reality.</p>	Academic and Non-Academic Staff	<p>Associate Professor Alberto Bartoli, University of Trieste. Full Professor of Computer Engineering. Coordinator of the Master's Degree in Computer Engineering. Teacher of cybersecurity and computer networks. Over 25 years' experience in teaching, scientific research, delivering training courses to technical and administrative staff and evaluating technological innovation programmes.</p>	<p>May 28 9.00–11.00 CET, MS TEAMS. Registration</p>

Participants of the "Transform4Europe" Professional Development training/webinars will be awarded **certificates** recognized alliance-wide. The webinars will be delivered on the "MS Teams" platform and held in English.

If you have any questions, please contact us by email: Transform4Europe@vdu.lt

We kindly ask you to share this invitation with the academic and non-academic staff of your university through all possible communication channels (email, university websites, social media, newsletters and so on). Thank you!



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