

# **Launch of the GEDIS Project: Promoting Gender Diversity in Higher Education**

## **Barcelona Hosts the Kick-off Meeting of the European GEDIS Project**

Barcelona, March 20, 2025

The University of Barcelona (UB) hosted the launch of the GEDIS (Gender Diversity in Information Science: Challenges in Higher Education) project, a European initiative aimed at promoting gender diversity in the teaching of Information Science and Documentation. This event brought together researchers and experts from various countries to coordinate innovative strategies that integrate gender perspectives into higher education.

The project collaborates with several European universities, including the University of Barcelona (Spain), University of Zadar (Croatia), Carinthia University (Austria), Universität Hildesheim (Germany), Silesian University in Opava (Czech Republic), University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), and University of Osijek (Croatia), thus consolidating an academic network committed to gender equity in higher education.

Funded by the European Union (2024-1-ES01-KA220-HED-000246558), GEDIS aims to enhance inclusion in university education through curriculum analysis, the development of educational tools, and the training of faculty and librarians on gender-related issues.

## **A Key Event for International Collaboration**

The Kick-off Meeting took place on March 12, 13, and 14, 2025, marking the official start of the project. During the event, the main work packages were discussed, including:

- **Project Management:** Assessment of the project status and committee coordination.
- **Innovations in Inclusive Gender Teaching:** Presentation of the Delphi study and curriculum analysis.
- **Identification of Best Practices:** Discovery of digital tools and methodologies for gender-inclusive teaching.
- **The Role of Librarians in Gender Perspective Integration:** Development of academic resources and specialized training.
- **Impact Assessment and Measurement:** Creation of a framework for gender evaluation in education.
- **Dissemination and Communication:** Communication strategies, publication of materials, and outreach events.

Additionally, the event featured notable activities, including a training session on creative research methodologies with a gender perspective, led by researcher Helen Kara, and a public outreach session on UB radio, where project partners discussed the importance of gender diversity in higher education.

## **A Lasting Impact on Higher Education**

The GEDIS project aims to transform the teaching of Information Science and Documentation by integrating gender diversity into curricula and developing accessible tools for students, educators, and librarians. "Gender equality is a fundamental pillar for innovation and inclusivity in education. GEDIS seeks to integrate gender perspectives into higher education, as equipping institutions with tools and strategies for inclusivity fosters long-term cultural and organizational change," says Dr. Juan-José Boté, principal investigator of the project.

Among the key outcomes, the project will develop three educational toolkits aimed at students, faculty, and library staff. Additionally, it will organize summer schools and publish various open resources, including case studies and interactive activities, available in Bosnian, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, English, German, and Spanish.

GEDIS contributes to the creation of more inclusive and equitable universities, aligning with the European Union's priorities on equality and innovative education.

For more information about the project and future activities, please visit:

<https://www.ub.edu/gedis>