

Fostering responsible and ethical AI integration in Higher Education: Key findings from an Erasmus+ project



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Context













INFINITE Erasmus + project aims to prepare Higher Education (HE) faculty to **critically and ethically exploit AI-based technology** for their **professional and pedagogical practices**

Raise awareness of AI’s potential and risks in education	Develop hands-on resources for AI adoption in educational and professional practice
Strengthen digital skills and ethical readiness of faculty and students	Support HE’s digital transformation through capacity building

Objective (WP2)

Map the uses and risks of AI in Higher Education teaching and professional practice, and **analyse the current needs, views, and challenges** faced by educators in integrating AI across different national contexts

Methodology

Desk research (Systematic literature review)		Field research (Survey)	
Purpose	Mapping the applications and risks of AI in HE teaching and practice	Purpose	Exploring the current needs and challenges related to the ethical and educational use of AI in HE.
Inclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Time frame: 2018–presentLanguages: English, national languagesContext: Higher EducationTypes: Journals, theses, proceedings, grey literature	Co-developers	<div>     </div>
Databases	<div>    </div>	Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AI human agency and ethicsAI toolsAI for pedagogical practiceAI for professional practice 
Selection process	Initial search (10,492 records) → Duplicate removal (8,242 remain) → Title/abstract screening (314 remain) → Full-text review → Final selection of primary studies (45 selected)	Participants	Completed by 259 participants, including Higher Education instructors and students.

Results

Promised AI applications		Risks
Professional practice	<div>Enhanced administrative efficiency → Data-driven decision making → Research support</div>	Privacy and data misuse
Pedagogical practice	<div><div>Personalised learning → Content creation and curation → Engaging learning experiences</div><div>Enhanced assessment and feedback → Student support → Skill development with AI</div><div>Accessibility and inclusivity</div></div>	Bias and inequality
		Academic integrity
		Social and environmental impacts
AI human agency and ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Educators feel confident identifying AI risks.They value fairness and data protection.Many educators feel less prepared to protect privacy, promote responsible AI use, or suggest ethical improvements.	
AI tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Educators are aware of AI tools and can find ones that fit their needs.They highlight the importance of testing.Few feel confident adapting or modifying tools.	
AI for pedagogical practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Educators see AI’s potential to support teaching.They are unsure about using it for assessment and feedback.	
AI for professional practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Educators value AI for admin tasks and curriculum design.They are less confident about using it to communicate or collaborate with colleagues.Some are also concerned about protecting students when AI is involved.	

References

