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NEWSLETTER 7, NOVEMBER 2024



## CELEBRATING THE CONCLUSION OF A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY TOWARD INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION

AS WE REACH THE END OF THE IHETP PROJECT, WE REFLECT ON AN INSPIRING AND IMPACTFUL JOURNEY THAT BEGAN TWO YEARS AGO. TOGETHER, WE HAVE TAKEN SIGNIFICANT STRIDES TOWARD CREATING A MORE INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES BY EMPOWERING PROFESSORS TO BECOME CONFIDENT AND EFFECTIVE EDUCATORS IN DIVERSE CLASSROOMS.

### OUR MISSION AND APPROACH

Research has shown that many professors feel unprepared to meet the needs of students with functional diversity. To address this gap, the iHETP project developed a comprehensive training program designed to provide higher education instructors with the tools, strategies, and confidence they need to teach inclusively.

The program's content was carefully developed, and based on:

- Inquiries and surveys with professors to identify their challenges and needs.
- Focus groups with stakeholders specializing in inclusion and accessibility in education.

Our learning platform is now live and offers valuable resources and modules to support professors in creating equitable and accessible learning environments.

👉 Explore the platform here: [iHETP Learning Platform](#)



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## IHETP SYMPOSIUM IN PORTUGAL

In October 2024, the iHETP team proudly organized the Symposium **“Inclusive Higher Education Training Program” at the University of Atlântica in Portugal.**

This event was a major highlight of the project, providing an opportunity to:

- Finalize key elements of the project as it reached its final stage.
- Host interactive workshops with students from Atlântica, where participants engaged in role-playing exercises to better understand the barriers faced by students with functional diversity in classroom settings.

The Symposium was an inspiring gathering of educators, students, and stakeholders committed to advancing inclusion in higher education. It underscored the value of collaboration and hands-on experiences in fostering empathy and innovation in teaching practices.



## FINAL TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING

In late October, the iHETP team held its **last Transnational Project Meeting**, where we reviewed our progress, mapped out sustainability strategies, and finalized any remaining tasks.

This meeting served as a reflective moment to celebrate our collective achievements and plan for the future impact of our resources and initiatives.



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## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the course of the project, we are proud to have achieved the following:

✓ Developed a Tailored Training Program

Designed to meet the needs of higher education professors, the program provides practical strategies, resources, and knowledge to foster inclusive classrooms.

✓ Created the iHETP Learning Platform

An accessible, interactive, and sustainable resource hub for ongoing learning and support.

✓ Organized the iHETP Symposium in Portugal

A collaborative event that brought together educators, students, and stakeholders to engage in dialogue, experiential learning, and the co-creation of solutions.

✓ Conducted Workshops and Focus Groups

Engaging keystakeholders ensured that the project's resources were informed by real-world needs and challenges.

✓ Raised Awareness About Inclusion

Through activities like role-playing and interactive discussions, we created opportunities for participants to experience the barriers faced by students with disabilities, fostering greater empathy and understanding.

✓ Fostered International Collaboration

The iHETP project brought together partners from across Europe, leveraging diverse perspectives to promote inclusion in higher education.



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## LOOKING AHEAD: SUSTAINING THE IMPACT

Although the iHETP project is coming to an official close, its impact will continue to resonate through the tools, training, and resources we have developed. We encourage educators and institutions to explore the learning platform and integrate its modules into their own professional development initiatives.

We also invite policymakers, advocates, and educational leaders to leverage the findings and outputs of the project to drive systemic change and foster inclusion in higher education.

## A FINAL WORD OF THANKS

The iHETP project has been a journey of collaboration, learning, and growth. We extend our deepest gratitude to all our partners, stakeholders, and supporters who contributed to the success of this initiative.

Together, we have taken meaningful steps toward creating a more inclusive future for higher education—a future where every student, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to thrive.

THANK YOU,  
The iHETP Team

## STAY CONNECTED

The iHETP team remains committed to sharing knowledge, fostering collaboration, and supporting inclusive education. Stay in touch and explore our resources:

- Website: [ihetp.org](http://ihetp.org)
- Facebook: [iHETP Facebook Page](#)
- LinkedIn: [iHETP LinkedIn Page](#)

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