European Commission

The EPALE platform and community perspectives on AI in adult learning

Webinar *How AI is changing Adult Learning (and us)*

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Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

Adult education

Erasmus+

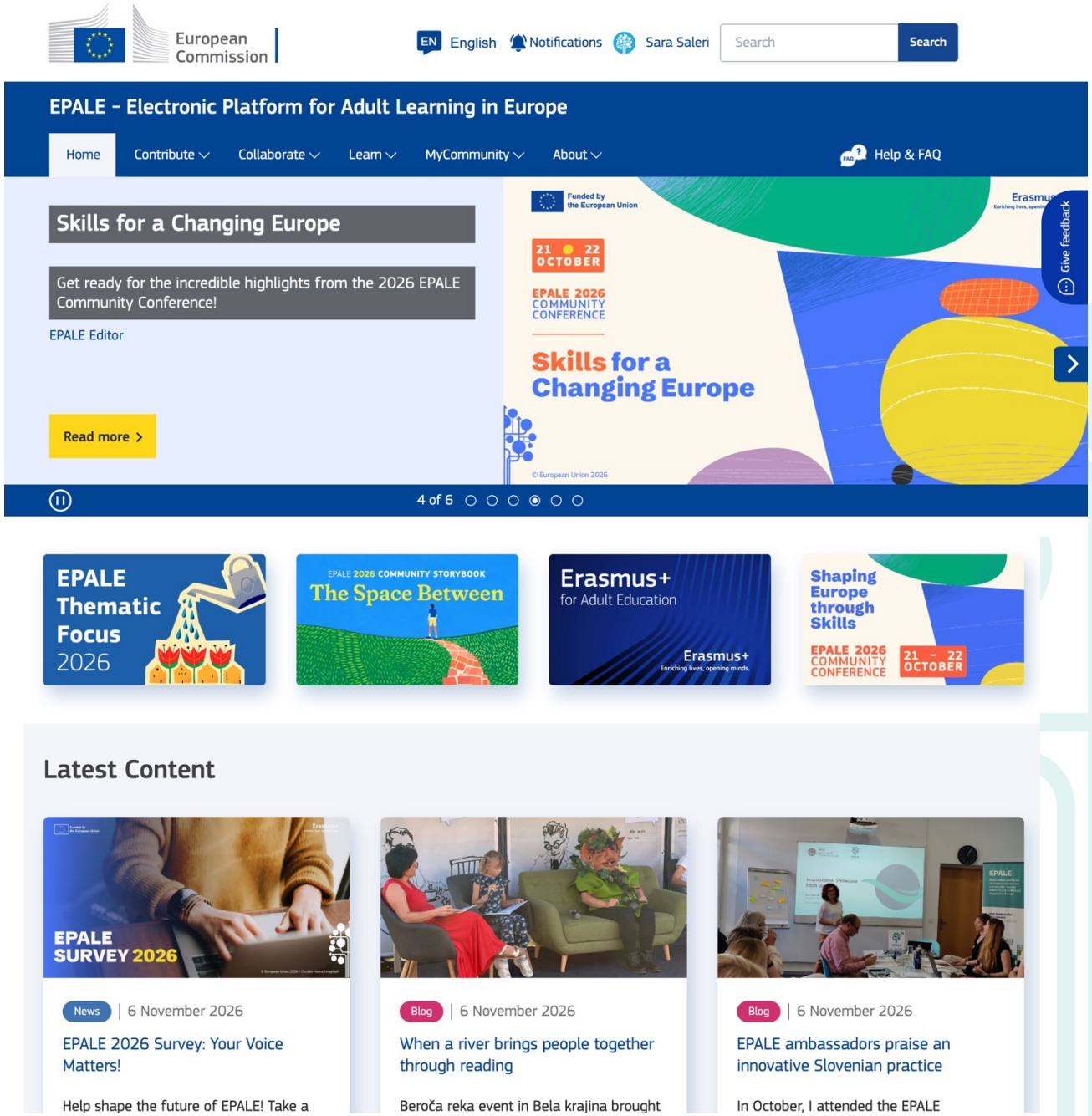
The EPALE Community

What is EPALE?

EPALE (https://epale.ec.europa.eu) is a **European**, **multilingual**, **open membership** platform for adult learning professionals:

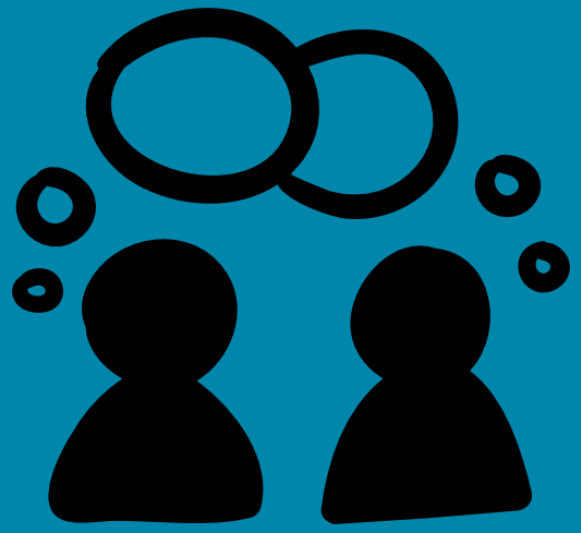
- Adult and CVET educators and trainers;
- Training organisations;
- Guidance and support staff;
- Researchers and academics;
- EU & National policymakers.

It provides the **content**, resources, **training** and **networking** opportunities that support its community in learning new **skills**, staying informed and **getting involved** in the Adult Learning community.



EPALE in numbers

188,000+
members



37
countries



32
languages





Overseen by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) and the European Commission (DG EAC and DG EMPL), on a day-to-day basis, EPALE is managed by a **Central Support Team** with the help of **39 National Support Teams across Europe** and **adult learning experts**.

How it works

EPALE is a community platform of the European Commission. It is funded by the **Erasmus+ programme** (the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport), as part of the EU's strategy to promote more and better learning opportunities for all adults.

Community and cooperation is at the heart of EPALE. It is set up around the **sharing** of content and opportunities related to adult learning.

Key collaborative features of EPALE

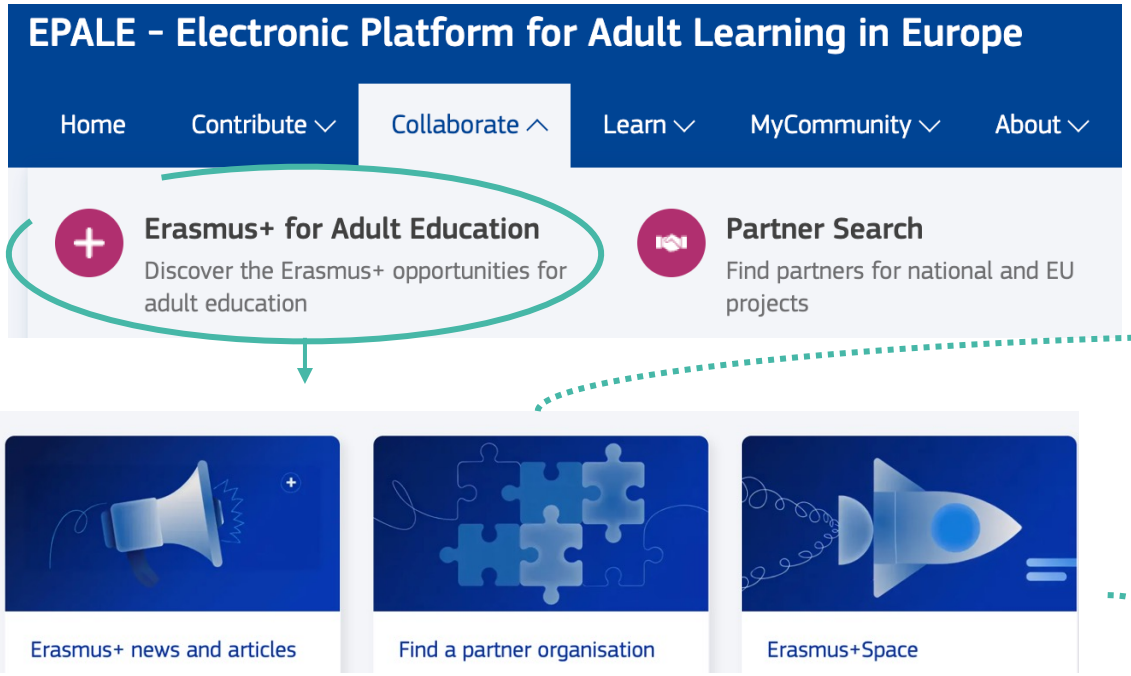
Sharing content

EPALE members can – and are encouraged to – **share content** on the platform (**blog posts**, **news**, **resources**, **events**).

Every year EPALE launches a call to action, proposing one or more annual **Thematic Focuses.**



Key collaborative features of EPALE
Erasmus+ for Adult Education



Through the EPALE Partner Search our members can exchange ideas and **connect** with each other.
A rich database of organisations and **networking opportunities** to build **strategic partnerships**.

The dedicated Erasmus+ section showcases articles, news, events and project stories related to Erasmus+ for adult education.

The Erasmus+ Space is dedicated to KA1 and KA2 Erasmus+ projects. It allows **cooperation** and **management** of project activities.

Online events



EPALE Community Conference



Online discussions



Webinars for the community



Newscasts

EPALE Community perspectives on AI

From First Reflections To a Cross-Cutting Issue

2021-2022: The Starting Point





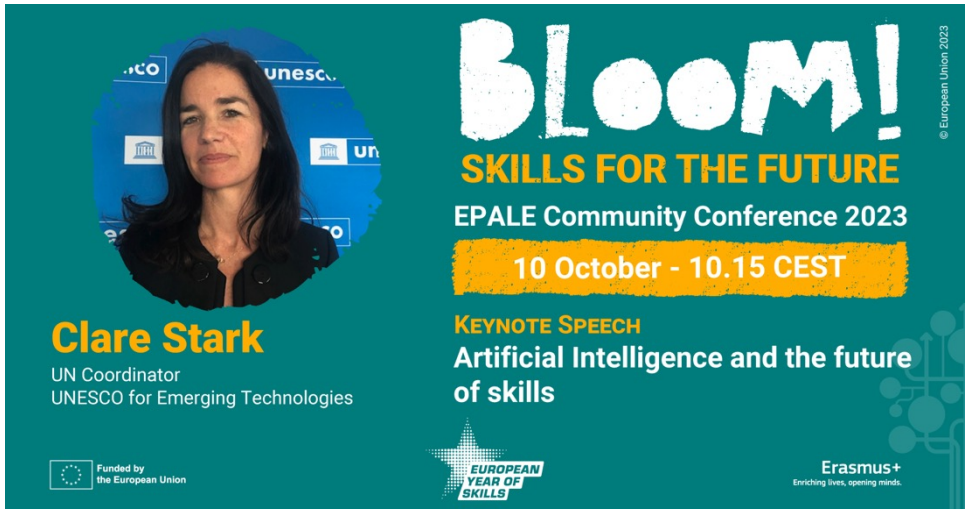
OER and Online discussion on AI and Adult Education

AI as an emerging phenomenon to **understand, question and critically explore**.

Main topics discussed:

- Potential
- AI literacy
- Ethics
- Human dimension

2023: AI as a Societal Issue





AI not only approached in terms of its educational application, but as a societal issue

During our Annual Community Conference, two keynote speeches tackled AI with complementary approaches:

Claire Stark – **AI and ethical governance**:

- Responsible AI
- Equal access
- Data bias

Gert Biesta – **Education, democracy and human agency**:

- Critical engagement
- Human relationships and educators' responsibility
- Beyond adaptation

2024: AI enters the digital transition agenda





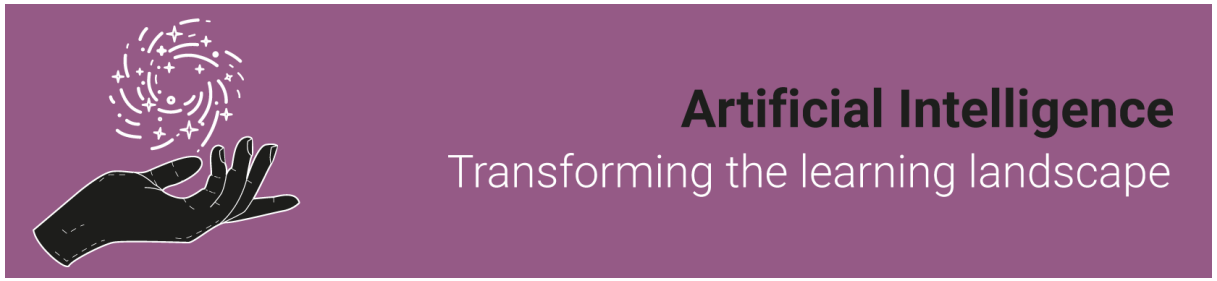
AI integrated into the broader discussion on digital transformation, rather than treated as an isolated technological topic.

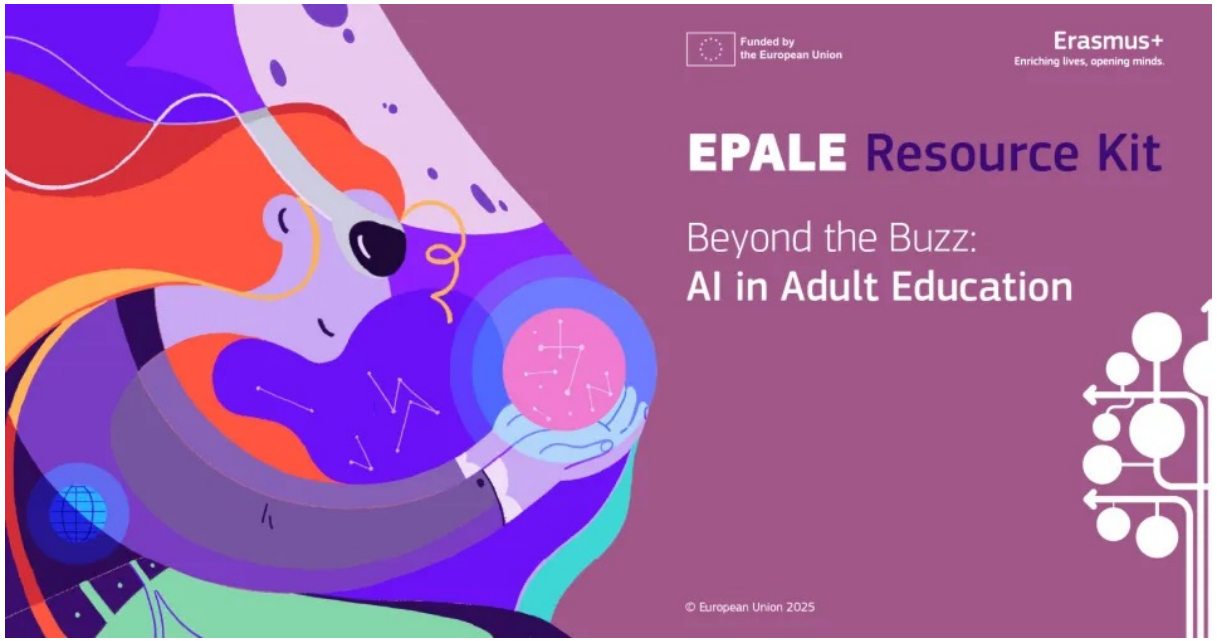
Main topics:

- AI and Digital Skills
- Algorithms and everyday life
- Ethical and inclusive AI
- Collective responsability

- Digital Transition as a thematic focus.
- Online discussion
- Dedicated attention in the **EPALE Community Conference**

2025: AI becomes a Central Topic





AI becomes a priority deserving sustained attention, dedicated content and community engagement.

Main topics:

- Skills and employability
- Pedagogical dimension
- AI and inclusion
- The Future of Education

- AI as a thematic focus.
- Dedicated Resource Kit
- Online Discussion
- Podcast

2026: AI as a Transversal Issue





From a dedicated thematic focus to a topic running across the adult learning agenda.

Main topics:

- AI and the future of Work
- AI and the purpose of Education
- AI and democracy
- AI and time
- AI in an historical perspective

- Growing collection of community contributions
- Dedicated webinar
- Cross-cutting reflections during the Community Conference

Thank you!

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https://epale.ec.europa.eu

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