



**EPICA- Articulating skills for the workplace is the title of the newest article written about EPICA project published in the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Envisioning Report for Empowering Universities established by EADTU.**

EADTU is a prominent international network with a modernized educational perspective for open and distance higher education institutions. 25 European countries, 200 universities, and more than 3 million students are part of this network and rely on its guidance to empower universities in implementing student-centred learning, inclusive teaching methods, and micro-credential programs to reduce the skill gap. EADTU also offers support to universities through providing flexible, mobile and collaborative programs to ensure education with no borders.

Considered as a valued source of information among its members, and being committed to provide them with information on the newest learning tools and services for students; EADTU launched in 2017 the Envisioning Report for Empowering Universities to connect and promote the cooperation between online educational institutions through sharing expertise and experience.

EPICA's submitted article to the 2020 fourth edition emphasized mostly on the objectives of the project and the innovative aspects of its competency-based ePortfolio which requires a collaborative engagement between universities, students and employers.

The approach focuses on the development and assessment of students' employability skills through the gathering of evidence from their curricular, non-curricular, and work-related activities and experiences. The ePortfolio is used as the tool through which students' work is submitted for teachers' assessment; the results are displayed for each skill by means of badges. Going a step further, EPICA ePortfolio aims at connecting students to the labour market by proposing them to develop a video-based professional interview where they introduce themselves to a prospective employer or client, thus allowing enhanced visibility of their competency profile.

Throughout the report, EPICA also shares its experience during the ePortfolio requirement elicitation phase which allowed the project's consortium to have a clearer understanding of the users' needs in the purpose of implementing the necessary features to be tested during the pilot.

EPICA's contribution to EADTU envisioning report provides the network members with valuable information on an innovative solution to reduce the skill gap between higher education institutions and the labour market. Furthermore, it stresses on the importance of implementing competency-based learning approaches that should be taken into account by teachers. In this sense, guidelines and training actions were organized to tackle the transformation of learning and teaching methods; in particularly focusing on assessment strategies.

EPICA's project represents the joint effort of eight different partners from two different continents, Europe and Africa, demonstrating that collaboration is essential to find meaningful and useful solutions for similar challenges.

[See the report here](#)

