

The Netherlands/ Croatia, 25th of March 2021

Focus on cooperation around level 5 education in Europe

Over 160 participants from 21 different countries (including non-European) shared knowledge and experiences at CHAIN5's online annual conference, hosted from the Netherlands and Croatia.

CHAIN5, the European Community of Practice for level 5 education met digitally on Thursday the 11th and Friday 12th of March 2021. The annual conference of CHAIN5 that was to take place this year in Zagreb, Croatia, was organized completely online, due to the consequences of Covid-19. The participants, all actively involved in developments in education at level 5 of the EQF (European Qualifications Framework), shared their knowledge and experiences with each other. In six sessions, several current issues concerning level 5 education were discussed.

Topic groups

During the conference, there were also two thematic sessions on the programme. One related to work-based learning and the other to internationalization and diversity. In both theme sessions, it was possible to meet in smaller groups, network and share own developments. In both sessions, it turned out that the themes concerned are very topical and relevant, but that their complexity is experienced by all level 5 study programs. The enthusiasm for exchanging knowledge and working together on these topics was very noticeable. CHAIN5 aims to introduce two new thematic groups at future conferences. One for European and international affairs and one for national developments. For both groups, several preparatory meetings are expected to be organized, possibly as early as November in Slovenia. The meeting will focus on Higher Vocational (and Professional) Education. In addition, at the next annual conference, participation will be sought from students who follow a level 5 study programme and from those involved in the field.

Annual conference 2022 in Oslo, Norway

CHAIN5 organises its annual conference in a different country each year. Following the online edition of this year, the next annual conference will most likely be a 'blended' one. This means that it will probably be possible to participate both physically and online. The next congress is planned for the 9th, 10th and 11th of March 2022 in Oslo, Norway.

If you would like to become a member of CHAIN5, just like the other (over) 500 international members, please register by sending an e-mail to info@chain5.net. Membership is free of charge.

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Not for publication

Note to editors:

For more information, please contact Eric Aldewereld, aldewereld@chain5.net, +31620705651 or Suzanne Koster, +31622291008, koster@chain5.net

Annex: Image

Photo caption: Participants of the CHAIN5 online conference on Friday, 12th of March, 2021. This image was created by: Eric Aldewereld
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