Learning to Live: Creating a Web Hub to Inform Effective Higher Education Supports for Vulnerable Migrant Students in Higher Education in Europe.

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Background

IOM World Migration Report 2020:

- major migration and displacement events during the last two years
- growing recognition of the impacts of environmental and climate
- scale of international migration increasing
- 74 per cent of all international migrants were of working age (20–64 years)
- 52 per cent of the global refugee population was under 18 years of age

IOM
UN MIGRATION

WORLD MIGRATION REPORT 2020

Our study – Supporting migrants/refugees in Higher Ed in Europe

- One of three main intellectual outputs was the

  "Co-design and develop a Digital Multi-Media Platform Web-Hub for higher education vulnerable migrant students"

- Shifted slightly towards a Web-Hub for the **universities** to access when supporting students.

LEARNING TO LIVE
Supporting Migrant Students
in Higher Education

LEARNING TO LIVE

Supporting migrant students in higher education in Europe

Sections = Content types

HOME	RESOURCES	ABOUT
SUPPORT	POLICY	DEFINITIONS
	BLOGS	

- Language and study skills
- Migrant status issues and supports
- Settling in
- Health and Wellbeing
- Daily Life
- Language Toolkit
- Education Policy
- European Union
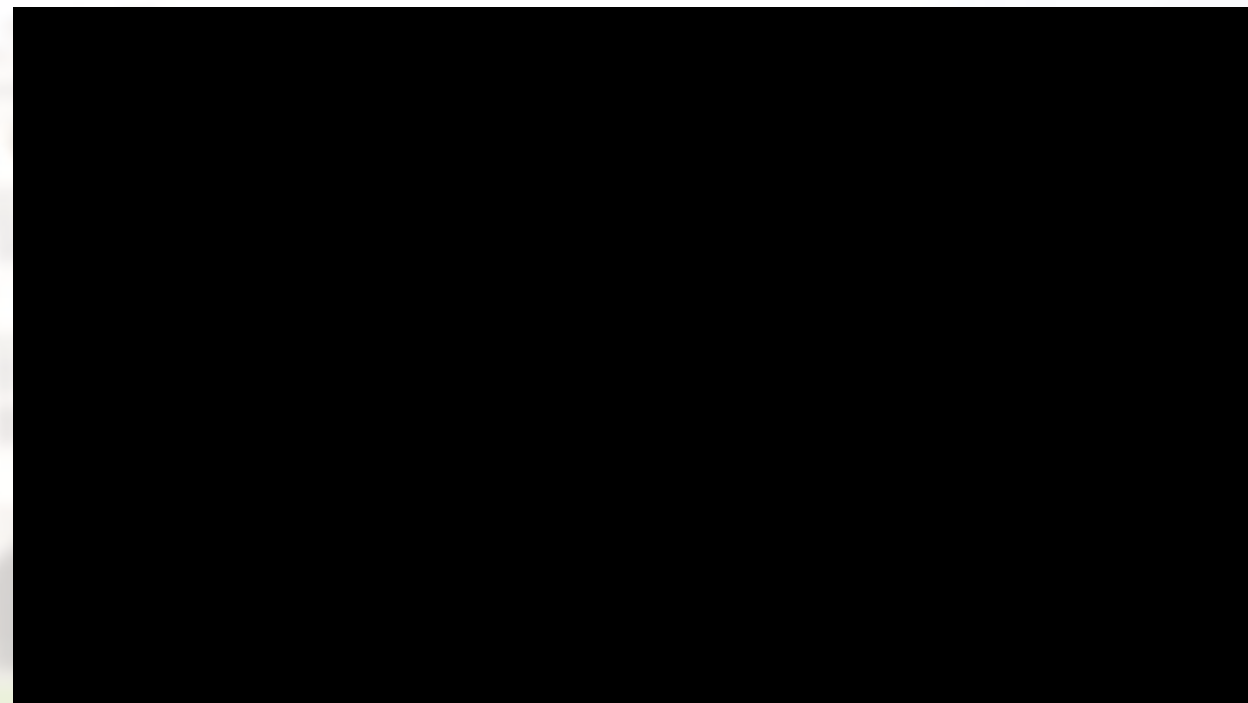- Media library

Training Videos

HOME

RESOURCES

ABOUT

SUPPORT

POLICY

DEFINITIONS

BLOGS

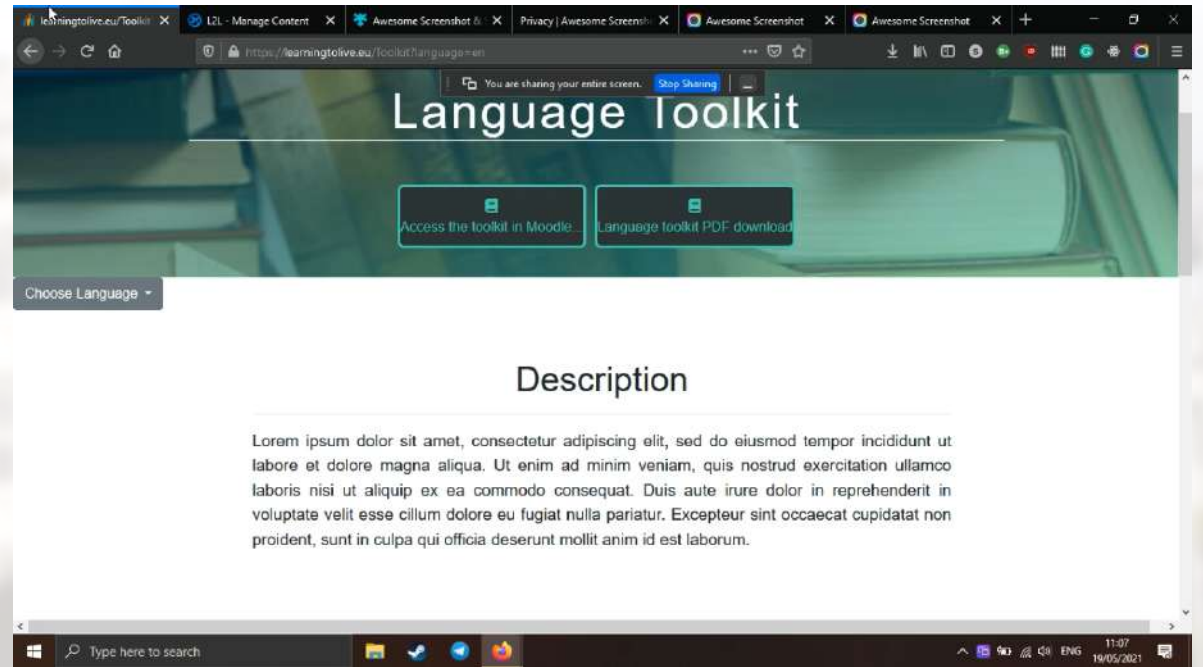| Overview	Our Approach	Aims and Objectives	Partners

Overview

Learning 2 Live is a collaborative strategic partnership between five European higher education institutions. It is led by the University of Bradford, England and includes higher institutions in Finland, Ireland, Slovenia and Spain. L2L is a one-stop-shop providing information, support and advice to vulnerable migrants who are students at European universities. Our purpose is to help you to succeed and enjoy your third level experience. Learning 2 Live also offers advice, information and support to staff.

Features

- Multilingual front-page gateway that explains what the service offers

- a secure online environment that a user can access information from and share experiences within

- Jump off points to the two other digital outputs (Language Toolkit and App)

- Accessible via mobile, tablet or personal computer

- Logged in access to **Language Toolkit** - specific information and services

- Link to **Mobile web App** – supports, events, location and services in their city that support vulnerable migrant students needs

- Localisation and Accessibility

Potential further features

- Can be personalised for individual universities to access a tailored range of digital support services, such as:

    - Event calendar with guidance notes for refugees about campus activities that might support integration and learning.

    - Blog postings from campus-based advisors directing specific learning support for vulnerable migrant students.

    - Interactive Google Forms questionnaire enabling vulnerable migrant students to evaluate their learning environment.

    - Online repository of local guidance information and support documents all in one easily accessible place.

    - Specific contact information with direct access email, text and video conference appointment system for tutorials / counselling etc.

Challenges

- Difficulties created by the very differing conditions for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in different countries.

- E.g. In Ireland we have the "Direct Provision" system.

- Right to work has only recently been achieved (limited)

- International student fees

- University of Sanctuary Status

Other challenges

- We were challenged by multi-partner study and challenge of gaining consensus on feature (multi input – single output)

- Language & cultural differences within team.

- Senior postgrad students completing web development work.
  - Novel pre-release software used

- Differing organisational structures e.g. EDI unit

- Usability testing yet to be completed

- COVID19

Conclusion

- We have demonstrated a proof of concept for a *'scalable'* Web Hub

- Potential to expand and scale up

- Decentralise?

- Need for ongoing resources to ensure sustainability (? Involve students)

- Great potential for more participative co-designed research processes

- Embedded understandings of sanctuary in Higher Education -