



A new cohort of international doctoral talent will tackle challenges of contemporary industry

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Following a global search for the next generation of research talent in spring 2021, a group of PhD candidates has begun investigating a range of topics related to the impacts of digitalisation in the workplace, including the implications it may have on business innovation and employee training.

The 15 early-stage researchers, representing 10 different countries, have enrolled in universities across Europe and in Australia as part of the European Training Network for Industry Digital Transformation across Innovation Ecosystems (**EINST4INE**), funded by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks (ITN) scheme.

“Being part of a large network of established, successful scholars will have a great impact on my research career,” said Contanze Leeb whose PhD at the University of Cambridge aims to help practitioners to tackle the large amounts of information produced by decision-making processes, for example through the use of Artificial Intelligence.

The EINST4INE research projects, complementary in nature, allow the doctoral candidates to conduct a comprehensive examination of the multi-disciplinary aspects of digital transformation.

Their aim? To generate new knowledge, tools, methods and roadmaps to guide businesses in their digital evolution – placing them as future leaders, experts, and strategists of business and digital transformation.

Traversing the academic and business worlds, the researchers are examining the various multi-level aspects of digital transformation – defined as socioeconomic change – across individuals, organisations, ecosystems and societies.

Sophie Altrock, an Early Stage Researcher at RMIT University, says that her research will help practitioners to understand the impact of digital innovation on workers and employee skillsets.

“I aim to provide guidance so that businesses can provide opportunities to employees to adapt to such workplace changes, and to encourage policy makers to take an active role, for example by providing an educational system that can sustain a workforce that is subject to technological developments and provide incentives for further research,” said Sophie.

The new researchers are guided in their PhD journeys by world-leading experts in the areas of Open Innovation, Industry 4.0, digital transformation and innovation ecosystems.

Dedicated training and industry secondment opportunities will allow the development of broad, multisectoral perspectives to ensure that their research is relevant and ready for implementation in the digitally minded workplace.

By 2025, EINST4INE's doctoral researchers will be equipped with the hybrid tech-digital behavioural skills and cutting-edge knowledge to enable companies to benefit from digital innovation, and have developed tangible outputs and outcomes applicable to start-ups, large firms, low- to high-tech industries, as well as enterprises with service or product-service offerings.

Read more about EINST4INE's PhD candidates on the EINST4INE website:

<https://www.einst4ine.eu/research-team/>

The consortium:

EINST4INE is coordinated by RMIT Europe (Spain). RMIT Europe is the European hub of RMIT University (Australia), a global university of technology, design and enterprise.

The EINST4INE consortium comprises RMIT Europe (Spain), Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology LUT (Finland), Aarhus University (Denmark), University of Cambridge (UK), Universität Stuttgart (Germany), Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Italy) and Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli (Italy), as well as 15 industry and two academic partnering organisations: RMIT University (Australia) and the Garwood Center for Corporate Innovation, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley (USA).

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For project updates:

<https://www.einst4ine.eu/>

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