

# REPORT OPEN EXTERNAL MEETING

WP 1 Management – **D1.11**

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film\_eu\_RIT

RESEARCH \_ INNOVATION \_ TRANSFORMATION  
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE

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## Executive Summary

The present report constitutes a deliverable in this Work Package dedicated to 'Management'. This report therefore records FilmEU\_RIT open external meeting, which took place as part of the joint FilmEU/FilmRU RIT summit held at Dublin in June 2022. It complements the more detailed discussion of specific actions in respect of research (see Deliverable **D1.8**) and the overarching report on the whole Summit (see Deliverable **D1.5**).

## Review of report

This report was compiled by the team at FilmEU member institution IADT, who delivered the summit in Dublin, and written up by the Head of Research at IADT (who also took part in the event). Given its nature as a record of an event, the review process was limited to a final review by Lies Van de Vijver (LUCA School of Arts) and Sandra Rocha (FILMEU Project Management Board, Lusófona University), members of the FilmEU\_RIT Project management Board, and read and approved by Manuel José Damásio (FILMEU & FilmEU\_RIT Coordinator, Lusófona University).

## Introduction

FILMEU, The European University for Film and Media Arts (Project: 101004047, EPP-EUR-UNIV-2020 - European Universities, EPLUS2020 Action Grant) brings together four European Higher Education Institutions (henceforth, HEIs):

- Lusófona University of Humanities and Technology, Lisbon, Portugal (ULHT)
- LUCA School of Arts from Brussels, Belgium (LUCA)
- Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art Design and Technology, Dublin, Ireland (IADT)
- Baltic Film, Media and Arts School, Tallinn, Estonia (BFM)

These institutions collaborate around the common objective of jointly promoting high-level education, innovation and research activities in the multidisciplinary field of Film and Media Arts and, through this collaboration, consolidate the central role Europe plays as a world leader in the creative fields, and promote the relevance of culture and aesthetic values for our societal wellbeing.

FilmEU\_RIT is the Horizon 2020 funded project running alongside FilmEU. With funding from the call H2020-IBA-SwafS-Support-2-2020 (Ref. 101004047), the partners intensify their cooperation in the domains of Research – Innovation – Transformation, with work packages in respect of resources and strategic agendas, impact and engagement, talent, and networking.

FilmEU\_RIT will increase the Alliance's competences and reinforce its ability to develop activities that span all the areas of the knowledge square: education, research, innovation, and service to society, while helping the creative sector to affirm its potential for innovation and resilience in a post COVID-19 context. FilmEU\_RIT's main objective is the capacitation of the individual HEIs that integrate the Alliance via the joint design of strategies and action plans that ensure the transformation of the future European University into an Institution that puts Research and Innovation in the fields of Film and Media Arts at the centre of its activities and operates as a highly valuable critical cultural intermediary. The Alliance wants to implement cooperatively designed policies and action plans in order to increase the profile of Film and Media Arts innovation and research, and develop projects supported by a common agenda for artistic research that, in a critical and reflexive manner, exploits technologies, consolidates alternative paths for PhDs in this field, and reinforces the societal impact of the knowledge produced in the institutions that integrate the Alliance.

## Context of the FilmEU\_RIT D1.11 report

As part of the first work package (WP1) of FilmEU\_RIT, this report wants **to record the activities of FilmEU\_RIT in its open external meeting, held alongside the joint FilmEU/FilmEU\_RIT summit in Dublin in June 2022.**

The objective of WP1 is to address the need for overall project management for the funding period, including different activities that establish team work, decision making, communications and collaboration, reporting, financial management and quality control. In-person summits are a key part of the effective functioning of the project as a whole. This deliverable is

complemented by others in relation to the summit (D1.5 and D1.8) and will be followed by other reports in respect of the activities planned for 2023 and 2024.

## 1. The Summit

The FilmEU and FilmEU\_RIT Summit took place in Dublin in June 2022. In June 2022. This event had the functions of showcasing progress in the development of the projects, sharing results with the broader academic community and explore a topic the consortium considers pivotal. This year's theme was **Environmental Sustainability** in Film Education and the wider Film and Media Arts Industries. Speakers at the open sessions included policy makers, industry professionals, academic staff and crucially, students. Over one hundred delegates attended in person and many more online. It took place between June 7th - 10th at the Institute of Art, Design and Technology in Dublin, Ireland and include several bilateral events including the inaugural FilmEU Doctoral Summer Seminar, the showcasing of the first undergraduate film pilot and the launch of the 2022/23 Student Challenge. Public sessions were streamed on the FilmEU Youtube channel.

## 2. Planning the Open External Meeting

A group of FilmEU staff attended and took part in the 'Dialogue on Artistic Research' organised by ELIA (the European League of Institutes of the Arts) in Vienna (October 2021). This provided a first opportunity for public and private discussions between FilmEU\_RIT and the equivalent (SwafS-funded) project of the European Universities Alliance EU4Art, *EU4ARTDifferences*. In light of those discussions and subsequent correspondence, FilmEU\_RIT decided to convene a further, focused event as its open external event for the year 2021/22. In order to take advantage of efficiencies in travel and promotion, this event was incorporated into the programme for the week-long programme of activities in the joint FilmEU/FilmEU\_RIT summit (see deliverable D1.5). The title of the meeting was '**Dialogue on Artistic Research between EU4ART + FilmEU RIT**'.

EU4Arts were invited to shape the meeting through initial discussions of the scope and agenda. FilmEU\_RIT asked the EU4Art team to prepare their own presentations and resources according to their priorities and interests, and ensured that the focus of the agenda was on the presentations by EU4Art and the responses and dialogues that would follow.

All delegates participating in the Summit – including staff, students, and industry – and any other guests – were welcomed to attend the open external meeting. Furthermore, it was available to watch online through live streaming. The open external meeting took place on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in the Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown Lexicon, a landmark library and cultural facility owned and operated by the municipality Dún-Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council.

## 3. The agenda

Dr. Till Ansgar Baumhauer (HfBK Dresden / EU4ART)  
 Dr. Manuel Angél Macía (Art Academy of Latvia / EU4ART)  
 Mr. Franco Ripa di Meana (Accademia de Belli Arti di Roma/EU4ART)  
 Ms. Elen Lotman (BFM, Estonia)  
 Dr. Veerle Van der Sluys (LUCA, Belgium)  
 Dr. Daithí Mac Síthigh (IADT, Ireland)  
 Moderator – Prof. Manuel José Damásio (Lusófona University, Portugal)  
 Rapporteur – Dr. Maarten Coëgnarts (LUCA, Belgium)  
 Rapporteur – Dr. Deirdre O'Toole (IADT, Ireland)  
 Rapporteur – Ms. Érica Faleiro Rodrigues (Lusófona University, Portugal)

The formal presentations were as follows:

- Dr Manuel Macía - Epistemic Politics of Artistic Research
- Dr. Till Ansgar Baumhauer – EU4ART*Differences*
- Mr. Franco Ripa di Meana– The Creative Ecosystem

## 4. Themes

Dr. **Marcel Macía** discussed artistic research and epistemic entanglements, arguing that creative practices could seek/generate knowledge while also challenging assumptions in respect of research itself. Moreover, he argued that the self-understanding of art and of art schools was also challenged by the centrality of research (including certain practices of evaluation and assessment). The (then) ongoing discussions on the reform of research assessment, facilitated by the European Commission, were highlighted. EU4Art's work on epistemic equity (challenging the structural effect of forms of conscious or unconscious exclusion that work against artistic and practice research as valid modes of research and knowledge production) was explained.

Dr. **Till Ansgar Baumhauer** explained the working methods of EU4Art and EU4Art*Differences*, including the plans to develop and expand the consortium. Within the EU4Art*Differences* focus on research, key areas of intervention included research and innovation, doctoral programmes, outreach to academic fields, and the relationship with society and the economy. There is an emphasis on promoting a culture of research, leveraging academic excellence, and strengthening the cooperation of departments across the EU4Art partners. Important issues encountered include career frameworks, research ethics and integrity, and internationalisation. The goal of developing Artistic Labs / Hubs for Artistic Research in each partner university adjusted to specific needs was explained.

Prof. **Franco Ripa di Meana** explored EU4Art's work on the 'creative ecosystem'. A major focus of activity was the assessment of cultural-economic tensions in research and innovation in an art context, and how appropriate structures could emerge. There is a need to develop a system that can be an integral part of learning moments, fostering the creation of new critical and interpretative structures through abstract conceptualization and reflective observation as well as reformulation and reinterpretation of contents. Of particular emphasis here is supporting associative thinking by implementing large knowledge domains, and implementing a cultural dimension by enabling the integration of multidisciplinary content and the creation and use of

disciplinary well-defined semantic and linguistic domains. An open invitation was issued to participate in a number of experiments and pilots, including in the context of an upcoming Summer School with the theme 'digital rites and embodied memories'.

The three presentations, and the prospects for artistic research more broadly, were further discussed with a panel consisting of the three presenters joined by FilmEU\_RIT colleagues: Dr. Veerle van der Sluys (LUCA School of Arts), Ms. Elen Lotman (BFM) and Dr. Daithí Mac Síthigh (IADT). FilmEU\_RIT academics Dr. Deirdre O'Toole, Dr. Maarten Coëgnarts and Ms. Érica Faleiro Rodrigues served as rapporteurs, and there was a full opportunity for discussion and engagement.

In the discussion, the similarities and differences between education and research practices in, on one hand, academies of fine art and institutions in the conservatoire / academy tradition and, on the other, institutions with a focus on film, media, and screen were explored. Participants considered the degree to which institutional stipulations and regulations, whether in standalone specialist institutions or at the institution level in larger, comprehensive universities, enabled or limited the development of artistic research (especially at the doctoral level). Panellists highlighted a range of changes that were in progress, either within a given institution or at the level of policy and advice at the national or transnational level. The impact of the European Universities Initiative on art and on film and media arts was the subject of particular emphasis, and both FilmEU\_RIT and EU4ART*Differences* tasks and deliverables were explained and explored.

## 5. Conclusion

This open external meeting offered an opportunity for two parallel EU-funded projects to engage with one another. Building on the various work packages of each, and informed by the presence of a varied in-person and online audience, the opportunities and challenges in respect of artistic research were explored and parsed from multiple angles and perspectives. For FilmEU\_RIT, the activity met the goal of understanding external perspectives on its topics of interest, as well as being able to receive feedback and challenge on the FilmEU\_RIT activities (including the intersection of education and research).