




Pablo de Olavide University


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Type of organisation:

SME School **University** Public Authority
 Training No Profit NGO

Other (Specify)

Fields of action :

SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Other (Specify)

Description of the organisation

The University Pablo de Olavide (UPO, Seville) is a public University committed to offer high quality education. It is located in a single campus equipped with the latest technologies. In its 140 hectares it combines teaching, research, and social and sport activities, which makes it a different alternative. All courses in the Universidad Pablo de Olavide are adapted to the European Higher Education Area. Education in the new official courses is based on providing the knowledge, the abilities and the skills necessary so students can enter successfully the European labour market. To this end, the University provides the latest technologies and internships in enterprises. In addition, it favors the acquisition of other languages. A strong relationship with Latin America is a key pillar of UPO's foundation, consequently our University is specialized in Latin American studies and has special agreements with the Indian Archives and the School of Hispano- American Studies through which students are able to gain access to important archives for their research. Likewise, a successful research and teaching cooperation has been developed together with Latin American Universities.

Furthermore, our strategic location, as a bridge between Europe and Africa, has favored the development of tight links not only with Moroccan Institutions but also with other African countries such as Nigeria, Tunisia, Egypt or Ghana. On the other hand, UPO is fully committed to the implementation of a paperless university at every level, thus most of the administrative and academic procedure from admission to graduation is computer based, as well as almost of the university management procedures. In order to guarantee the security and the authentication of all these procedures, the Digital signature is fully implemented in our university. University's figures (course 2019/2020): Teaching staff: 1.085; Administration staff: 363; Bachelor's degree students: 10.013; Postgraduate students (Master degrees 1.618, Phd 923): 2.541; Faculties: 6; Higher Polytechnic School: 1; Associated Center: 1; Departments: 15; Research Centers: 10; Research Groups: 100; Bachelor degrees: 28; Bachelor double degrees: 18; International double degrees: 5; Master degrees: 41 and Phd programmes: 9. University Pablo de Olavide offers opportunities for students with disabilities to study on campus. It envisages a number of measures as part of its Social Responsibility and is linked to disability from different aspects, not only by its students, but by collaboration with entities in the third disability sector, in which many of students do their professional internships, as well as for the training offer in undergraduate and postgraduate. Among the services UPO includes the Functional Diversity Office. This service provides people with disabilities, temporary or permanent, with the necessary means, supports and resources to ensure real and effective equality at university. Among its main mission and objectives, attention, advice and individualized comprehensive support is rendered to any type of demand by students, administration staff and research staff to enable students with disabilities to fully integrate in the life of the institution.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

The UPO has experience in the management of European projects, specifically in social sciences such as:

- **NEGOCIATINGSPAIN.** The shifting boundaries between 'nation', 'nationality' and 'region' NEGOCIATINGSPAIN focuses on the actual negotiation of shifting political boundaries. The case is the negotiation between the Spanish nation-state and the sub-state regional level since 1979 (<https://www.upo.es/otri/proyectos-europeos-ope/proyectos-de-la-upo/NegociatingSpain-Negotiating-Spain-The-shifting-boundaries-between-nation-nationality-and-region/>) NEGOCIATINGSPAIN focuses on the actual negotiation of shifting political boundaries. The case is the negotiation between the Spanish nation-state and the sub-state regional level since 1979. These processes are not unique to Spain; other European countries as Belgium and Great Britain also witness processes of shifting legitimacy and sovereignty between state and regional level. The probability of one of these processes ending with the independence of one of its regions is significantly higher now than it as just a few years back.

These processes therefore carry a high potential for instability and can possibly have wide-ranging effects not just on the country in question but also on the European Union as a whole. It is the ambitious aim of this project to advance the understanding of these processes and thus potentially improve the governance of EU memberstates and the EU. This will be achieved by multidisciplinary research focused on the Spanish constitutionally settled decentralisation process that integrates social sciences and humanities research. The multidisciplinary results from the unique combination of my competencies as historian and philologist and those of the host-institution, in particular the scientist in charge, in political sociology. Due to Spain's open-ended constitutional settlement and 30+ years of development, the country represents a particularly interesting case since the shifting boundary can be investigated

over time. Analysing the parliamentary proceedings surrounding the negotiation processes of the Statutes of Autonomy by means of computer-assisted qualitative analysis of text and by means of a history of concepts approach I advance the understanding of the processes behind the shifting legitimacy and sovereignty in the Spanish case. The cross European relevance and applicability of the study will be secured by an Advisory Board, through a number of deliverables and through networking and dissemination activities aimed at this.

- EUROPEAN URBAN POLICIES (612051-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPJMO-CHAIR)

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplu-project-details/#project/612051-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPJMO-CHAIR> – This is a Erasmus+ project. The main goal of this proposal is to promote a new area of European studies about European Urban Policies and its integral sustainable approach to urban development in the Pablo de Olavide University. Urban development is a subject in which studies have had limited exposure to but are increasingly affected by European aspects. Thus, the proposal tries to give greater visibility to this rising issue in European studies establishing teaching activities in an official curriculum, as well as training events and public events in order to foster this area of study, research, and future employability among current professionals (local public administrators), future professionals (students), as well as civil society. The proposal will include this area of study in the official curriculum at the Pablo de Olavide University through an existing subject among graduate student, as well as a new subject among postgraduate students (including practitioners). Practical sessions and e-learning process will be central aspect in these subjects. Training events oriented to disseminate the knowledge and use of RFCS and TIA toolkits will involve current professional and researchers in order to give visibility to these tools about sustainable urban development promoted by European Union and its evaluation. Thus, this activity try to show the importance of this subject using specific tools designed to apply the European framework about urban development policies.

- VIW – VOICES OF IMMIGRANT WOMEN (2020-1-ES01-KA203-082364) <https://viw.pixel-online.org/index.php>

The European project was funded by the European Commission in the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme, KA2 - Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education. The VIW project aim is to make HEIs more inclusive by promoting a holistic comprehension of the gender issues in migration flows. During the kickoff meeting, the European project partners introduced themselves as well as their project's related experiences and expertise.

- GENDERCIT - Gender and Citizenship. GENDERCIT is a Marie Curie's International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES) project funded under the European Seventh Framework Programme (<https://www.upo.es/otri/proyectos-europeos-ope/proyectos-de-la-upo/GENDERCIT-Gender-and-Citizenship/>)

The overall aim of the GENDERCIT project is to create a permanent interdisciplinary research and training network and to promote a mutual and beneficial transfer of knowledge between European (Spain, Portugal, Italy and France) and Latin American (Argentina and Mexico) Universities in the field of Gender Studies, in order to enrich the theoretical framework, to set up new research projects and to consolidate the institutional dimension of the existing research and training programs (Masters, Doctoral Studies, Summer Schools), having gender as focus.

The aim will be reached through the exchange of experienced and early-stage researchers, the organisation of Workshops, a Summer School, and a final Conference, as well as the production of significant scientific publications in the field of Gender Studies.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

UPO has a number of relevant experiences that are related with the project field of action. Specifically, the "Training program for employment and autonomous living of people with intellectual disabilities, is a university extension diploma" (UPO's own title) which is financed through a grant from the Eleven Function and the European Social Fund by competitive call. <https://www.upo.es/postgrado/Diploma-de-Extension-Universitaria-Formacion-para-el-empleo-y-la-vida-autonoma-y-de-las-personas-con-discapacidad-intelectual>. This is a continuous university training course, with subsidized tuition, which aims to develop personal and professional skills that enable the employability of young people with mild intellectual disabilities. These people are a particularly vulnerable group (in terms of quality of life and labor market insertion), who find it difficult to find their place in occupational centers or special employment centers, but also do not have the qualifications to access other formats. In order to meet their training needs, the duration of the course is 225 hours. With this training, the students receive training in the same space where the young people of their society are trained. They show their skills to future professionals in education and other contexts. They interact in a framework appropriate to their age. They become more visible in society; they acquire a higher level of social participation; they improve their employability and the possibility of integrating into ordinary companies and are included as equals in normalized contexts since they live together for a week in the Flora

Tristán de la Olavide university residence.

This university has demonstrated an important commitment to people with intellectual disabilities, collaborating with social entities for the development of transfer strategies for social inclusion. In this sense, currently, UPO is implementing the Erasmus project KA2 "Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges (B4) (2020-1-ES01-KA204-081996) Strengthening active citizenship competences and civic engagement skills among young adults with intellectual disabilities".

The UPO has also hosted the project "Promoting inclusion to combat early school Leaving" (PICESL) (2019-1-ES01-KA201-065362), an initiative that aims to prevent early school leaving of students at risk of social exclusion, by improving teacher training in inclusion and interculturalism and creating social and political awareness based on the findings.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

The UPO will be in charge of the intellectual leadership of the project, the coordination of the intellectual products with the partner entities, the management of the project as coordinating university and the dissemination and academic exploitation of the data. These activities will be carried out on the basis of the UPO's years of experience in European projects and inclusive projects and the 20 years of experience in the field of disability of its researchers. Networks of specialised entities are also provided.

Intellectually, specific methodologies of prospection and diagnosis of needs, design and implementation of focus groups and other techniques for collecting information from the target population, such as the DELphi technique, are provided. The analysis of qualitative data, the design and implementation of programme evaluation systems and the writing of scientific reports.

Reasons of involvement in the project

The Pablo de Olavide University has an effective commitment to the inclusion of functional diversity on its campus, regulating the conditions for inclusion in its statutes

(https://www.upo.es/upo_opencms/export/sites/upo/Galerias/Descargas/norm_sobre/BOJAn158_estatutos_12agos_to2011.pdf). It has also regulated positive actions (<https://www.upo.es/cms1/export/sites/upo/upsc/diversidad-funcional/documentos/II-Plan-de-Accesibilidad-e-Inclusion-de-la-Diversidad-Funcional-en-la-UPO.pdf>) and has a

support service for students with functional diversity (<https://www.upo.es/portal/impe/web/contenido/4aac93d0-438c-11de-afdd-3fe5a96f4a88?channel=a3645af1-2f47-11de-b088-3fe5a96f4a88>). However, the university itself recognises the difficulty of access to university for people with cognitive functional diversity (intellectual disability) and for this reason it has been piloting a degree for this type of student for 5 years, trying to show the suitability of these proposals to achieve the inclusion of this group in higher education institutions

(<https://www.upo.es/postgrado/Diploma-de-Extension-Universitaria-Formacion-para-el-empleo-y-la-vida-autonoma-y-de-las-personas-con-discapacidad-intelectual/>). This project involves making progress in the knowledge of strategies and the sum of teaching, administrative and institutional commitments for the consolidation of the educational inclusion of this type of student.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

This university has demonstrated an important commitment to people with intellectual disabilities, collaborating with social entities for the development of transfer strategies for social inclusion. In this sense, currently, UPO is implementing the Erasmus project KA2 "Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges (B4). Strengthening active citizenship competences and civic engagement skills among young adults with intellectual disabilities". The commitment is increased when this university incorporates into their classrooms to people with intellectual disabilities from 4 years ago, when it creates its own degree financed by the ONCE Foundation and the European Social Fund. For the development of this training program has the collaboration of associations specializing in intellectual disabilities. This program (FEVIDA) started in 2017 with the aim of offering students with cognitive functional diversity a 30-credit training based on practical, humanistic and professional subjects in a university context and coexistence with other students on the campus of the UPO. The students of this degree develop during the course the necessary skills to increase their chances of employment and work sharing classrooms and subjects with other young people from different degrees. Also, as part of their training, this program includes accommodation in a university residence: <https://www.upo.es/postgrado/Diploma-de-Extension-Universitaria-Formacion->

para-el-empleo-y-la-vida-autonoma-y-de-las-personas-con-discapacidad-intelectual/ SKILLS OF KEY PERSONS Rosa M^a Díaz Jiménez, <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3289-6393>). PhD in Social Sciences. Degree in Social Work and degree in Advertising and Public Relations. Official Master in Feminist Research. scientific contribution and academic activity is linked to disability, social work, social policies and gender issues. Academic and current dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University Pablo de Olavide. Director of her own degree for people with intellectual disabilities mentioned above, active member of the project Voices of Immigrant Women, and of the project Attention to diversity and inclusive education in the university. Member of the scientific committee of international congresses on disability. And member of the Law and Disability Foundation has more than 30 publications related to disability.

Specifically, she is the editor of the book: Inclusive University. Experiences with people with cognitive functional diversity.

Antonio Iáñez Domínguez (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9860-0404>). PhD in Anthropology and Diploma in Social Work. Professor of the Department of Social Work and Social Services. His scientific and research production is related to functional diversity, forced displacement and development cooperation. He is an active member of the Erasmus project KA2 "Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges (B4). Strengthening active citizenship competences and civic engagement skills among young adults with intellectual disabilities". **Fernando Relinque Medina** (<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5748-0285>). PhD in Social Sciences and Education, Graduate in Social Work and Sociology. University lecturer and founding partner of an EBT company, university spin off, of applied social research. **María Rosa Herrera Rodríguez** (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7960-3765>). PhD in Social Sciences and degree in Social Work and Sociology, professor and researcher at the University Pablo de Olavide. Her line of work deals with citizen participation and she has been developing her research work focused on the problems of collective action.

Antonia Corona Aguilar (<https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/autor?codigo=819086>). Degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology and Degree in Social Work. Specialist in gender. Her lines of research are Social Participation; Gender and Functional Diversity and Social Policy. Doctoral thesis on the participation of women with functional diversity.

Beatriz Macías-Gómez-Estern (<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4952-1811>) has a Degree in and PhD in Experimental Psychology. She works as Associate Professor at the Department of Social Anthropology Basic Psychology and Public Health at the Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla, Spain. Her main research interest lies in the impact of 'otherness' experiences and diversity in the discursive construction of identity. She has analyzed these processes of alterity-identity in different multicultural and diverse settings, as migration, multicultural schools and Service Learning in higher education programs. Beatriz has worked as expert in all the different phases (evaluator, rapporteur and member of the final panel) in the HORIZON 2020 PROGRAMME. In terms of management positions Beatriz has been in charge of Gender Issues, Innovation and Internationalization in the Faculty of Social Sciences in her University as Vice-Dean for the last 6 years, position that she still holds. She has also been part of de Academic Committee (as co-Director at the moment) of the Master of Social Intervention, Culture and Diversity.