

# upgrade<sup>2</sup> europe

*upgrade2europe project newsletter*



## Foreword

Despite the big heat, we are actively working on the final touches of the upgrade2europe products, so as to make them perfectly aligned to your needs, and so that they can support you in the best possible way on your European path.

In this issue, you can get a deeper insight into the master product of the project, the Digital Self-Assessment Tool. You will get to know why the tool is so special, and how it guides you towards improving your business to be as fit as possible for European work and international success.

As always, we will also give a short overview of the milestones of the recent period.

Read more on the next pages, and thank you for being with us!

The upgrade2europe project team

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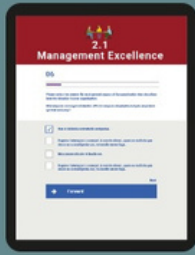
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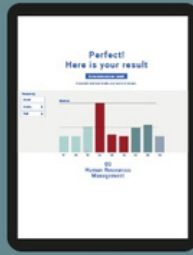
# Self-Assessment Tool

## How it works



### 01 Assess

You will be shown 4 situation descriptions for each topic. Choose the situation description that best represents your organisation. You will assess a total of 9 organisational areas which are important for the Europeanisation of your organisation.



### 02 Evaluate

You will receive an evaluation of your organisation. You will, therefore, be able to see how your organisation is prepared for international work and where there is a need for improvement. You will receive individual recommendations for future action from each of the 9 organisational areas.



### 03 upgrade2europe

Develop a strategy for the Europeanisation of your organisation. To this end, use the recommendations for action created for you as a guide and benefit from the upgrade2europe materials with a variety of tools and videos to support you.

# u2e Digital Self-Assessment Tool

## Use our tool to measure your institutional readiness for international work

**One of masterproducts of the upgrade2europe project is the Digital Self-Assessment Tool. It is the core, the building stone for all other project products. We are talking with Heike about the tool: why is it so special and what is the added value of using it.**

**Heike, what is the purpose of the Digital Self-Assessment Tool?**

The tool is designed to provide a quick overview of your organisation in terms of international activities in Europe. This overview includes a number of tailor-made tips and suggestions on how to best continue your development towards internationalisation at the end of the evaluation. These suggestions are connected to the respective tools in the upgrade2europe handbook, which aims to support organisations looking to deep-dive into the process.

**What are the areas readiness that the tool is addressing and why exactly those ones?**

The tool is addressing the following general areas of development: corporate governance, management and leadership, operations and resources, and European partnerships. Within those "domains", it tackles, among others, the issues of mission & vision, development analysis, management (risk management, quality control, project management etc.), leadership, personnel development, finances, and communication. These topics cover everything that any organisation needs to keep in mind in order to kickstart their process of europeanisation. During the process of self-assessment, we provide suggestions and insights on each of those individual topics.

As such, the new upgrade2europe website will act as a one-stop-shop for everything regarding europeanisation: from initial analysis all the way to successful implementation.

### **In what ways does it offer extra value to the users compared to other self-assessment tools?**

Our analytical questions are designed for you to already learn a lot by just thinking about and filling out the questionnaire of the self-assessment tool. The different scenarios that illustrate the questions can be used as pinpoints to derive an idea of your own organisation's level of europeanisation. Everything, including the concluding analysis and tailor-made suggestions on how best to proceed with the process, will be provided free of charge.

### **To whom do you recommend using it?**

We recommend upgrade2europe to small and medium organisations and enterprises, for example foundations, associations or training providers. However, the tool can also successfully be used by any other organisation, even if your organisation is already active on an international level or was part of an EU-project before!

### **After completing the self-assessment, what are the next steps the user should do to be more successful at the international level?**

The user should analyse and assess the tips and suggestions they received at the end of the self-assessment process.

Building on those, they should decide the next steps of optimisation and further development, decide on the respective tools and methods together with their team, and thus start the process of europeanisation.

### **Last, but not least, when will the tool be available and how?**

The tools will be released step-by-step, starting soon with the self-assessment tool. By August, all six upgrade2europe products will be available in the online tool [www.upgrade2europe.eu](http://www.upgrade2europe.eu).

## **KEY PROCESS AREAS**



# LOOK!

## PEEK INSIDE OUR FINAL EVENT IN BERLIN



On **19th July 2023**, the upgrade2europe project team had the pleasure of presenting the project results in **Berlin, Germany**, on the project **Closing Conference**, organised by EUFA with the support of the lead partner, emcra GmbH.

### LET'S MAKE THE FIRST STEPS

#### TOGETHER

The participants had the chance to learn about the project results:

- Digital Self-assessment Tool
- Handbook
- Learning and Teaching Videos
- E-mail course

All these tools can help the small and medium sized companies and organisations as well as the training providers on their way towards international success.



## Europe on national, organisational and personal levels

Two further presentations were held on the Process Model and the Curriculum that provide the theoretical basis for the project.

The participants worked together with the members of the project team to identify major challenges of international work, and were shown how to apply the project products to solve these challenges effectively. Each identified challenge has been matched with a respective tool from the Handbook, with which it can be tackled successfully.

The event offered a great opportunity for networking both with national and international stakeholders.

Within the framework of an interview session, participants had the chance to hear what Europe means to us on the national, organisational and personal levels:

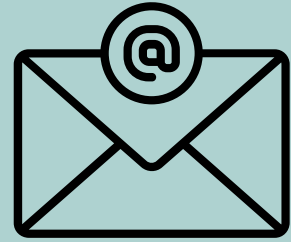
- the democratic values,
  - the continues opportunities for self-development and lifelong learning,
  - the travel and working opportunities and
  - equal chances for all
- are only a couple of the most important aspects mentioned.

*"Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection."*

*Mark Twain*



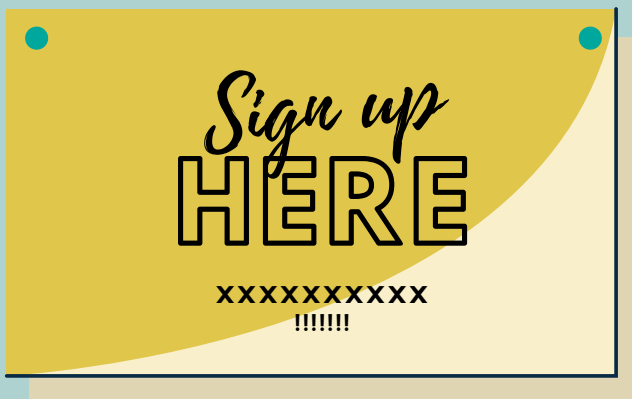
# upgrade2europe with our Email Course



Get inspired by **weekly upgrade2europe info** on how to prepare your organisation even better for Europe.

You will receive a **weekly email** with **valuable information for your way to Europe over a period of twelve weeks**. The hands-on information can be applied directly in your everyday work. You only need five minutes of reading time.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?



Are you thinking that Europe offers opportunities and possibilities for your organisation, but you don't have enough time to learn about the subject? The upgrade2europe email course meets these challenges. In just a few minutes, you can gain knowledge about the Europeanisation of your organisation and get inspired. The course raises awareness of the topic and offers a first insight into upgrade2europe.

It consists of 10 learning units. Each one presents a step on your way to Europe. The course is characterised by its hands-on approach. Each email contains a 'call to action' and refers to a suitable tool out of the upgrade2europe handbook for a more in-depth introduction to the topic. In this way, the course provides an easy and step-by-step introduction for you and your organisation.

To receive a weekly upgrade2europe email with important information on European work, you need to register with your email address. Once registered, you can get started right away!





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your organisation at a  
European level!**

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