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01.01.2026 > 31.12.2028



Open Educational Resources (OER) in an EU project: Why and how?

Dr. Martin Ebner & Dr. Sandra Schön, TU Graz
May 12, 2026 – for the DigiSET project team



CC BY 4.0 Martin Ebner, Sandra Schön
DigiSET (Erasmus+ 101249272).



Dr. Martin Ebner

Leader of „Educational Technology“ organisational unit

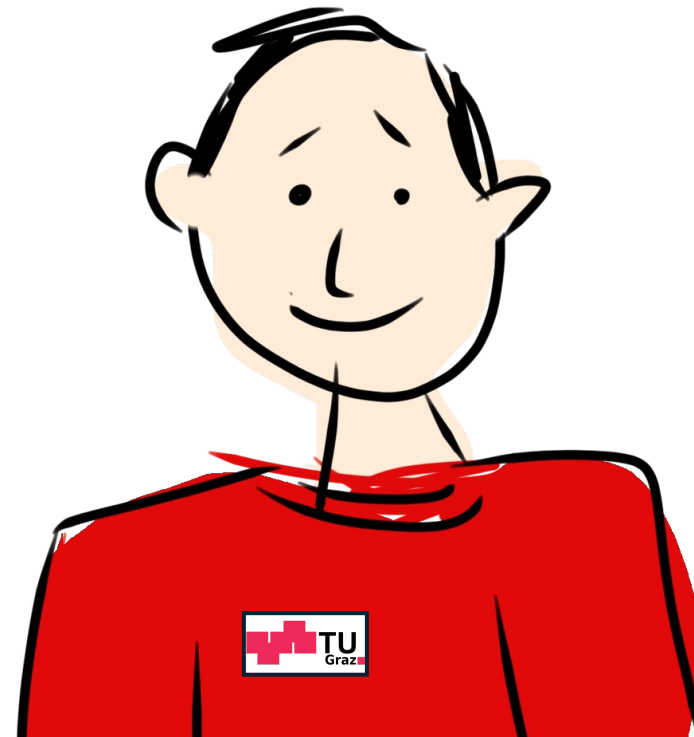
Institute of Human-Centred Computing (HCC)

OER Enthusiast with a focus on strategies and implementation

Responsible for the Austrian MOOC platform iMooX.at
(everything available under CC licenses)

Responsible for an OER at TU Graz (OER in LLL Strategy
already in 2011, TU Graz Policy in 2020)

Contact: martin.ebner@tugraz.at



Dr. Sandra Schön

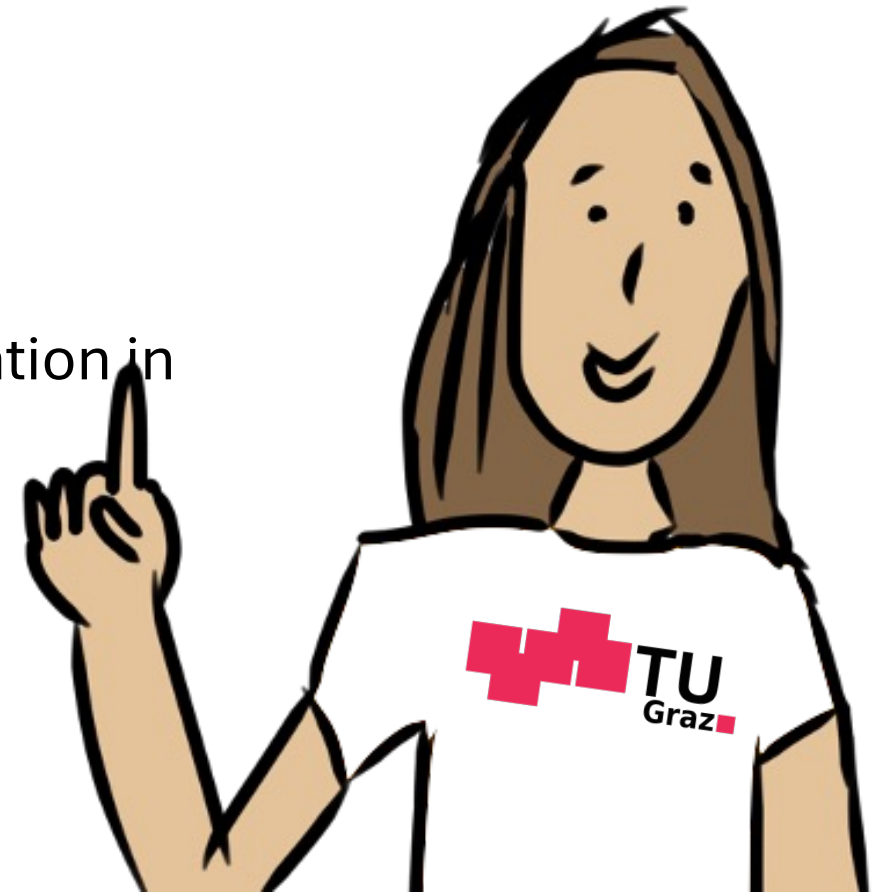
Graz University of Technology (TU Graz), Austria
Institute of Human-Centred Computing (HCC)

Long-Time OER Ambassador (since 2006 - olcos.org)

Several OER projects, publications, awards

Was Responsible for the OER certification implementation in
Austrian Higher Education at [fnma](http://fnma.at)

Contact: sandra.schoen@tugraz.at





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Why?
How?

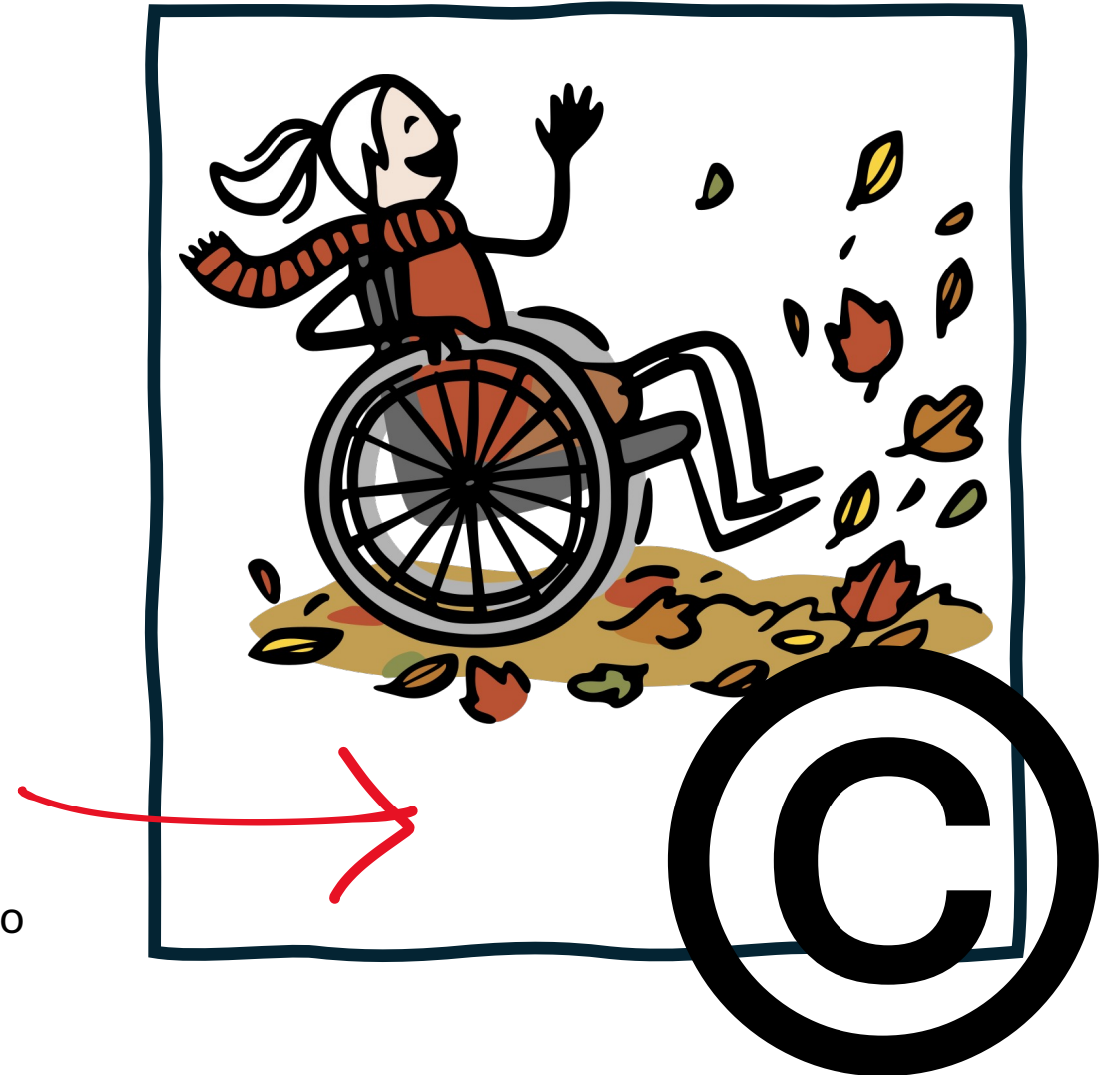
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Why do EU, UNESCO, OECD
and others ask for Open
Educational Resources (OER)?

Works are protected by copyright

All works are protected by copyright within the EU. Exceptions include works where the copyright term has expired (centuries after s.o. died) or, in some cases, official government works.

Protection arises automatically upon creation; the display of a copyright symbol (©) is not mandatory. In the absence of an explicit statement to the contrary, all materials presented should be presumed to be protected by copyright law.



Copyrighted learning materials face usage restrictions for teachers and learners



As a teacher you are not allowed* to adapt, modify, translate, update, personalise it, use it for AI, other formats for your teaching.

You can do this for personal use only.

You may typically only cite parts of it.

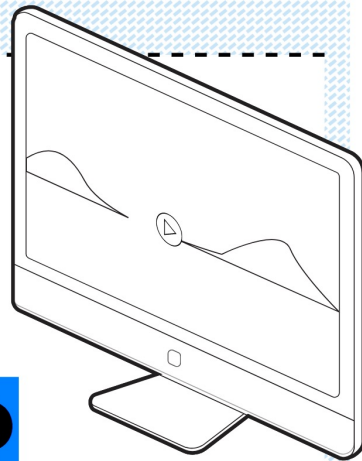
Sometimes you are allowed to make paper copies.

* There might be differences in countries

Copyright is different in each country,
which make it even worse.

Showing

**Teacher wants
to show
and discuss
an online video
in class**



Is this legal?

Source, published under CC0

**Copyright and Education in Europe:
15 everyday cases in 15 countries**

Infographics
April 2017

Written by Teresa Nobre

Designed by André Rocha

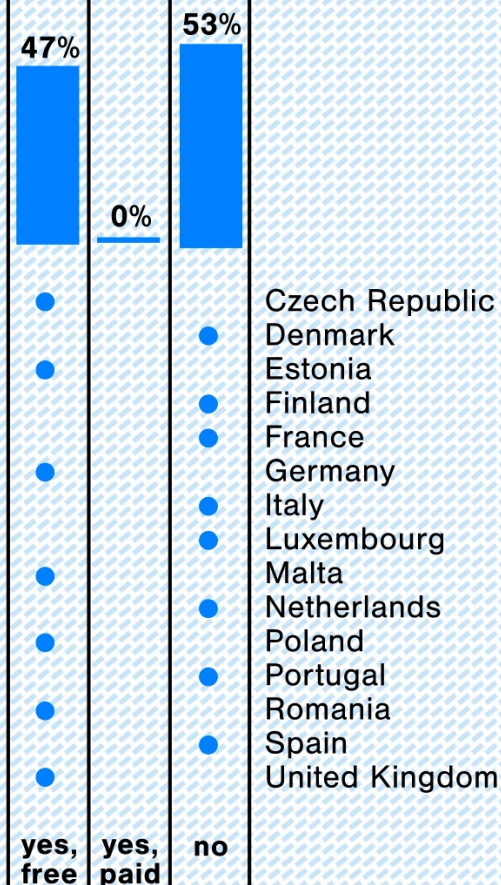
Published by COMMUNIA International Association of the Digital Public Domain

Is this legal?

Showing a publicly available online video to an entire classroom is prohibited under several copyright laws.

Viewing materials in class is one of the most relevant practices in today's education, yet, under those laws students can only view online materials in private.

Copyright should allow modern educational practices!



What do we need to do to allow others to really “use” our work funded with public money?

*including revision, adaptations, sharing, re-publication, translation, uploading into an AI tool, even for commercial purposes?

So, funding agencies and international projects ensure usage through open licenses



e.g. CC BY 4.0: Free usage, modification, attribution (BY) of copyright owner and license.



e.g. CC BY-SA 4.0: free usage, modification, attribution of copyright owner and license (BY), re-publishing under the same license („share alike“, SA)



CC-0: Free usage without any further constraints – see „Public Domain“

Read more: <http://creativecommons.org>



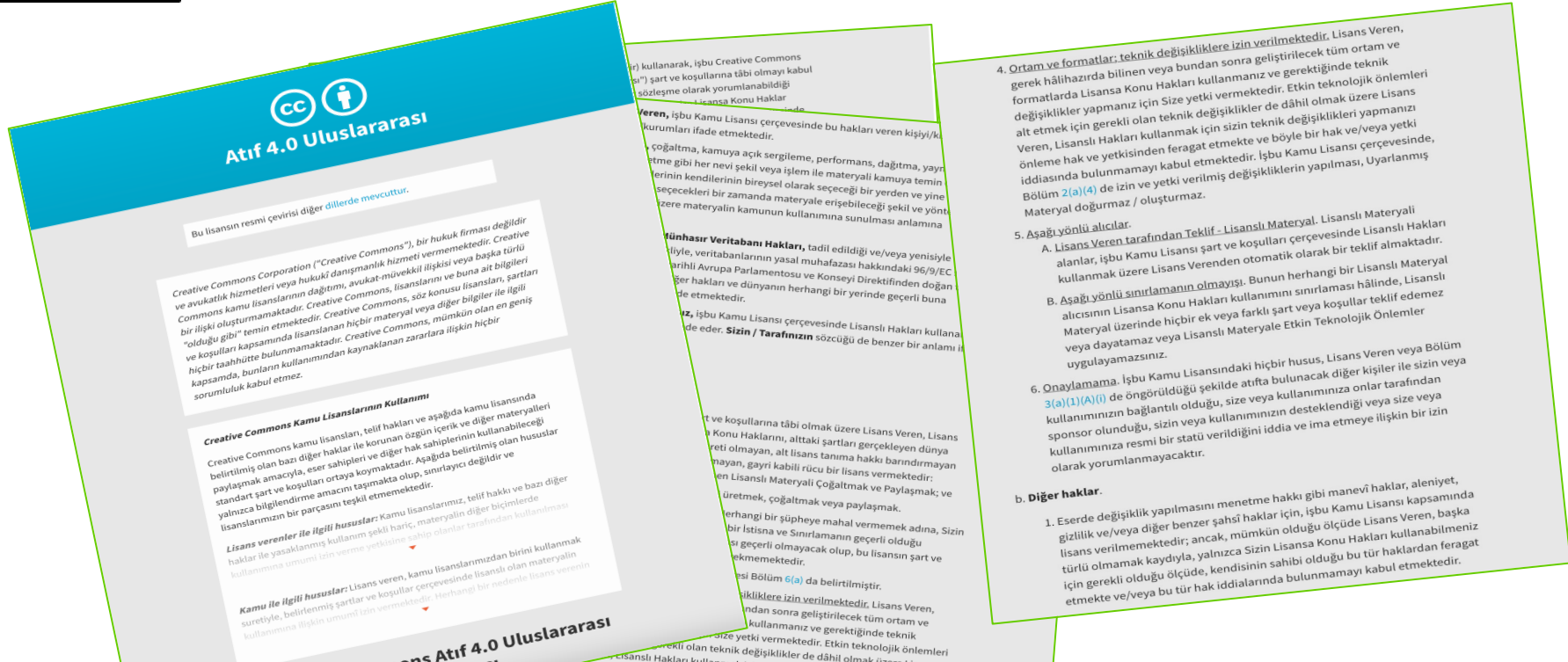
Open licenses are legal instruments through which authors can grant additional usage rights to the public beyond the default restrictions of copyright



It is not about this icon.

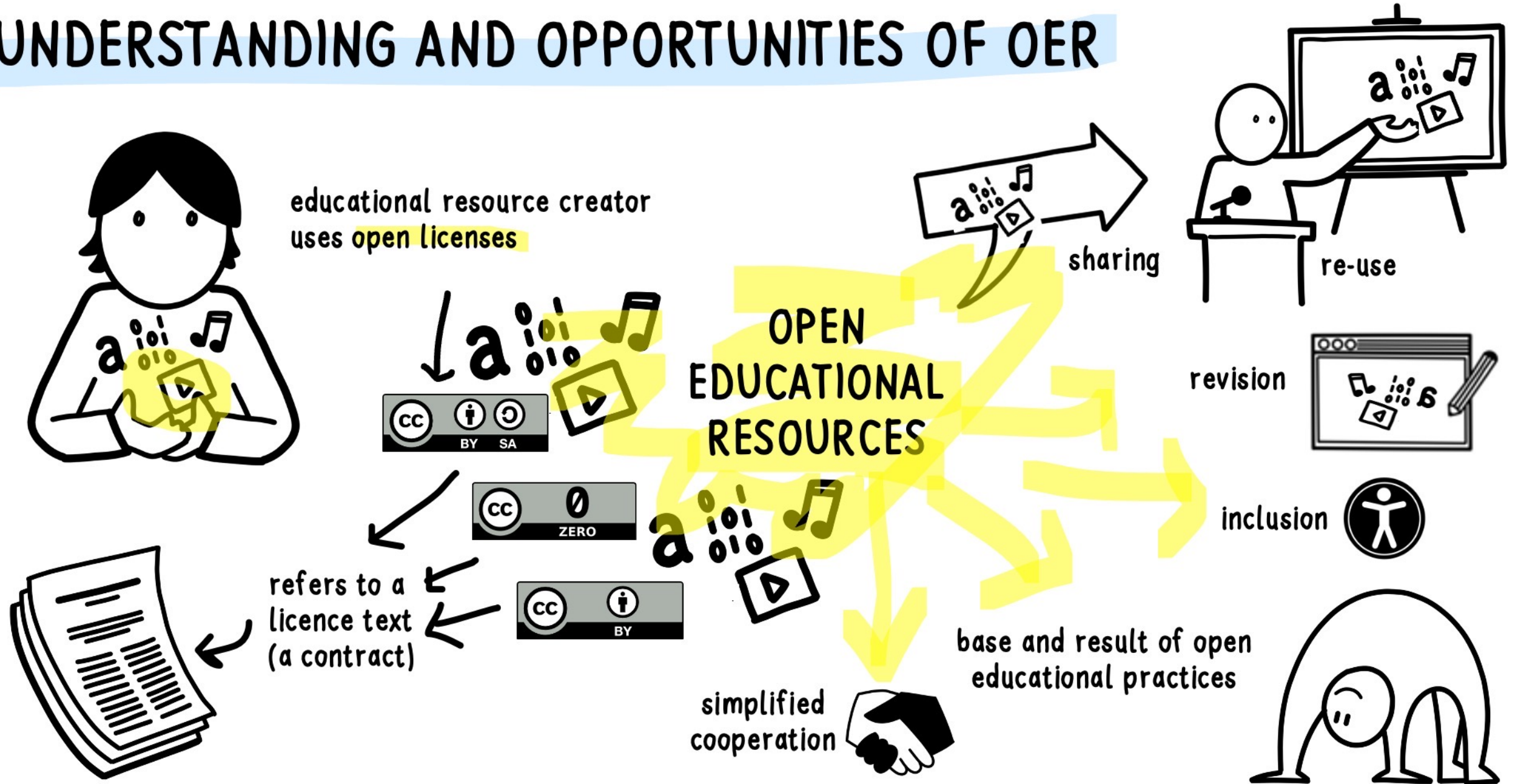
It is about the full contract text you find if you look for e.g. CC BY 4.0

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode.tr>



EU, UNESCO, OECD and
others ask for Open
Educational Resources (OER)
because ...

UNDERSTANDING AND OPPORTUNITIES OF OER



Success Stories...



*Once upon a time we had
printed encyclopedia*

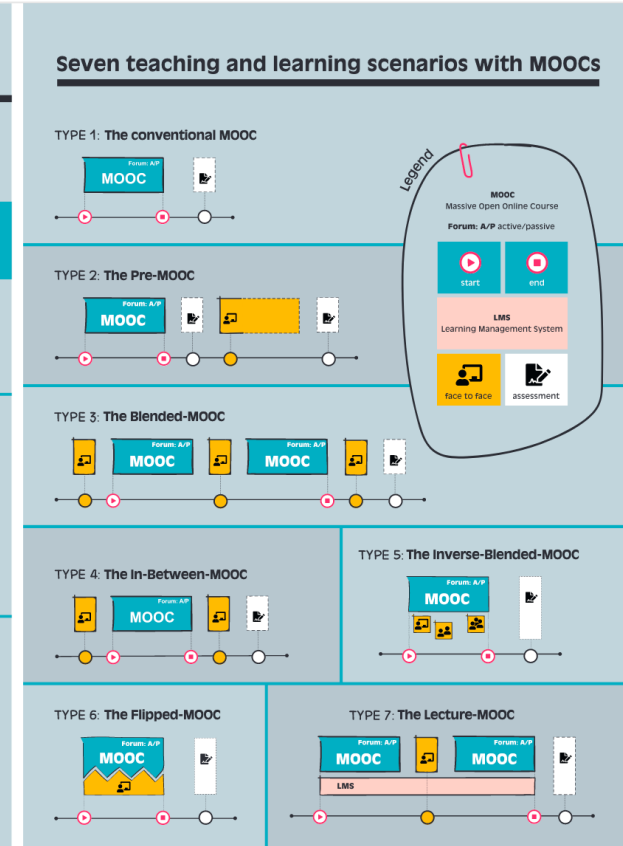
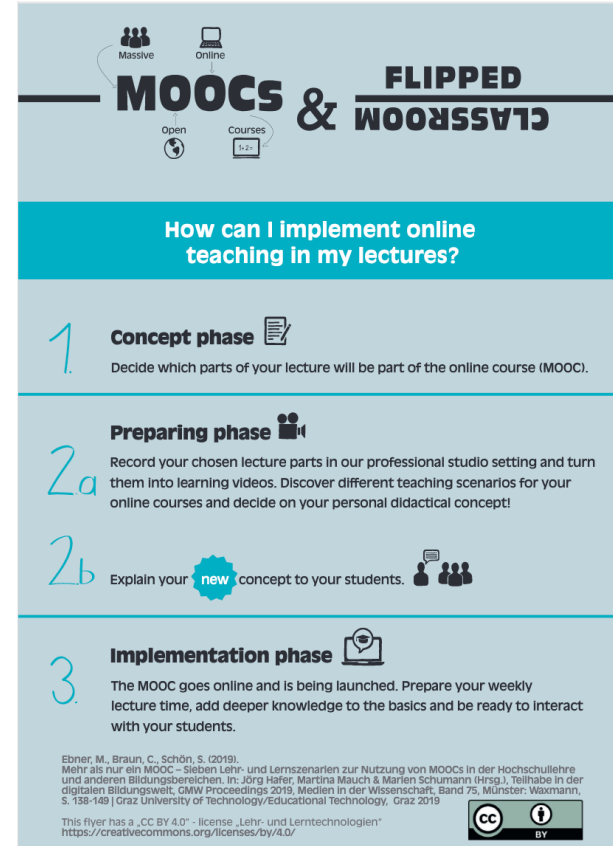


WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Success Stories...



All online courses at
the national Austrian
MOOC platform
iMooX.at use Creative
Commons licenses.



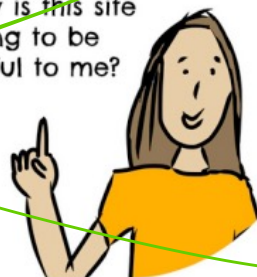
Success Stories...



Published under CC0
by Sandra 2013

I get it.
And you're not alone.

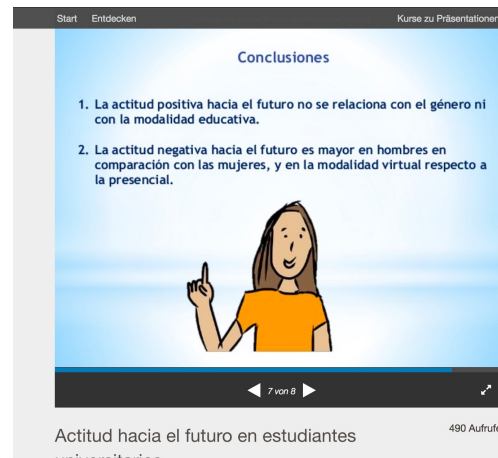
How is this site
going to be
useful to me?



we are already doing like taking a vacation, making dinner or reading a book into enhanced learning opportunities. Let's talk about parenting and how we can strengthen

Quelle: <http://ascenicroute.com/about>

Quelle: via: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4768e.pdf>



← Glad you are... find support, inspire community, tips, and examples of lifelong learning. A Scenic collection of ideas for building education into the daily lives of you and your family.

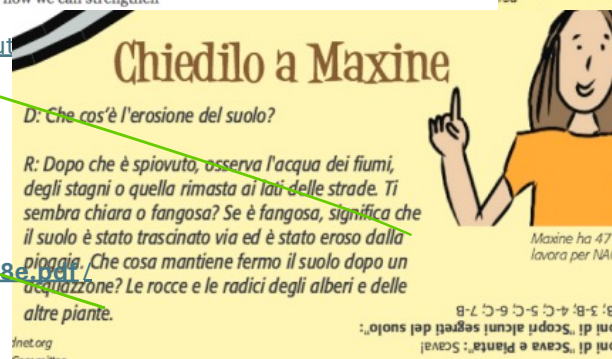
creative - make that shirt into a new to the earth's resources by maintaining brings joy.

Quelle: <http://www.centerforinnerscience.org/speak/how-to-be-simple/>

A Scenic Route is a place for learning. Here, let's talk about ways we parents can continue our own learning and growth. Let's talk about turning the things that



37-page, beefy report called, "100 Survival Tips for Small... #PLR #smallbusiness



Success Stories...



OER Policy published in 2020

Last Report: Ebner, M., Schön, S., Edelsbrunner, S., Hohla-Sejkora, K., Mair, B., Nagler, W., Ruffeis, D., Grigoriadis, Y., Haiden, M., Haas, M., Janisch, S., Ladurner, C., & Ortner, C. (2026). OER an der TU Graz 09/2025: Vierter Bericht zu offenen Bildungsressourcen (OER) der Technischen Universität Graz. Graz University of Technology. <https://doi.org/10.3217/wmr1f-8k253>

OER an der TU Graz 09/22
Erster Bericht zu offenen Bildungsressourcen (OER)
der TU Graz
Technische Universität Graz (TU Graz)
Lehr- und Lerntechnologien (LLT)

Oktober 2022

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OER an der TU Graz 09/2024
Dritter Bericht zu offenen Bildungsressourcen (OER)
der Technischen Universität Graz

OER an der TU Graz 09/2023
Zweiter Bericht zu offenen Bildungsressourcen (OER)
der TU Graz
Technische Universität Graz (TU Graz)
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OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER) ENTWICKLUNGEN AN DER TU GRAZ VOM 1.10.2024 BIS 30.9.2025 IM ÜBERBLICK



SERVICE

Informationen und
Beratung zu OER bei
Lehr- und Lerntech-
nologien (LLT)
Neu: OERhub.at
Plugin im
TeachCenter
integriert



WEITERBILDUNG

Neu: LLL-Angebot
zu OER
+ 20 Angehörige
sind „OER
Practitioner | OER-
Praktiker:in“
+ 5 Externe wurden
an der TU Graz
ausgebildet



OER-ANGEBOT

OER-Repositorium
+ 38 neue OER-
Einträge
+ 26 neue MOOCs
auf iMooX.at von
Hochschulen



OER-NUTZUNG

6.056 aktive
Accounts der TU
Graz bei
iMooX.at
93.491
registrierte
iMooX-
Nutzer:innen



ZERTIFIKAT

Neu: 3. und letztes
Kriterium erfüllt (40
Mitarbeiter:innen
mit OER-Zertifikat);
im Mai 2025
„Certified OER
Higher Education
Institution“ erhalten

How can we offer OER as a European project?

Examples for EU project attribution

A project can agree to use an open license for all learning resources, all publications, or published materials such as websites.



CC BY 4.0 International

PROJECT NAME, URL WEBSITE, PROJECT NUMBER

IF WISHED: Individual contributor(s), institution, year

Examples for EU project attribution

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CC BY 4.0 International

PROJECT NAME, URL WEBSITE, PROJECT NUMBER

IF WISHED: Individual contributor(s), institution, year

This supports to detect re-use later, e.g. to show impact of a project.



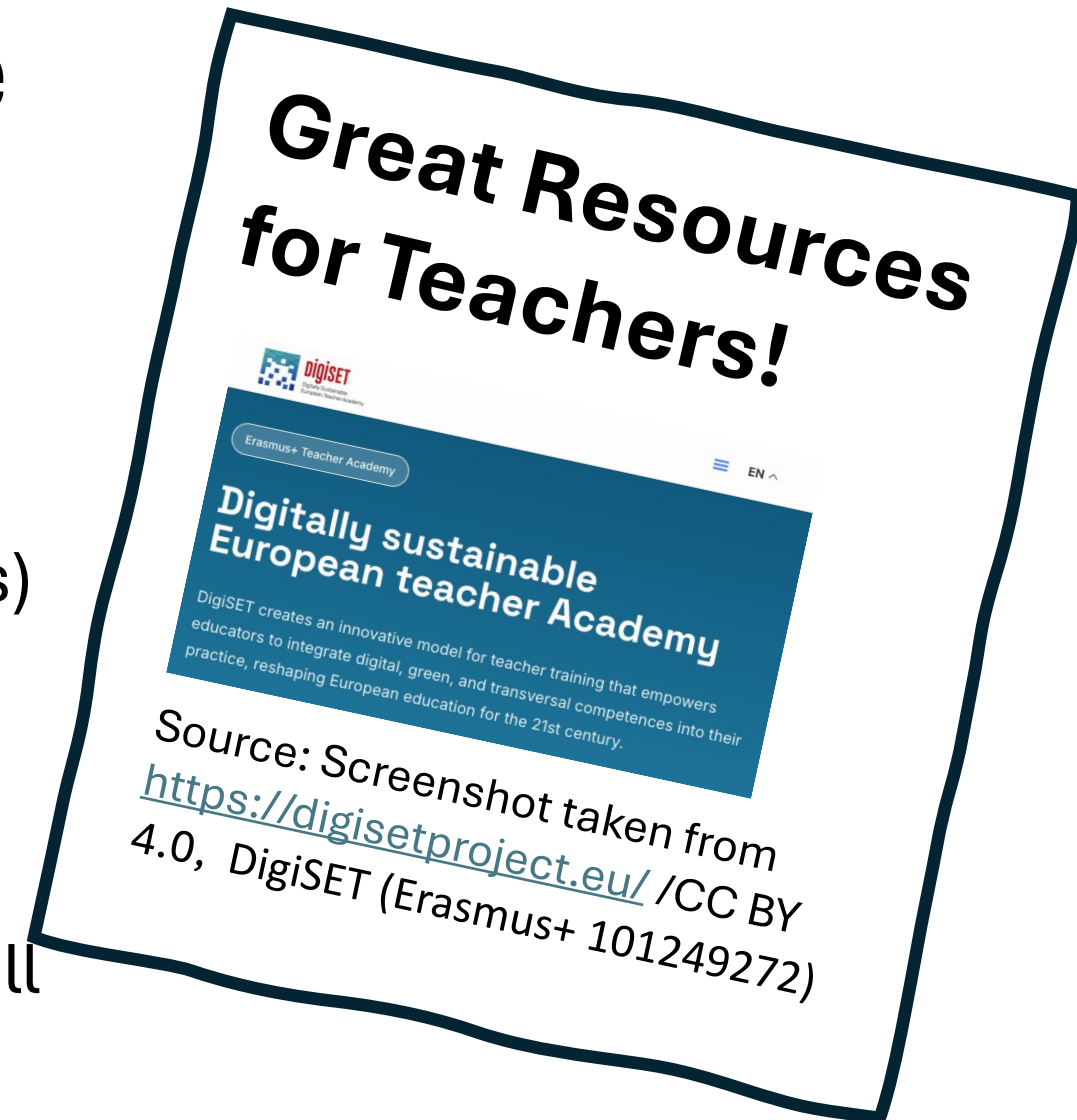
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0 International). When using this work, you must provide appropriate credit by including the name of the original author(s), the title of the work, the year of publication, and a clear reference to the project DigiSET (Erasmus+ 101249272). Particularly images and figures originating from third parties that are properly cited are excluded from this license.

Suggested for DigiSET
Publications

What does the open licence CC BY 4.0 allow?

All people/project partners/third parties:

- Free (Re-) Usage
- Modification (but description of needed), such as translations, other formats (videos)
- Commercial use
- Re-Publication
- **ALWAYS WITH ATTRIBUTION (PROJECT)**
- Please note: The copyright holder retains all copyright, even when applying an open license.



Positive effects in international projects

- ✓ More usage, more copies, more views -> more impact (for project/funders)
- ✓ Sustainability, because updates are possible
- ✓ Clear framework for partners as well (not as complicated as discussing copyright for collaborative work, e.g. when people change)
- ✓ More exploitation possibilities for all
- ✓ In line with UNESCO/OECD/EU recommendations, Open Science strategies, UN SDG and inclusion acts



If a project opts for an open license, keep in mind

- All contributors need to consent to both the open license and the attribution style
- Ideally, all materials are either original works by your team or sourced from public domain or with open licenses.
 - Materials from unclear sources, with commercial licenses (Stockphotos), several products (Canva) cannot be used
 - The consent of persons portrayed in a photograph is required prior to publication under a CC BY license.
 - Work contracts might need to be checked.
- OER knowledge in your team is a must!

Any questions?

These slides are available online:

<https://doi.org/10.3217/dxpcz-t4r10>



How to learn more about Open Educational Resources?

Invitation for DigiSET members

Open Educational Resources (OER) for Practitioners

- Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026
- Time: 09:00 – 12:00 (Vienna time / CEST)
- Speaker: Dr. Sandra Schön (TU Graz)

Essential Introduction for practitioners: A comprehensive, interactive session covering the core concepts of open licenses and how to find and correctly use OER. For all who are interested in further steps to gain the Austrian OER certificate for practitioners will be described and offered (for free) optionally.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES!

A MULTILINGUAL ONLINE COURSE
FOR ALL AT IMOOX.AT:
<https://imoox.at/course/OERinHE>



MORE ABOUT THE UNITE! SEED FUND PROJECT
<https://www.unite-university.eu/unitenews/unite-pioneers-open-science-and-multilingual-oer-courses>



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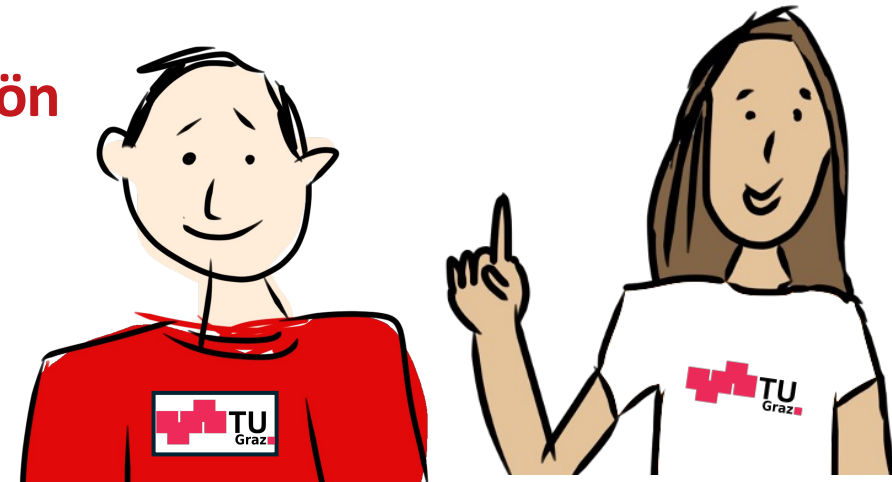
digiset
Digitally Sustainable
European Teacher Academy

THANKS

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