

# AUGMENTED AND IMMERSIVE REALITY FOR IMPROVED EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS IN EUROPE

# Innovating Learning with Augmented and Immersive Reality (A&IR)

# **Introducing Project ARIES**

The ARIES project, an ambitious initiative at the forefront of educational innovation, aims to revolutionize the learning experience for secondary school students and teachers through the integration of Augmented and Immersive Reality (A&IR) technologies.

This collaborative effort, spearheaded by a consortium of esteemed partners including the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - Istituto per le Tecnologie didattiche (CNR-ITD), MODEL EPAL OF TRIKALA, SMART REVOLUTION SRL, BLENDED LEARNING INSTITUTIONS COOPERATIVE, ITET GIROLAMO CARUSO, and ŠIAULIŲ DIDŽDVARIO GIMNAZIJA, seeks to address the evolving needs of education in the digital age.



### Significance of the ARIES Project:

In an era marked by rapid technological advancements, the education landscape is continually evolving. The ARIES project recognizes the critical role of emerging technologies, particularly A&IR, in fostering engaging and effective learning environments.

By leveraging the power of augmented and immersive reality, the project aims to enhance the educational experience, making it more interactive, dynamic, and aligned with the needs of 21st-century learners.

# Activities

### **Competency Framework**

 Building a framework for certifying competencies in Augmented and Immersive Reality (A&IR) learning technologies, employing the proven LEVEL5 methodology.

## Teacher CPD

• Planning a Continuous Professional Development course (CPD) for HE teachers and staff.

## **Certified Courses**

- Building a repository of certified courses:
- A general manual and toolbox
- A labelling system
- A toolkit/compendium.

# Learning Units

• Build transferable learning units on A&IR, to produce certified courses, which will be made available on an open learning center.

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#### Main Objectives:

The primary objectives of the ARIES project encompass the development of practical and cost-effective facilitation concepts for secondary school teachers and the creation of learning modules for students.

These modules will focus on A&IR technologies, equipping both educators and students with the skills and competencies needed to apply innovative learning approaches.

Furthermore, the project aims to integrate these innovative teaching methods and open-source A&IR learning solutions into existing courses, curricula, and study projects.



# About the Consortium Partners:

The consortium partners bring a wealth of expertise and experience to the ARIES project. From cutting-edge research institutions like CNR-ITD to dynamic educational institutions and forward-thinking companies, each partner plays a vital role in realizing the project's goals.

The collaboration is designed to ensure a comprehensive and well-rounded approach to the development, implementation, and evaluation of A&IR in education.

# Activities

### **Expected Results**

- Certified courses and A&IR learning units accessible on an open learning center.
- Training of 18 teachers as facilitators.
- Experimentation with students in innovative collaborative learning and design-based research formats.

### **Teacher Experimentation**

- Delivering the CPD for Educational professionals (trainers).
- Trainers' Competence Validation.

### Student Experimentation

- Integration of A&IR learning in existing curricula and in learning projects.
- Piloting with students.
- Students' Competence Validation.

### **Final Conference**

- 29th September
- 2025 Alcamo, Italy



## Join us in reshaping the future of learning

As we embark on this transformative journey, the ARIES project invites educators, students, and stakeholders alike to join us in reshaping the future of learning. By fostering a culture of innovation and embracing the possibilities of A&IR technologies, we aim to create a lasting impact on education, preparing students for a digital future.

For more information, please visit our website at **www.ariesproject.eu** or contact us at **info@ariesproject.eu**.

Stay tuned to us on our social media





#### CNR-ITD

The Istituto per le Tecnologie Didattiche of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR-ITD) is the only public scientific institute in Italy entirely devoted to studying how ICTbased tools and methods can enhance and innovate teaching and learning processes. The institute's mission is to perform research and technology transfer activities focusing on: ICT as a resource for teaching/learning processes; innovative approaches to the design, deployment, management and assessment of learning environments; study of emerging educational needs and opportunities brought about by evolution in ICT and the demands of the knowledge society.

Over the years, the National Research Council of Italy has played a pioneering role in this field. The Institute for Educational Technology was established back in 1970, and the Institute for Education and Training Technologies was set up in 1993. These two institutes were merged in 2002 to form the current institute, with its headquarters in Genoa and a division in Palermo.

#### **MODEL EPAL OF TRIKALA**

The MODEL EPAL of TRIKALA was founded in 2021 (replacing the 2nd EPAL which was founded in 1988) and it is a school of professional education.

Five Sectors with twelve specialties are operating in school:

1. Department of Health and Welfare (Specialties: Nursing Assistants, Early Childhood Assistants, Beauticians, Hairdressers, Physiotherapists)

2. Department of Agriculture, Food Technology and Nutrition (Specialties: Technician of Food Technology and Drinks, Technician of Crop Production, Technician of Animal Production)

3. Department of Economics and Administration (Specialties: Clerk of Economy and Management in Tourism, Administration and Finance Office Clerk).

4. Department of Applied Arts (Specialty: Graphic Arts).

5. Department Construction (Specialty: Designer of Structural Works and Geoinformatics)

The MODEL EPAL of TRIKALA has all the necessary laboratory facilities, greenhouses and cultivated land, computer labs, lab of innovation-fablab and drawing boards. The school has a lot of experience in European projects as coordinator and partner and also owns an Erasmus accreditation in VET Education since 2021.

















#### SMART REVOLUTION SRL

Smart Revolution is an Italian consulting firm which provides:

1. National, regional and district funding schemes search, application, reporting & management

2. EU project writing, management and reporting

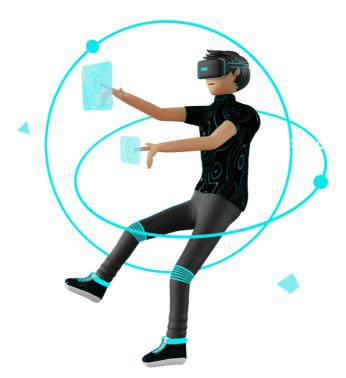
3. Trainings: for personnel deployed in hostile environment and on ESG. The multidisciplinary team applies an innovative and holistic approach to deep tech start-ups, SMEs, and public administrations with the aim to foster research and development, digitization, internationalization and personnel trainings. As a fast growing SME, it has important partnerships at European level thanks to its rich EU projects track record, Italian Universities and PoliHub, an innovation Park and start-up accelerator part of Milan Politecnico ecosystem and the membership within the

European Association of Innovation consultants.



#### **BLENDED LEARNING INSTITUTIONS COOPERATIVE**

BLINC works across Europe and - in addition to face-to-face and project-based collaboration formats - uses state-of-the-art digital resources such as online learning suites, conferences and innovation workshops as well as digital collaboration tools. With a focus on promoting human learning processes in organizations, companies and all educational sectors with an emphasis on informal learning and skills development. BLINC was founded in 2005 and has developed over 50 European learning and development projects, most of which have been funded by European programs such as ERASMUS+, AMIF, LIFE, INTERREG and H2020.











#### **ITET GIROLAMO CARUSO**

The Istituto Superiore 'Girolamo Caruso' is located in Alcamo, between the cities of Trapani and Palermo, Sicily. The Institute was founded in 1948 as a private school, which became public in 1962. In 1974 a new course of study was created: Accountant Programmer, at the time the only one in Sicily, then two years later the school became a renowned centre for the study of information technology thanks to its own Data Processing Center. In 2015, the school changed its name and became ITET 'Girolamo Caruso', or Technical Economic and Technological Institute 'Girolamo Caruso'. Today, the Institute has seven different courses:

- 1) Administration, Finance and Marketing;
- 2) Marketing and International Relations;
- 3) Business Information Systems;
- 4) Computer Science and Telecommunications;
- 5) Electronic and Electrical Engineering;
- 6) Construction, Environment and Territory;
- 7) Agriculture, Agribusiness and Agroindustry;

with about one thousand students and two hundred faculty and staff.

#### **ŠIAULIŲ DIDŽDVARIO GIMNAZIJA**

Šiaulių Didždvario gimnazija is a municipal budgetary establishment performing programs in secondary formal and non-formal education, International Baccalaureate (since 2005), non-formal adult education and in-service training programs. Our Gymnasium has the STEM School label, is a member of the UNESCO net of associated schools, association of socially responsible schools (SAMA). Siauliu Didzdvario gymnasium has a long term experience of working with projects.



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info@ariesproject.eu 🌐

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