MULTIPLIER EVENT 4 Report

TRAIN2VALIDATE

Project title:	Professional training for easy-to-read facilitators and validators
Project acronym:	TRAIN2VALIDATE
Grant Agreement:	2020-1-ES01-KA203-082068
Funding Scheme:	Erasmus +, KA2
KA203: Strategic	Partnerships (Higher Education)
Project Duration:	01/09/2020-31/08/2023 (36 months)
Project Coordinator:	Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain (PIM)
Partners:	ECQA, Austria
	Scuola Superiore Per Mediatori Linguistici, Italy (SSML)
	Sprachen und Dolmetscher Institut München, Germany (SDI)
	Universitatea Politehnica Timisoara, Romania (UPT)
	Zavod RISA, Slovenia (RISA)

Multiplier event 4 (ME4) title:	***For an Easy-to-Read Internet***
Organiser:	**SDI München, Germany**

November 2022, Munich

ME4 Report: For an Easy-to-Read Internet

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DOCUMENT TITLE: Multiplier event 4 report

ABSTRACT:

This report provides an overview of the activities, results, and impact of Multiplier Event 4, which was held in Munich on November 3, 2022, and disseminated the TRAIN2VALIDATE project.

AUTHORS:

Rocío Bernabé Caro, Partner leader, Internationale Hochschule SDI München, University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Piero Cavallo, Internationale Hochschule SDI München, University of Applied Sciences, Germany

CONTRIBUTORS:

Annamaria Kilyeni, Politehnica University Timișoara, Romania

Carlo Eugeni, Partner leader, Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici, Italy

Daniel Dejica, Partner leader, Politehnica University Timișoara, Romania

Elena González Sabín, Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain

Francesca Bleve, Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici, Italy

Gabriele Sauberer, Partner leader, ECQA GMBH, Austria

Marcela Fărcașiu, Politehnica University Timișoara, Romania

Oscar García Muñoz, General Project Manager, Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain

Patricia Hortal Rubio, Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain

Simona Șimon, Politehnica University Timișoara, Romania

Tatjana Knapp, Partner leader, Zavod RISA, Center za splosno, funkcionalno in kulturno opismenjevanje, Slovenia

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01	Draft	First draft of the report		Rocío Bernabé, Piero Cavallo	SDI
02	Final	Final version of the report		Rocío Bernabé, Piero Cavallo	SDI

DISSEMINATION LEVEL: public document

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS:

E2R   **Easy-to-Read**

IO   **Intellectual output**

ME   **Multiplier event**

T2V   **TRAIN2VALIDATE**

AI   **Artificial Intelligence**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The fourth Multiplier Event (ME4) – *For an Easy-to-Read Internet* – of the TRAIN2VALIDATE project was organised face-to-face, on November 3, 2022, by SDI München. The venue was the room of the University SDI München.

Table 1 presents the identification data of the event. Some of the topics are detailed in the next sections.

Table 1. ME4 identification data

Topic:	Data:
ME identification:	ME 4
Title:	*For an Easy-to-Read Internet*
Type:	Dissemination event
Venue:	SDI München, Munich, Germany
Audience:	International
Start date:	November 3, 2022
End date:	November 3, 2022
IO covered:	IO4 and introducing IO5
Organizer:	Internationale Hochschule SDI München, Germany
Contributors (speakers):	All T2V partners, invited lecturers

2. AIM

The main aim of the event was to disseminate the project and the future of Easy-to-Read, in particular, when used on the Internet and using Artificial Intelligence. Additionally, the event had the purpose of disseminating the importance of validators' and facilitators' roles in the Easy-to-Read production process and of presenting the project results up to that date. The program of the event is detailed in Section 3 and presented in Annex 1.

3. DISSEMINATION

The ME4 dissemination strategy consisted in advertising the event on a multitude of channels, including the project's website, the T2V mailing list, social and professional networks (Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn), and in a series of press releases from the partners' institutions. Moreover, the project was advertised on the personal networks of the project members.

A significant aspect of the dissemination strategy was to inform the participants that attendance was free, the location was accessible, and that certificates would be offered to all participants.

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The languages of dissemination were the ones of the project partners and English. A selection of the dissemination examples is presented below:
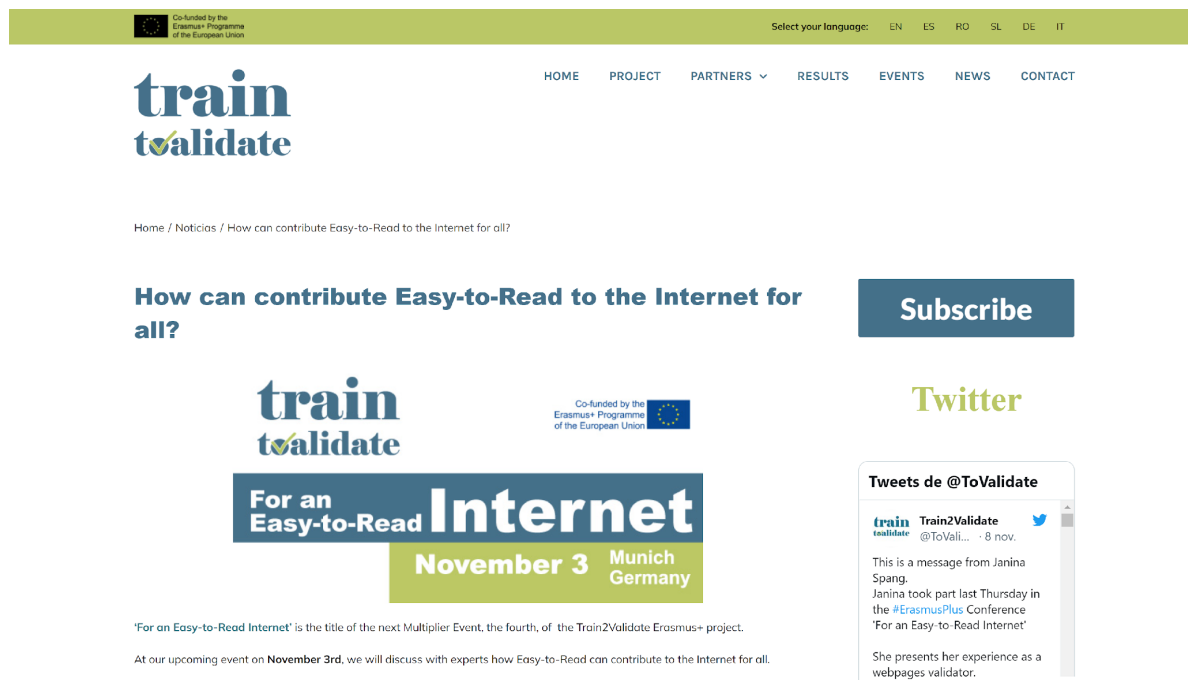

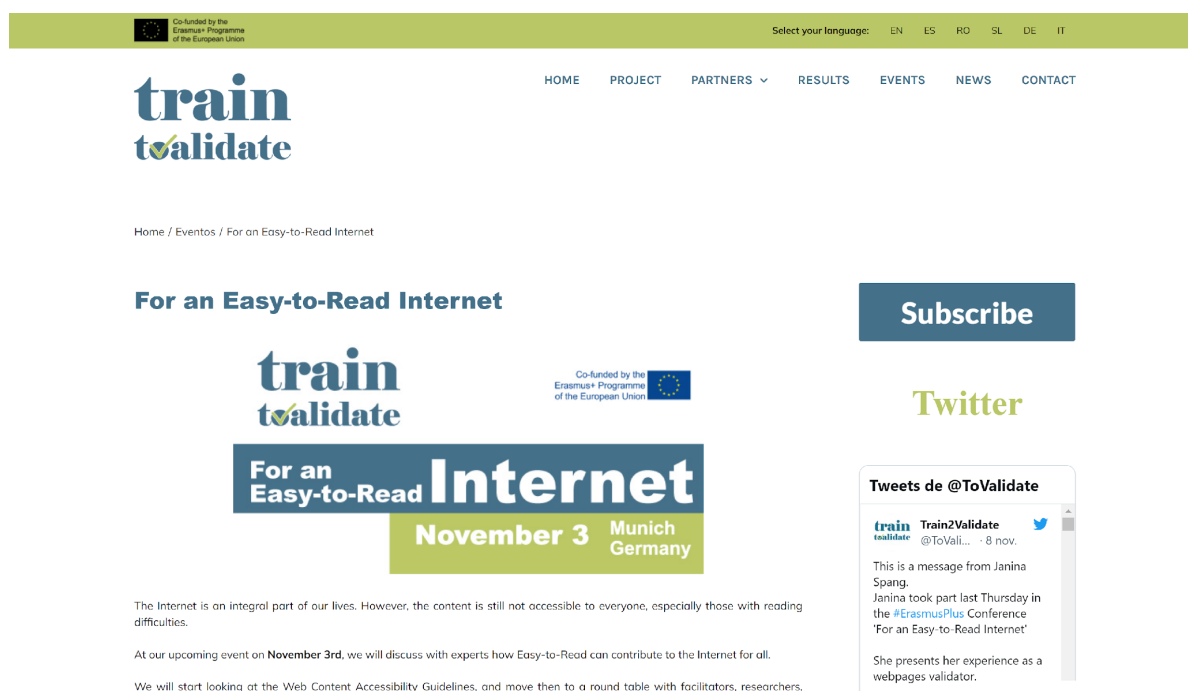*Figure 1. News about the opening of the registration for the event*

Figure 2. Section of the website dedicated to the dissemination of the event
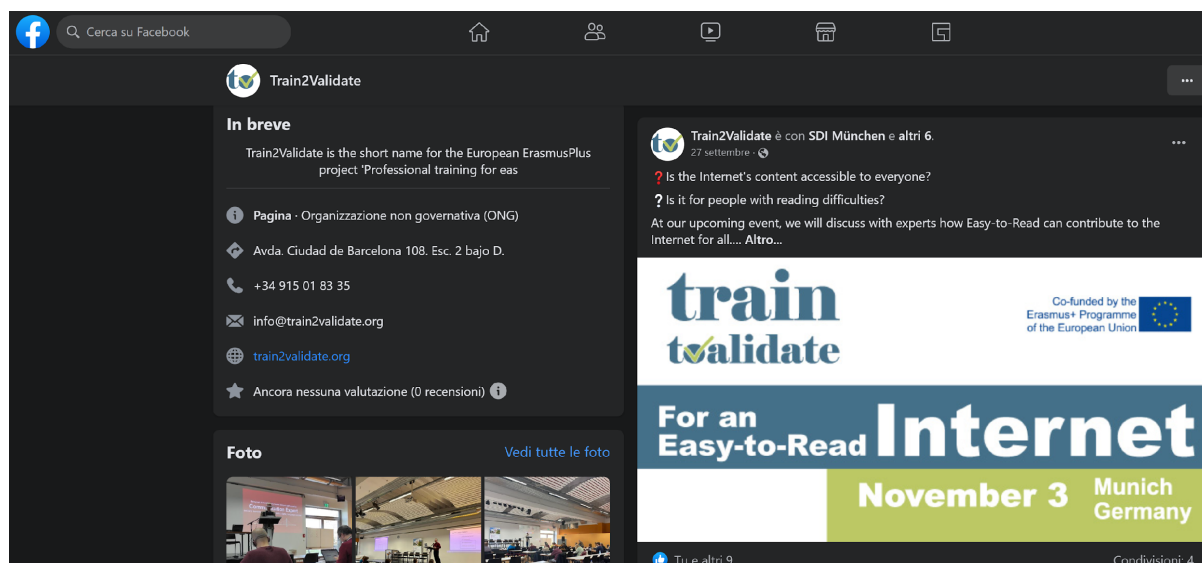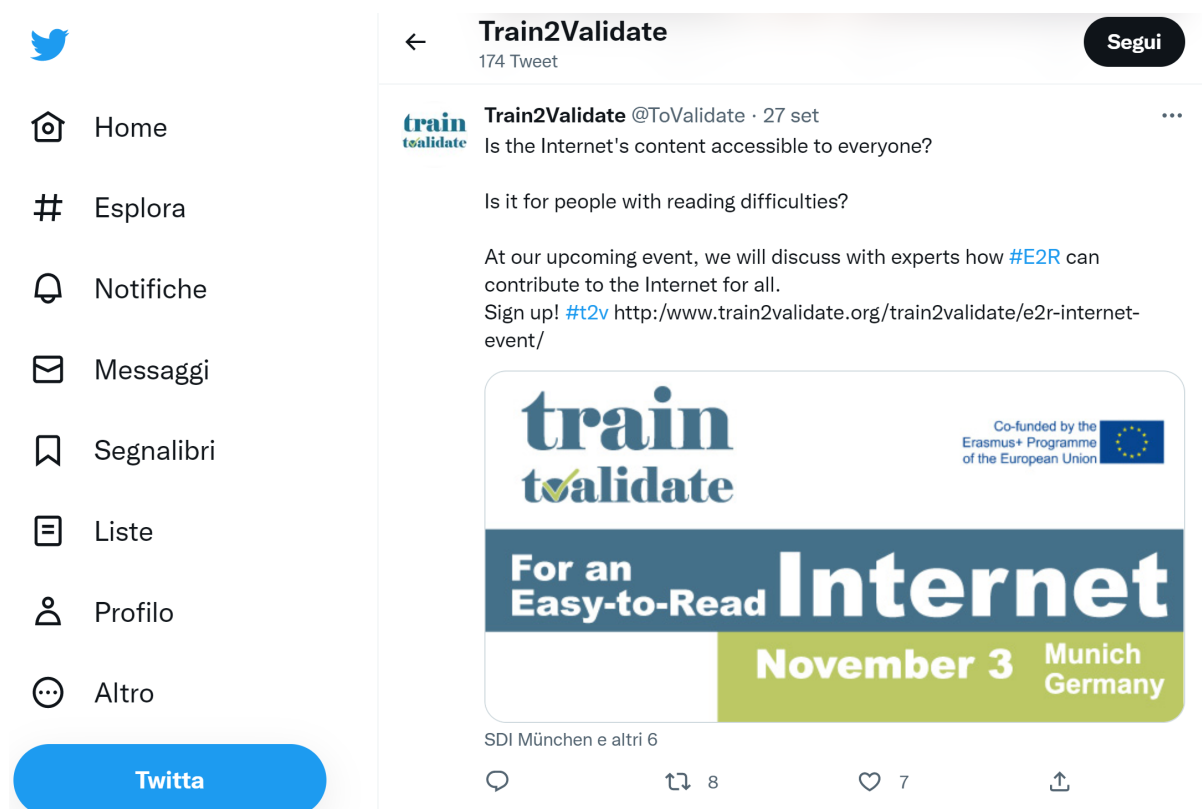
Figure 3. News in Facebook

Figure 4. News in Twitter

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Figure 5. News in LinkedIn

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The event was organized face-to-face on November 3, 2022. The one-day program included a morning and an afternoon session, presented in detail in what follows.

The event was opened by Prof. Dr Florian Feuser, Dean of the International University – SDI München, and Prof. Dr Rocío Bernabé, Researcher at the SDI München. The speakers stressed the importance of Easy-to-Read as an inclusive tool for readers with comprehension difficulties and the opportunities linked to a professionalisation of both job roles, validators, and facilitators.

Their speech is available here: For an E2R Internet Erasmus+ Conference Opening.

Figure 6. Opening addresses by Prof. Dr Florian Feuser

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Figure 7. Opening addresses by Prof. Dr Rocío Bernabé

Óscar García Muñoz, the project leader, opened the morning session with an overall presentation of the TRAIN2VALIDATE project.

His speech is available here: For an E2R Internet - What is T2V.

Figure 7. What is TRAIN2VALIDATE? Rules for the event
Óscar García Muñoz, Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain

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Before a short coffee break, the first part of the event ended with an interview of Dr Stefanie Koehler, from Netzwerk Leichte Sprache, Germany with Janina Spang, a user of Easy-to-Read and validator of web pages. The slot, titled "Insights from a user of Easy-to-Read" showed how persons with reading difficulties can work as WCAG-experts if they received proper training as Ms Spang has.

Their speech is available here: For an E2R Internet: Insights from a user of Easy-to-Read.

Figure 8. Insights from a user of Easy-to-Read
From left to right: Dr Stefanie Koehler (Netzwerk Leichte Sprache, Germany), Janina Spang

After this presentation and the short coffee break, the following panel titled "A companion for an Easy-to-Read web" was hosted by Dr Stefanie Koehler, Netzwerk Leichte Sprache, Germany, and Prof. Dr Rocío Bernabé Caro, SDI Munich. Together they explained the normative and standards that exist to match an easy Internet with Easy-to-Read. Dr Koehler stressed the importance of an easy Internet to focus on users with multiple disabilities, and the importance of validators to obtain such

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outcomes. Prof. Dr Bernabé emphasised that many WCAG criteria have a textual component. This is where Easy-to-Read guidelines can help. The Companion will be published by the end of 2022 and presents the correlation between E2R and accessible Internet standards in 35 out of 66 criteria.

Figure 9. A companion for an Easy-to-Read web
From left to right: Dr Stefanie Koehler (Netzwerk Leichte Sprache, Germany), Prof. Dr Rocío Bernabé Caro (SDI Munich)

In the panel, the audience was very participative with questions, comments, and asking more explanations on the topic.

Their speech is available here: For an E2R Internet: A companion for an Easy-to-Read web.

Figure 10. Audience participating to the panel

The following panel was a round table titled "From paper to digital: how to make easy Internet a reality". It was hosted by the General Project Manager, Óscar García. The speakers were: Inga Schiffler, facilitator, and researcher at the German University of Cologne; Constanze Kobell, translator and consultant for Easy-to-Read; Prof. Dr Klaus Miesenberger, leader of the Easy reading Horizon project and lecturer by the Johannes Kepler University in Austria; Beatriz González Mellídez, head of Accessibility & Digital Inclusion Central Europe at Atos; and Prof. Dr Harald Henzler, Professor of Digital Communication & Change, and expert in user experience and personas. Together, they stressed the importance of content and structure in webpages to be clear, and how hard it is for some people to find information easily.

The video of the panel is available here:

[For an E2R Internet - Round table: From paper to digital: how to make easy Internet a reality](#).

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Figure 11. Round table: From paper to digital: how to make easy Internet a reality
From left to right: Prof. Dr Harald Henzler, Inga Schiffler, Constanze Kobell, Beatriz González Mellídez, Óscar García (moderator), Prof. Dr Klaus Miesenberger (remotely)

After the lunch break, the last part of the event took place. During the first panel, chaired by Francesca Bleve (SSML Pisa), Piero Cavallo (SDI München) and Tatjana Knapp (Zavod Risa) discussed the Train2Validate training materials and assessment. Piero Cavallo showed the journey to the creation of the training materials for prospective validators and facilitators of E2R content. He showed a preview of one video training for facilitators and one for validators. Then, using Menti, he asked the participants to assess which of the two videos was considered easier to understand. Since the majority of participants chose the validators' video, Piero Cavallo concluded his part underlying the importance of a more accessible Internet.

Figure 12. The Train2Validate training materials and assessment
From left to right: Tatjana Knapp, Piero Cavallo, Francesca Bleve

The panel continued with Tatjana Knapp (Zavod RISA) presenting the training materials assessment methodology used in the T2V project. She emphasised the importance that persons with reading difficulties have, especially their need to assess the materials. She finally introduced what assessment tools are useful for validators with reading difficulties.

The video of the panel is available here:

For an E2R Internet:The Train2Validate training materials and assessment.

The following panel titled Easy-to-Read and artificial intelligence was hosted by Annamaria Kilyeni, from the Politehnica University of Timișoara, Romania. She first introduced what Artificial Intelligence (AI) is and the importance that it has in our everyday life. Then, she introduced the first speaker, Vanessa Theel, founder of the SUMM project. SUMM is an innovative project that combines Easy-to-Read and AI, giving the opportunity to automatically translate texts into E2R.

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Figure 13. Easy-to-Read and artificial intelligence: the SUMM project
From left to right: Annamaria Kilyeni and Vanessa Theel

Later, Annamaria Kilyeni introduced the second speaker, Paul Mayer, CDO of Capito. He talked about the AI tools that Capito has created for Easy-to-Read.

The video of the panel is available here:

For an E2R Internet: Easy-to-Read and Artificial Intelligence.

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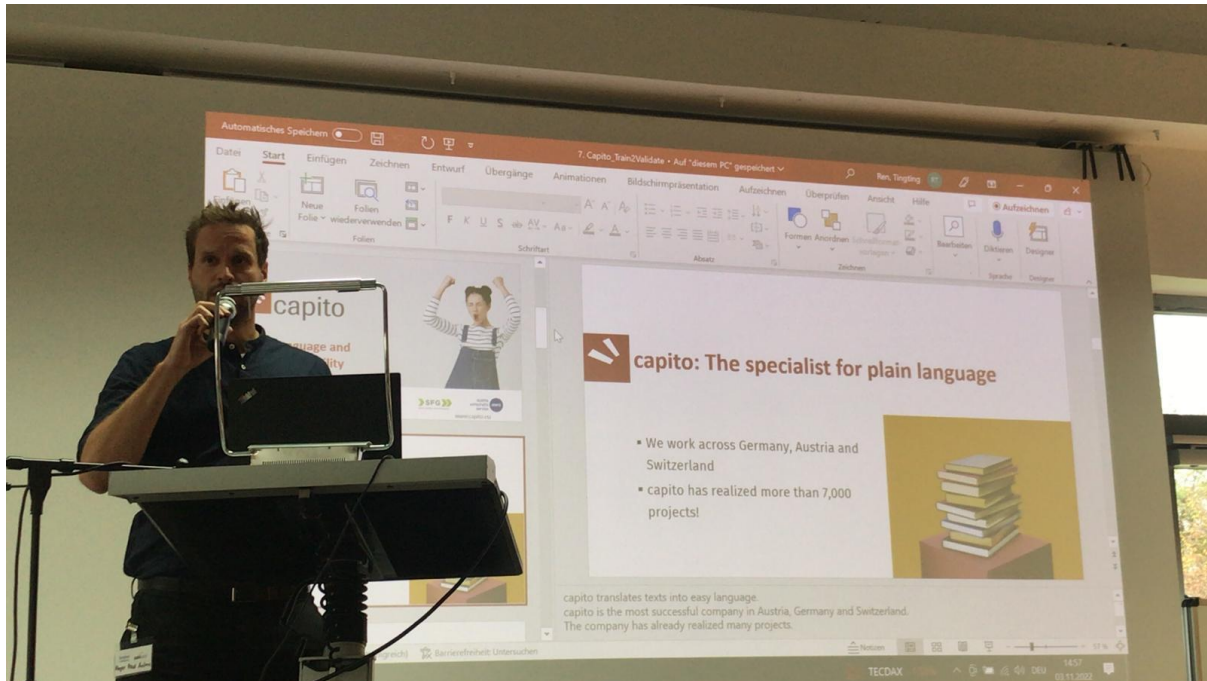Co-funded by the
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Figure 13. Easy-to-Read and artificial intelligence: Capito
Paul Mayer

The last speaker was Nevenka Kos, a validator and advocate from Slovenia. Ms Kos talked about how the T2V project can be useful for persons with reading difficulties who want to become validators. The speech, titled "Final remarks about the T2V training by a validator" was in Slovene and translated into English by Drago Brumen, Local Dissemination Manager of Zavod RISA, Slovenia. Her testimonial about the importance of reading and access to information provided the perfect closure for the event.

Her speech is available here:

[For an E2R Internet: Final remarks about the T2V training by a validator](.).

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Figure 14. Final remarks about the T2V training by a validator
From left to right: Nevenka Kos, Drago Brumen (Zavod RISA)

Finally, the General Project Manager, Óscar García (Plena Inclusión Madrid) and Prof. Dr Rocío Bernabé Caro (SDI Munich) summarised the main points of the event during the slot titled "Final remarks and farewell". They thanked the participants for their presence and active participation and asked them to fill in the satisfaction survey.

All available presentations from speakers are available in annex 3 of the report.

5. PARTICIPATION AND IMPACT

A registration form was opened in English. 56 persons from 11 countries registered (Romania, Germany, Russia, Uruguay, Hungary, Italy, USA, Spain, Slovenia, Austria, United Kingdom. Finally, 12 persons from 8 countries (Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Hungary, Romania, USA, and Austria) as well as 28 participants from Germany attended the event. Additionally, one panellist, Prof Dr Miesenberger participated online through Zoom. One panellist, Cristina Schiratti from Anffas Italia could not attend the round table "From paper to digital: how to make easy Internet a reality". The number of the actual participants does not include the attendees from the project partners' institutions or organizations.

All participants and speakers received a paperback certificate of attendance.

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The impact and visibility of the event were also insured by a series of actions consisting in posting and commenting in real time on social platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter). Additionally, all participants received a leaflet about the project and a certificate of attendance.

6. ACCESSIBILITY OF THE EVENT

In order to follow the accessibility protocol of the project for multiplier events, we accomplished the following accessibility tasks:

- Registration form:
    - > E2R version: yes, unique version
    - > No questions regarding disability or disability proof: yes
    - > Question on accessibility needs: yes
    - > Contact person (additional support for information): yes
- Agenda
    - > E2R version: short easy-to-read explanation of all panels and talks to anticipate the content
    - > Indicate accessibility of each session: explanation of simultaneous interpreting
    - > Alternative program for non-accessible sessions: no, not necessary
- Preparatory meeting
    - > Interpretation: no, not necessary
- Venue: celebration in the SDI building.
    - > parking lots for people with disability: yes
    - > accessible entrances/exits to the building and rooms: yes
    - > elevator (or ground floor): yes
    - > support staff: yes, staff from SDI München
    - > E2R orientation signs: yes, provided by SDI München
- Session
    - > Interpretation: yes, English-German and German-English
    - > Breaks: yes, coffee and lunch
- Materials
    - > Summaries of crucial presentations in E2R: short easy-to-read explanation of all panels and talks to anticipate the content in the program
- Presentations
    - > Notify speakers that the event is accessible: yes, in the invitations and reminders in follow up e-mails
    - > Ensure technical equipment for accessible presentations: yes
- Evaluation form
    - > E2R version: yes, unique version as easy-to-read
    - > Question on accessibility satisfaction: no
    - > Contact person (additional support and information): no, not necessary

Additionally to our protocol, we have also included these measures:

- Leaflet with the programme paperback and also available from the T2V website

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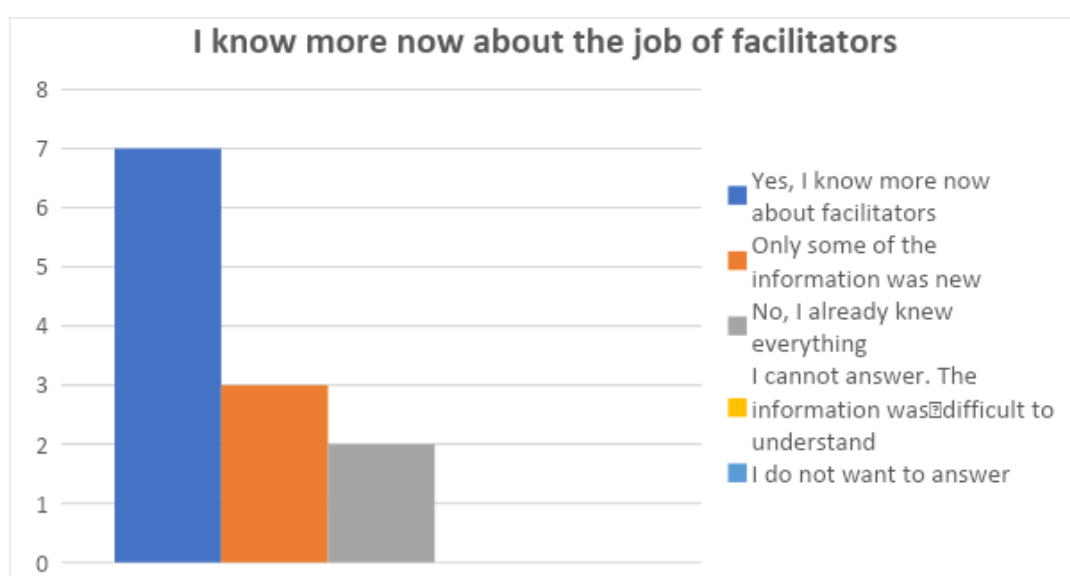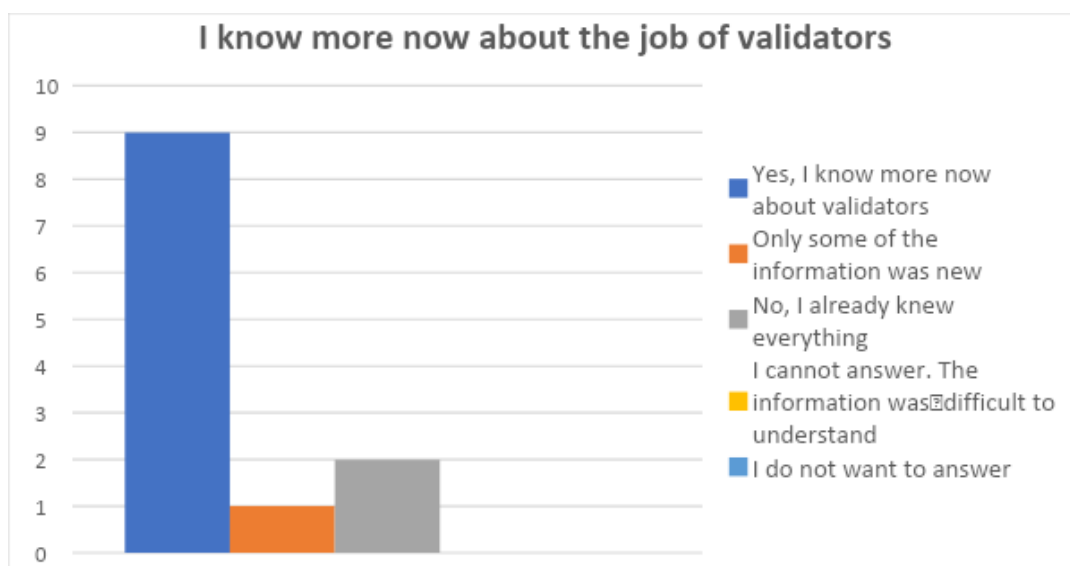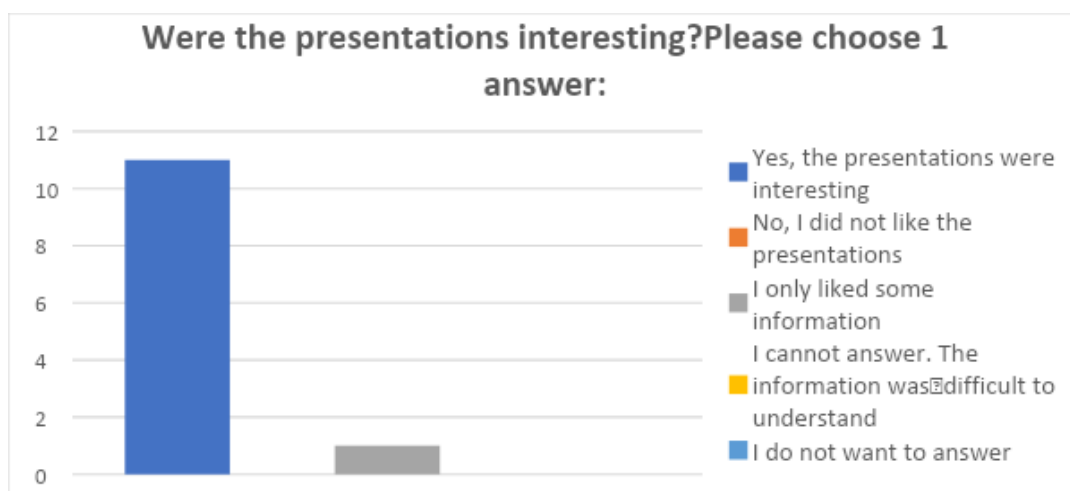Erasmus+ Programme
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- QR in the leaflet linked to the evaluation form

- Sending emails with the detailed program to all the participants

- Posting and commenting live on social platforms during the event.

The event was not hosted under any Covid restrictions. Nonetheless, certain measures for general health security were adopted:

- Availability of hygienic gel

- Recommendation of the use of face mask

7. SATISFACTION SURVEY

The satisfaction survey was drafted and disseminated by the Quality Manager, who also collected the answers. The survey consisted of 5 multiple-choice questions and 1 open question, where participants could add their comments and suggestions. The survey was filled out by 12 people. The survey is presented in Annex 2. The overall feedback was extremely positive, as it follows:
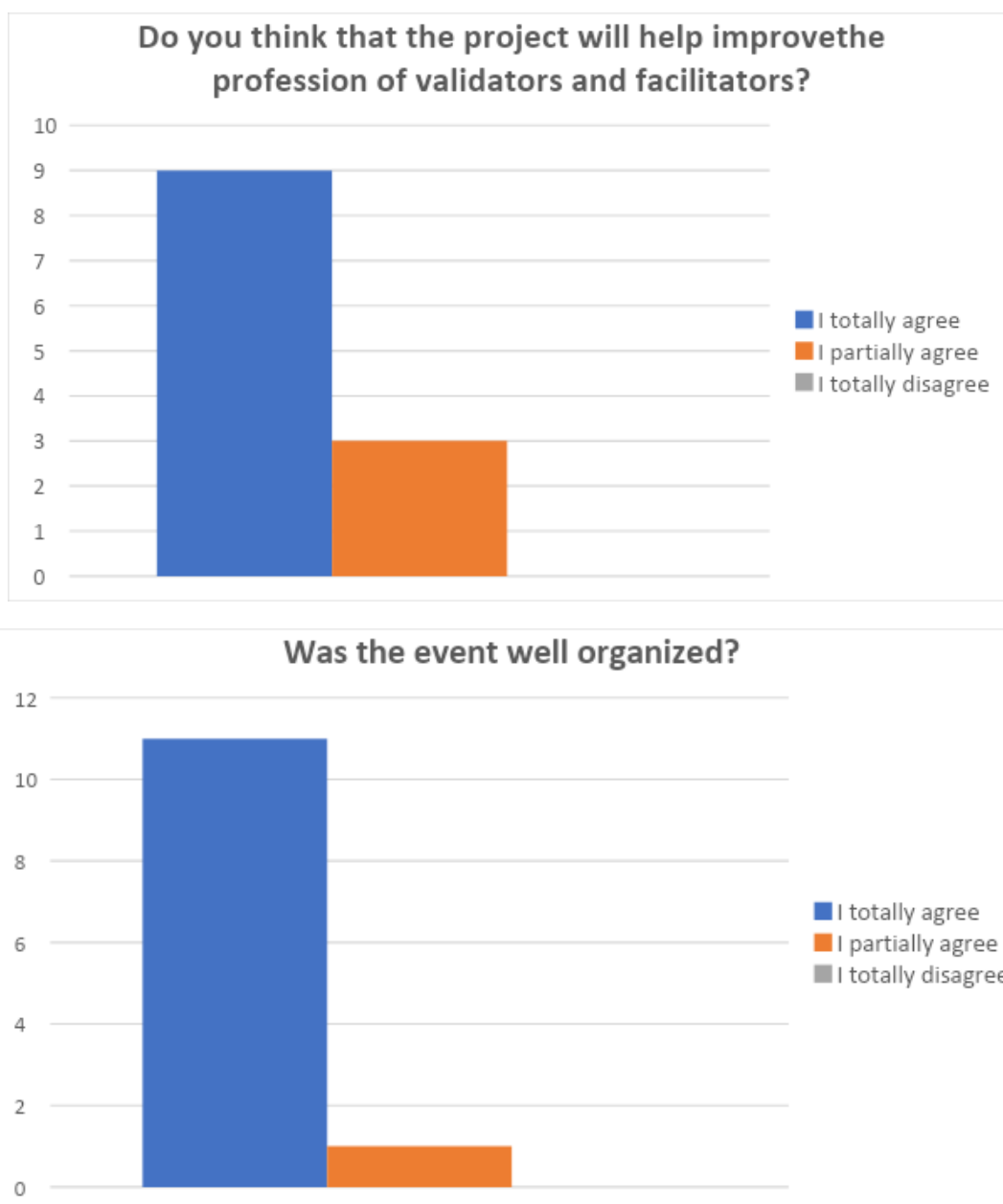
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Were the presentations interesting?Please choose 1 answer:

- Yes, the presentations were interesting
- No, I did not like the presentations
- I only liked some information
- I cannot answer. The information was difficult to understand
- I do not want to answer

I know more now about the job of validators

- Yes, I know more now about validators
- Only some of the information was new
- No, I already knew everything
- I cannot answer. The information was difficult to understand
- I do not want to answer

I know more now about the job of facilitators

- Yes, I know more now about facilitators
- Only some of the information was new
- No, I already knew everything
- I cannot answer. The information was difficult to understand
- I do not want to answer

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Figure 15. Charts with the results of the satisfaction survey of the event

An additional question for free comments and suggestion registered the following answers:

- .
- All could thank you for everything!
- X
- Super interesting topics!
- Beyond expectations!

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- Tx

- No

- No

- The conference was really interesting and well organized

- Thanks for organizing I did learn a lot today!

- The event was really interesting and inspiring

- All presentations were interesting.

8. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The key performance indicators for the event include:

- Number of registrations to the event: 56

- Number of participants: 40

- Widespread geographic representation of the participants: 8 countries

- Presence of stakeholders

- Presence of 2 advisory board members, one as speaker, one as panellist

- Satisfaction level of attendees, obtained through satisfaction surveys: high.

9. RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

The event was a success, due to and confirmed by the followings:

- European dimension of the project

- Visibility and importance of the project partners

- Novelty and importance of the topic

- Relevance of the venue linked to the topic

- First face-to-face event of the project after the worst part of the Covid pandemic

- High attendance from facilitators and validators

- Relevance of the contents and discussions of the panels

- Quality of the presentations

- Care of accessibility and anti-Covid safety in a face-to-face event

- Strengthen of links with the institution of the venue, which is an associated partner

- Broad dissemination before and during the event

- Issue of certificates for attendance and speakers

- Very good results of the satisfaction survey.

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Figure 16. View of the conference hall during the event

Annex 1: Leaflet with the program

Time	Topic
09:30 – 10:00	**Registration**
10:00 – 10:15	**Opening and rules for the event** Prof. Dr Florian Feuser, Dean of the International University – SDI München Prof. Dr Rocío Bernabé, Researcher at the SDI München
10:15- 10:30	**What is Train2Validate?** **Óscar García Muñoz**, Project leader, Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain
10:30 – 11:00	**Insights from a user of Easy-to-Read** **Janina Spang** is a user of Easy-to-Read. Janina also validates web pages. She works together with a facilitator. Janina will tell us about her experience as a validator of web pages.
11:00 – 11:15	**Coffee break**

11:15 – 12:00	**A companion for an Easy-to-Read web** ● **Dr Stefanie Koehler**, Netzwerk Leichte Sprache, Germany ● **Dr Rocío Bernabé Caro,** SDI Munich **What is it about?** There are guidelines to make web pages accessible. The guidelines are called: **W**eb **A**ccessibility **G**uidelines, in short, WCAG. Stefanie Koehler has created a companion. The companion tells us: These WCAG guidelines are important for persons with reading and learning difficulties. Stefanie Koehler and Rocío Bernabé will tell us about the companion. And they will tell us about the people who helped.
12:00 – 12:45	**Round table: From paper to digital: how to make easy Internet a reality** ● **Inga Schiffler:** Facilitator and researcher at the German University of Cologne. ● **Constanze Kobell:** Translator and consultant for Easy-to-Read. ● **Prof. Dr Klaus Miesenberger:** Leader of the Easy reading project. (requested) ● **Beatriz González Mellídez:** Head of Accessibility & Digital Inclusion Central Europe at Atos. ● **Prof. Dr Harald Henzler:** Professor of Digital Communication & Change. Expert in user experience and personas

	Chairperson: Óscar García, Plena Inclusión Madrid, Spain
	What is it about?
	The participants in the round table work in different places. Some work at universities. And others work with persons with reading difficulties. Together, they will explain to us: There are things to make the Internet easy to understand.

12:45 – 13:30	**Lunch break**

13:30 – 14:30	**The Train2Validate training materials and assessment**
	
	● **Piero Cavallo,** International University – SDI München
	● **Tatjana Knapp,** Zavod Risa, Slovenia
	
	Chairperson: Francesca Bleve, SSML, Italy
	What is it about?
	Tatjana and Piero will show some training materials.
	
	Tatjana and Piero will explain 2 things:
	
	    ● Why persons with reading difficulties need to assess the materials.
	    ● What assessment tools are useful for validators with reading difficulties.

14:30-15:15	**Easy-to-Read and artificial intelligence**
	
	● **SUMM project:** Artificial intelligence meets Easy-to-Read
	    SUMM will showcase and explain their efforts in building an automatic translation tool.
	● **Capito:** Paul Mayer will present the leading capito AI technology, which transforms any text into comprehensible, personalised information.
	    The capito technology and research are reshaping public and private communications, the social sector and the machine translation industry.
	
	What is it about?
	The newcomer and the leader will explain how AI-based solutions for Easy-to-Read work.
	Chairperson: Annamaria Kilyeni, Politehnica University, Timișoara, Romania

15:15 – 15:30	**Final remarks about the T2V training by a validator** **Nevenka Kos** works as a validator in Slovenia. **What is it about?** Nevenka will tell us about how the T2V can be useful for persons with reading difficulties who want to become validators.
15:30 – 15:45	**Final remarks and farewell** Óscar and Rocío will summarise the main points of the event.

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Annex 2: Satisfaction survey

Sección 1 de 3

Multiplier Event 4: Satisfaction Survey

We want to know your opinion about the event.
Your opinion can help us to do things better in the next event.
You can also tell us what you liked about the event.
And we are also happy to hear your ideas.
Please answer these questions:

Were the presentations interesting? Please choose 1 answer: *

○ Yes, the presentations were interesting.

○ No, I did not like the presentations.

○ I only liked some information.

○ I cannot answer. The information was difficult to understand.

○ I do not want to answer.

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I know more now about the job of validators. *

◯ Yes, I know more now about validators.

◯ Only some of the information was new.

◯ No, I already knew everything.

◯ I cannot answer. The information was difficult to understand.

◯ I do not want to answer.

I know more now about the job of facilitators. *

◯ Yes, I know more now about facilitators.

◯ Only some of the information was new.

◯ No, I already knew everything.

◯ I cannot answer. The information was difficult to understand.

◯ I do not want to answer.

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Do you think that the project will help improve the profession of validators and facilitators? *

○ I totally agree.

○ I partially agree.

○ I totally disagree.

Was the event well organized? *

○ I totally agree.

○ I partially agree.

○ I totally disagree.

Would you like to make a comment or a suggestion? Then write it here, please: *

Texto de respuesta corta

Sección 3 de 3

Thank you for your contribution.

The partners of the TRAIN2VALIDATE project appreciate your assessment.

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Annex 3: presentations from speakers