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OPEN ACCESS CONTENTS ON DESIGN FOR EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

## D 1.5.1. External Advisory Board

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## 1. Introduction

EDIDesK is the acronym of the Erasmus+ KA220-HED project ‘*Open Access Contents on Design for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion for Higher Education Programmes*’. It is a three-year cooperation project between seven institutions working in the Higher Education sector.

The External Advisory Board (EAB) is a fundamental part of the EDIDesK project. It is composed by a selected number of experts from academia, companies, and NGOs worlds. Selected people that join in the EAB are asked to cooperate with the PCM team, particularly with the SC and the PM, in order to provide recommendations and guidance to obtain high-quality results and to comply with the strategic goals of the project.

The role of an EAB member is to provide guidance and external feedback on results achieved and on activities planned in a three-year period. EAB meetings will be held three times per year using digital communication systems like Skype, Zoom, or MS Teams. When relevant, EAB members are also asked to contribute to relevant meetings as per project timeline described in the WP5. Selected EAB members provide pro-bono contributions to the project, and they are not asked to produce any tangible or intangible result.

The EAB document is an important outcome (D 1.5.1.) because contains the list of EAB members, their profiles, as well as selection criteria.

## 2. Selection Criteria

A recruitment campaign to select the most suitable people to join the EAB started in October 2023 following an ad-hoc exploration of profiles available online against selection criteria stated in the project proposal submitted in March 2023.

To briefly recap the process, the selection followed the selection criteria described below:

- Compliance with the aim of the EDIDesK project: EAB members should have a demonstrable curriculum that is in line with the aim of the EDIDesK project, such as experience in Design and EDI (in its wider meaning), professional or research interest, etc., as well as they express the clear will and desire to join the EAB as a member, and to contribute to the achievement of its strategic aims.
- Background: EAB members should have a demonstrable background in Design and EDI (in its wider meaning). The background should not only refer to academic experience (i.e., teaching), but also to professional experience and research commitment.
- Variety of skills: EAB members should be recruited from different professional domains, such as academia, NGOs, professional world, etc.; this in order to provide different interpretations and qualitative insights to period discussions with the SC and the PM about results that will be achieved in the project in a three-year progression.
- Engagement with EDI: EAB members should demonstrate active engagement with EDI-related topics, such as: accessibility, usability, human factors, etc.

Selected candidates were contacted in advance to record their availability to join the project. A preliminary list was submitted to the attention of the PSC during the kick-off meeting to record comments. The list of EAB members included in this deliverable was approved by the PSC by the end of Month 1, as per internal communication circulated among project partners.

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### 3. External Advisory Board

The EAB of the EDIDESK project is composed by four skilled people representing three different professional domains: academia, NGOs, professional world. Names and profiles are described in the following sections. Data presented are extracted from professional CVs confidentially sent to the SC and internally circulate among project partners to record final approvals.

#### 3.1 Claudia Porfirione, PhD

Prof. Claudia Porfirione is an Assistant Professor in Design at the Department of Architecture and Design, University of Genoa in Italy. She holds a PhD in Design from the University of Genoa in Italy. Prof. Porfirione is actively involved in academic studies and teaching activities concerning Design and EDI. She teaches both undergraduate and postgraduate modules on Design subjects. Prof. Porfirione is also member of the PhD programme “Design for Made in Italy” working for the “Design for Inclusion” research curriculum.

About research, she carries out research activities in the field of Design and Inclusion, with an emphasis on the links between accessibility and human-machine-environment interaction. She is, or was, involved in several research projects, including:

- “PRO\_HOME Multiplat-Age” (2021-ongoing, funded by Italian Ministry of Health and Regione Liguria);
- “SI-ROBOTICS Active and Healthy Ageing through Social Robotics” (2015-2018, funded by European Social Found R&I Project);
- “S.H.E.L.L. A Secure Habitat for an Enhanced Long Living” (2014-2014, funded by DIBE-MIUR “Made in Italy” Industrial Innovation project);
- “ROBOT ERA” (2012-2015, funded by FP7-ICT challenge 5: Health, Ageing Well, Inclusion and Governance).
- “3A - Assisted Environment for the Elderly and people with disabilities” (2012-2014, funded by POR-CRO Innovation and Competitiveness R&I Project)

#### 3.2 Alexa Mottram, MSc, FHEA

Miss Alexa Mottram is a Senior Lecturer in Product Design (equivalent to Associate Professor) at the Lincoln School of Design, University of Lincoln in the UK. She is Fellow of the Higher Education Academy since 2017.

Miss Mottram is a designer and educator with a strong commitment to ethical design and pioneering teaching models for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) and Sustainable Design. Nationally recognised for her sustainable design practice, she currently spearheads a substantial design for disability project that embodies co-creation principles, actively involving both users and students at every stage. She is also Module Leader on the Design Thinking and Futures modules on the BA(hons) Product Design programme and also teaches on the Design Proposal and Final Major Project modules on the MA Design course.

About research in Design, she carries out research activities in the field of Design for Sustainability and Inclusive Design. She is, or was, involved in several research projects, including:

- “Urinary Aid for Female Wheelchair Users” (2022-ongoing, funded by Impact Acceleration Fund);

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- “How to support students to have awkward conversations” (2021, funded by Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund, University of Lincoln);
- “Designing in Partnership” (2017, funded by Lincoln Higher Education Research Institute).

Miss Mottram is also the founder of a footwear company, Motties, which served as a dynamic platform for practice-based research, delving into manufacturing practices with a focus on reclaimed materials and exploring innovative business structures to accommodate these principles.

### 3.3 Elisabetta Carattin, PhD

Dr. Elisabetta is member of the “Accessible and Inclusive Environments” Team at ARUP, a London-based engineering company, where she works as a consultant by bringing a holistic, interdisciplinary approach to developing inclusive design strategies based on her experience in Architecture, Human Behaviour in Fire and Fire Safety Engineering.

Dr. Carattin holds a PhD in Architecture from IUAV in Italy, and she is an accredited access professional with the National Register of Access Consultants (NRAC), as well as internationally recognised under the Certified Professional in Accessible Built Environments scheme, with the International Association of Accessibility Professionals (IAAP). She works across all sectors giving advice regarding inclusive design at all project stages.

Dr. Carattin is actively involved in research activities and standard development, including (selection):

- Toronto Metrolinx Universal Design Standards, Toronto, Canada;
- Lima 2019 Accessibility Design Guide;
- HVM measures for road bridges;
- Invest in Arup: Inclusive Cities and Buildings for the Future.

Professionally, she worked in several inclusive design projects, including (selection):

- 27 Savile Row, London (2022-current);
- Cannon Green, London (2019-current);
- Confidential commercial real estate company offices audit, London, UK (2019);
- The Post Building, London, UK (2018);
- Access and Inclusive Design services for University College London (2022-current);
- University College London (UCL) Marshgate East campus, London, UK (2018- 2019);
- Lima Pan-American Games athletes’ village and sports venues, Peru (2018-2019);
- HS2 Euston Station (including taxi rank and Piazza), London, UK (2018-current);

### 3.4 Erminia Attaianesse, PhD, Eur.Erg

Prof. Erminia Attaianesse is an Associate Professor in Architectural Technology at the Department of Architecture, University of Naples “Federico II” in Italy, and the President of the Centre for Registration of European Ergonomist (CREE). She holds a Ph.D. in Buildings and Environment Rehabilitation from the University of Geona in Italy.

Her research interests revolve around the disciplinary and interdisciplinary aspects of Human Factors and Ergonomics in the built environment. Also, she has an extensive experience in Design-related topics and EDI in its wider notion since she was involved in several research projects and design activities in Italy and abroad.

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She is author of over 200 publications particularly referred to applied ergonomics and human factors issues, buildings and systems accessibility, safety and usability, human diversities, and social and environmental issues in sustainability perspective applied to the design of buildings and open spaces. In terms of research, she led, or has taken part of, the following activities (selection):

- “TECNARE”, (2012-2014, Scientific Coordinator, funded by Italian Ministry of Environment);
- “HoWERGO-HOme Working ERGOnomics support system” (2019-current, Scientific Coordinator, funded by INAIL Regione Campania and University of Naples “Federico II”);
- “MultiERA” (2019-current, Scientific Coordinator, funded by INAIL Regione Campania and University of Naples “Federico II”);
- “InTERA / Strumenti per la Valutazione Ergonomica degli Ambienti di Lavoro” (2013-2015, Scientific Coordinator, funded by INAIL Regione Campania and University of Naples “Federico II”);
- “INTEGRARE / Integrated Assessment of Architectural, Ergonomic and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients Risks” (2009-2011, Scientific Coordinator, Co-funded by INAIL and NovartisPharma);
- “MiSP/ Misura della Scivolosità delle Pavimentazioni e Rischio di Caduta sui Luoghi di Lavoro” (2011-2012, Scientific Coordinator, Funded by INAIL);
- “FireApp – Realizzazione di una applicazione SW dedicata ai dispositivi di tipo mobile per la diffusione e la agevole applicazione dei principi di prevenzione del rischio incendio nella gestione degli ambienti di lavoro” (2019-current, Scientific Coordinator, Co-Funded by INAIL and University of Naples “Federico II”);
- “EIP / Ergonomic Implementation Process” (2007-2008, Scientific Coordinator, Co-Funded by INAIL and Indesit Company spa).