



EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF MICRO-CREDENTIALS



23 November 2023

9:30-16:00 CET

**YERUN premises
Rue du Trône 62, Brussels**

The event will provide a unique opportunity to discuss the role of micro-credentials in supporting innovation in higher education, bringing together representatives of institutions, universities and labour market stakeholders.

REGISTRATION:
[ProcToGo website](#)

Programme

09:30 - 10:00

Welcome coffee & registration

10:00 - 10:15

Welcome by YERUN

Silvia Gomez Recio, YERUN Secretary General

10:15 - 10:30

Introduction on ProcToGo

Prof. Dr. Corrado Cerruti, Tor Vergata University of Rome

10:30 - 11:00

European Commission approach to Micro-credentials

Agnieszka Jelnicka, Policy Officer at DG EAC and Isabel Ladrón Arroyo, Policy Officer at DG EMPL

11:00 - 11:30

OECD approach to Micro-credentials

Shizuka Kato, Analyst, Higher Education Policy Team - Directorate for Education and Skills, OECD

11:30 - 11:45

Coffee break

11:45 - 12:15

Framing the Micro-credentials landscape

Prof. Dr. Carlos Delgado Kloos, Rector's Delegate on Micro-credentials at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

12:15 - 12:45

Conversation with the recruiters on Micro-credentials

Ann Cattelain, Vice President ECSSA - European Confederation of Search & Selection Associations & Prof. Dr. Carlos Delgado Kloos, Rector's Delegate on Micro-credentials at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid UC3M

12:45 - 14:00

Lunch break

14:00 - 14:30

ECIU's approach to Micro-credentials

Dr. Mairéad Nic Giolla Mhichíl, Director of Micro-Credential Strategy & Innovation at Dublin City University

14:30 - 15:15

Experiences from YERUN working group on Lifelong Learning: presentations + panel discussion

- German case - Kerstin Altherr, Lifelong Learning Coordinator at University of Potsdam and Dr. Ulrich Wacker, Manager Academy of Advanced Studies at University of Konstanz
- Belgian case - Dr. Jan Dries, Commissioner for Lifelong Learning at University of Antwerp
- Spanish case - Prof. Dr. Carlos Alario, Associate Professor at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

15:15 - 15:45

ProcToGo's Micro-credentials approach

Prof. Dr. Corrado Cerruti - ProcToGo European Coordinator & Dr. Jan Dries, Commissioner for Lifelong Learning - University of Antwerp

15:45 - 16:00

Wrap-up and goodbye

16:00 - 18:00

Networking drinks (6th floor)

Meet the speakers:



**SILVIA GOMEZ
RECIO**

Silvia Gómez Recio is the Secretary General of the Young European Research University Network - YERUN. She is responsible for the strategic leadership, networking actions and implementation of the network's strategy and objectives. YERUN is a group of like-minded young research universities in Europe that strengthens and facilitates cooperation in the areas of research, education and services which benefit society. In 2023, a total of 23 young research universities are part of YERUN. Before joining YERUN, Silvia worked as the representative of Coventry University in Brussels and as EU Policy Adviser at the European Federation of Nurses. Originally from Spain, she has lived in Brussels since 2010.



**PROF. DR.
CORRADO CERRUTI**

Corrado Cerruti is Full Professor in Management at the School of Economics of the University of Rome Tor Vergata. His main research areas relate to procurement/supply chain management, digital transformation and innovation. He holds an MBA from INSEAD (France) and a PhD in Management from Cranfield University, School of Business (UK). He is the Coordinator of the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project "ProcToGo - Procurement: digital Tools for sustainable Goals" and, in the past, coordinated several EU projects. He is in charge of Confindustria Assoconsult/Tor Vergata research center on "Management Consulting in Italy" and of the FEACO/Tor Vergata annual report on "Management Consulting in Europe". He is the Director of Proxenter, the research center on public and private procurement and Director of the Bachelor of Arts in "Global Governance" at the School of Economics, University of Rome Tor Vergata.



**AGNIESZKA
JELNICKA**

Agnieszka Jelnicka is a policy officer in the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture at the European Commission. She holds two master's degrees in European Union studies and Law.



**ISABEL LADRÓN
ARROYO**

Isabel Ladrón Arroyo is a policy officer in the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion at the European Commission, working on skills for the green and digital transitions and on micro-credentials in the Vocational Education and Training unit. As part of the Junior Professionals Programme, she also has experience in the Commission working in the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, in the Directorate-General for Energy and in the Legal Service. She studied an Erasmus Mundus Master in "Global Studies - A European Perspective", taking the first year in Vienna and the second year in Copenhagen, and writing her master's thesis on youth inequalities in the EU. She has worked as a social innovation project manager in the field of youth and social inclusion, first in an NGO and later in a consultancy firm focused on sustainability and social impact. She also worked for 6 months in Nicaragua, at the Department of Communication for Development at the University UNAN-Managua, coordinating a project related to Feminism and Gender Studies. Her background is in Journalism and Film, TV and Media Studies. During her double bachelor's degree, she completed one year of Erasmus in Rome and she studied a minor in Economics. Her first language is Spanish, and she can fluently speak English, French and Italian.



SHIZUKA KATO

Shizuka Kato is an Analyst in the OECD Directorate for Education and Skills, currently leading work on micro-credentials. She specialises in higher education policy and has previously worked on projects examining the emergence of alternative credentials, digital transformation and labour market relevance and outcomes, as well as the review of several European higher education systems. Prior to joining the OECD, she worked for Waseda University in Tokyo, facilitating the institution's faculty and student mobility and international cooperation in the International Affairs Division.



PROF. DR. CARLOS DELGADO KLOOS

Carlos Delgado Kloos received the Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the Technische Universität München and in Telecommunications Engineering from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. He is Full Professor of Telematics Engineering at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, where he is the Director of the GAST research group, Director of the UNESCO Chair on "Scalable Digital Education for All" and Rector's Delegate for Digital Microcredentials. He has carried out research stays at several universities such as Harvard, MIT, Munich, and Passau. His main research interests are in Educational Technology. He has been involved in a large number of research projects and has published more than 500 articles. He has coordinated several MOOCs with over 600,000 registrations and he is presently promoting the adoption of digital micro-credentials in Spain through the project CertiDigital (certidigital.es).



ANN CATTELAÏN

Ann Cattelain, who has been at the helm of Federgon since 1 October 2020, obtained a master's degree in law from the KULeuven and began her career in the insurance sector. In 1997, she joined Federgon as Legal Advisor and became Legal Director in 2005. As CEO, Ann Cattelain aims to lead Federgon into the new digital era basing on new strategic priorities. Her ambition is to make Federgon the reference for all matters relating to the labour market and Human Resources. Indeed, HR service providers are clearly essential if we are to write a strong scenario for the labour market.



PROF. DR. MAIRÉAD NIC GIOLLA MHICHÍL

DCU appointed Ireland's first Director of Micro-Credential Strategy and Innovation, Dr. Mairéad Nic Giolla Mhichíl in 2021. Dr. Nic Giolla Mhichíl is collaborating in national, European and international micro-credential policy development and initiatives. Dr. Nic Giolla Mhichíl is co-founder of the Micro-Credential observatory which curates global micro-credential research and developments. In 2020, she co-authored a Global Insights Report on micro-credentials and, in collaboration with DCU's Irish Institute of Digital Business and Skillnet Networks, she was lead author on a publication to guide industry in its engagement with Micro-Credentials: *A Micro-Credential Roadmap: Currency, Cohesion and Collaboration*. As part of this work, she published the First National Micro-Credential Survey of Irish Employers and Employees in 2021. Mairéad is the ECIU University Micro-Credential Lead and she is on the Steering Committee of the national MicroCreds initiative www.microcreds.ie. Mairéad is co-editor in chief of the *International Journal of Educational technology in Higher Education (ETHE)* which recently published a special issue on micro-credentials.



KERSTIN ALTHERR

Kerstin Altherr is a lawyer by training and has completed her legal traineeship specialising in public and administrative law. She is also trained in mediation as a method of negotiation and conflict resolution. Kerstin has worked as a programme coordinator for customised short-term programs with a focus on governance and public sector reform for national and international clients at the University of Potsdam's non-profit firm UP Transfer GmbH. Since 2019, she has been working as Coordinator for Lifelong Learning / Continuing Education in the university's Division of Student Affairs. Her responsibilities include legal, administrative and general governance matters regarding continuing education. Kerstin is a member of the speakers committee of the permanent working group "Institutions" (AG-Einrichtungen) of the German Association for University Continuing and Distance Education (DGWF e.V.).



DR. ULRICH WACKER

Ulrich Wacker studied economics and political science. He is the managing director of the Academy of Advanced Studies at the University of Konstanz and the University's Life long learning consultant. He is the spokesperson for the Working Group of Institutions for Continuing Education at Universities (AG-E) in the German Association for University Continuing and Distance Education (DGWF) and a member of the spokesperson council of the DGWF regional group Baden-Württemberg. In addition to his operational work, he focuses on higher education legal frameworks for formats of scientific continuing education, the governance of scientific continuing education, and continuing education teaching based on research in a European comparison.



DR. JAN DRIES

Jan Dries is Commissioner for Lifelong Learning at the University of Antwerp. With a large background in university communications, he turned his interest to promoting lifelong learning in an academic context. For that, UAntwerp made an alliance with the universities of Ghent and Brussels, [Nova Academy](#). Within the alliance, a common framework for micro-credentials has been developed and over 180 micro-credentials were created. UAntwerp considers micro-credentials as a strong leverage for the further development of continuing education in academia.



PROF. DR. CARLOS ALARIO

Carlos Alario-Hoyos is Associate Professor in the Department of Telematics Engineering at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M), Spain. He received M.S. and PhD degrees in Information and Communication Technologies from Universidad of Valladolid, Spain, in 2007 and 2012. He is Subdirector and Coordinator of Research and Development Cooperation Networks in Latin America of the UNESCO Chair on "Scalable Digital Education for All". He was Deputy Vice President for Strategy and Digital Education at UC3M from 2017 to 2023. His skills and experience include research and development in the areas of MOOCs, micro-credentials, learning analytics, active learning, collaborative learning, and evaluation of learning experiences, among others. He has participated in numerous national and international research and capacity building projects.