



**"Virtually the same thing as in-person internships? Mapping the virtual internship landscape and exploring intern and employer experience in the UK and Italy" project**

This project explores the growing but underresearched area of **virtual internships through student intern and employer experience** in two contrasting institutional contexts, the UK and Italy. The aims are to map the key features of the virtual internship landscape and to compare digital to in-person internships on accessibility, skill development and employability for the intern and on recruitment process and internship design/delivery for the employer.

**Specific objectives**



- To map key features of virtual internships in the UK and Italy
- To explore how, if at all, virtual internships differ from in-person internships for interns and employers
- To explore whether virtual internships are more accessible than in-person internships to students from disadvantaged or minority backgrounds
- To develop best practice guidance for interns, employers and higher education institutions
- To grow our research network on graduate transitions to employment

**Expected results**



- Providing information to students, university placement offices and employers about the features of internships available
- Raising awareness about the extent to which virtual internships facilitate access to students from disadvantaged or minority backgrounds
- Providing guidance about how virtual internships can be designed and delivered to improve accessibility
- Developing recommendations about how virtual internships can be designed and delivered in a way commensurate with the ILO Decent Work Agenda

**Partnership**



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI ENNA "KORI"

