



**earlall**

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL & LOCAL  
AUTHORITIES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

# EARLALL Annual Meeting 2023

REGIONE  
TOSCANA



**TUSCANY REGION**  
**25-28 September 2023**



## EARLALL Annual Meeting 2023

### A new strategic approach to our growing network

On 25 September 2023, EARLALL's Annual Meeting took place in Florence, which was kindly hosted by EARLALL's member region and Vice-Presidency of the network, Tuscany Region. This year's edition gathered 30 members who had the opportunity to explore the local skills ecosystems in the Italian region.



The annual meetings are the network's opportunity to take stock of the year before and to approve the work plans and priorities of the year ahead. This year's annual meetings were opened by **Ms Alessandra Nardini**, Regional Minister of VET, Education, Universities and Research in Tuscany, as well as by the current **EARLALL President Mr Rikardo Lamadrid**, Director General of New Technologies and Advanced Learning, Regional Ministry of Education, the Basque Country.

**Ms Nardini** highlighted the significance of working together in such a network as EARLALL. She underlined the importance of lifelong learning, focusing not only on the perspective of adults but also on those who are young. Moreover, outlining the challenges that all EARLALL regions and indeed all regions in Europe face in the green and digital transition, **Ms Nardini** said that "joining our forces is important because we are stronger than if we are alone". Finally, she took the opportunity to warmly welcome the EARLALL delegation to Tuscany, emphasising her particular interest in the ITS (Higher Technical Institutions) system that she has sought to enrich during her role. She wished the group a fruitful annual meeting and a week of study visits that occurred after the meeting, as part of the Stride for Stride for skills anticipation/adaptation in the European regions Erasmus+ project.



**Mr Lamadrid**, EARLALL's President, welcomed the group and felicitated the high number of participants. He expressed his honour for the Basque Country Government to have held the Presidency for multiple terms and for seeing through various successes in the EARLALL network, including the EARLALL Regional Exchange in June 2023. He particularly emphasised the growing outreach capacity of the organisation and the growing opportunities that EARLALL was building for itself. Mr Lamadrid also sincerely thanked the **Ms Nardini** for her generosity in hosting the EARLALL annual meeting this year, and congratulated **Mr Gabrielle Grondoni**, Director General of Job Placement and Apprenticeships and Internships and **Ms Miriana Bucalossi**, head of apprenticeships and work-based learning in the Tuscany region, for her commendable work in organising the event and the study visits that were to follow.



## EARLALL General Assembly 2023

The General Assembly was chaired by Mr Rikardo Lamadrid, Director of General New Technologies and Advanced Learning, Regional Ministry of Education, Basque Country (EARLALL President) and Ms Noelia Cantero, EARLALL Director.

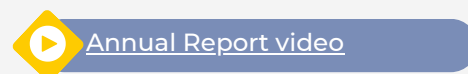


### ✓ Annual Report approved

The representatives of EARLALL approved the annual report of 2022-2023, which **highlighted the network's achievements, particularly in achieving their goals set out in the previous work plan**: Green and Digital Transition; Engaged Regions Through Lifelong Learning; Empowering Education Providers to become more innovative, inclusive and international; Vocational Excellence, skills ecosystems and the Quadruple Helix; Adult Learning and Education to build resilient regions; Young People Leading Europe's Recovery; Skills to Support European Industries and Communication and Dissemination.

In addition to the Annual Report, EARLALL representatives were able **to view the video highlights of the annual report**.

The main takeaways from the successful 2022-2023 period were EARLALL's engagement during the **European Year of Skills, including an exchange with the European Commission** (December 2022); **speaking during the European Committee of the Region's Plenary debate on the Year of Skills** (February 2023), a **new European Year of Skills Webpage** and the **EARLALL Regional Exchange two day event** (June 2023).



## Work Plan 2023-2024

### Working Groups activities

The respective leaders of the four EARLALL Working Groups took the floor to introduce their work in 2023 and to present 2024 upcoming activities.

#### ◆ WG Skills and Labour Market

**Anna Cabedo Cubertorer** (Department of Education of the Catalan Government) presented the WG main highlights such as the organisation of the ILA's webinar in January 2023, or the upcoming organisation of webinars on transversal skills in key sectors, among others activities.



#### ◆ WG Youth Policies

**Miriana Bucalossi (Tuscany Region)** presented the work of the WG within projects such as YESpeciliasts, and the WG's upcoming activities such as the analysis of the apprenticeships systems across EARLALL network, among others activities.



#### ◆ WG Mobility

**Astrid Burhoi** (Region Västra Götaland), co-lead of the WG of Mobility with **Yvonne Jänchen** (Movetia), presented the WG's highlights such as the discussion of a Mobility Matchmaking Tool, as well as the upcoming activities such as the discussion to launch the international matchmaking platform, among others activities.



#### ◆ WG Lifelong Guidance and Ageing Societies

**Andrea Bernert-Bürkle (Baden-Württemberg)** presented the work of the WG such as the involvement in the RegALE project or the submission of new Erasmus+ projects on Guidance, and the upcoming activities such as the discussion about the Mobility Scheme, together with the WG Mobility.



[Download WG's presentations](#)

### EARLALL Academy and the Gender Equality Task Force

**Camilla Winter**, coordinator of the **EARLALL Academy**, presented the network's capacity-building offer, which provides online masterclasses in topics of transversal interest. **This is a unique opportunity for EARLALL members and their regional stakeholders to enlarge their knowledge and skills on different subjects.**



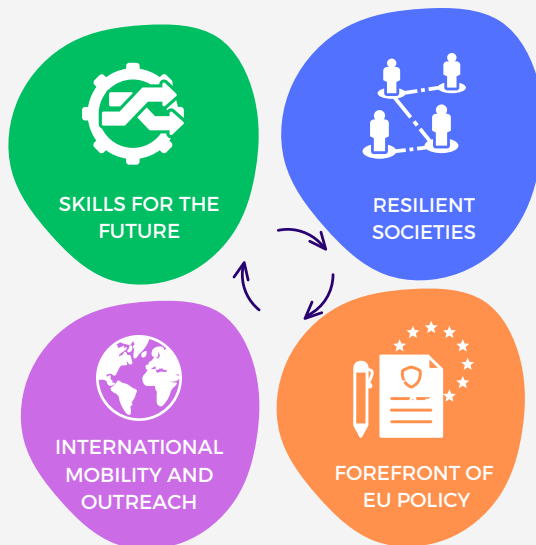
The EARLALL Secretariat then presented the work of the **Gender Equality Task Force**, a joint initiative with Brussels-based associations, EfVET and EAEA. The Task Force seeks to explore questions of gender equality in lifelong learning.



## EARLALL introduces the first 5-Year Strategic Plan

The EARLALL General Assembly approved the first five-year framework of strategic priorities, running from 2023-2028.

The **strategic plan provides** a clear and overarching vision for the network, outlining its goals and aspirations for the next five years. It comes from the impetus of the EARLALL Regional Exchange in June 2023, which highlighted the will of the network to focus on its core purpose, establish a sense of direction, and align its activities accordingly.



### Strategic Priority 1

Working towards skills for the future at the regional level, through innovation in lifelong learning



### Strategic Priority 2

Facilitating mobility and internationalisation across the EARLALL network and outreach



### Strategic Priority 3

Supporting the resilience of lifelong learning structures in the face of demographic and societal changes



### Strategic Priority 4

Remaining at the forefront of policy development at the EU level



➔ **Note:** *An opening letter* from EARLALL's Basque President on behalf of the Board will be included in the "Strategic Plan" document. The message reinforces the political commitment of the association's members towards the identified priorities.



## Welcome to two new members!

An important aspect of the annual meeting was the warm welcome of two new members to the network.

The French region, **Centrel Val de Loire** joined as a full member, and the **Welsh international exchange program, Taith**, became an associate member.

Thanks to these new memberships, EARLALL gathers today 12 regions, 5 Associate members in 11 countries, representing more than 40 million inhabitants.



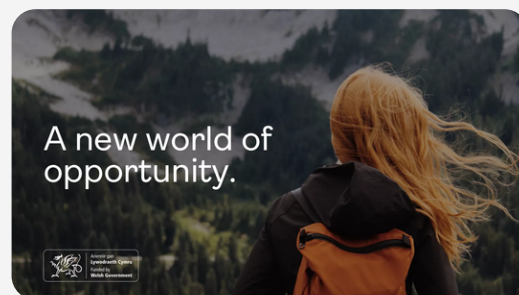
The region and its ambitions in lifelong learning were presented by a video address by **President of the region Mr François Bonneau**.

Mr Bonneau highlighted the region's desire to stay in line with the latest transitions in changes in professions related to the green and digital transition, all while keeping a social balance and a fair society.



The Welsh international exchange program, Taith, was introduced to the General Assembly by a video address by **Mr Walter Brooks, FE, VET, Adult Education and Higher Education Programme Manager**.

Mr Brooks shared Taith's ambitions to strengthen their cooperation with their European counterparts.



## See you in 2024!

EARLALL next Annual meeting will be kindly hosted by **Catalonia region** in the autumn 2024!



### Read More

[2023 Useful documents](#)

[Download the GA presentation](#)

[Access photo album](#)





## Stride for Stride Study visits: an opportunity to explore the Tuscany Regional Skills Ecosystem

After the General Assembly, EARLALL members and project partners of the Stride For Stride project had an opportunity to take part in the project's last study visit workshops. This involved four further days of visits across Tuscany to explore how skills ecosystems were fostered at the regional level, including in the Crafts, Lifesciences and Wine sectors.

A separate report on the Stride for Stride visits is available.



# THANK YOU Tuscany!

# Together for lifelong learning

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