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EDI Online Session: Decolonising the art school

On June 13th, the Equity, Diversity & Inclusivity (EDI) Working Group of the European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA) will convene an online session exploring how the higher education sector can dismantle the lingering impacts of colonialism.

The event will bring educators, administrators, and students from ELIA's network of over 250 member institutions across 47 countries. Participants will be invited to reflect on the colonial legacies that are critically manifest within their schools and artistic practices. The June 13th event is open to all ELIA members, with registration available on the organization's website. The EDI Working Group hopes the discussion will inspire tangible action and transform Europe's storied art institutions to be more equitable, inclusive, and representative of the communities they serve. Here is the announcement of the event:

[ELIA's Equity, Diversity & Inclusivity \(EDI\) Working Group](#)

invites the ELIA community to the fourth EDI Online Session: Decolonising the art school, which will take place on Thursday, 13 June, from 13:00 - 15:00 (CEST) on Zoom.

This session is developed under the topic of 'Decolonising the art school' building upon the discussions held in previous sessions and focusing on hidden assumptions and histories from an intersectional perspective.

Together, we will explore the need to decolonise, and what that means. Are the universities and the arts institutions colonial and embedded in coloniality[1], and in what ways is this reflected? What is the role of modernity in colonial endeavour and present coloniality?

Participants are invited to critically reflect on different practices by exploring the context in which their own institution operates. This session also considers artistic and curatorial projects, along with the barriers and challenges of implementing support systems in the frame of decolonisation.

We encourage participants to share resources and good practices during this discussion, in the hope that their insights will inspire others to take positive action. We firmly believe that valuable lessons can be learned from each other, regardless of whether an institution is in the initial stages or has already implemented an advanced policy plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI).

The discussion will be led by the EDI Working Group members, Vânia Gala from [London Contemporary Dance School \(The Place\)](#) and Cecilia Roos from [Stockholm University of the Arts](#). All ELIA members were welcome to join and participate!

Please note that [registration for this event](#) is open to ELIA members and is free of charge.

Visit [ELIA's website to find out more](#)