

Collaborative Paper – Phase 1 Validation

Following the initial coordination phase of our collaborative publication, we are now concluding Phase 1 – Journal Strategy and Methodological Alignment.

Over the past weeks, Stylianos Mystakidis, Laia Lluch Molins, and Leonel Morgado have developed a detailed proposal covering the journal selection, writing environment, manuscript structure, and workflow.

We now invite all participants to review and confirm agreement on the following elements.

1. Target Journal

International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education
(Q1 WoS & Scopus, Open Access, no APC, Springer Nature)

Scope: Educational Technology, Digital Learning, Higher Education, Innovation, Emerging Technologies

Word limit: 4,500 – 8,000 words

Issues per year: 1

Estimated time to first decision: ~5 days

[JOURNAL LINK HERE](#)

2. Collaborative Writing Environment

Google Docs (via shared Google Drive folder)

This choice is based on the following considerations:

- suitability for a large number of contributors, allowing simultaneous editing
- ease of real-time collaboration, commenting, and version tracking
- accessibility across institutions without the need for additional software
- integration with reference management tools (e.g., Zotero via Zotero Connector)
- possibility to centralise all materials in a single shared workspace

It includes:

- manuscript template adapted to the journal guidelines
- supporting documents
- space to upload PDFs of cited sources

Main manuscript document:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hXAaARxeh4TKE3aXKRpAgUGSejRoOmINpFHFJRTyPEA/edit?usp=drive_link

3. Manuscript Structure

Introduction: 600–800 words
Theoretical Background: ~1000 words
Methods: 1100–1400 words
Results: 1800–2100 words
Discussion: 1000–1300 words
Conclusion: 300–500 words

4. Workflow and Timeline

Journal Strategy

Journal selection
Identify and analyse suitable journals (scope, ranking, guidelines)
Stylianios Mystakidis; Laia Lluch Molins; Leonel Morgado
22/03/2026

Methodology

Method integration
Integrate exploratory survey and workshop methodology
Inés Gil-Jaurena; Celestino Magalhães; Pedro Duarte Pestana
08/04/2026

Methodology

Workshop analysis
Systematise ACCP workshop contribution as methodological extension
Dimitrios Charemis; Inés Gil-Jaurena
08/04/2026

Writing – Introduction

Context and framing
Draft background, rationale, research gap, objectives
Maite Fernández-Ferrer; Alberto Benítez-Amado
15/04/2026

Writing – Methods

Methods drafting
Write full methods section (survey + workshop)
Francis Brouns; Inés Brouns
15/04/2026

Writing – Results

Quantitative synthesis
Synthesis of key quantitative findings

Pedro Duarte Pestana; Athanasios Paraskelidis
22/04/2026

Writing – Results

Qualitative synthesis
Thematic synthesis of workshop and open-ended data
Maite Fernández-Ferrer; Monica Vilhelm
22/04/2026

Writing – Discussion

Interpretation
Critical interpretation and triangulation
Paquita Perez Salgado; Marcelo Maina; Anrafel Pereira
06/05/2026

Writing – Conclusion

Conclusions and future work
Draft conclusions and future research agenda
Maite Fernández-Ferrer; Celestino Magalhães
06/05/2026

Editing

Coherence and flow
Ensure narrative coherence and consistency across sections
[editing group]
13/05/2026

Editing

Formatting and references
Align formatting and references with journal guidelines
[formatting group]
18/05/2026

5. Participation and Authorship Criteria

Authorship will be based on active and substantive contribution.

This includes:

- drafting at least one section, or
- contributing significantly to revision and integration

The full task distribution and participation matrix is available here:
[PARTICIPATION MATRIX LINK HERE](#)

This matrix defines:

- tasks and responsibilities

- contributors assigned to each task
- expected timeline

Authorship roles, including coordination and first authorship, are reflected in the participation matrix.

Please note that the coordinator role and first authorship are assigned to:
Haline Maia (Coordinator & First Author – responsible for initial research design, data collection, and preliminary analysis)

Next Step

Please confirm your agreement by **Monday, 23 March (end of day)**.

This validation is required to finalise Phase 1 and proceed to Phase 2 – Methods and Results Drafting.

Thank you all for your collaboration.
