

ABCD Project DeepTech Podcast – “Art of Progress”

ABCD – Alliance of Boundary Crossing for Deep Tech / Art of Progress

1. BASIC PROJECT INFORMATION

Official Project Title	ABCD Project DeepTech Podcast – “Art of Progress”
Acronym / Short Name	ABCD – Alliance of Boundary Crossing for Deep Tech / Art of Progress
Programme / Funding Source	EIT HEI Initiative – an initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), funded by the European Union
Duration	December 2023 – February 2024
Coordinator	Budapest Metropolitan University (METU); Project Coordinator: Istvan Vilmos Kovacs
Partner Institutions	University American College Skopje (UACS) – cooperation on the podcast activity; the broader ABCD consortium includes universities, incubators and innovation organisations from the Western Balkans and Hungary

2. PARTICIPATION OF UNIVERSITY SKOPJE ACADEMIC STAFF

Name and Surname: Assistant Professor Dr Miodrag Cekikj

Academic Title: Assistant Professor

Role / Function in the Project: Expert guest / participant in the ABCD Project DeepTech Podcast “Art of Progress”

Specific Contribution to the Project

Participation in the “Art of Progress” podcast format as an expert from the technology and AI industry, contributing to the discussion on deep tech, applied artificial intelligence, technology product development, innovation ecosystems and connecting academia with the real needs of industry. The contribution focused on sharing practical experience from the development of software and AI solutions, the role of continuous learning and knowledge transfer, as well as promoting entrepreneurial and research-oriented thinking among students, young professionals and future deep-tech founders.

3. CONTENT AND ACHIEVED RESULTS

Brief Project Description

ABCD – Alliance of Boundary Crossing for Deep Tech is a regional initiative within the EIT HEI Initiative, created to strengthen deep-tech entrepreneurship and the innovation capacity of higher education institutions in the Western Balkans. The project connects universities, incubators, startup ecosystems and industry experts and develops activities for training, mentoring, startup support and knowledge transfer. The “Art of Progress” podcast series, implemented in cooperation with University American College Skopje, was a dissemination and educational activity through which technology and innovation experts shared experiences and perspectives. My participation contributed a practical perspective on AI, software engineering and deep-tech development and their connection with the academic environment and entrepreneurship.

Key Results / Outputs

Podcast episode produced within the ABCD Project DeepTech; dissemination of practical knowledge on AI, software engineering and deep-tech innovation; linking industry and academic experience; promotion of entrepreneurial and innovation competencies; public audio/video material available through the ABCD/UACS channels.

Publications / DOI / Other Relevant Scientific Results

ABCD Project Podcast – “Art of Progress”, episode with Miodrag Cekikj (UACS Podcast / ABCD Project).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3J-5HVMOs8>

4. SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FACULTY

Benefits for Students, Teaching and/or Research

The activity enables the transfer of practical deep-tech and AI experience into teaching, especially in topics related to innovation, entrepreneurship, modern software engineering and AI product development. For students, the podcast format provides an accessible example of connecting theory with real industry challenges and career paths. In addition, participation creates contacts with the regional innovation ecosystem and can serve as a basis for future guest lectures, student activities, mentoring and cooperation with EIT/HEI and deep-tech initiatives.

5. LINKS AND MULTIMEDIA MATERIALS

Official Website / Project Link: Official ABCD Project DeepTech website: <https://abcd-project-deeptech.org/>

Podcast Episode: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3J-5HVMOs8>