

Alumni Conference Recap: Boost Your Transformative Power – Future Skills in Action

The Future Skills Alumni Conference 2025 under the theme *"Boost your transformative power"* brought together an inspiring mix of graduates of the HEROES Alliance, thought leaders, and innovators to explore the essential future skills that will shape both our personal and professional lives in a rapidly changing world. From thought-provoking keynote sessions to powerful peer exchange, the event provided not only knowledge, but also connection, reflection, and a strong sense of belonging.

One of the clearest takeaways from the three days: **It's all about people.** No matter how advanced technology becomes, human connection remains irreplaceable. As one participant put it, *"The more irreplaceable tech becomes, the MORE irreplaceable we are to keep it human."* The conference highlighted the growing relevance of micro learning, emotional intelligence, and personal adaptability as key drivers of long-term impact. Participants were encouraged to dive into topics that may not have felt relevant before – from battery production and market trends to the deeper nuances of *empathy vs. compassion* and what it means to *care without burnout*. Many were particularly struck by insights into equal gender leadership, leadership development in the AI age, and the value of understanding change from both structural and emotional perspectives.

The sense of reunion was tangible. For many, DIT (still) feels like home – a place that not only welcomes alumni back but also welcomes alumni of the HEROES alliance like "their own", but creates space for ongoing growth, exchange, and reinvention. Flashbacks into university life and discussions with peers created a feeling of both nostalgia and forward motion. The conference didn't just offer content – it sparked transformation: *"Be the change"*, as one participant noted, summarizing the spirit of the three days.

Looking ahead, alumni expressed strong interest in future conferences exploring topics such as the role of AI in leadership and engineering, globalization, personal development, and how to protect democratic values in Europe. Issues like time and self-management, mental health, and staying relevant in a constantly evolving world are also high on the community's radar.

In the end, the conference reminded them that DIT is more than a university – it's a platform for lifelong connection and transformation. Or, in the words of one alum: *"Learnings and connections that last a lifetime."*