

OVERVIEW

Summary

The COS-MICs (Comics and Sciences through Multidisciplinary Investigation and Collaboration)

Action aims to explore the intersection of comics and science, focusing on how comics can be used to communicate scientific concepts, foster public dialogue, and support educational efforts. Nowadays, science communication faces challenges in reaching diverse audiences, and comics offer a powerful medium for bridging this gap. However, the relationship between comics and science is still marginal, with few structured resources and limited collaboration between the scientific and comic communities. COSMICs will address it by structuring an international federating network of researchers, professionals, and end-users on comics and science to gather research works and improve access to it and to the sources. This collaborative network will focus on enhancing the representation of science in comics, exploring their potential in education, and understanding their impact on society and public perceptions.

The Action will promote cross-cultural dialogues, bringing together diverse voices and perspectives to improve the circulation of scientific knowledge through comics in Europe and beyond.

Areas of Expertise Relevant for the Action

- Educational sciences: Education: training, pedagogy, didactics
- Languages and literature: Literary theory and comparative literature, literary styles
- Arts: Visual arts
- Media and communications: Media and communications, social aspects of information science and surveillance, sociocultural communication

Keywords

- comics
- sciences
- multidisciplinary
- science communication

Specific Objectives

To achieve the main objective described in this MoU, the following specific objectives shall be accomplished:

Research Coordination

- Structure and coordinate research on science and comics. Federate fragmented research on science and comics to enhance future initiatives through international networks.

- Unify the research community on science and comics. Create a dedicated international network to unify the research community, supporting collaborative European projects and improving the recognition of comics as a valuable medium for science communication.

- Increase the use of comics as an educational tool. Assess and harmonise practices for using comics in science education, resulting in tailored educational guides and a MOOC to enhance outreach and engagement.

- Assess the impact of science communication through comics. Develop an impact assessment framework

to evaluate the effectiveness of comics in conveying scientific concepts and fostering public comprehension of science.

Capacity Building

- Boost the representation of women and YRIs in leadership roles.

- Foster knowledge transfer and interaction among diverse stakeholders in the European comics' community, creating sustainable synergies between research, cultural industries, and society.

- Organise training initiatives for academics and non-academics to improve their understanding and skills regarding the intersection of comics and science.

- Encourage active participation from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs), International Partners and Near Neighbour Countries (NNCs) in COS-MICs activities, supporting their research development and collaborative opportunities.

- Strengthen the European Research Area by integrating efforts in the field of European comics, organizing events to unite key actors, and