



# TexUnite

**Project:** 2024-1-DE01-KA220-HED-000253935 – TexUnite - Service Learning on Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Education

**SL Project Title:** Future Fashion Walk in Ljubljana

**Partner University:** University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Department of Textiles, Graphics Arts and Design, Ljubljana, Slovenia

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## Executive Summary

As part of the Erasmus+ TexUnite project, fourteen third-year Textile and Fashion Design students participated in a service-learning initiative that integrated sustainability education into fashion. The project included studying EU regulations, exploring Slovenian sustainable designers and shops, engaging in a virtual exchange with the University of Education Freiburg, and conducting community engagement activities. Students created the *Future Fashion Walk Ljubljana* shopping guide, shared both as a social media booklet and an open educational resource (OER). Pre- and post-assessments indicated increased sustainability awareness and greater interest in virtual exchange.

## Background and Context

The textile and fashion industry faces significant environmental and social challenges, making sustainability literacy and awareness of EU regulations essential in fashion education. This project familiarised students with the European fashion market and current sustainability policies, thereby connecting academic learning with the real-world experiences of Slovenian designers and promoting sustainable practices within the community.

## Objectives

- ❖ Understand the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles.
- ❖ Learn about advanced clothing technologies supporting sustainable production.
- ❖ Explore Slovenian designers applying sustainable concepts.
- ❖ Evaluate second-hand/vintage shops, boutiques, stores, and clothing swaps with sustainability-focused practices.
- ❖ Create a *Future Fashion Walk* map of Ljubljana and promote sustainable shopping and community engagement via social media.

## Methodology

The project introduced students to the practices and challenges of the European fashion market under new EU regulations, with a focus on economic and sustainability issues in clothing production. Slovenian fashion designers shared their sustainable approaches and strategies for navigating a small market. Students explored sustainable fashion in Ljubljana by visiting stores with sustainable concept and organisations promoting recycling and reuse. Their findings were compiled into a *Future Fashion Walk* map, which was later shared on social media to promote sustainable shopping and raise public awareness. Students completed a pre-test at the start of the semester and a post-test at the end, offering insights into their attitudes toward sustainability, project implementation, and virtual exchange.

## Implementation Details

The project was implemented as a pilot initiative within the elective course *Clothing Technology Support* (Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Matejka Bizjak) and involved 14 third-year Textile and Fashion Design students. It ran during the summer semester 2025 (26 February–6 June 2025) and included 30 hours of seminar and practical work.

- ❖ Theoretical Part: Students learned about the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles, challenges in the textile industry, the circular economy, and Service Learning (SL) principles. The Slovenian designers Almira Sadar, Petja Zorec, Oloop, and Studio Draž presented their sustainable design approaches, followed by student discussions.
- ❖ Practical Part: Students explored various stores with sustainable concepts, and visited the company *Intersille*, where they observed fabric waste reuse. Based on their findings, they developed a *Future Fashion Walk* map of Ljubljana highlighting sustainable shops, which was later shared on social media.

## Results and Impact

- ❖ Students strengthened their awareness of sustainability in the textile and fashion sectors and gained a deeper understanding of the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles.
- ❖ A *Sustainable Fashion Walk* map of Ljubljana was created and published: [https://issuu.com/tajasejdic/docs/future.fashion.walk\\_ljubljana](https://issuu.com/tajasejdic/docs/future.fashion.walk_ljubljana)  
<https://www.ntf.uni-lj.si/toi/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2025/07/Tex-Unite-Future-Fashion-Walk-Ljubljana-booklet.pdf>
- ❖ Consumer awareness was further enhanced through promotion of the *Sustainable Fashion Walk* map on social media channels.

## Challenges and Lessons Learned

The main challenge was the time-consuming store visits and the need to organise and analyse extensive data to identify the most sustainable shops. Students also faced difficulties with coordinating the creation of the shopping guide, highlighting the need for clearer structure and guidance in future projects.

## Reflection and Feedback

Students appreciated the combination of theoretical learning and real-world fashion experience and expressed interest in participating in more virtual exchanges in the future.

## Future Directions

The OER packages will be finalised and uploaded to the ZOERR and EPALE repositories for open access.