

What is MERLOT?



MERLOT – Sustainable design of an educational data space

Project goals: A marketplace for education-related services that guarantees data sovereignty for all data owners at all times and operates in an interoperable manner according to international standards. Data-driven business models should be enabled, and innovative digital services (AI) developed.

Innovation: User-centric participation – with MERLOT, centralised storage is eliminated, so data remains with the users. Thanks to Gaia-X, they can decide in a sovereign manner decide on the nature and scope of third-party use.

MERLOT develops **three Advanced Smart Education Services** using Artificial Intelligence:

- a) Digital assistant for educational and career orientation
- b) Assistant for professional development – supports lifelong learning
- c) Education Profile Forecast Assistant for professionals and job seekers - for individual career planning



Use Case: Assistant for professional development



Targets employed and unemployed individuals, companies seeking employees, and educational providers.

Based on labor market data shared and processed on the marketplace by providers, the Smart Service identifies labor market trends and facilitates finding good job opportunities and avoiding unemployment.



It highlights promising and new, previously unconsidered further education opportunities offered by educational services on the marketplace.

Based on individuals' existing education profiles and personal career aspirations, it helps employed individuals and job seekers find their personal career paths based on job postings and career development paths shared by companies on the marketplace.



Other Smart Services

Digital assistant for educational and career orientation
- supports in choosing an educational path, considering personal talents and inclinations.

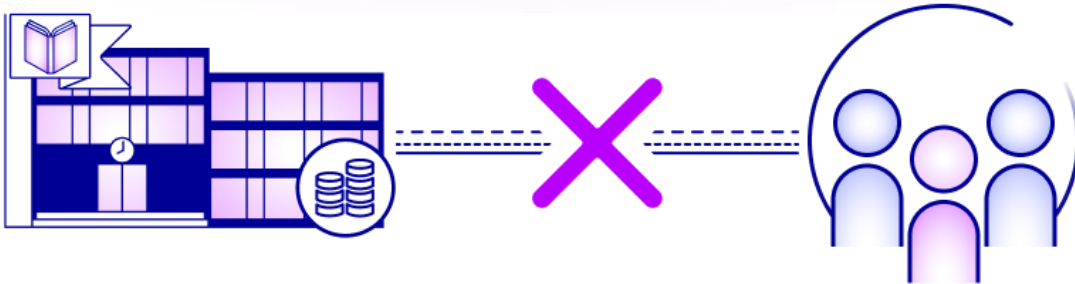
Education Profile Forecast Assistant supports in adapting to changes in the labor market.

Gaia-X makes MERLOT possible



Situation without Gaia-X

- Many isolated "data silos" within individual schools, universities, companies, and educational institutions
- Due to strict regulations governing personal and highly sensitive educational data, the data often cannot or only with great difficulty be exchanged.
- Limited opportunities for innovation due to the inability to utilise data effectively.



Solution with Gaia-X

- MERLOT is building a digital, Gaia-X standard compliant, cross-institutional marketplace that enables dynamic competition, innovation, and new forms of collaboration among educational service providers.
- Owners of educational data retain sovereignty over their data and can selectively make it interoperable with other users or services.
- Advanced Smart Education Services support in educational and career guidance, as well as lifelong learning.



MERLOT – provides privacy-compliant and interoperable access to a large volume of educational data