



# UNIT 2.

## EXTERNAL DISTANCE LEARNING SOLUTIONS - OVERVIEW

### AIM


Presentation of the main features and pros&cons of external distance learning solutions

### IMONED consortium

Klaudia Miśkiewicz  
ARID Association


## Unit 2. External distance learning solutions - overview

### 2.1. Freedcamp

Title of the technology	Freedcamp
Identifying logo	
Open source (yes/no)	Yes
Official website	<a href="http://www.freedcamp.com">www.freedcamp.com</a>
Key Features:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task management</li> <li>• Reporting</li> <li>• Sending messages via the platform and email integration</li> <li>• Calendar</li> <li>• Possibility to determine milestones</li> <li>• Files management</li> </ul>
Strengths of the technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear and logical dashboard</li> <li>• All the basic functions are free</li> <li>• Easy to learn</li> <li>• Unlimited number of users and projects</li> <li>• Mobile access</li> </ul>
Weakness of the technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Few support materials</li> <li>• Few apps integrated</li> <li>• The user needs a lot of time to learn all the functions. With basic functions, this problem does not exist.</li> </ul>
Why using in education?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free, no users and projects limitations</li> <li>• Intuitive interface – easy to learn</li> </ul>


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All the materials are in one place</li> <li>• Reporting and assigning tasks – it facilitates lesson management</li> </ul>
Main interface issues	Tasks, Calendar, Discussions, Files
Official guidelines for users (links)	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCntHp8am8zrxXEb_9QtpFbA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCntHp8am8zrxXEb_9QtpFbA</a> <a href="https://blog.freedcamp.com/">https://blog.freedcamp.com/</a>

## 2.2. Trello

Title of the technology	Trello
Identifying logo	
Open source (yes/no)	Partly yes
Official website	<a href="http://www.trello.com">www.trello.com</a>
Key Features:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management is done by creating boards and cards (in the free version 10 boards and an unlimited number of cards are possible)</li> <li>• Integration with apps</li> <li>• Reminders and notifications via email</li> </ul>
Strengths of the technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlimited members in the free version</li> <li>• Beautiful and clear layout</li> <li>• Available in more than 20 languages</li> <li>• Great possibility of personalizing the workspace (“drag and drop”)</li> </ul>
Weakness of the technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the free version only one app can be integrated with one board</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each board can be different – students can get lost if every teacher makes a different board</li> </ul>
Why using in education?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fosters creativity</li> <li>• Possibility to organize the tasks, shows the progress</li> <li>• Sends reminders</li> </ul>
Main interface issues	Boards and cards – they can be organized in many ways (the user chooses)
Official guidelines for users (links)	<a href="https://trello.com/guide/trello-101">https://trello.com/guide/trello-101</a>

### 2.3. Open Project

Title of the technology	Open Project
Identifying logo	
Open source (yes/no)	Yes
Official website	<a href="http://www.openproject.org">www.openproject.org</a>
Key Features:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task management</li> <li>• Notifications</li> <li>• Reporting</li> <li>• Sending messages via the platform and email integration</li> <li>• Schedules, calendar</li> <li>• Possibility to determine milestones</li> <li>• Files management</li> </ul>
Strengths of the technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available in more than 30 languages</li> <li>• Very helpful and clear guide</li> <li>• Clear and logical dashboard</li> <li>• Unlimited number of members</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapted for use on mobile phones (but no app)</li> </ul>
Weakness of the technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not remind about deadlines</li> <li>Users say scheduling is difficult</li> </ul>
Why using in education?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free, no users and projects limitations</li> <li>All the materials are in one place</li> <li>Reporting and assigning tasks – it facilitates lesson management</li> </ul>
Main interface issues	Activities, Calendar, Tasks, Messages, Documents, Meetings

## References

*Top 9 Freedcamp Alternatives to Use In 2022 (Free&Paid)*. (2021). nTask.

<https://www.ntaskmanager.com/blog/freedcamp-alternatives/>

Esposito, E. (2021). *The best free project management software in 2021*. Zapier.

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*Freedcamp Review*. (n.d.). CompareCamp. <https://comparecamp.com/freedcamp-review-pricing-pros-cons-features/>

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