

University of Ljubljana



Welcome to the University of Ljubljana

In 1919, intensive preparations were under way for the establishment of the first Slovenian university – the University of Ljubljana – and on Wednesday, 3 December 1919, the Slavic specialist Fran Ramovš gave the first lecture in Slovenian at the then Provincial Assembly of the Carniolan Provincial Manor, which has served as the premises of the University of Ljubljana to this day. That day stands as the founding day of the first Slovenian university, and thus in 2019 Slovenia's largest and oldest university is celebrating its centenary.

Although we are a young university by European standards, we are at the top of the academic rankings and among the best universities in the world. We have won as many as five European Research Council projects, our faculties and academies cooperate successfully with the business sector, our researchers are internationally recognised and our students are garnering success in international competitions. This way we are pursuing the University of Ljubljana's vision of becoming a recognisable, internationally open and excellent research university that continuously and creatively contributes to the quality of life. We can be proud of the path we have travelled, which has been greatly enhanced by all our member institutions, from

the first five faculties that began operating in 1919 to the present 23 faculties and three art academies.

A significant contribution to the establishment and successful operation of the university has also been made by our partners – Slovenian and international university, research and cultural institutions and companies – to whom we would like to extend our sincere thanks.

On the centenary of our university I wish for it to continue boldly along its path, keeping an open mind and pursuing high goals and global challenges. Join us in creating an international academic community by serving as guest lecturers, studying, teaching, doing research or engaging in any other form of cooperation with the University of Ljubljana. The options are countless. And if you happen to be among the 350,000 alumni of the University of Ljubljana, do sign up for our Alumni Club.

Igor Papič, Rector of the University of Ljubljana

History

On 23 July 1919, Prince Regent Aleksandar Karađorđević signed the Act establishing the University of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in Ljubljana (today's University of Ljubljana). Its founding members were the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Law, Technical Faculty and Faculty of Theology. On 31 August 1919, the first 18 university professors were appointed by royal decree.

The date 3 December 1919 is regarded as the university's birthday, because this is when the Slavic specialist Fran Ramovš held a lecture on Slovenian historical grammar in the chamber of the Carniolan provincial government building, which still serves as the university's headquarters. The newspaper Slovenski narod described the event as follows: "And so the 3rd December 1919 has arrived, a historic day for all Slovenians and, indeed, for the entire Yugoslavia, a day which the great age has bestowed on our small nation, creating in our freedom our very own hearth of science, learning and culture, a day when our academic youth gathered in the Provincial Assembly chamber and listened from 9 to 10 am to the first lecture held at the newly founded Slovenian university." Josip Plemeli, one of the most important early-twentieth-century mathematicians, became the Rector of the newly established University of Ljubljana.

In the first academic year of 1919/1920, 942 students enrolled in the university: 28 women and 914 men. Although the number of men greatly surpassed the number of women, the first PhD title was bestowed on a woman, which was a rarity even in Europe. On 15 July 1920, the title was awarded to Ana Mayer for her dissertation entitled "The effects of formalin on starch".

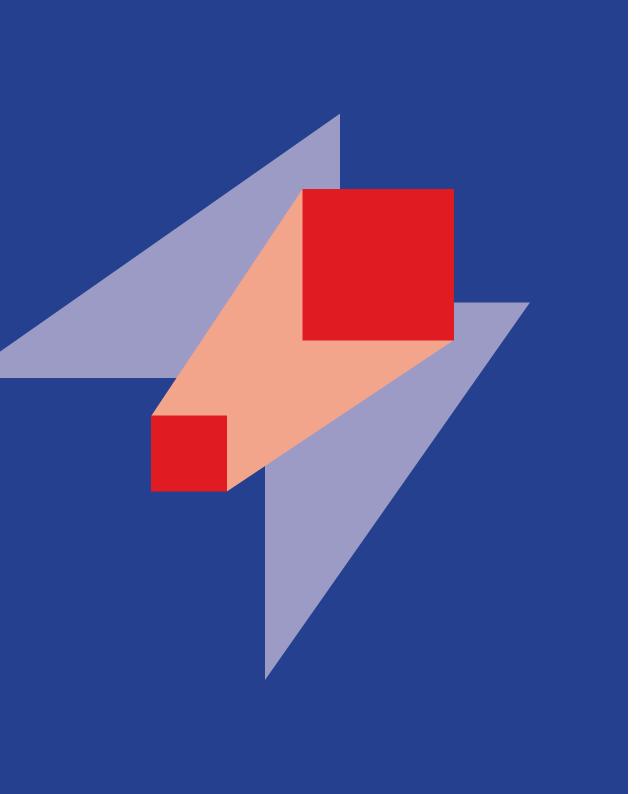
During the interwar period, as the youngest and smallest university in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the University of Ljubljana was allocated the least funds, which meant it did not have sufficient premises and equipment available. Nonetheless, the number of students continued to grow, reaching 2,474 by 1940/1941, as did the number of full professors, which grew from the initial 18 to 90.

8 Development after the Second World War

After the Second World War, the University of Ljubljana entered a new period. Its founding members expanded their academic programmes, and research areas also began to expand. As the demand for experts rose, the founding faculties were joined by the Faculty of Economics in 1946, and the Faculty of Agronomy a year later. In the 1960s, the University of Ljubljana comprised a full nine faculties: the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Medicine, and Biotechnical Faculty. In 1970, the Faculty of Sociology, Political Science and Journalism was admitted as the tenth member. On 24 November 1975, ten more schools and academies joined the University of Ljubljana: the Academy of Music, Academy of Fine Arts, Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television, the Education Academy, Higher School for Physical Culture, Maritime College in Piran, School of Social Work, College for Health Workers, School of Public Administration and the Technical Safety School.

University of Ljubljana after Slovenia's independence

Slovenia's independence, attained in 1991, and the resulting political developments also brought changes to higher education. The Higher Education Act, adopted in December 1993, enabled the country's two universities, one in Ljubljana and one in Maribor, to transform into typical European universities, placing greater emphasis on their research activities and autonomy. A new period in the University of Ljubljana's development began.



University of Ljubljana today

The University of Ljubljana ranks among the top three percent of the world's best universities. For a number of years now, it has been among the top 600 universities on the prestigious Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU); it stands 370th on the list published by the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) and is listed in the 601–800 group in the Times Higher Education (THE) ranking.

There are 23 faculties and three art academies operating within the university; they work together with prominent universities from around the world and offer study programmes in all three cycles in natural sciences, engineering, social sciences, humanities, medicine and the arts. The University of Ljubljana offers over 150 undergraduate programmes, over 190 master's programmes and 21 doctoral programmes.

It is the largest higher-education institution in Slovenia, with nearly 38,000 students in all three cycles and over 6,000 full-time teaching staff, researchers, adjunct faculty members and support staff.

The largest research institution in Slovenia

The University of Ljubljana offers researchers a stimulating research environment, career development opportunities and additional research training. The researchers and students achieve extraordinary results in Slovenia and abroad, making the University of Ljubljana the main – and largest – research institution in Slovenia. The university shares its top achievements in science and the arts with other universities, research institutions and the business sector. By doing so, it contributes to the Slovenian and global body of knowledge, and also works to pass this onto students and others.

Over 3,500 researchers are active at the university. According to the Thomson Reuters Web of Knowledge, the University of Ljubljana's teaching staff and researchers produce nearly 50% of all scholarly publications with an international impact in Slovenia. The university offers its own as well as visiting researchers an excellent research environment and state-of-the-art equipment for ground-breaking achievements and innovations. A network of infrastructure centres operates as part of the university, bringing together the equipment and infrastructure centres of its member institutions.

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The University of Ljubljana is actively involved in international research and educational programmes and projects, especially the European Framework Programmes. It is currently involved in the Seventh Framework Programme or Horizon 2020, where it ranks among the top universities and research organizations from the new EU member states (EU13) in terms of the number of research projects included. In 2018, it was involved in a total of 458 projects, 106 of which were Horizon 2020 projects with a total value of €28 million. So far, the university has won five European Research Council (ERC) projects and a European Research Area (ERA) Chair grant in the amount of €2.5 million for the project Compete, through which a multidisciplinary research centre for micro process engineering and technology will be established at the University of Ljubljana. In addition, the university is involved in 111 Erasmus+ projects, which ranks it among the most successful EU universities. By taking part in the development projects financed by EU structural funds, it contributes significantly to Slovenia's structural changes and infrastructure and economic development.

The University Research Office provides researchers access to research-related support activities, especially in relation to applying for project and programme funding under Slovenian and EU calls for proposals. In addition to providing advice on the administrative, legal and financial aspects of applying for project funding and managing projects, the office offers a wide variety of training on writing project applications, especially those for ERA funding and individual fellowships provided by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA IF). The office also provides assistance on research ethics and integrity, the promotion of research achievements and research policy lobbying.

The year 2014 saw the establishment of the **University** of Ljubljana Development Fund, which finances various support activities for researchers and research administrators when applying for funding under the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and other international programmes: it covers the education and training costs, the travel expenses for visiting strategic partners, the costs of external expert advice on how to improve project proposals and so forth.

The university is committed to open science and by establishing the **University of Ljubljana Repository** it provides its researchers free access to published research.

Openness to international researchers and the international flow of researchers are supported by the contact point of the EURAXESS platform, which supports cooperation between researchers, entrepreneurs, universities and businesses, and by the university's inclusion in the Slovenian EURAXESS network. In 2008, the University of Ljubljana agreed to respect the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. Since 2012, it has been implementing its Researchers' Career Development Strategy, based on which the European Commission granted it the right to use the "HR Excellence in Research" logo.

For more information go to www.uni-lj.si/research_and_development/



A partner to business

The University of Ljubljana is establishing increasingly active links with business organizations and the social environment in Slovenia and abroad, thereby promoting the use of its research and educational achievements, and contributing to broader social development. It has expertise and technology at its disposal that offer great potential for improving the quality of life and enhancing economic prosperity, which is why it views knowledge transfer as its strategic mission.

The university's researchers contribute to the development of society and the economy in Slovenia's key strategic areas, such as smart cities and communities, smart buildings, homes and the wood chain, circular economy, sustainable food production, sustainable tourism, factories of the future, health and medicine, mobility and the development of materials as products.

The university's **Knowledge Transfer Office** offers support to researchers in relation to the legal protection and marketing of their intellectual property. It provides the following services: legal protection of intellectual property, assistance in working with the business sector, marketing inventions and technical expertise, and promoting entrepreneurship. In the past two years, 31 patent applications have been submitted, two licence agreements and two agreements on the transfer of intellectual property rights have been concluded, and three spin-off companies have been registered. In addition to the development projects the university is implementing together with various companies, it is also strengthening its cooperation with the business sector and innovative groups active in Slovenia through strategic development-innovation partnerships, excellence centres, clusters etc.

The University of Ljubljana's faculties and academies provide a wide range of expertise, experience, competences, and research and educational activities in the following four areas:

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Arts

music, radio, theatre, film, fine arts and design

Social sciences and the humanities economics, law, social sciences, public administration, education, social work, sports, philosophy and languages, theology

Technology

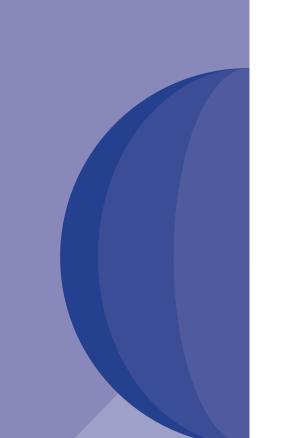
mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, civil engineering and geodesy, maritime studies and transport, computer and information science, architecture

Science

materials, biotechnology, pharmacy, chemistry and chemical engineering, mathematics and physics, medicine, veterinary medicine and health science

For more information go to

www.uni-lj.si/research_and_development/intellectual_property/ **E-mail:** gospodarstvo@uni-lj.si



A partner in the international environment

In cooperation with universities abroad, the University of Ljubljana offers interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary academic programmes, placing great emphasis on the international exchange of students and teachers, and the formation of international partnerships.

Around 3,000 international students study at the university each year, accounting for approximately 8% of all students. Because classes are delivered in Slovenian (as well as English or other languages in some programmes), the **Year Plus** (Leto plus) module and the online Slovenian course **Slonline** are available to international students to facilitate their integration into the Slovenian environment. Year Plus comprises a set of materials and courses (in addition to Slovenian classes) that allow international students to extend their student status if they meet the required conditions.

Students can also learn or study Slovenian at one of the 62 universities around the globe that offer programmes or courses in Slovenian language, literature and culture. The university coordinates this activity for Slovenia as part of the "Slovene at Foreign Universities" programme at the Centre for Slovene as a Second and Foreign Language.

The university is also actively involved in **international associations**, such as the Utrecht Network, the Central Europe Leuven Strategic Alliance (CELSA), the Guild, Venice International University (VIU), the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training, the Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA) and others.



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It provides many opportunities to students and teachers to study or teach abroad. Since 1999 it has taken part in Erasmus+, the largest and most successful EU mobility programme, which enables study exchange or practical training at numerous partner universities and other institutions in the EU member states. In 2015, the programme was complemented by the International Credit Mobility initiative, which promotes mobility outside the European Union, Alongside Erasmus+, the university also provides mobility within the Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS), the Mid-America Universities International consortium (MAUI), the Australian-European Network (AEN) and the network of universities from the state of Rio de Janeiro (REARI-RJ), as well as many other opportunities based on bilateral agreements.

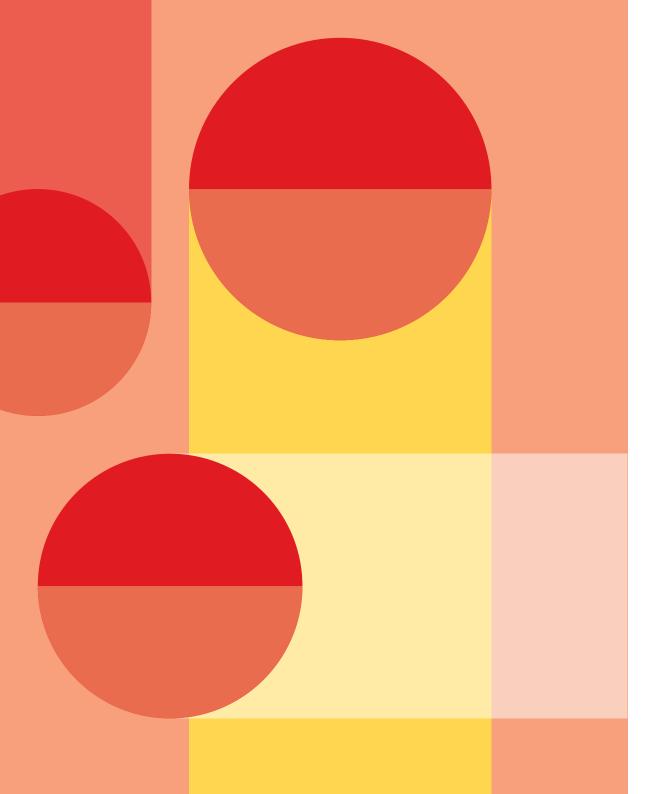
In February 2018, the alliance of six European universities, **EUTOPIA**, led by the University of Ljubljana, applied for the Erasmus+ "European Universities" programme grant. Through this application the EUTOPIA members wish to boost their mission of working as a network of European campuses addressing global challenges through joint research, increased student and staff mobility, and shared innovations that would serve the general public in regional communities. EUTOPIA, which in addition to the University of Ljubljana as its leader, is composed of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the University of Gothenburg, the University of Paris-Seine, Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona and the University of Warwick, is already preparing joint master's programmes, joint PhD fellowships for early career researchers, student exchange programmes and teaching collaborations.

In Slovenia, which is considered one of the safest countries in the world, students enjoy significant benefits compared to other countries, including subsidised food and transport, and paid student work. Scholarships for studying in Slovenia are provided by the Public Scholarship, Development, Disability and Maintenance Fund of the Republic of Slovenia. To study in Ljubljana also means to study in Slovenia's capital, which was awarded the permanent title of City of Literature by UNESCO in 2015, declared the Green Capital of Europe in 2016, and is competing for the 2025 European Capital of Culture title.

For more information go to www.centerslo.si/en

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For more on learning Slovenian, go to www.centerslo.si/en
Online Slovenian course (Slonline):
www.slonline.si



Student career support

The University of Ljubljana Career Centres use various personal and career development activities to provide comprehensive support to students and graduates in their studies and career. They carry out a wide range of free activities to facilitate transition onto the labour market and for individuals to acquire and improve various skills and expertise, from workshops on self-assessment, writing CVs and motivation letters, preparing for job interviews and workshops on the labour market to workshops on communication, public speaking, etiquette and creative thinking, workshops improving computer skills and other workshops on many other current topics. In addition to workshops, during the academic year the career centres also hold lectures, round tables and other events on the opportunities offered abroad, entrepreneurship, on-the-job training options, scholarships and other topics connected with the labour market. They are involved in the development of student tutoring and provide support to special status students.

Through their wide information network, career centres make sure students are well informed of various career opportunities. They already connect students with potential employers during their studies by holding career days, employer presentations at faculties and academies, round tables and career path presentations, and they also arrange visits at employers. These visits provide students insight into a real-life work environment and allow them to get to know the relevant work area in greater detail and network with the employees. Career centres also cooperate with employers via advertisements for job vacancies suitable for students or young graduates.

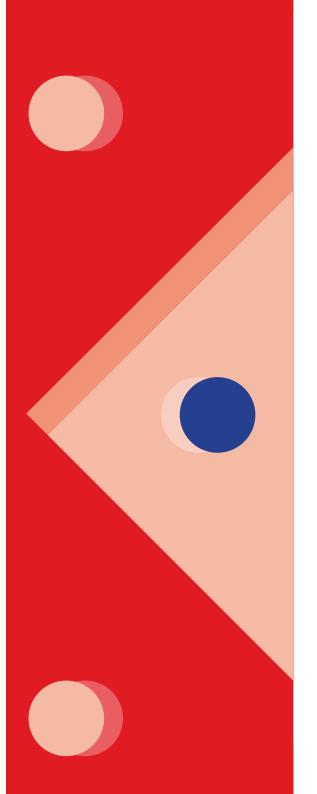
The career advisors working at all 26 faculties and academies of the University of Ljubljana are the ones the students should turn to when they need advice on continuing their studies, their career path, seeking on-the-job training, student work or employment, and problems with contacting employers. They offer one-on-one career advice to students and are also available for coaching. They encourage students and young graduates to already be as active as possible during their studies; for example, they encourage them to participate in various events, form links with employers and acquire additional skills to make them as employable as possible after they complete their studies.

Part of the career centre activities also focuses on secondary-school students (i.e. future university students). They help them solve issues surrounding their choice of study by offering them one-on-one guidance and other forms of assistance.

For more information go to www.kc.uni-lj.si

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Univerze v Ljubljani



Extracurricular activities

The University of Ljubljana Extracurricular Activities **Centre** is in charge of activities related to sports, culture and art, health and environmental protection, volunteerism and charity. The aim of extracurricular activities is to promote the development of competences, skills and advantages in areas not directly part of the curriculum, and to enhance students' psychophysical abilities to successfully deal with challenges within and beyond the curriculum. Among all the extracurricular activities offered by the University of Ljubljana, sports activities are currently the most systematically organised. In an individual academic year of the first- and second-cycle programme, students can select one of the 20 sports courses as an elective, earning 3 ECTS credits. The syllabuses of extracurricular courses in culture and art with ECTS credits are currently under preparation. For relaxation and an energy boost, around ten recreation programmes under professional guidance are available to students every day at the Rožna Dolina University Sports Hall.

The centre also provides many extracurricular activities focusing on a specific topic by month:

January and The month of exams and sports February The month of culture and art March April The month of health May Eco month The month of exams and sports June The month of entrepreneurship October The month of mobility (University of November Ljubljana Career Centres) December The month of volunteerism and charity Each month features thematic talks, workshops, meetings and courses, which are available to the students of the University of Ljubljana completely free of charge.

University of Ljubljana Alumni

In 2018, the University of Ljubljana established a network of alumni clubs at its member faculties and academies under the joint name University of Ljubljana Alumni (or "Alumni UL" in Slovenian). The network brings together 57 clubs from all the University of Ljubljana member institutions. Over 350,000 university alumni can connect with one another through the alumniul.online portal, whose main purpose is to strengthen the relationships and cooperation between the university, its member institutions and graduates, among the graduates themselves and indirectly also with other institutions in Slovenia and abroad. The clubs' activities include vocational guidance, networking and specialised events, mentorship and international support, which are available to both the alumni and senior students.

The University of Ljubljana Alumni was also presented at the international Graduway Leaders Summit (GLS 2018) conference in Oxford and earned a special achievement award for working with alumni in the Outstanding Dedication to Engagement category.

For more information go to www.uni-lj.si/extracurricular_activities

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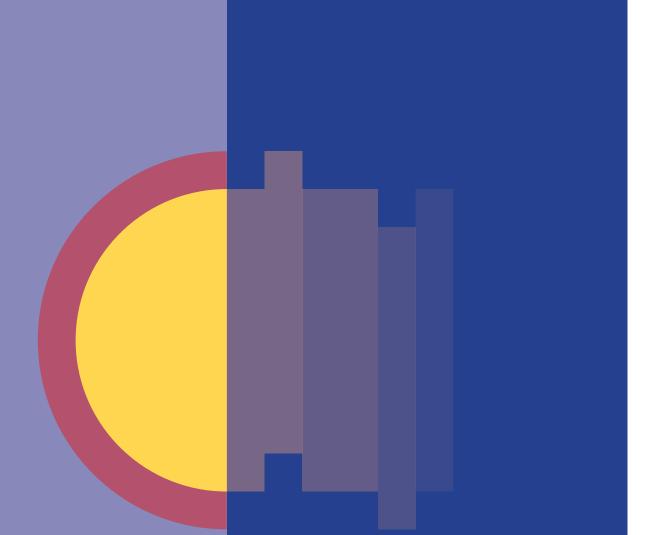
Facebook: Center za obštudijsko dejavnost (@cod.sportul)

Instagram: Sport Univerza v Ljubljani (@sport.ul)

Twitter: UL COD (@ul_cod)

For more information go to www.uni-lj.si/alumni_en and alumniul.online/

Facebook: Alumni UL (@AlumniUL)
Instagram: Alumni UL (@alumni_ul)



Summer schools

Even during the summer, when there are no scheduled lectures and exams, the University of Ljubljana does not rest. Research and other activities, for which there is not much time during the year, are at their peak. These activities also include summer schools in Slovenian or other languages that the University of Ljubljana members offer alone or in cooperation with international partners. Some of them have been taking place for over 50 years, while others are held only occasionally in relation to various research and other projects and programmes. They are intended for primary-school, secondary-school and university students, including graduates, and researchers and professors.

The two most traditional ones are offered by the Ljubljana Faculty of Arts: the Seminar of Slovenian Language, Literature and Culture (now already in its 55th year) and the Summer School of Slovenian Language (in its 38th year), which attract students, teachers and Slovenian language lovers from all over the world every year.

The list of University of Ljubljana summer schools is available at www.uni-lj.si/study/summerschools



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Academy of Music, University of Ljubljana https://www.ag.uni-lj.si/

Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television, University of Ljubljana https://www.agrft.uni-li.si/

Academy of Fine Arts and Design, University of Ljubljana http://www.aluo.uni-lj.si/

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