



A systematic literature review about the level of digital competences defined by DigCompEdu in higher education

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, we are facing a historical moment in which education practices are being transformed—mainly due to the increase of technologies and their massive use at all levels of society; thus, it is necessary to integrate them in educational settings. In this context, the aim of this paper is to analyse the level of technological competences of university professors. To this end, a systematic literature review based on the PRISMA methodology is carried out. The search was focused on WoS and SCOPUS databases. Initially, 815 documents were retrieved, and after applying the exclusion criteria 30 papers were selected. The selected papers have been analysed in detail and the final conclusions have been structured according to the DigCompEdu digital competence framework. The results show that the level of Digital Competences of University Professors (DCUP) is moderate, and highlight aspects to improve: Reflective Practice is not cited in any article, and Learner's Empowerment and Facilitating Students' Digital Competence are the least referred. These aspects should be considered for future research and, for this reason, it is recommended to carry out continuous training for university professors supported by the DigCompEdu framework.

Keywords: DigCompEdu, digital competences, higher education, technological competences, university professors.

Una revisión sistemática de la literatura sobre el nivel de competencias digitales definidas por DigCompEdu en la educación superior

RESUMEN

Actualmente nos encontramos ante un momento histórico en el que las prácticas educativas se están transformando, debido principalmente al incremento de las tecnologías y su uso masivo en todos los niveles de la sociedad, por lo que es necesario integrarlas en los contextos educativos. En este contexto, el objetivo de este trabajo es analizar el nivel de competencias tecnológicas de los profesores universitarios. Para ello, se realiza una revisión sistemática basada en la metodología PRISMA. La búsqueda se centró en las bases de datos WoS y SCOPUS. Inicialmente se recuperaron 815 documentos y tras aplicar los criterios de exclusión se seleccionaron 30 trabajos. Los documentos seleccionados se han analizado en detalle y las conclusiones finales se han estructurado según el marco de competencias digitales DigCompEdu. Los resultados muestran que el nivel de Competencias Digitales del Profesorado Universitario (CDPU) es moderado y destacan aspectos a mejorar: la Práctica Reflexiva no es citada en ningún artículo y Empoderar a los Estudiantes y Facilitar la Competencia Digital de los Estudiantes son los menos referidos. Estos aspectos han de tenerse en cuenta para futuras investigaciones y, por este motivo, se recomienda fomentar la formación continua avalados por el marco DigCompEdu.

Palabras Clave: Competencias digitales, competencias tecnológicas, DigCompEdu, educación superior, profesorado universitario.

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Introduction

Today's society is heading towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution where citizens need digital skills for their professional functions (Brugia & Zukersteinova, 2019). Therefore, Cabero-Almenara, and Palacios-Rodríguez (2020) stress that it is essential to obtain a digitally literate and competent society.

As a result, technologies have brought about a revolution in all areas and sectors of society, currently considered as the Information and Knowledge Society. One of them is the education field, in which technological training is a competence that must be developed by university professors.

According to the National Institute of Educational Technologies and Teacher Training (INTEF, 2017) technological competences can be defined as the creative, critical and safe use of information and communication technologies to achieve goals related to work, employability, learning, leisure, inclusion and participation in society.

Considering the need for a digitally competent European society, Ferrari leads the DigComp project of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, which defines the framework of digital competences for citizenship (Ferrari, 2012, 2013). This framework, published in 2013 and revised in 2016 and 2017 (Caena & Redecker, 2019), results in the European Digital Competence Framework for Teachers, commonly known as DigCompEdu (Redecker & Punie, 2017). Its aim is to promote the development of teachers' digital competence and to promote innovation in European education. In fact, this framework is crucial for this systematic review. It is the basis for guiding the discussion and organising the conclusions of the work described in this paper (Redecker & Punie, 2017).

Additionally, it is considered that teachers should develop pedagogical practices that allow them to improve their Digital Competences (DC). Cabero-Almenara & Llorente-Cejudo (2020) emphasise that pedagogical competences must be acquired in order to know how to work intellectually with technologies, in enquiry, personal research, message creation and construction of knowledge.

This requires techno-pedagogical training, suitable for their educational level and research programs (Izquierdo et al., 2017). In this sense, Heitinka et al. (2016) state that it is important to develop the technological competences of teachers and to promote their training, in order to improve teaching and learning processes with Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

The Council of the European Union (2003) also stresses the need for lifelong training in digital technology. Furthermore, several authors highlight the need for continuous training of university professors through workshops, courses, conferences, online symposia, etc. Therefore, it is essential to create a permanent support service for university lecturers (Alexander et al., 2019; Arruti et al., 2020; Cabero-Almenara & Llorente-Cejudo, 2020; Ramírez-Montoya, 2020).

Cabero-Almenara et al. (2020) go further and highlight the need to carry out personalised lecturer training plans that enable university professors to reach advanced levels of competence, such as those focused on innovation and pedagogical leadership with ICT.

Universities have a great challenge to change the old educational paradigm. The effective integration of technological competences in their teaching and learning processes are fundamental (Amador et al., 2017; Levis, 2011; Rengifo-Millan, 2015).

Due to this situation, as indicated by Gómez (2017), the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE) establishes among its objectives the duty to provide support and introduce

new technologies to aid lecturers. Likewise, it emphasises the growth of WIFI connections, as well as the university students connecting to the university network.

In view of the above, there is a need to work on the DCUP, taking into account that the appropriate use of technologies could strengthen the use of new digital resources, interdisciplinarity and teaching innovation.

However, INTEF (2017) indicates that technological competences have been poorly developed, as there was no common frame of reference. The authors insist on the need to help lecturers to develop this DC in order to implement it correctly during their lessons.

Subsequently, the systematic review will be analysed in terms of technological competences of university professors. The next section describes the methodological aspects of the systematic review of the literature performed, and the third one shows the analysis of the selected articles. The paper ends with the discussion section and conclusion obtained.

Method

Research is carried out through systematic review, which is an ideal mechanism to find needs in society and thus opening up new lines for future research (Evans & Benefield, 2001).

This paper follows the methodology of the systematic review (Gough et al., 2013). It is a methodology developed by Evidence for Policy and Practice Information Centre (EPPI) at the University College of London (UCL) Institute of Education, which consists of the following nine phases: review question, inclusion-exclusion criteria, search strategy, selection methodology, search results, data extraction processes, quality assessment and methodological rigour, and synthesis and conclusion (Gough, 2007).

The recommendations of Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA), aimed at education, have also been taken into account to provide transparency, validation, objectivity and updating of this study (Moher et al., 2009).

As Bearman et al. (2012) point out, the limited use of systematic review within the field of higher education is an interesting phenomenon, as it is a methodology that is well used in other sectors of educational research.

This study is a systematic review of a formative nature, as it uses qualitative information to generate and explore a theory (Gough et al., 2012). Likewise, following the indications of Chalmers et al. (1987) the peer-reviewed articles are the most reliable, this research has provided with this recommendation.

Search strategy

The aim of the present study is to provide a systematic literature review, analysing the evidence given by the literature on the level of technological competences in university professors. Bearing in mind this objective, the following question is defined by Patient or Problem, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome and Time (PICOT):

- What is the technological competence level of university professor?

In this systematic literature review, only papers published in indexed journals in the area of education or information and communication technologies have been analysed. The study described in this paper takes as its starting date the year 2015. The reason for this choice is twofold: on the one hand, in that year,

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO, 2015) highlighted the relevance of the technological competence of the teachers in order to achieve the 2030 education goals; and on the other hand, in 2015 the European Commission defined the first proposal for the technological competence of the educators (the origin of DigComEdu). In addition, the deadline for publication of articles is 29 February 2020.

Table 1

Keywords used in the systematic literature review

Technological competence	Technological competences	Technological competency	Technological competencies
ICT competence	ICT competences	ICT competency	ICT competencies
Teacher	Lecturer	Professor	
Higher Education	Teaching		

Morales and Aguado (2010), for their part, stress the importance of SCOPUS, the most widely used tool in Europe, linked to 435 million scientific websites. Also of great relevance is the fact that it is continuously used by universities and different international organisations. Table 1 shows the different keywords, both in English and Spanish, used in this systematic literature review.

Selection process

The first part of the search resulted in a total of 815 articles from indexed journals: 448 published in the WoS database and 367 in SCOPUS.

According to Ferreira and Morán (2011), in this study, Web of Science (WoS) and SCOPUS databases were used. Both have an impact factor on publications: Joint Citation Reports (JCR) and Scimago Journal and Country Rank (SJR).

After eliminating duplicate papers, the first step of the systematic literature review focused on analysing the abstract of each document.

Once examining the articles independently, the most relevant information was extracted and included in a spreadsheet: (a) characteristics of the study, (b) population and (c) type of study. Once the articles were examined in depth according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria, a screening was carried out for the final selection of the studies. Thus, a total of 30 articles were finally selected for analysis (Figure 1).

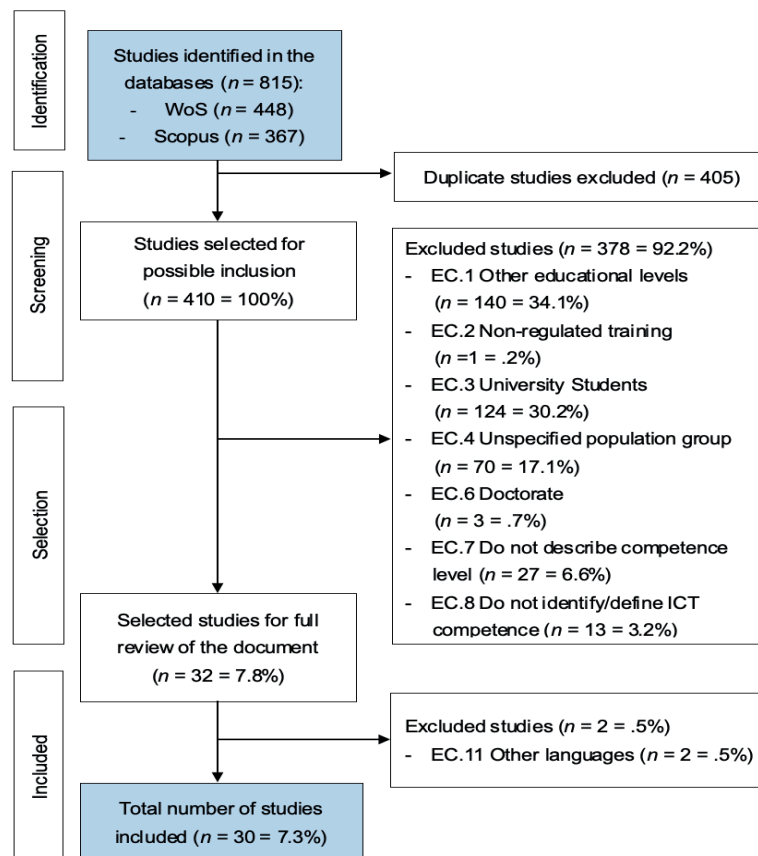


Figure 1. Flowchart of study selection procedure according to PRISMA

Data analysis

To carry out the analysis of the selected articles, a checklist was developed to systematise the most relevant information. The objectives were: compile the characteristics of the studies, extract positive aspects, improve the technological competences, inform to evaluate the risk of bias, and open future lines of research.

After analysing the studies independently through the checklist, each selected article was studied in depth (Figure 1). First, the data were categorised using an inductive method. Secondly, their analysis was compared in order to reach a consensus and to report on the main results of the systematic literature review. All

Table 2

Geographical area of the articles

Africa ($n = 1 - 3,3\%$)	Nigeria (1)
Asia ($n = 3 - 10\%$)	China (1), Indonesia (1), Thailand (1)
Europe ($n = 11 - 36,7\%$)	Spain (4), Russia (3), Turkey (2), Portugal (1), Ukraine (1)
South America ($n = 15 - 50\%$)	Colombia (7), Argentina (2), Costa Rica (2), Dominican Republic (2), Chile (1), Venezuela (1)

The ideas are grouped into the six competence areas defined by DigCompEdu: professional engagement (focused on the professional environment), digital resources (sources of creation and distribution of digital resources), teaching and learning (how to manage and orchestrate the use of digital tools in teaching and learning processes), assessment (digital tools and strategies to improve assessment), empowering learners (use of digital tools to empower students) and facilitating learners' digital competence (how to facilitate student digital competence).

As far as professional engagement is concerned, eight studies (Ardıç & Çiftçi, 2019; Barrera et al., 2018; Barrios et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Nakaznyi et al., 2016), emphasise the insufficient use of bibliographic managers, which highlights the lack of creation and publication of their own personal libraries, such as, RefWorks, Mendeley, Zotero, etc.

Other eleven works (Barrera et al., 2018; Barrios et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Nakaznyi et al., 2016; Sysoyev & Evstigneev, 2015; Ríos et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019; Viloría et al., 2018) stress the importance of using bibliographic managers, databases, cloud storage, digital repositories, etc., as well as sharing them to encourage creation through cooperation and collaboration.

Twelve papers (Barrera et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019; Viloría et al., 2018; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Habibi et al., 2019; Noskova et al., 2019; Rodríguez & Del Carmen, 2019; Tobar, 2017; Suarez-Carballo, 2020) mention that digital resources are used to communicate with other lecturers and thus share information, experiences, concerns and so on. Among these tools are forums, virtual debates and blogs that are highly valued by the university teaching community.

Three articles (Ardıç & Çiftçi, 2019; Barrios et al., 2018; Ríos et al., 2018) indicate the lack of communication among lecturers to divulge information and generate knowledge.

Regarding computer security and protection, two studies (Barrios et al., 2018; Montoya et al., 2018), stress that new lecturers, those who are entering university teaching for the first time, have a higher level of knowledge than other university professors who have a very low level.

of it was done considering the technological competences of the DigCompEdu (Redecker & Punie, 2017).

Analysis of the selected articles

The analysis of the 30 articles underlines the importance of technological competences in the university environment as facilitators and promoters of an improvement in the teaching-learning processes.

In fact, all the articles reviewed are contextualised in the university environment. In Table 2 we can see the geographical area of the articles.

Ten studies (Ardıç & Çiftçi, 2019; Barrios et al., 2018; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Rodríguez & Del Carmen, 2019; Ríos et al., 2018; Suarez-Carballo, 2020; Tobar, 2017; Ventayen, 2019;) comment that lecturers have a good level of hardware and software as they have a broad knowledge of the tools and the role of technological competences.

With regard to the area of digital resources, seven works should be highlighted (Ardıç & Çiftçi, 2019; Habibi et al., 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Ríos et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019), which indicate that university professors have a high level of competence in searching information and organising themselves using different online information sources. Eight studies point out that lecturers use other tools, programs and applications to collect or divulge the necessary information, such as Kahoot, Wix and similar (Barrera et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Habibi et al., 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Ríos et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019).

Concerning the third area, teaching and learning, some studies highlight the use by lecturers of the implementation of digital resources, with the consequent improvement of their strategies in the teaching-learning processes. According to nine studies, the most widely used resource is Moodle platform, which is closely followed by Virtual Campus, a teaching support platform (Barrera et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Grinsztajn et al., 2019; Hidalgo-Durán, 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Nakaznyi et al., 2016; Noskova et al., 2019; Ventayen, 2019).

Thirteen are the studies that promote different learning techniques and methodologies to improve the teaching of educational processes that encourage the use of technological competences, among others, techniques for collaborative learning, cooperative learning, project learning, problem-based learning, debates, and self-management (Barrios et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Habibi et al., 2019; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Nakaznyi et al., 2016; Noskova et al., 2019; Petelin et al., 2019; Ríos et al., 2018; Rodríguez & Del Carmen, 2019; Sandí & Sanz, 2020; Viloría et al., 2018).

These studies are aligned with four other studies (Ardıç & Çiftçi, 2019; Nakaznyi et al., 2016; Noskova et al., 2019; Tobar, 2017), which state that there is a need for the integration of tech-

nological competences by lecturers, since they present a low level of development in educational management based on technological competences. In other words, the aim is to include DC among the roles of university professors.

Alternatively, in seven works (Barrios et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Habibi et al., 2019; Noskova et al., 2019; Adisa et al., 2018; Dieguez, 2020; Lyubashits et al., 2016), it is underlined that there is a low knowledge about strategies or methodological tools among university professors, as well as the necessary competences for the creation and use of digital resources such as WebQuest, Flipped Classrooms, blended learning or Mobile learning.

With regard to assessment, nine studies (Barroso et al., 2019; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Habibi et al., 2019; Henning et al., 2016; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Noskova et al., 2019; Ventayen, 2019; Viloría et al., 2018) reflect the potential of technological competences to maximise the benefits of assessment and feedback to lecturers and students. In addition, four studies (Barroso et al., 2019; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Habibi et al., 2019; Montoya et al., 2018) confirm the effectiveness of assessments using technological competences to evaluate students in a formative and summative way.

Additionally, five studies (Adisa et al., 2018; Ardiç & Çiftçi, 2019; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Ríos et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019) emphasise that some university professors evaluate their teaching practices with the use of technological competences while others have low-to-medium level of self-evaluation.

In terms of the fifth area about learner's empowerment, seven papers (Barrios et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Habibi et al., 2019; Montoya & González, 2019; Noskova et al., 2019; Rodríguez & Del Carmen, 2019) argue that through these tools university professors manage their time, having greater flexibility and thus capturing the attention of students and getting them more involved.

However, according to a study (Montoya et al., 2018), the lack of knowledge leads to a misuse of technological tools; and this generates discomfort in students since it affects the sequence and rhythm of the sessions.

Finally, with regard to the last area entitled facilitating the digital competence of learners', three papers (Ardiç & Çiftçi, 2019; Barrera et al., 2018; Mirabal et al., 2015) highlight the knowledge of university professors of creative commons licenses and similar, as well as the processing of data directly linked to the field of research.

Other two studies (Tobar, 2017; Viloría et al., 2018) gather evidence confirming that the type of activities that use technological competences facilitate access to information in a short period of time and consequently, further develop research competence.

Discussion

In this section, the results related to the research question are discussed. The main conclusions are grouped into the six areas of DigCompEdu presented above.

Considering the first competence area, two studies (Barrios et al., 2018; Montoya et al., 2018) indicate the correlation between age and the ability to learn technological competences, so it seems that noble university professors are more competent to learn or know more about these areas. Likewise, several authors find a relationship between age and the use of technological competences, with young people using technologies more and internalising these tools earlier (Cabero-Almenara et al., 2021; Claro et al., 2018; Inan & Lowther, 2010; Solis de Ovando & Jara, 2019). In contrast, some studies have shown that age is not a sig-

nificant factor for teachers' digital competence, emphasising that many young university professors do not use technology productively (Cabero-Almenara et al., 2021; Fraile et al., 2018; Lucas et al., 2021).

As for the second competence area, eight papers, (Aslan & Zhu, 2015; Ardiç & Çiftçi, 2019; Habibi et al., 2019; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Montoya et al., 2018; Ríos et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019) indicate that university professors encourage the use of different sources of information and organise them through digital resources to collect or divulge the necessary information.

Similarly, different authors highlight the importance of organising, sharing and publishing digital resources (Claro et al., 2018; Redecker & Punie, 2017). Therefore, this competence contributes to promote more efficient learning (Castañeda & Adell, 2013).

Regarding the third area, eighteen studies (Ardiç & Çiftçi, 2019; Barrera et al., 2018; Barrios et al., 2018; Barroso et al., 2019; Bossolasco & Chiecher, 2015; Cejas-León & Navío, 2018; Habibi et al., 2019; Lyubashits et al., 2016; Mirabal et al., 2015; Montoya & González, 2019; Nakaznyi et al., 2016; Noskova et al., 2019; Rodríguez & Del Carmen, 2019; Tobar, 2017; Ríos et al., 2018; Ventayen, 2019; Viloría et al., 2018; Zhang & Wang, 2019), the studies emphasise the low level of pedagogical skills and the importance of improving this aspects as opposed to technical ones, since university professors have a better knowledge of the last ones.

Reaffirming this idea, several authors emphasise the need to address pedagogical versus technological aspects, since teachers are more proficient in technical aspects than in didactic use (Cabero & Barroso, 2016; Cabero-Almenara & Llorente-Cejudo, 2020; Redecker & Punie, 2017). This issue is closely related to the pedagogical training of higher education professors, which is often non-existent. As a result, Bond et al. (2018) stress that pedagogical training is crucial for adequate DCUP.

In relation to the fourth area, a striking aspect of the quality assessment process is the lack of evaluation of teaching-learning practices using technological competencies. Therefore, the low level of university professors in this area is emphasised. Similarly, the European Commission in DigCompEdu points out the importance of integrating digital tools in the process of formative evaluation (Redecker & Punie, 2017), as the use DC in this area are almost non-existent.

The Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) has accentuated the need for this competence in universities, as the risk of fraudulent practices in any assessment is high and higher in online assessment (Grande-de-Prado et al., 2021). For this reason, universities have the great challenge of fostering flexibility and creativity at this time to carry out an assessment that is continuous, varied, formative and that reduces or eliminates final tests (García-Peñalvo et al., 2020; González et al., 2020).

In relation to areas five and six, it should be stressed that there are few studies that report on them, therefore there is a low level of these competences among university professors. Furthermore, these findings are problematic, as these two competences are the only ones directed at the training of university students in terms of DC. Moreover, they are crucial for the successful integration of university students into the demands of the world of work, for example: active participation, inclusion of digital skills, responsible use of digital skills, problem solving, etc.

Today, the challenge for the University is to train competent professionals who can deal with the different situations that will face them in their professional practice.

Furthermore, the European Commission, in DigCompEdu, states the importance of acquiring these two competences to pro-

mote the empowerment and facilitation of university students' DC (Redecker & Punie, 2017).

Conclusions

After carrying out the systematic literature review and checking the results obtained, as far as the areas of DigCompEdu are concerned, two characteristics stand out. On the one hand, point 1.3 Reflective Practice is not cited in any article, so a lack is identified that should be taken into account, since several authors consider reflective competence as a key competence for teachers and for improving current teaching (Allas et al., 2017; Beauchamp, 2015; Kačaniku et al., 2019; Lane et al., 2014; Liu, 2015; Parada & Pluvinage, 2014; Pochulu et al., 2016).

Also, COVID-19 pandemic has accentuated the need for reflective practice in the university educational environment, to promote self-criticism and improve educational pedagogy with the use of technological tools, encouraging a true digital transformation (Cabero-Almenara & Llorente-Cejudo, 2020; Cabero & Valencia, 2020; García-Peñalvo & Corell, 2020; García-Peñalvo et al., 2020; Ramírez-Montoya, 2020).

On the other hand, areas 5. Learner's Empowerment and 6. Facilitating Students' Digital Competence are the least referred, therefore there is an evident gap to be considered for future research in these areas. This gap may be due to the lack of DCUP, since if they do not have the DC fully incorporated, it will be difficult for them to provide these skills to their students.

Likewise, the systematic literature review underlines the relevance of the development of DCUP. It also confirms that university professors show a moderate level of technological competences, since these are continually being transformed and improved. This finding correlates with Cabero-Almenara et al. (2020) who highlight that university professors have a moderate level of DCUP taking into account the DigCompEdu framework.

All the studies underline that in order to face this problem, it is necessary to offer lifelong training to university professors in order to develop or improve their DC. Therefore, several authors advocate for continuous training in terms of DC to take full advantage of digital tools, since they are in continuous evolution (Alexander et al., 2019; Arruti et al., 2020; Cabero-Almenara et al., 2020; Cabero-Almenara & Llorente-Cejudo, 2020; Ramírez-Montoya, 2020).

Finally, the main limitations are presented. In the first phase of the review many researchers focused on the DC of other educational level 34,1% and university students 30,2%, and these studies were therefore discarded. Furthermore, the relative lack of literature focused on higher education, the variety of frameworks and dimensions that make up this competence, as well as the predominance of results biased by elements of self-perception, has meant that the present literature review, although it has followed a systematic and rigorous process of analysis, has not been able to go beyond a descriptive and integrated examination of the literature.

It should be stressed that the European Commission considers DCUP very important. This is confirmed by the publication of DigCompEdu framework in 2017 and by the DigCompEdu Check-In self-assessment questionnaire in 2019, which was placed in experimentation period with EU teachers the same year. However, it was not until 2020, when different university researchers used the self-assessment questionnaire in diverse fields (EU SCIENCE HUB, 2021). Therefore, currently there are not enough studies that investigate the DCUP using this tool. Similarly, it has to be stressed the importance of carrying out

more research oriented to DCUP using the DigCompEdu Check-In self-assessment questionnaire. In that case, it could be easier to respond to the different needs that university professors may have when facing technological issues. Therefore, it is necessary to adopt and apply the DigCompEdu Check-In self-assessment questionnaire in the university society, for the unification of DC. In this way, different researchers could be evaluated and assessed together in order to create equivalent training actions in the whole university environment.

Another future challenge would be to unify concepts in order to create a single term to refer to the DCUP. Therefore, it is difficult to include all the literature that addresses this topic, since there are several terms that refer to this area. Therefore, in future research, new names could be included in the review and the number of researchers could be extended to avoid possible biases, such as: DigompEdu, digital competence, teachers' professional competences and teachers' pedagogical competences. It is also important to highlight the large number of articles analysed from South America 50%.

Similarly, an important future line of work would be to explore in future studies the possibility of using meta-analysis techniques to enrich and give statistical validity to the results. Moreover, in order to obtain a wider perspective, it would be advisable to go deeper into the analysis of this competence through qualitative research methods. In this sense, this study is part of a research in which, in the future, it will continue to further analyse the DCUP.

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