

KOLUMBA:

INCLUSIVE EMAIL.

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Spain

Parallel Session: News and Easy Language



Able to Include. Why this project?



Able to Include: Research project to develop technological tools for people with D.I.

- To improve the quality of life of people with ID in a technological way.
- The use of new technologies offers possibilities of communication, leisure and training for many people.
- Many technological tools are not accessible to people with intellectual disabilities.

Work Package
Labor integration



➤ **Objective:** To create a more practical and inclusive tool.

 Zero Project

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The innovative aspect

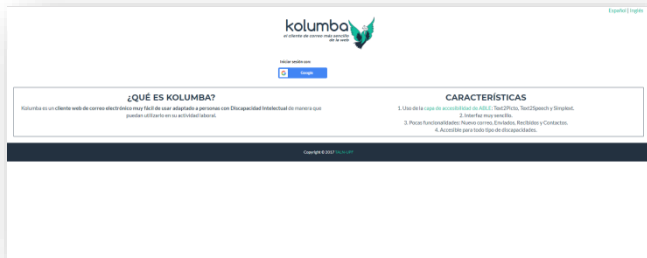
What is Kolumba?

- It is a tool that simplifies the interface of a personal email account of people with ID, specifically of **Gmail**
- It is an adapted Interface, more visual, easier and enlarged in order to unease the handling of the tool to make it more accessible.
- Able to Include includes the three specific technologies developed by the project:

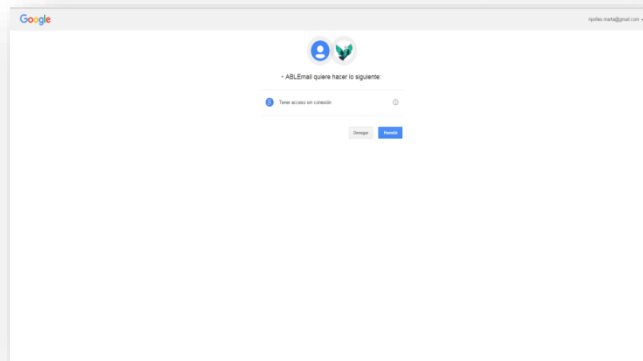
- ❖ SIMPLEXT
- ❖ TEXT2PICTO
- ❖ TEXT2SPEECH



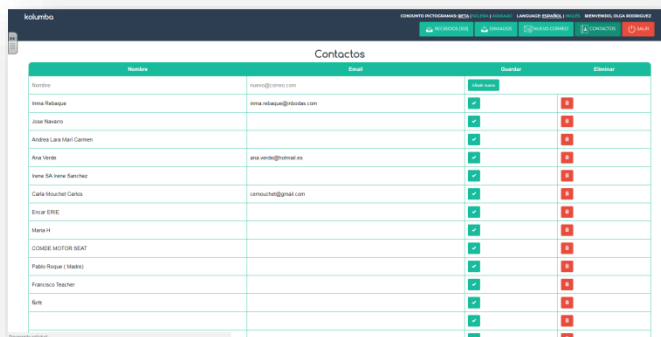
How does Kolumba work?



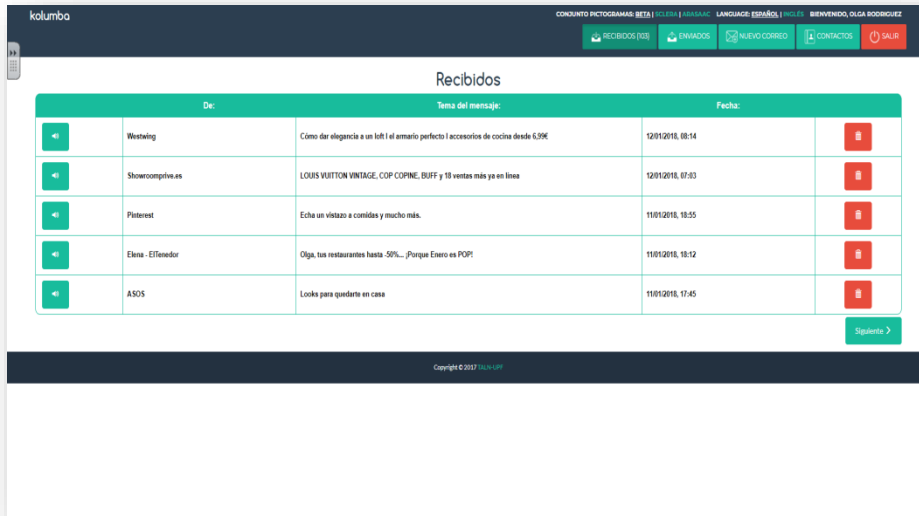
Picture 1: To access Kolumba, you have to go to <http://kolumba.taln.upf.edu>. This screen will appear, which, as you can see, is already directly linked to Google.



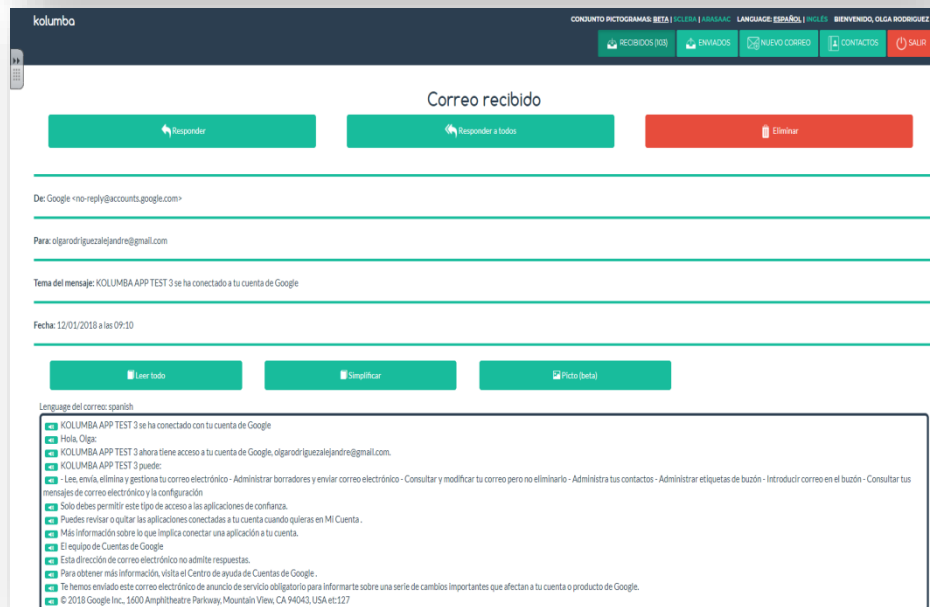
Picture 2: In order to continue, you must "allow". By allowing Kolumba can access the google account.



Picture 3: This screen displays all the **user's contacts**. You can delete contacts or add new ones.

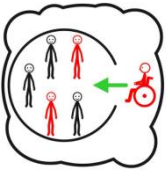


Picture 4: In this screen the Kolumba screen already appears with all the **emails** that have reached the Gmail account of the user.



Picture 5: We can see the **icons** of “answer”, “answer to all” and “delete” and the icons of the 3 tools developed by Able to Include “Simplext”, “Picto” and “Picto2” (Text2picto).

THE IMPACT CREATED



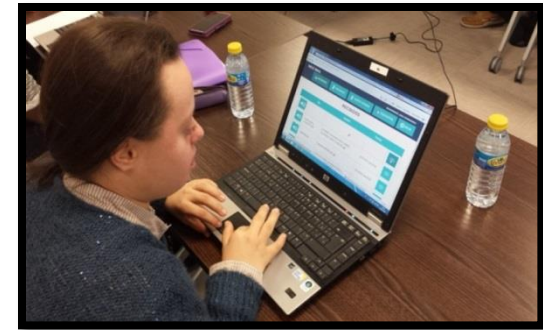
- It is the first email tool adapted to people with D.I.
- People with I.D have participated in the design and assessment of it and therefore it's valuated by them.
- It does not imply that people have to change their email so it does not imply a change or additional expense which greatly facilitates the use of this tool.
- Support for a Gmail tool.
- It is a tool that families can use to simplify the info with their Gmail account.
- Through this idea, an European research project called "Able to Include" has been achieved.
- This tool is available in Spanish and English, which extends the use of the tool to more people.

CONCLUSIONS

❖ Kolumba helps removing barriers.

❖ Advantages:

- Free google account.
- It is an account designed **by** people with ID and **for** people with ID.
- Info can be transformed: Text2picto, Text2speech, Simplext.
- It improves the understanding of messages and the handling of the Interface.
- Kolumba can be used in training programs.
- Those persons that can not use the usual email accounts have the opportunity through Kolumba to use an adapted one suitable for them.



Life Story (VIDEO)



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Financing issues and Next Steps

Able to Include:



- Work has been done with a **grant** from the European Commission within the Able to Include project to finance Kolumba. Prodis was a project partner and was leader of one of Work Packages (Labour Inclusion) although it also participated in other Work Packages. The viability of the project has been achieved through this grant.

Next steps:

- With other grants, improvements in Simplext could be included and we could also include functional improvements in Kolumba. With this objective, two European projects have been presented: APACA and REACTIVE.
- A national project has also been presented to Indra and Universia Foundation: *"Projects of Accessible Technologies open to Spanish Universities"*

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

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<http://kolumba.taln.upf.edu/>

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