

# BECOMING A WOMAN CODER

## Learning from the women who've been through it

26/03/2021

We've all had moments of self-doubt. Moments where we've had a goal, but also had a nagging voice in our head telling us "But I don't have the right skills for the job", "It's too late for me, I'll never be able to keep up", "What if I'm making the wrong decision?" or "Am I good enough?".

For the past couple of months, the partners of BWC in Poland, Finland, France, and Malta have been exploring how women who wanted to learn how to code or land a place in the IT industry, faced and surmount these doubts, and whether they looked for support within guidance centres, or structured support networks. We have collected testimonials from over 40 women from the four countries, and seen how women from different backgrounds have progressed, learned new skills and turned their lives around by taking the plunge, and becoming coders or acquiring IT skills.



## Interviewing Women in IT/Coding!

Due to COVID-19, we used Zoom to conduct interviews and collect testimonials from women who had retrained to enter the IT world. We met women with different backgrounds — florists, clerks, designers, dressmakers, delivery women... Different women, that pursued different training, with the same goal — To better their lives through a new profession! They spoke to us about their journey, struggles, moments of success, and how their decisions impacted their lives. Subscribe to our Youtube Channel here and stay notified about any videos that we upload related to the information collected from our interviews!

## UPDATES

### Our Report and Key Learnings

We are drawing a report that will list the key lessons and knowledge gathered from the interviews with these women. Some highlights are the need for greater representation of women in IT/coding, better support towards women embarking on retraining in technical careers, and an emphasis on the importance of having the courage to take that first step. This report also shares the advice coming from the experiences of these women; they teach us that there are certain steps to follow for guaranteed success — as constantly proven through their experiences! The full report will be published on our website and is free to access.



## Next Steps...

We are excited for the next steps, where we will be analysing our data, and creating an online digital tool box containing a training and coaching platform for professionals working in structured support networks to help them learn about this industry and enable them to guide and support women to retrain in the coding profession and help them find employment in this field. You can support our journey and follow our progress through our website, or via Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram! And remember to subscribe to our YouTube Channel to see our Testimonial Videos!