

TEXTÍLMIDSTÖÐ ÍSLANDS
ICELANDIC TEXTILE CENTER

Machines and Ministers

Welcome, newsletter readers, to the **fall 2025 edition!** Here's a quick summary of what we've been up to since the spring.

The **TextileLab** has welcomed new managers, Sarah and Alissa, who have been supporting students and makers in the lab all summer. They are now preparing a series of workshops and seeking volunteers to help restore our knitting machines.

We hosted Alberte Bojesen and Tuija Hansen's **seaweed workshop**, *Drifting Lab*, and attended the *Digital Weaving: Innovation through Pixels* conference in Norway, exploring new developments ranging from medical research to animation. At the end of August, the Textile Center hosted the **annual meeting** of *Knowledge Centers in Iceland*, welcoming Iceland's Minister of Culture, Innovation, and Higher Education, Logi Einarsson, to learn about our ongoing projects.

Most recently, we attended the Tracks4Crafts **Consortium Meeting** in Milan. Find more information on all of the above and upcoming events below!



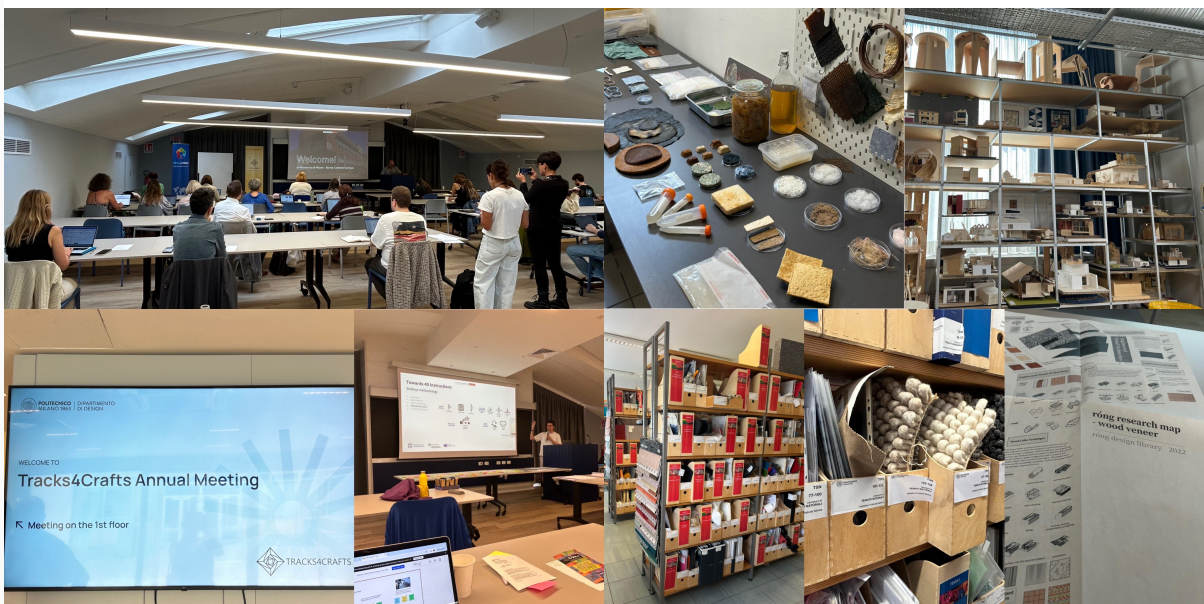
The TextileLab team: Sarah and Alissa (pictured on the left). The Icelandic Knowledge Centers' annual meeting was held in Blönduós from August 27–28, 2025.

Ongoing European Projects

In our experience, on-site meetings and in-person collaboration with international partners are key to the success of joint projects. So we were looking forward to attending the **Tracks4Crafts Annual Meeting** at **Politecnico di Milano, Italy**, from September 9–11.

It was a busy couple of days, gathering with partners including Artex Artigianato, On'lfait Geneva, Semne Cusute, MX3D, the Art of Silk Museum, Bokrijk Museum, the Latvian Academy of Culture, and the World Crafts Council Europe. Workshops and lectures covered topics such as business models, craft innovation, and artificial intelligence (and over dinner, some of us explored the role of wolves in Turkish, Romanian, and Belgian folklore.)

We also toured the **Campus Bovisa** facilities. Politecnico di Milano is renowned for its state-of-the-art design labs and maker spaces supporting research across architecture, product design, engineering, and digital fabrication. Their **materials library** is particularly impressive.



THREADs is a three-year Interreg-funded collaboration that brings together textile waste collectors, regional development experts, universities, and waste management specialists from Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Iceland, and Finland. The project aims to significantly reduce **textile waste**.

During the Textile Center's annual meeting in March 2025, we invited board members and representatives from regional municipalities, educational

institutions, and industry to take part in the workshop “**Spjörum okkur**”, which focused on discussing solutions for textile waste at the Blönduós Community Center. Reducing textile waste is an increasing focus in many of our international collaborations.

The insights gathered during the workshop were compiled by the Association of Municipalities in Northwest Iceland (**SSNV**); the **report** (in Icelandic) is available on our website.

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Ós Residency

We’ve just announced an open call for volunteers to come to Iceland in 2026 to help restore historic knitting machines at the Textile Center. Feedback so far has been overwhelmingly positive! We’re also planning more **short-term, research, and themed residencies** in the future. Stay updated via our website and Instagram: @textilmidstod.

But you don’t have to wait for a special call—Ós Residency accepts applications from textile makers and scholars year-round. Residencies typically last 1–3 months, and we welcome applications for stays both near and far in the future.

Artists-in-residence often host **exhibitions** at the end of their stay. The Ós Residency’s October exhibition, titled “OS US”, was held at Hillebrandtshús in the old part of Blönduós. Thank you to everyone who came!



Coming Up!

In November, Sarah and Alissa will be teaching several tufting and machine-felting (on-site) **workshops in the TextileLab**. [Sign up here!](#) If you are interested in the TextileLab or have any questions, you can contact the lab team directly at textillab@textilmidstod.is

For news and updates, please visit our website www.textilecenter.is or contact us per email: textilecenter@textilecenter.is

Thank you for reading! Until the next :)



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