



# ERASMUS+ MOLDOVA NEWSLETTER



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## **Erasmus+ opportunities presented within Europe Days 2022 in Chișinău and Edineț**

In May 2022, Europe Days campaign organized all over the country was all about solidarity for peace. The National Erasmus+ Office (NEO) took part, at the invitation of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova, at the large scale events organised within European Villages in Chișinău and Edineț.

The Moldovan citizens were met at National Erasmus+ Office corner in the main squares of Chișinău and Edineț with insightful information about the opportunities of the Erasmus+ Programme for each one of them. The visitors were curious to find out about the International Credit Mobility projects while studying at our universities, but also wanted to know more about the training and volunteering opportunities within Erasmus+ Youth projects. Others wanted to know details about projects like Capacity Building in Higher Education and VET and about Jean Monnet projects and how they contribute to the reformation of the educational system in Moldova.

Moreover, the coordinator of the National Erasmus+ Office in Moldova, Claudia Melinte, has held two interactive sessions about the Erasmus+ opportunities for youth from Chișinău and Edineț. The youngsters from both cities have actively participated at these sessions, by asking questions on how they could become part of the Erasmus+ projects and enrich their study experiences.





## European Year of Youth - Launch Event

The National Erasmus + Office participated on April 20 at the launch event "Make your Voice Heard" organized in the context of the European Year of Youth in the Republic of Moldova, at the initiative of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova.

Therefore, during the youth projects fair, NEO has presented the opportunities of the Erasmus+ Programme for students and academics from Moldovan universities. Also,

during the official opening event, we gave an overview of the Erasmus + Programme 2021-2027, and in particular explained the application procedures for an Erasmus+ scholarship for the students from the Republic of Moldova. The event was attended by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova, Natalia Gavriliță; Minister of Education and Research, Anatolie Topală; Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova, Janis Mazeiks; rector of Moldova State University, Igor Șarov; ambassadors of the member states of the European Union; the representatives of the Info Center for Erasmus+ Youth and the European Solidarity Corps, the young European ambassadors to the Republic of Moldova; academic staff and students.



## Cluster meeting on dual education developed within Erasmus+ projects at universities from the Republic of Moldova



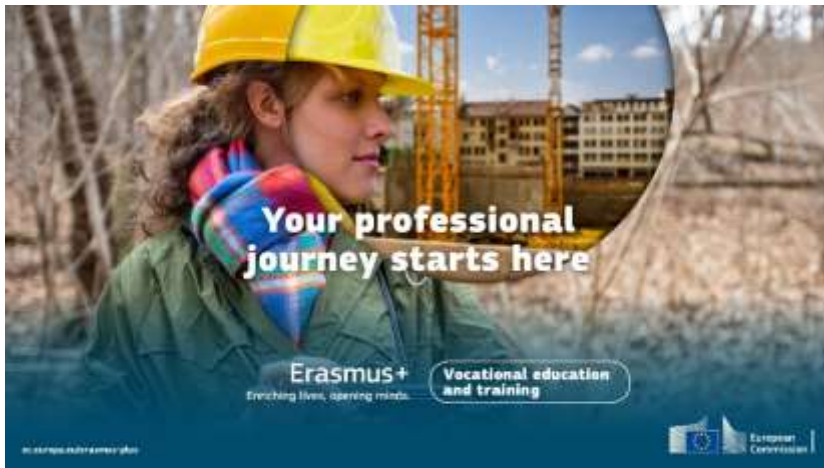
*The contribution of the Erasmus+ CBHE projects to the development of dual higher education in the Republic of Moldova (COOPERA & WBL4JOB) was the topic of the event organized on May 12 by the National Erasmus+ Office, with the support of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova, the Ministry of Education and Research, and WBL4JOB and COOPERA project coordinators. Thus, during the meeting, the participants of the two Erasmus+ capacity building in higher education projects (CBHE) – COOPERA and WBL4JOB, shared the experiences on their projects implementation, discussed the challenges and opportunities of dual education for Moldovan universities and agreed on cooperation intentions between the two projects in the future.*

*COOPERA - Integrating Dual Higher Education in Moldova and Ukraine, and WBL4JOB - Introducing work-based learning in higher education systems of Armenia and Moldova for better employability of graduates are the two Erasmus+ winner projects within the 2020 selection. Both projects have as their basic objective the development of practice-based education, in order to increase the employability of students and create sustainable partnerships between universities and enterprises, by introducing the necessary changes in the legislation of the Republic of Moldova, through close cooperation of both projects with the Ministry of Education and Research.*

About 40 participants were present at the event, including the program officer of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova - Giuseppe Paglione, the general secretary of the Ministry of Education and Research - Nadejda Velisco, but also representatives of the five higher education institutions participating in COOPERA and WBL4JOB projects (Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Technical University of Moldova, Free International University of Moldova, "Alecu Russo" State University of Balti and Cooperative-Commercial University of Moldova).



## New opportunities for vocational education and training institutions under the Erasmus+ Programme



The framework of the Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027 has opened up opportunities for the vocational education and training (VET) institutions from the Republic of Moldova. Therefore, they can now participate in Capacity Building in the field of Vocational Education and Training projects (CBVET), but also in International Credit Mobilities (ICM).

Capacity building projects are international cooperation actions, based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of VET in the countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme (EU states, Iceland, North Macedonia, Turkey, Norway, Serbia and Liechtenstein), and from third countries not associated

with the programme, such as the Republic of Moldova. They aim to support the relevance, accessibility, and responsiveness of VET institutions and systems in third countries not associated to the Programme as a driver of sustainable socio-economic development.

Previously, Erasmus+ capacity building projects were available for higher education institutions from the Republic of Moldova. Thus, since 2014, universities from our country have participated in 21 capacity building projects in the field of higher education (CBHE), with a total budget of more than 19 million euros. 7 of these projects are structural, with systemic impact, i.e. they aimed to promote reforms in the field of higher education, modernisation policies and strengthening relations between academia and the socio-economic environment. Another 14 joint projects - aimed to have an institutional impact, promoting the modernisation of the university curriculum, teaching-learning methods, governance policies and the internationalization of institutions within the higher education system.

Starting with 2022, the international credit mobility projects are also accessible for VET institutions from the Republic of Moldova. This supports a wide range of mobility activities, including direct observation at work, professional development courses for staff, internships, invited expert activities, etc. At the initial stage, the respective projects will involve the mobility of staff from the EU institutions to those from the Republic of Moldova.

The National Erasmus+ Office in Moldova has organised a series of information events aimed at promoting new opportunities in the Erasmus+ 2022 call for proposals. Particular attention was paid to the projects aimed for institutions in the field of VET from Moldova. During January-March 2022, Q&A sessions were held for colleges, vocational schools and centers of excellence that declared their intention to participate in the CBVET and ICM projects under the Erasmus+ 2022 call.





## Information Days on Erasmus+ New Opportunities and the Call for Proposals 2022



Erasmus+, the European Union’s Programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe, has launched its Call for Proposals 2022 - with €3.9 billion available for this year.

On this occasion, at the end of the year 2021, the National Erasmus+ Office in Moldova, together with the Delegation of European Union to the Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Education and Research, have launched the Information Days on the new Call and the opportunities for the institutions and individuals from the Republic of Moldova. During the three-day event, presentations on the International Credit Mobilities, Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training, on Erasmus Mundus Joints Masters and Jean

Monnet projects were offered by National Erasmus+ Office in Moldova.

Moreover, Erasmus+ Talks with programme’s alumni took place, reuniting together the 9 beneficiaries of International Credit Mobilities, Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters, but also Erasmus+ Youth projects’ participants. They shared their experiences on how the programme has changed their personalities and contributed to their future growth, but also the challenges they have faced while living in a new country, and how they have shaped their personalities.

During the Info Days, special attention was paid to the newly available for the Republic of Moldova - the opportunities for vocational education and training institutions (VET) – and, namely, to the Capacity Building Projects in the field of VET, which are a premiere for the institutions from the Republic of Moldova.

The event has gathered in one place representatives of public and private institutions, active in the field of education, training, youth and sport who are interested to apply for funding under Erasmus+, but also a significant number of students and youth, and representatives of civil society willing to find out more about the Erasmus+ Programme. More than 200 attendees took part at the online event, and many more watched the event live via Facebook stream ([Info Day 1](#) on opportunities for Higher Education, [Info Day 2](#) on opportunities for VET, [Info Day 3](#): Erasmus Talks with Programme’s alumni).



Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027 continues to provide opportunities for study periods abroad, traineeships, apprenticeships, staff exchanges and cross border cooperation projects in different areas of education and training, youth and sport. Inclusion remains a core principle of the Erasmus+ Programme – almost anyone can benefit from this life-changing experience. Moreover, Erasmus+ aims to support the green and digital transitions and the resilience of education and training systems in the face of the pandemic, but at the same time to encourage active citizenship, while fostering greater participation in democratic life.



## “Research based teaching” seminar for HEIs and doctoral schools from Moldova



The [online seminar](#) (Technical Assistance Mission) for higher education institutions in Moldova with the generic “Research based teaching as a university-business cooperation for the labour force quality and competitiveness” was organized by the National Erasmus+ Office in Moldova in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova, as part of the activities of the Higher Education Reform Experts within the Erasmus+ Program of the European Union (SPHERE). The trainer of the event was Dr. Alfonso MARZAL from the University of Extremadura, Spain.

Around 100 participants, representatives of 15 universities and 5 doctoral schools, were present at the event. Members of the local scientific HEIs community presented the current situation in the field of research in the universities from the Republic of Moldova.

During 2015-2021, the National Erasmus+ Office in Moldova and SPHERE organized 12 Technical Assistance Mission seminars, together with international experts in various fields, related to the modernization and internationalization of higher education. 980 participants, including HEIs academic and administrative staff, representatives of the Ministry of Education and Research, the EU Delegation to Moldova, representatives of civil society, etc. were present at these events.

## Video Spot on Moldovan Academic Staff Mobility Projects

The Erasmus + Programme has paved the way for thousands of teaching and training mobilities in the European Union for academics from the Republic of Moldova. This has led to the development of innovative courses, created new opportunities for their professional development, improved their language skills and opened up new horizons.

The National Erasmus+ Office collected in a [video spot](#) the success stories of 6 academics from the Republic of Moldova who have benefited from the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility experiences during the previous years.

Overall more than 6000 students and staff from the Republic of Moldova have been in Erasmus+ exchanges since 2004.



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