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Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



QUALITY EDUCATION FROM A LIFELONG LEARNING PERSPECTIVE

Lifelong Learning (LLL) has become a priority of educational policies not only for European area, but also for the Republic of Moldova due to the importance and impact of the implementation of this concept on the economic development, society and each person. Recognizing the importance of LLL for our country and the cooperation with European partners experienced in the field, a group of Moldovan and EU universities, assisted by central public authorities, decided to support and stimulate the implementation of the LLL concept in Moldova by the Project “*Towards European university lifelong learning model in Moldova*” (COMPASS, 597889-EPP-1-2018-1-MD-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP). This project has been funded with support from the European Commission, within ERASMUS+ programme.

The overall objective of the Project is to contribute to the deeper integration of the Republic of Moldova into the European Higher Education Area through the integration of an inclusive and responsive University Lifelong Learning (ULLL) model in Moldova.

The main objectives are:

- promote and strengthen the LLL culture in Moldova and to build national consensus of the key-actors on the development issues,
- develop and advance a national legislative framework and stimulate regulatory changes on LLL in Moldova,
- build up the university’s integrative function in Moldova by developing integrated university LLL strategies,
- enhance the university’s institutional capacities in Moldova for efficient and

effective implementation of LLL reform.

The project brings together European and Moldovan partners, representing academia, central public authorities, and non-governmental organizations. A lead institution is the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova. Moldovan universities benefit from the opportunity to discover the experience and good European practices in the field of LLL development (regulatory framework, implementation mechanisms) due to the openness to collaboration of European institutions, among which European University of Continuing Education Network, University of Turku (Finland), Danube University of Krems (Austria), University of Graz (Austria), European Policy Development and Research Institute (Belgium), University of Barcelona (Spain), University of Genova (Italy), University of Brest (France).

In Republic of Moldova part of this project are Trade Co-operative University of Moldova, Academy of Music, Theatre and Fine Arts, University of Physical Education and Sport, State Pedagogical University “Ion Creanga”, Comrat State University, The National Council of Rectors of Moldova, the Ministry of Education.

The successful implementation of the mentioned Project will end with the National Policy Roadmap on LLL, Regulations on Validation of prior learning, including non-formal and formal, Regulation on application of the existing ECTS tools and procedures to LLL, Regulation for the continuing education of academic staff, University LLL strategies, Guidelines on ULLL, development of new ULLL services, development of new ULLL courses.