

EU Project

Universities – Communities:
strengthening cooperation

Programme

Erasmus+ project KA2 Capacity
building in High Education

Duration 2023-2027

Budget 988 431 EUR

Project Consortium

Genoa University (Coordinator);
Fachhochschule des Mittelstands;
University of Latvia;
Czech University of Life Sciences Prague;
Lund University;
Fondazione Sicurezza e Libertà;
Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial
and Engaged Universities;
Dragomanov Ukraine State University
(National Coordinator);
Sumy National Agrarian University;

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv;
Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronic;
Bohdan Khmelnytsky Melitopol State
Pedagogical University;
Donetsk State University of Internal Affairs;
National Pirogov Memorial Medical University;
Institute of Higher Education of the National
Academy of Pedagogical Sciences;
Ukrainian Association of Professors and
Researchers of European Integration;
Ukrainian Association of European Studies;
Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

➔ Overall objective

To enhance universities' social role through boosting university-community engagement leading to the elaboration of state policy on supporting the third mission of universities for ensuring social cohesion, resilience, sustainability and prosperity in Ukraine.

Specific objectives

- 1 To develop and discuss national policy on enhancing the third mission of universities and community-university cooperation;
- 2 To develop the model strategies for relations between universities and communities based on their needs and aimed to enhance civic activism and citizen engagement based on principles of equality, solidarity, non-discrimination and inclusion and to pilot them in the HEI's and communities involved;
- 3 To foster the cooperation between the project target groups and stakeholders on university-community cooperation based on European experiences and practices in the field of inclusion and gender equality, cyber security and digitalization, ecology, and civic education, etc;
- 4 To increase the social responsibility and community engagement of universities through raising their capacities in the area of community development and local leadership;
- 5 To foster the cooperation between the project target groups and stakeholders on university-community cooperation based on European experiences and practices;
- 6 To ensure the qualitative project implementation is in line with best European practices as to the academic content and project management;
- 7 To ensure proper cooperation between PI, target groups, and stakeholders in order to implement the project dully and timely to report to European and national authorities.

➔ Challenges

Project faces challenges in coordinating across diverse countries and cultures, and in implementing the third mission of universities, which involves active participation in community life. project faces challenges in coordinating across diverse countries and cultures, and in implementing the third mission of universities, which involves active participation in community life.

Project target groups

Primarily targets are universities, aiming to strengthen their active participation in community life. It also focuses on students, with the goal of increasing their awareness of public administration issues. Stakeholders in higher education and local communities are another key target, as the project seeks to enhance ties between them and universities.



➔ Project objectives will be received via:

- 7 on Ukrainian universities' visions on the cooperation with the communities in terms of their social responsibility and university development strategies;
- community empowerment program, 3 hackathons, 2 volunteering programs;
- joint reports on the needs of the communities and their expectations from the cooperation with the HEIs;
- research/experience exchange visits to European partners and internally for experience exchange and cooperation;
- training programs and relevant teaching materials for the project teaching component, a future summit.

➔ Dissemination of the Project results:

- Publications about Project in the scientific journals;
- International conference «Security and Social Cohesion in Communities»;
- International conference «Universities' Green Mission and Community Sustainable Development»;
- Conference «Resilient Universities and Resilient Communities»;

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Project web-page:

<https://www.unicom.community>