Education Reforming in Ukraine.

National Erasmus+ Office – Ukraine (NEO project team – 6,5 members) is contributing to the educational reforms implementation and coordinates committed Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE team – up to 15 members, currently 13) that consists of the representatives of Universities, Research Institutions, National Quality Assurance Agency, National Qualification Agency, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Parliament’s Committee (Verkhovna Rada) and Bologna Follow-Up Group.

- European integration and implementation of Bologna principles in Ukraine

(1) NEO and HERE team actively participated in development of relevant national legislation in line with Bologna principles as experts, members of working groups under the Ministry and Parliament’s Committee and Bologna Follow Up Group:

- Draft Laws On Adult Education, Vocational Education and Training, Changes to the Educational Laws;
- National Qualification Framework (2011-2019);
- Regulation on Academic Mobility Right (2015) and draft amendments to the Regulation (2019, 2021);
- List of Fields of Study and Programme Subject Areas (specialties) in Education (2015) based on the ISCED, which ensures comparison of higher education documents and collection of statistics on education;
- Guidelines on Higher Education Standards – development (2016, 2019, 2020);
- Higher Education Standards – development and methodical expertise (209 drafts of Standards);
- Draft Strategy for Higher Education Development 2021-2031 (2020-2021) was prepared with participation of NEO and HEREs;
- Concept of the University of the President of Ukraine was prepared by the MESU, based on the recommendations provided by the NEO and HERE team;
- Guidelines on Study Programme Accreditation (2019, NAQA) is based on proposals developed by the NEO and HEREs using outcomes of QUAERE and EDUQAS projects;
- Draft of the Regulation for the Recognition of the informal and non-formal education learning outcomes, at the higher education and pre-tertiary education levels;
- Concept for the Development of the English Language at the Ukrainian Universities;
- Recommendations to the Foreign Students education legislation improvement and contribution to the State Center for International Education Strategy.

(2) Bologna Process Country Reports – Ukraine (EHEA) (2018, 2020) for the Bologna Process Ministerial Conferences with participation of the NEO and HEREs as members of Bologna Follow Up Group members (2017-2021);

(3) Analytics on Bologna implementation (for 15 years), impact of CBHE projects in Ukraine, status of reforms in education in Ukraine, Ukraine in Erasmus+ 2014-2021, Programme versus Partner Country Status – pros and cons for Ukraine, COVID-19 impact on ICM and CBHE projects, possibilities for inclusive mobility, contribution to the EU-UA Association Agreement implementation reports, Euromap etc.

(4) Translation of the key national legal documents into English language as well as EHEA documents (Bologna Conferences Ministerial Communiques, ECTS, ESG, Quality assurance of the Joint Programmes, of the Health Curricula, Tuning etc.) and Programme Guide English versions into Ukrainian was provided by the NEO in cooperation with HEREs and presented on the website.
Key outcomes of the NEO – Ukraine, HERE activities 2014-2021 (July 26, 2021)

(5) **62 Cluster thematic seminars and webinars** on Quality Assurance, higher education standards development, curricula development/modernisation, NQF, lifelong learning, internationalisation for the Ukrainian HEIs including Erasmus+ projects partners (about 40,000 participants) – NEO and all HEREs.

(6) **Large Pool of HERE and NEO (video) resources** on Bologna tools implementation to build capacities of HEIs to implement reforms resulted from national and international events in cooperation with MESU, NAQA, NQA, Scientific-Methodological Center for Higher and Pre-Tertiary Professional Education, British Council, DAAD etc. (seminars, workshops, conferences).

(7) **Synergy** with other international organisations and Programmes: ENPI East, EU Information centers network for Erasmus+ Programme and projects promotion, EU projects promotion campaigns; EU4Skills on VET institutions capacity building to apply to new Erasmus+; ETF on VET and QF issues; World Bank on Educational reforms status; British Council – Leadership Programme, Teaching and Learning Excellence, English language etc.; DAAD on Joint Programmes, Quality Assurance etc; French Institute on internationalisation, House of Europe – on “Ukrainian Erasmus” and other initiatives in education etc. Contributed to the sectoral Matrix on Tempus and Erasmus+ Programmes by reforms priorities etc.

(8) Initiated and performed **50 International** events within and above the **EaP Region** in cooperation with DGs, EACEA, National Agencies and NEOs devoted to the educational reforms issues and promotion of international cooperation with Ukraine.

- **Cooperation to promote effective Teachers Education system**
  - Special seminar (Kharkiv) and webinar on quality assurance and modernisation of teacher education and ensure the New Ukrainian School reform organised in cooperation with NAQA for pedagogical Universities (about 600 participants);
  - Erasmus+ MOPED project events active participation for school teachers and infrastructures (New School);
  - Synergy with e-Twinning; promotion of Erasmus+ opportunities for schools and Eurydice publications via New Ukrainian School Facebook page, Osvitoria portal etc.
  - It resulted into 4 projects School Education with UA 2 NGOs, 1 school, 1 gymnasium, 2 HEI as partners.

- **Cooperation to promote effective VET system**
  - Cooperation with the Ministry of Science of Ukraine, VET Directorate, Scientific and Research Center for Higher and Pre-Tertiary Education, Institute of VET of the National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine on the promotion and capacity building for VET institutions to join Erasmus+ smoothly.
  - 6 webinars and a conference (Lviv) on Erasmus+ opportunities, applications preparation and project management issues for VET institutions organised in cooperation with the Ministry – available practical and useful (video) resources for the VET institutions. Plans for more trainings. Active registration of VET institutions in the EU FTOP system
  - Seminar on Erasmus+ Programme opportunities for VET institutions organised in cooperation with the National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine (about 100 participants, 2019).
  - Seminars on Pre-Tertiary Vocational Education standards development for selected members of commissions organised in cooperation with the Ministry.

- **Cooperation to support relocated HEIs from the East of Ukraine**
  - NEO and HEREs presented project management and higher education reforming in line with EHEA principles during workshops for relocated universities under Erasmus+ and synergy with EU Programme for the support of the relocated universities.

**Internationalisation of Higher Education in Ukraine.**
Ukraine is the most active Partner Country participating in Erasmus+, usually among top 10 countries of submitted applications of high quality and funded projects:
- The number of applications involving Ukrainian institutions is very high. This confirms the high interest of Ukraine to the EU funded opportunities and need to support implementation of reforms in education and youth.

- Under the 6 CBHE Calls, **48 projects with Ukrainian institutions have been selected**. As a result, Ukraine is in about **37 % of all selected projects in the Eastern Partnership region**. **646 applications** with Ukraine, over 200 shortlisted and analysed during the national consultation in cooperation with EU Delegation to Ukraine and MESU. There are **9 Structural Projects** with participation of the Ministry of Education and Science, which support the reform of national higher education system and policies.

- **106 higher education institutions** (38 % out of 281) and **12 research institutions** (in Educational, Medical and Agrarian Sciences) are partners in CBHE projects in Ukraine.

- **4 Ukrainian Universities became Coordinators/ Grant holders** of CBHE projects with the NEO support (consultations, trainings, monitoring, guidelines).

- The Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine (2018) with the support of the Vice-Prime Minister on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine and EU Delegation to Ukraine, in close cooperation with the NEO has successfully negotiated with DG EAC and DG NEAR the opening of the Special Window for Ukraine in International Mobility, Capacity Building in Higher Education and Jean Monnet Projects at **5 mln. euro**. As a result, additional **689 mobilities**, **2 CBHE and 64 Jean Monnet Projects** were funded under 2019-2020 calls.

- **17 006 participants** in International (Credit) Mobility: **11 532 mobilities** of students and staff to the European Universities and **5 474** to Ukraine. **247 UA HEIs** and about **50 organisations** are partners in **1 889 projects** (2522 projects applied).

- **19 projects** with **23 (associated) partners** in Erasmus Mundus Joint Master’s Degree Partnerships. **317 Master and PhD students** funded by Erasmus Mundus Joint Programmes.

- **45 HEIs** and **Research Institutions** coordinated or partners in **121 Jean Monnet projects on European Studies**. **1069 applications** submitted.

- **10 HEIs** in **26 Strategic partnerships** in education, **1** among partners of the European University project.

- **26 HEIs** are among partners in School and Adult education, Youth and Sport actions.

**Youth Reforms**

(1) **Contribution** to the National Youth Strategy 2030 development (in 2020, 2021) adopted in 2021, to the State Programme Concept of the Youth of Ukraine 2021-2025 (in 2020);

(2) **Cooperation** with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine (2017-2021), participation in the donors’ coordination youth sector meeting, provide regular updates on the Youth Actions information under Erasmus+, prepared information for the Ministry website on the new Erasmus+ 2021-2027 opportunities.

- Over **50 joint online/offline events** on Youth and Sport opportunities within Erasmus+ Programme and achieved results among Ukrainian organisations, **10 meetings** on strategic planning and joint activities and work on strategic documents; **2 seminars** for CBY winners on how to implement projects with EACEA;

- NEO joined over **25 initiatives** organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ukraine, National Youth Council of Ukraine and other related events;

- Special webpage devoted to the Youth and Sport opportunities funded by the EU with useful (video) resources and Facebook posts.

Synergy and close cooperation with the EACEA responsible for Youth, EU Delegation promotional projects, Salto-Youth Resource Center, Information Center Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps, EuroDesk, National Youth Council of Ukraine, youth organisations and other NGOs and promotion in different Facebook communities contributed into the following statistics for Ukraine in Erasmus+ Youth and Sports:
Key outcomes of the NEO – Ukraine, HERE activities 2014-2021 (July 26, 2021)

- 24 483 participants in Youth Strand and European Solidarity Corps: 17 537 mobilities of young people and youth workers from Ukraine, 6 949 – to Ukraine; 153 volunteering projects, including 1 HEI in 2 projects and 3 391 mobility projects, including 15 HEIs among partners within 23 projects.
- 59 projects Capacity building for Youth (KA2-CBY) with 46 partners including 3 HEIs; 22 organisations as coordinators.
- 19 projects Strategic partnerships for youth (KA2) with UA NGOs including 4 UA HEIs as partners
- 42 Youth Dialogue and 11 Dialogue between Young People and Policy Makers, as a result 53 projects with Ukrainian NGOs as partners, funded 287 participants.
- 12 projects Collaborative Partnerships projects including Small Collaborative Partnerships with Ukrainian sports organisations, NGOs and 1 HEI are among partners or associated partners, plus Be Active Weeks.

NEO performs active dissemination policy and relevant support to the internationalisation and European integration of education, youth and sport in Ukraine:

- over 2000 promotional events (Infodays, sessions, seminars, webinars, workshops) all over Ukraine.
- 400 capacity building events for the ICM, CBHE, JM projects teams (seminars, workshops, webinars).
- over 50 Facebook webinars/Youtube streaming targeted at Erasmus+ CBHE, ICM and JM project implementation covering more than 825 000 views.
- 119 CBHE, CBY, JM, Strategic Partnerships projects registered as an International Technical Assistance.
- 170 CBHE and ICM projects monitored, reports submitted to EACEA and DG EAC.
- over 20 000 individual consultations with CBHE project teams, Jean Monnet, ICM via Zoom, Skype, Viber, WhatsApp, telephone on project implementation; over 600 meetings and consultations with Programme stakeholders and beneficiaries (e.g. Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Ministry of Digital transformation of Ukraine, Office of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Parliament’s Committee on Education, Science and Innovation, the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, regional and local authorities, National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance, National Qualification Center, State Center for International Education, ENIC/NARIC – Ukraine, Employers and Students organisations; EU Delegation to Ukraine, EU Information Centers, ESN International, ESN Kyiv, Erasmus+ NOs and NAs, EuroDesk, eTwinning Plus Ukraine support office, Salto-Youth Resource Center, Info Centre for Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps in Ukraine, Embassy of Ukraine to EU, Embassies of EU Member States to Ukraine and Ukraine to EU Member States, Embassy of USA and other countries, Alliance Frances and French Institute, DAAD, British Council, World Bank, House of Europe, IRF, Creative Europe, Horizon2020 and many others).
- 300 visa-support letters to ICM, CBHE (students and staff) and EMJMD winners to different EU Member States Embassies.
- Series of interviews and articles for the media in cooperation with EU Delegation to Ukraine.
- More than 1 600 000 NEO website views, over 10 200 articles via NEO – Ukraine website in the Ukrainian and English languages, around 400 articles via NEO – Ukraine website on ICM, SP, CBHE and JM projects’ results, constant update of the Ukraine’s participation in the Erasmus+ Programme.
- Over 200 YouTube subscribers with around 9 200 views.
- 12 300 followers via NEO – Ukraine Facebook page.
- Facebook Group of the Erasmus Institutional Coordinators and International Relation Offices – 587 followers.
- Facebook NEO’s posts views reached 10 million.

The NEO and HERE team activities are published at the website – www.erasmusplus.org.ua