

Erasmus+ Capacity Building of Higher Education  
**International Students Adaptation and Integration/ *INTERADIS***  
619451-EPP-1-2020-1-NL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

## **NEWSLETTER 8**

### **June 2024 – September 2024**

**In this issue you will find project news and updates:**

- **Sustainability Training at Foggia University (Italy).**
- **News from partners:**
  - **KROK University.**
  - **Chernivtsi National University**
  - **Ivan Franko National University of Lviv.**
  - **Karazin Kharkiv National University.**
  - **Mariupol State University.**
  - **Ukrainian state center for international education (Study in Ukraine).**
  - **The National University of Water and Environmental Engineering.**
  - **University of Applied Sciences Amberg-Weiden.**

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## Sustainability Training at Foggia University (Italy)



On 26-30 August 2024, Foggia University (Italy) hosted the Sustainability Training as part of the INTERADIS/International Students Integration and Adaptation project (619451-EPP-1-2020-1-NL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP).

Event was attended by the following partners: KROK University, Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University, Odesa National Polytechnical University, Mariupol State University, Sumy National Agrarian University, V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ivan Franko National University, National University of Water and Environmental Engineering, Netherlands Business Academy, the Netherlands; Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule Amberg-Weiden, Germany; Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania; Hultgren Nachhaltigkeitsberatung UG, Germany.

Sustainability training in international projects is essential for ensuring compliance with regulations, enhancing resource efficiency, managing risks, and fostering positive stakeholder relationships.

The main goal of the training is to develop and discuss a joint sustainable development strategy and an individual strategy for each Ukrainian project partner.

During the week workshops were also organized on the preparation of a sustainability strategy, work in teams to share experience, recommendations of partners on the implementation of the project and new opportunities for cooperation were discussed.

University representatives focused on four topics:

- ◆ mental health
- ◆ online studying
- ◆ linguistic and cultural barrier
- ◆ marketing strategy for recruiting foreign students

The participants also worked with the IOOI model in the context of higher education internationalization.

In particular, they worked through the key points for evaluating success and progress of the project for their university:

- ◆ Impact
- ◆ Outcome
- ◆ Output
- ◆ Input

Based on the results, the participants, together with speakers, formed recommendations for universities regarding their work with foreign students.

Many thanks to Università di Foggia for the excellent organisation and highly productive week! Thanks also to the sustainability coach Hultgren - Nachhaltiges Management Oliver Schmidt for the quality training and support in developing sustainability strategies

*NEWS from partners*

KROK University

**Presentation of the achieved results of #INTERADIS project at 12th International Week at Mykolas Romeris University**



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On 17-21 June 2024, Halyna Bohachenko, Director of International Projects Office of KROK University and member of Coordinator Team of INTERADIS, participated at 12th International Week at Mykolas Romeris University within Erasmus+ KA 171 project and presented the overview and achieved results of [#INTERADIS](#) project.

This year, 27 foreign partner institutions from 19 countries (Spain, Poland, Germany, Latvia, Czech Republic, France, Croatia, Portugal, Slovakia, Greece, Bulgaria, Nigeria, Taiwan, Malaysia, Kenya, Ukraine, Australia, Vietnam and Lebanon) have come to MRU. The participants gathered in Vilnius not only to learn the experience of MRU in international mobility, partnerships, research, innovation and staff services, but also to share with each other the experience of organising and managing the change in the last years, to discuss good examples and opportunities for cooperation and the key priorities of the Erasmus+ programme.

Noteworthy to mention, that 3 representatives of the project teams of INTERADIS partners gathered at the International week - MRU, KROK and CHNU.

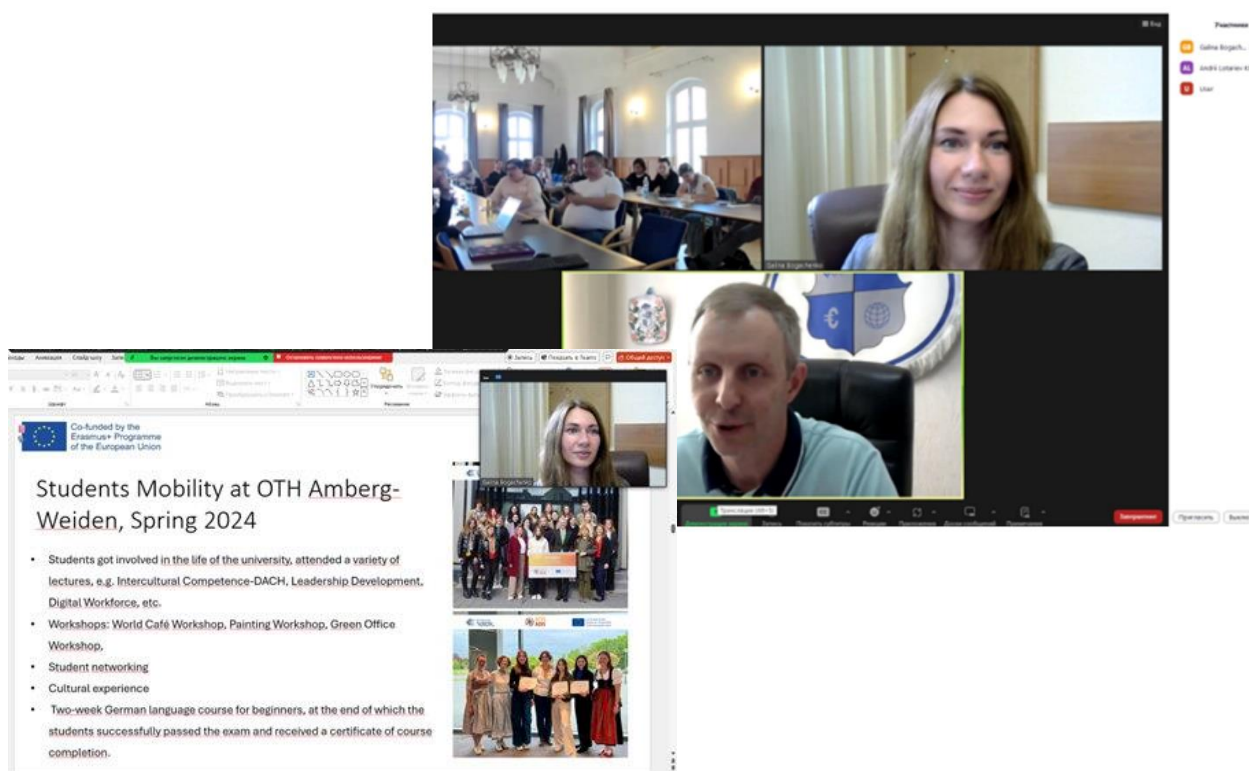
**Many thanks to Mykolas Romeris University, that is also partner of INTERADIS project, for the excellent organization and highly productive week!**

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## Presentation of [#INTERADIS](#) project at 12th International Week at Czech-German International Week, organized by Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule Amberg-Weiden



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The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. The main window displays a presentation slide titled "Students Mobility at OTH Amberg-Weiden, Spring 2024". The slide content includes:

- Students got involved in the life of the university, attended a variety of lectures, e.g. Intercultural Competence-DACH, Leadership Development, Digital Workforce, etc.
- Workshops: World Café Workshop, Painting Workshop, Green Office Workshop,
- Student networking
- Cultural experience
- Two-week German language course for beginners, at the end of which the students successfully passed the exam and received a certificate of course completion.

The slide also features two photographs: one of a group of students and staff, and another of students holding certificates. The Zoom interface shows several video feeds of participants, including a woman in the top right and a man in the bottom right. The top of the Zoom window shows the meeting title "Students Mobility at OTH Amberg-Weiden, Spring 2024" and the Zoom logo.

6 June 2024 the team of KROK University presented Erasmus+ project International Students Adaptation and Integration/INTERADIS at Czech-German International Week, organized by Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule Amberg-Weiden.

Representatives of INTERADIS Co-coordinator -

KROK University Andrii Lotariiev, director of Educational and Scientific Institute of International Education, and Galina Bogachenko, Director of International Projects Office, presented project brief description, joint activities and events, dissemination and management approaches, as well as best practices and results on the example of KROK University to the representatives of European Universities.

Many thanks to OTH Amberg Weiden for invitation and for the wonderful opportunity to share project results internationally.

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## Sustainability training within the INTERADIS project



On 26-30 August 2024, Foggia University (Italy) hosted the Sustainability Training as part of the INTERADIS/International Students Integration and Adaptation project (619451-EPP-1-2020-1-NL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP).

The training aimed to develop and discuss both a unified sustainable development strategy and individual strategies for each Ukrainian project partner. The week included workshops on preparing sustainability strategies, sharing team experiences, and exploring new cooperation opportunities.

Key areas of focus included: Mental health, Online studying, Linguistic and cultural barriers, Marketing strategies for recruiting international students

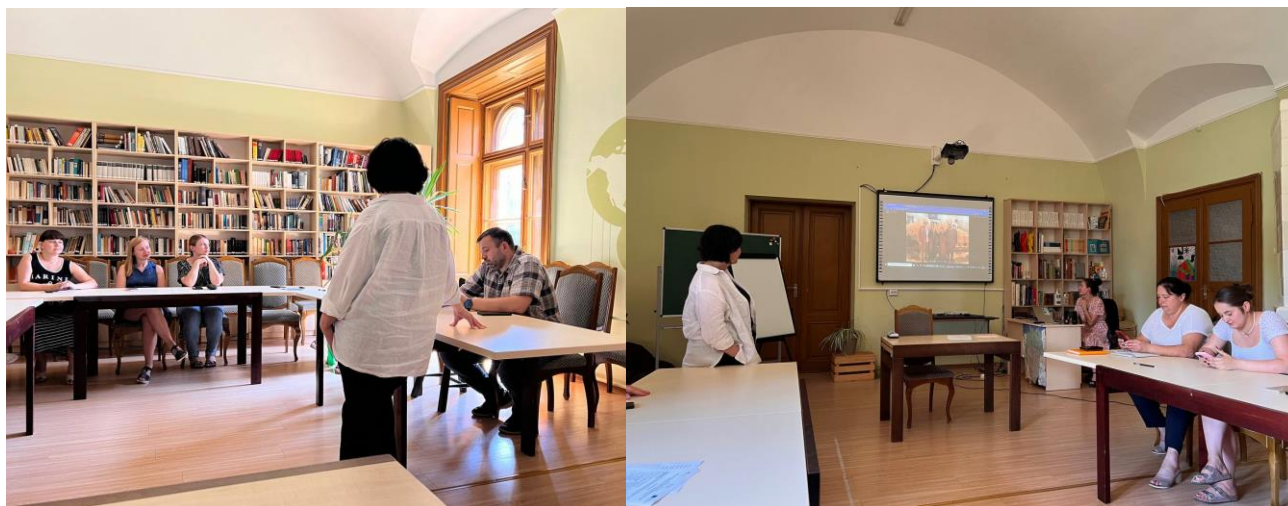
Based on these discussions, recommendations were formulated to enhance universities' work with international students.

A huge thank you to Università di Foggia for their superb organization and to sustainability coach Oliver Schmidt for their invaluable training and support.

*NEWS from partners*

### Chernivtsi National University

#### Training on “Intercultural Communication: Modern Practices”



Communication is about opportunities. Opportunities for a dialog. Opportunities for understanding. Identification and achievement of common goals. Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, we have been engaging our friends and colleagues from outside our country to help our country. Thanks to the staff of our university, thousands of Ukrainians have received and continue to receive the necessary help and support – both IDPs and our military, because active communication with our partners from Romania, Germany, Austria, and many other countries made this possible.

However, we do not stop: we realize that intercultural dialogue is a necessary foundation for development today. In mid-July, on the initiative of the International Office of our university, within the framework of the ERASMUS+ KA2 project “International Students Adaptation and Integration/ INTERADIS”, a training on “Intercultural Communication: Modern Practices” was organized for the university administrative staff. The training was held in the format of active interaction. The participants shared their experiences of meeting and communicating with other cultures and peoples, jointly identified the benefits of cultural diversity, defined the essence of stereotypes, and tried to overcome the most common ones.



In addition, together with the trainer Nataliia Nechaieva-Yuriichuk, they concluded that intercultural communication is about our everyday lives. After all, living in Chernivtsi and studying at Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University means getting to know and communicating with different cultures daily.

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## Intensive Summer English Language Course



Administrative staff members of Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University successfully completed the Intensive Summer English Language Course, which was held as part of the Erasmus+ KA2 project "International Students Adaptation and Integration/INTERADIS."

The course was divided into three sessions: the first ran from June 24 to 28, the second from July 8 to 12, and the final session from July 29 to August 2. The curriculum was specifically tailored to meet the needs of staff working with international students. Participants acquired essential knowledge and skills, with a particular focus on enhancing both oral and written English communication. This training enables administrative staff to interact more effectively with international students, respond to their inquiries, and provide crucial information.

By completing this course, the administrative staff at Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University will be able to carry out their responsibilities with greater professionalism, offering improved support and services to international students. This, in turn, will enhance the university's global reputation and help attract more international students.

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## Training "Intercultural Dialogue: From Stereotypes to Understanding"



When was your first encounter with another culture? How did it come about, and what were your feelings during the experience? Would you be open to repeating it? These were the initial questions posed to participants of the training "Intercultural Dialogue: From Stereotypes to Understanding," organized by the International Office as part of the Erasmus+ KA2 project "International Students Adaptation and Integration/INTERADIS."

The training, attended by students from Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University, encouraged active participation in group work and public introductions. Led by trainer Nataliia Nechaeva-Yuriichuk, the participants addressed stereotypes, identified areas of discomfort, and worked to dismantle them through interactive activities like "Pair of Words" and "Starting Point."

The training was dynamic and engaging, with brainstorming sessions, group activities, and individual self-presentations. Participants explored the root causes of conflicts and learned strategies for resolving them, all while reflecting on their own experiences and gaining a deeper understanding of others through open dialogue.

The participants' reflections underscored the significance of the topic and their eagerness to continue working on personal growth while fostering a stereotype-free environment.

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*NEWS from partners*

**Ivan Franko National University of Lviv**

**The fourth unique English-speaking school AITss 2024 was held at the  
Ivan Franko National University of Lviv**



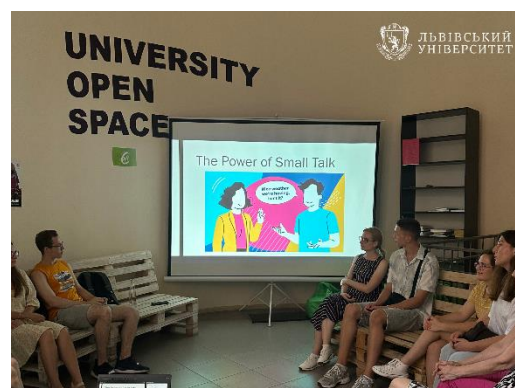


From June 24 to July 5, 2024, the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv hosted a two-week summer English-speaking school “Artificial Intelligence Technology summer school 2024”(AITs 2024). This school is traditionally devoted to studying artificial intelligence technology and has been held over the past several years.

The school’s audience is constantly replenished with new representatives from IT companies because artificial intelligence technology is of interest not only in academic circles but also in the industry. The school was held in an online format which allowed to unite interested participants from all over the world. Thus, despite the difficulties that пов’язані with the war against Ukraine, about 500 participants took part from many cities of Ukraine (Lviv, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Chernivtsi, Khmelnytsky, etc.), as well as from foreign countries, namely the USA, Poland, Germany, Turkey, Spain.

During the study at the summer school, students listened to more than 60 lectures aimed at in-depth understanding and study of innovative technologies from specialists in the IT industry. The experience of the leading experts of IT companies plays one of the most crucial elements of non-formal education where in a short time you can realise the scale and relevance of solutions in the industry.

## The first English-language workshop for the academic community was held



On July 18, at the initiative of the Marketing and Development Center, Lviv University hosted the first workshop for the academic community “How to feel comfortable and confident while speaking English” as part of the INTERADIS project.

The event was held in English, and the speaker was Brian Benjamin, an American expatriate businessman who has been living in Lviv for 4 years.

The seminar covered many aspects of successful dialoguing in English! At first, Brian explained the theoretical part, which each participant practised in pairs several times during the seminar. Participants learned how to start a dialogue and then look for common topics to keep it going. Also at this seminar, participants learned some of the peculiarities of communicating with native speakers and why “small talks” are so important - short conversations about the weather, weekends, etc. Each participant paired up with a colleague and tried to build a “small talk” like a real native speaker.

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## The second English-language workshop within the framework of the cycle of English classes was held at Lviv University



On August 15, 2024, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, at the initiative of the Marketing and Development Center, held the second English-language workshop for the academic community as part of the INTERADIS project. This time it was dedicated to the topic “Presenting yourself to the foreign market and dealing with foreigners”. The classes were invariably taught by an American expatriate businessman, Brian Benjamin, who has about 10 years of teaching experience in Ukraine, China, and Malaysia.

During the class, Brian addressed many important issues related to the topic of cooperation with foreign colleagues. He began by explaining how to present yourself and your business to global partners for future cooperation. The American also shared with the participants how to set goals.

Brian also emphasized the importance of taking into account the peculiarities of each individual national culture during business negotiations, as understanding this has a significant impact on the final result. At the end of the session, the participants were able to consolidate their knowledge by completing exercises and asking the lecturer questions.

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*NEWS from partners*

### Karazin Kharkiv National University

## **Graduation of International Master's Students at Karazin Business School: June 2024**

In June 2024, the Karazin Business School of Karazin University hosted the thesis defense of international master's students. Most of the graduates were students from China, as well as other countries worldwide, who successfully completed the Master's program in Management and obtained their Master's degrees

This year, the graduates achieved high results thanks to additional adaptation opportunities provided through the INTERADIS project. The project supported students in integrating into the Ukrainian academic environment, helping them overcome language and cultural barriers, and develop intercultural communication skills. As a result, students were able to adapt more quickly to their studies and fully realize their potential.

The thesis defense showcased not only the graduates' high level of knowledge but also their professional competencies. This once again confirms that Karazin University remains one of Ukraine's leading educational institutions, attracting students from all over the world to obtain high-quality education and professional development.

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*NEWS from partners*

### OTH Amberg-Weiden

## **INTERADIS project makes plans for the future - Ukrainian partners impress with results, strategy, strength and hope**



What has been achieved? What remains? To discuss these questions, employees from Ukrainian universities met with their European partners in Italy at the end of August. The aim of the





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## Newsletter 8 (June 2024 – September 2024)

one-week sustainability training as part of the Erasmus KA2 project INTERADIS was to develop a strategy to ensure the sustainability of the project after it ends in November 2024. Zuzana Verešová and Maika Victor-Ustohal from the Competence Centre Bavaria - Central and Eastern Europe (KOMO) took part in the workshops and the exchange of experiences as representatives of OTH Amberg-Weiden.

The project, which began in November 2020, aims to improve the integration of international students at the eight participating higher education institutions in Ukraine. They are supported by European project partners - the Netherlands Business Academy as project coordinator, Mykolas Romeris University of Lithuania, OTH Amberg-Weiden and the Italian University of Foggia, which invited students to the training. In July 2023, a group of university representatives from Ukraine had visited the two OTH campuses in Amberg and Weiden to exchange experiences with the acquisition, integration and support of international students. Ukrainian students also had the opportunity to get to know OTH Amberg-Weiden as part of the INTERADIS student study visit in spring 2024.

This summer's meeting was about looking to the future. A training for the more than 60 project participants on the development, planning and implementation of a joint sustainability strategy was conducted by Oliver Schmidt from the Hultgren sustainability consultancy in Berlin. Individual strategies for each of the eight Ukrainian universities were discussed, as well as general topics such as international marketing, digitalisation and online studies, mental health, language and cultural barriers. Based on the IOOI model, the participants worked out the key data on input, output, outcome and impact and thus formulated the key points for evaluating the success of the project for their university. The representatives of the European partner universities made recommendations, but also showed their appreciation for the progress made by the Ukrainian universities. Despite the challenges - first the coronavirus pandemic, then the war with Russia - online tools for communicating with international students were developed, websites were designed, co-working spaces were set up, English courses were held for employees, collaborations with companies and other stakeholders were launched and much more was implemented.

The sustainability training has shown how important international cooperation and resilience are - especially in times of conflict. The project results and networks will provide a solid basis for future cooperation even after the project ends.

The INTERADIS (International Students Adaptation and Integration) project will run until November 2024 and is funded by the EU Erasmus+ programme.

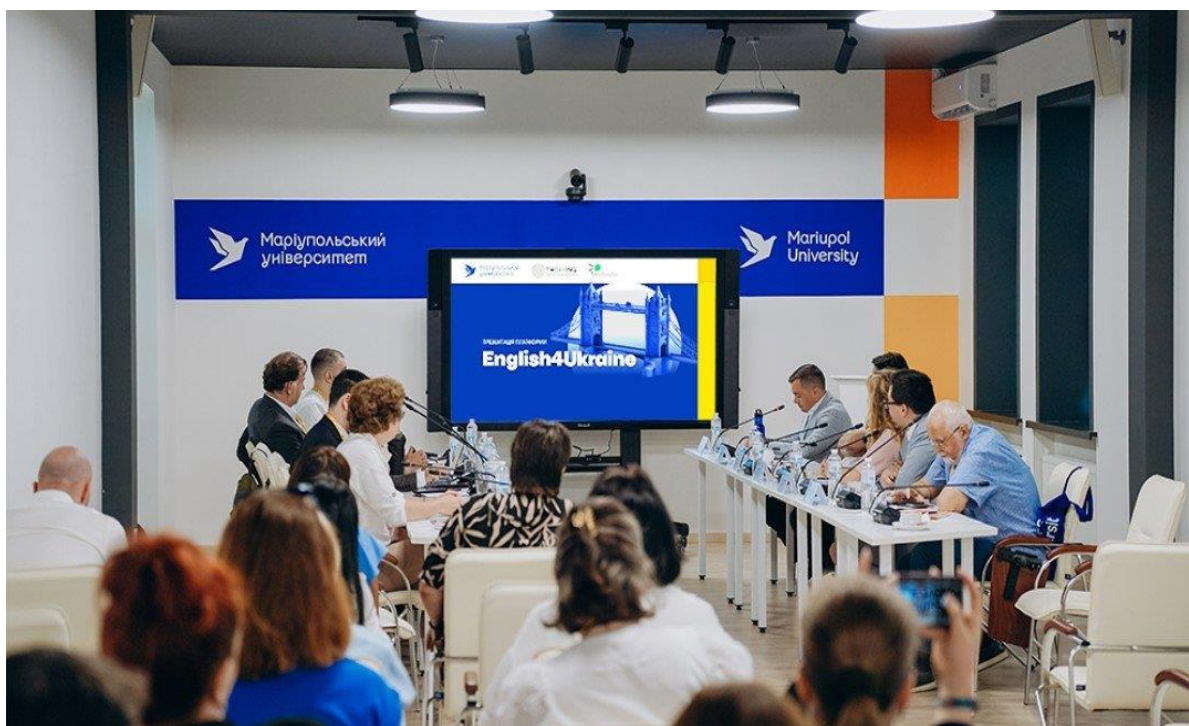
Further information on the project: <https://www.oth-aw.de/international/internationales-aprofil/kompetenzzentrum-bayern-mittel-osteuroopa/interadis/>

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*NEWS from partners*

### **Mariupol State University**

## **DEVELOPING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS AT MARIUPOL STATE UNIVERSITY**



Mariupol State University (MSU) is committed to fostering international cooperation and enhancing the quality of education, especially in the context of teaching international students. In line with this mission, the university has organized online English courses for its staff during the 2023 calendar year and 2023/2024 academic year. The courses are tailored to meet the diverse proficiency levels of the participants (beginner, intermediate, and advanced), ensuring that staff members with varying degrees of English language skills can improve their competence. In total 81 persons from administrative and teaching staff participated in this course and received final certificates.

The significance of these English courses is particularly evident in the context of Mariupol State University's expanding international partnerships and its growing population of international students. As the university continues to strengthen its global connections, proficiency in English has become an essential skill for both administrative and teaching staff. With English being the primary language of instruction for many international programs, the ability to communicate effectively in English is critical to ensuring high-quality education and smooth operations. For faculty members, the courses provide the language skills necessary to deliver lectures, conduct research, and engage in academic discussions with international colleagues and students. Administrative staff also benefit, as English proficiency is vital for handling communication with international partners, managing student services, and supporting the university's global initiatives. The online format of the courses offers flexibility, allowing staff to balance their work duties with language learning. This initiative also reflects the university's commitment to continuous professional development and its readiness to adapt to the demands of an increasingly interconnected world.

As MSU continues to develop its international profile, the online English courses will play a key role in facilitating cross-cultural communication and enhancing the overall quality of education for both local and international students.

Besides, on July 26, MSU announced a launch of a platform for learning English - English4Ukraine. English4Ukraine is the Ukrainian version of the British platform Reallyenglish, which has been used by corporations and educational institutions around the world for more than 20 years. As part of the cooperation, Reallyenglish.com Limited transferred the licensing rights to the

It contains 30 training courses for different levels of language proficiency, covering general, business, academic, specialized (ESP) English, preparation for IELTS, TOEIC and TOEFL tests. With the help of lessons, you can improve speaking, listening, and writing skills, and expand your vocabulary.

Thanks to British donors, the platform will be available free of charge after signing the relevant memorandum. At the first stages, Mariupol University plans to cooperate with universities participating in Twinning, as well as state institutions for which knowledge of a foreign language is mandatory in accordance with the adopted Law on the Use of English in Ukraine. Later, the educational institution will provide such an opportunity to displaced persons, military personnel and war veterans.

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## **Cross-Cultural Workshop for Staff and Students at Mariupol State University: Fostering Inclusivity and Global Engagement**



On September 9, the International Students Office of Mariupol State University (MSU) organized an insightful cross-cultural workshop titled "Working and Studying with International Students". The event was held as part of the Erasmus+ project "Integration and Adaptation of International Students" (INTERADIS), which aims to promote the successful integration of international students into academic and social life at MSU.

The workshop gathered both staff and students to discuss the challenges and opportunities that come with a multicultural academic environment. Attendees explored best practices for communication, cultural sensitivity, and mutual understanding in diverse settings. Special attention was given to the role of faculty in creating an inclusive classroom atmosphere, as well as the importance of peer support among students.

The value of this workshop lies in its contribution to building a truly inclusive university culture, where international students feel welcome, understood, and supported. By equipping both staff and



students with the tools to navigate cross-cultural differences, MSU is not only enhancing its academic environment but also preparing its community for the global challenges of tomorrow. It emphasized the importance of cultural sensitivity, effective communication, and inclusive practices in both academic and social settings.

This initiative marks an important step in MSU's commitment to fostering diversity and international cooperation, aligning with the university's strategic goals of global engagement and academic excellence.

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## **Towards Dreams: Bachelors Graduated at Mariupol State University**



On July 17, a solemn ceremony of awarding diplomas to bachelors was held at Mariupol State University. It had a mixed format in order to unite the graduates of the Unbreakable University on an important day despite the distance.

This year, 382 students graduated from the university with Mariupol identity, 34 of them were excellent students. 12 citizens of Turkmenistan and Cameroon also received Ukrainian diplomas.

At the beginning of the solemn event, the rector of Mariupol University Mykola Trofymenko addressed the audience. He wished the graduates to proudly bear their title and be proud of what they have become, because they have put a lot of effort into it. In addition, the head of the indomitable university took the opportunity to invite young people to continue the moment of being a student in the magistracy.

"I studied for a bachelor's degree in Practical Psychology at Mariupol State University, and this experience was extremely valuable for me. The teachers are always ready to help and support, and the curriculum combines theoretical knowledge with practical skills, which is very important for my future profession. The university also provides many opportunities for self-development, participation in scientific conferences and cultural events. This helped me not only to gain professional knowledge, but also to become part of an international community of students.

Mariupol State University has given me a great base for my future career, and I am grateful for these years of study, - says Geldimyrat Gurbangeldiev, graduate of the Bachelor's Degree program at Mariupol University from Turkmenistan.”

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## The MSU's community has identified further actions to support the results of the INTERADIS project



At the end of August, representatives of the academic community of Mariupol State University visited Italy as part of the [Erasmus+ project "Integration and Adaptation of International Students" \(INTERADIS\)](#). The European partner of the project, the University of Foggia, organized a training on sustainable development in Vieste. It aimed to develop a strategy to further implement the results of the initiative, which is coming to an end.

On behalf of MSU, the project team (Lidiia Shevchenko, Head of the International Students Office of the Center for International Education, and Danylo Yehorenko and Mariia Kustikova, leading specialists of the International Students Office) took part in the discussion. They were also joined by Vice-Rector for Economic Affairs, Chief Accountant Anzhelika Doshchik, Head of the Operational and Technical Department Viktor Halkovskyi, and Specialist of the Information and Public Relations Department Maksym Kladitin.

During the week, indomitable educators, together with colleagues from other educational institutions of Ukraine and foreign partner countries, proposed ideas for preserving the potential of the results of the INTERADIS project. Working in groups, they considered the key factors and needs for attracting foreigners to Ukrainian universities.

During the training, the participants emphasized the importance of conducting adaptation activities for foreign students, including cultural meetings and language clubs. In addition, the issue of using marketing as a means of popularizing Ukrainian education among foreign entrants arose.

Based on the results of the work, the team of Mariupol University identified the main directions for preserving the results of the project. Among them are the creation of an international marketing

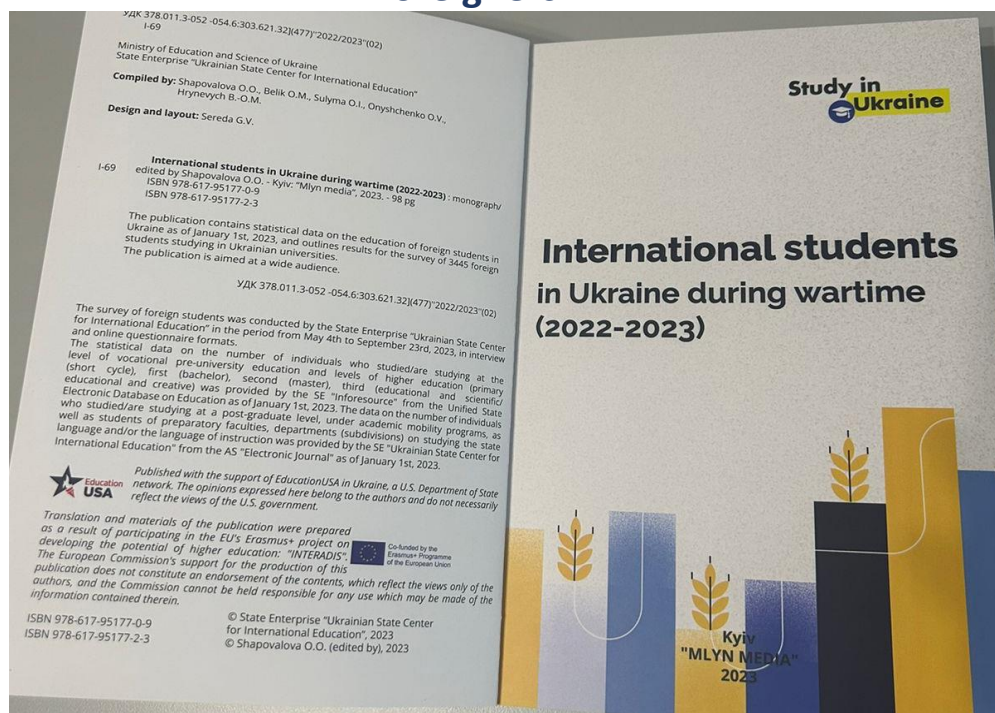
strategy, expanding cooperation with partner institutions, and improving English language skills thanks to the new English4Ukraine project.

*“Sustainability training is essential both for the project as a whole and for each partner individually. We have acquired the knowledge and skills to implement practices that will ensure the long-term success and viability of the project. During the event, our team defined its own strategy to support the results of the INTERADIS project after its completion, analyzing the available resources and potential risks, and developed its own model of cooperation with project stakeholders, – Head of the International Students Office, Lidiia Shevchenko.”*

**NEWS from partners**

## Ukrainian state center for international education (Study in Ukraine)

### Research the market of educational services in Ukraine for foreigners



The Ukrainian State Center for International Education regularly researches the market of educational services in Ukraine for foreigners. Conducting such a study during the war was especially important in order to understand the prospects of the industry, the attitudes of foreign students and what measures should be taken by Ukrainian universities and state authorities to improve the situation. The research was conducted, including, within the framework of the project.

Therefore, the SE "Ukrainian State Center for International Education" conducted the study "Foreign students in Ukraine during the war", in the form of an interview and an online survey of foreign students in Ukraine. It was attended by 3,445 foreign students studying in educational institutions of Ukraine.



In general, we quite expectedly saw a decrease in the number of foreign entrants by approximately 40% compared to the pre-war year. The number of institutions teaching foreign students has almost halved. Before the war, the most popular educational institutions for foreigners were located in the front-line regions, these higher education institutions also remain at the top of the ranking in terms of the number of students. However, the analysis of the introductory campaign during the war showed that the most invitations to study have already been issued by those institutions located in the capital or in regions far from the front line.

A trend of changing priorities can also be observed in the choice of specialties. In terms of the number of invitations, management took the first place, as opposed to medical specialties, which were in the lead in previous years.

However, direct feedback from foreign students about studying in Ukraine during the period of martial law leaves a lot of room for well-founded optimism. After all, half of the respondents assured that they will continue to study in Ukraine even if the war does not end. And 60% of students indicated that the quality of education has not changed since the beginning of the war. 45% of respondents would recommend studying in Ukraine even despite the war.

During the survey, we learned that half of the students preferred Ukrainian higher education institutions, choosing between European educational institutions. That is, we can withstand competition with the powerful educational hubs of Europe.

Among the advantages of Ukrainian education, the interviewees mentioned the lower cost of education, high quality of education and studying in a European country.

The survey showed that 68% of students found it easy to get a visa, which indicates significant progress in the debureaucratization of this process compared to previous years. We also investigated where applicants get information about studying in Ukraine, who makes the final decision, what guides them in their choice. This will help to properly build a campaign to disseminate information about educational opportunities in Ukraine.

The information obtained as a result of the research will help institutions of higher education to develop educational programs for foreign students in popular specialties, to direct their efforts to find applicants to certain countries, where there is already formed interest. For state authorities, the study indicates what steps need to be taken to improve the situation of foreign students in Ukraine. For example, 73% of students need the possibility of official employment, so the corresponding changes were proposed to the legislation.

The study in full at [https://studyinukraine.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/ukr\\_Book\\_2023\\_compressed.pdf](https://studyinukraine.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/ukr_Book_2023_compressed.pdf)

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## **"Integration of foreigners in Ukraine: experience of refugee communities, new challenges and prospects"**

At the invitation of the Right to Defense Charitable Foundation, the Ukrainian State Center for International Education took part in a round table in Kyiv.

The event was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, the Office of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Commissioner for Human Rights, public and international organizations.



Leaders of refugee communities in Ukraine also took part in the round table. After all, the leaders of refugee communities have experience and can share their experiences in the field of integration of foreigners into Ukrainian society, including with representatives of the relevant authorities.

The Ukrainian State Center for International Education shared the experience of adaptation and integration of foreign students in Ukrainian educational institutions and the results of the INTERADIS project.

*NEWS from partners*

**The National University of Water and Environmental Engineering**

**Welcome “O Week” for the freshman students!**



**International Students Adaptation and Integration/ *INTERADIS***

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It has already become a good tradition to start each academic year with welcome “O Week” - an introductory week for freshmen, full of not only new acquaintances with classmates and teachers, but also a large number of informational, cultural and educational activities, interesting trainings and events.

During 2-6 September, the first-year students, including international ones, had a great opportunity to get to know each other better, communicate and ask questions to the Rector of the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering, Viktor Moshynskyi, university administration, academic and administrative staff and students’ organizations. In particular, Viktor Moshynskyi presented the university, talked about the benefits of studying at the NUWEE and the opportunities for students. The first-year students were interested in what subjects the head of the institution teaches, how long he has been rector, his attitude to smoking, how many international students study at the university, etc.

Vladyslav Solodkyi, Centre for International Cooperation and Education, presented existing international exchange and double-degree programmes, COIL and virtual academic exchanges, NUWEE grant projects, permanent international programmes, and joint master's programmes; non-formal and informal education, its benefits, non-formal education programmes at the university, online platforms with free online courses and the recognition of learning outcomes obtained outside the university. He also held an interactive session with students on the activities within Erasmus+ CBHE project “INTERADIS/International Students Adaptation and Integration”, presented the calendar plan of integration activities for this academic year and invited the students to join the Buddy Group that was initiated within the project.

During “O Week” students also learned about the basic skills of first aid, the sequence of first aid to the victim, the algorithm for providing first aid in case of short-term loss of consciousness (fainting) and resuscitation measures in case of respiratory arrest. Practical psychologists Inna Misko and Olena Skorokhod spoke about how a freshman can plunge into student life without stress, find contact with classmates and teachers, prove themselves, and cope with internal experiences. The attendees also took part in the Green Helping Hands training and learned more about the activities of the Practical Psychology and Social Work sector.

Public Relations Department introduced the NUWEE media. The students got acquainted with all the information resources and learned how they could join the creation of the institution's content, feel like a journalist, videographer or photographer.

Viktor Korbutiak, Head of the Education Quality Department, spoke about leadership in student life, student centrism, personal development, mutual respect, student rights, integrity and types of violations, the consequences, including for teachers, of using artificial intelligence, and the declaration of academic integrity of the NUWEE students.

Taking into account the Martial law in Ukraine, the students were guided with the civil security structures, the algorithm of actions during the “Air Alert” signal, the operation and rules of conduct in the civil defense forces, the procedure for detecting an object similar to an explosive device and its signs, etc.

The freshmen got familiar with digital innovations, modernization and development of information technologies at the university, electronic document management, IP telephony, technical protection of information, service resources, software, administration of corporate resources, technical support of networks, etc. Vitalii Nazaruk, Head of IT Centre, also spoke in more



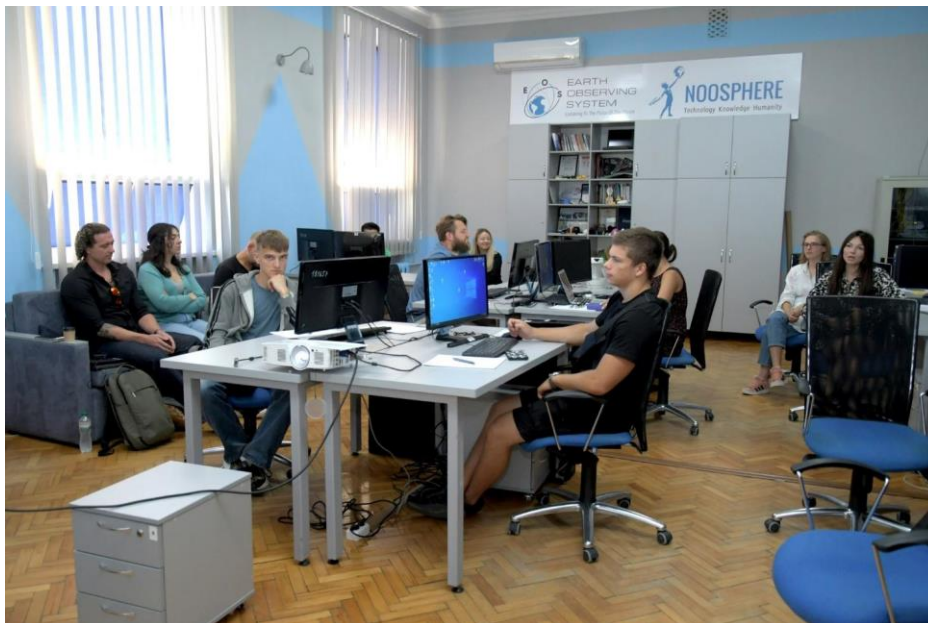
detail about the Student tab, the Cabinet tab, authorized resources, rules for using e-mail, online classes via Google Meet, the student's electronic cabinet, the digital repository, the Moodle platform, the Help Desk service and the Virtual Campus.

Bohdan Zubrytskyi, Head of the Department of Physical Education, presented the NUWEE sport sections and the opportunities provided by the department, how to take up your favourite sport or continue your previous training. He also noted that a new sports section on fencing was founded at the university. While Kateryna Pryndiuk, Director of the Student Development Centre, and Pavlo Shevchuk, Director of the Partnership Development Centre, spoke about the “real” life of a student. Thus, the freshmen learned about their rights and responsibilities, the difference between student life and school life, the possibility of receiving personalized scholarships, where to spend their leisure time, student self-government and employment, etc.

We truly hope that “0 Week” within the NUWEE orientation and onboarding strategy will smoothen the adaptation and integration of freshmen, including international students, enhance their learning experience, support their integration and provide essential tools for academic and career success.

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## **Boundless Collaboration: Fordham University Summer School at NUWEE**



The ever-growing internationalization of higher education highlights the importance of adapting curricula to meet the needs of diverse student populations, especially in the context of international students adaptation and integration. At the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering (NUWEE), significant efforts are being made to improve the quality of curricula and enhance Blended Intensive Programmes (BIP) as part of the INTERADIS project. This initiative aims to strengthen academic programs and enhance interdisciplinary collaboration across different faculties, leveraging diverse expertise to address complex global challenges, thus increasing the university's visibility and attracting more partnerships and enriching the educational experience for international students.

Thus, from August 4 to 17, 2024, at the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering (NUWEE) a joint Summer School in Telemedicine with Fordham University (New York, USA) was held. This event marks a significant milestone in the expansion of international cooperation and the strengthening of academic ties between our universities.

The Summer School, which is going to be annual, aims to bring together students, faculty, and practitioners to collaborate on innovative projects in the fields of telemedicine and electronic medical documentation. Over the course of two weeks, participants had the opportunity to master the latest approaches and technologies used in global medical practice.

During the Summer School, daily lectures, workshops, and group project were led by leading experts from Fordham University. Among the mentors:

- **John J. Chelsom**, Director of the Applied Medical Informatics program at Fordham University;
- **Zachary Taggart Hands**, graduate student of the Applied Medical Informatics program;
- **Adam Retter**, CEO of Evolved Binary Limited and mentor for telemedicine programs;
- **Jennifer Ramirez-Betancur**, Consultant at Seven Informatics Limited and mentor for telemedicine programs;
- **Jay H. Chelsom**, student of the Faculty of International Relations.

These highly qualified professionals conducted lectures and guided group projects within two certification programs:

1. **Integration of Electronic Health Systems and Telemedicine** (August 5, 2024 – August 9, 2024)
2. **Development of Automated Models for Electronic Medical Document Circulation** (August 12, 2024 – August 16, 2024)

Each participant stood a chance to contribute to real-world projects aimed at addressing current issues in the healthcare sector. Key stages of the Summer School included interim project evaluations (August 7 and August 14), as well as final evaluations and a formal certificate award ceremony (August 9 and August 16).

This Summer School served as an important step in developing international academic cooperation and preparing a new generation of specialists in medical informatics. Through this event, NUWEE students expanded their knowledge and gained experience that formed the foundation for their future professional growth.

We warmly welcome our guests from Fordham University and thank them for the opportunity to share their experience and knowledge. We look forward to continued fruitful collaboration and the realization of new joint projects.

We strongly believe that by integrating the INTERADIS goals into its long-term strategy, NUWEE ensures the sustainability of its internationalization efforts, reinforcing its reputation as a global educational institution and fostering a vibrant, inclusive campus community.

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## **NUWEE is the first university partner of IIBA® of Ukraine**

In May 2024, the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering officially became a partner of the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA) and from now our university is the first and only member of the IIBA academic program among higher education institutions in Ukraine. In the directory of partner institutions of [iiba.org](https://iiba.org), NUWEE is listed together with the world's leading universities, which also received access to IIBA's licensed educational materials.

A blue graphic with a white line-art illustration of a large university building. In the top left, there is a logo for "Національний університет водного господарства та природокористування". In the top right, the "iIBA® International Institute of Business Analysis™" logo is displayed. At the bottom left, a green arrow points right with the text "НУВГП – перший в Україні університет-учасник академічної програми IIBA®". In the bottom right corner, there is a circular seal with the "iIBA® MEMBER" logo.

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Teachers who provide educational and professional programs "Business Analytics" specialty 051 Economics at the bachelor's and master's level have institutional membership, access to advanced IIBA resources and the right to use materials in teaching disciplines for students of educational programs whose training is related to business analysis.

Congratulations to the winners of "Business Analytics" on this achievement. Now, NUWEE provides an opportunity to get an education in accordance with international standards of business analysis, using the Business Analysis Body of Knowledge Guide (BABOK), Agile Extension to the BABOK Guide, as well as the opportunity to participate in webinars and other events provided by the IIBA academic program.

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## Registration for the course on climate starts





Within the framework of the COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) model, the NUWEE jointly with the Caribbean University (Cancun, Mexico) will implement a course during the autumn semester of 2024/2025: Global Climate Change and Decarbonisation: Intercultural Exchange.

We invite you to join the intercultural exchange with Mexican students of the Caribbean University. You will meet new people, communicate with Mexican students, and develop opportunities for cooperation. The course involves working in groups of 4-5 students from Ukraine and Mexico. The implementation of joint tasks, preparation of presentations and materials will unite the students of the National University of the Caribbean and the University of the Caribbean in creative cooperation.

The course will be taught in English with a minimum language requirement of B1. The course will take place remotely via online platforms.

Registration for the course is open until 20 September at 13:00. To register for the course, please fill out the [form](#)

During the course, we will use the online platform <https://www.labster.com/>, so please review the materials on how to work with this platform <https://www.labster.com/guides/the-students-guide-to-labster>

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## With Ukraine in the heart Photo Exhibition in NUWEE



On Thursday, July 4, a photo exhibition dedicated to volunteers from Belarus who fought on the side of Ukraine and died during the Russian-Ukrainian war was opened on the fourth floor of the first building of the University. The organizers of the exhibition, the "Free Belarus" charitable foundation, together with the National People's Congress of Ukraine, aim to tell people about the heroism of the Belarusian heroes who gave their lives for our country.

The exhibition held special significance as our international student from Belarus, Dzmitry Lisichyk, is currently serving in the international corps, defending Ukraine. Dzmitry is known for his intelligence, bravery, and strong work ethic. Despite his military duties, he took the time to record video verses for the International Festival "International Vechornytsi," which was held in May at KROK University in Kyiv.



Co-funded by the  
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Words of thanks and respect were heard from the rector Viktor Moshynskyi, the deputy mayor Yevhen Ivanishyn, relatives of the fallen.

The head of the fund Oleksii Frantskevych notes: "The project was started together with the relatives of the fallen soldiers. The exhibition features more than two dozen portraits with stories of heroes and descriptions of their exploits. Currently, more than 60 Belarusians died. Some of them came to the aid of Ukrainians back in 2014. Currently, two have the title of Hero of Ukraine, two more have the title of People's Hero of Ukraine. The collection of information about the dead continues"...

On one of the stands you can see Dmytro Rubashevskyi, a student majoring in Agronomy, who died during the Russian invasion in 2022.

The guests also watched a video about Belarusian volunteers and held a joint prayer for the dead.

By the way, Rivne was not the first city where the exhibition was presented. Previously, residents of Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, Chernihiv, Zaporizhzhia, Vinnytsia, Khmelnytskyi and other cities of Ukraine and abroad saw the photo booths of the victims.

<https://youtu.be/KutmiVbPOVE>

For ref.: The project "International Students Adaptation and Integration/ INTERADIS" (619451-EPP-1-2020-1-NL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP) aims to integrate international students into Ukrainian and European educational space by the means of cultural, ethnic, social and academic assets. The Project is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Program of the European Union.