

In 2007 – 2012, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University took part in two ERASMUS Mundus External Cooperation Window (EM ECW) projects; funded by the EU, **the cooperation and mobility programme** in the field of higher education aimed to enhance the quality of European higher education and to promote dialogue and understanding between people and cultures through cooperation with Third-Countries. In addition, it contributed to the development of human resources and the international cooperation capacity of Higher education institutions in Third Countries by increasing mobility between the European Union and these countries.

The EM ECW Lot 5 project provided opportunities of mobility to students (undergraduate and master), researchers (doctorate and post-doctorate), academic staff, as well as executives of the private and public sector.

Project title:	Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window for Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan
Project reference:	132833-EM-1-2007-GR-ERA MUNDUS-ECW LOT 5
Project extension reference:	2009-1683/001-001 –ECW
Coordinating institution:	The Alexander Technological Educational Institution of Thessaloniki, Greece
Institutional coordinator at TSU:	Department of Foreign Relations
Project duration:	September 2007 – August 2012
Total mobility:	290 persons
Project partners:	

a) European Union:

ATEI of Thessaloniki (Greece), HAS University of Applied Sciences (The Netherlands), The University of Tuscia (Italy), University of Angers (France), Rēzeknes Augstskolā (Latvia), Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo (Portugal), University of Ruse (Bulgaria)

b) South Caucasus:

Armenia - Gyumri State Pedagogical Institute, Armenian State University of Economics, Armenian State Agrarian University (Armenia), Yerevan State University, Gavar State University
Azerbaijan - Azerbaijan Tourism Institute, Ganja State University, Khazar University
Georgia - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Telavi Iakob Gogebashvili State University, Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University

The objectives of the project:

- ☐ To give the opportunity for mobility to undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as to academic staff, PhD and post-doctorate researchers between the two continents, which will carry on even after the end of the project, thus contributing to the educational and cultural enhancement of the beneficiaries.
- ☐ To provide both public and private sector executives from the third-countries, as well as academic staff and administrators from the collaborating Institutes with new knowledge and practical experience in order to enhance the level of their administration, research and teaching abilities.
- ☐ To offer contemporary training programmes, seminars, project assignments, research activities, field trips, internship, educational visits, use of equipment and the knowledge of the European Institutes to all beneficiaries from the third countries, thus contributing to the enhancement of the educational system and the amelioration of their socio-economic environment.
- ☐ To provide education, access to new technologies and support of every kind to disabled students.
- ☐ To promote transnational exchange of knowledge and experience through the mobility of both third-countries and European beneficiaries and teaching staff members, as well as through the integrated training provided.
- ☐ To improve the linguistic capabilities of the beneficiaries by offering them intensive English language perfection courses, as well as by using the English language for their studies and teaching in Europe throughout the project.

- ☐ To assist towards the use, integration and exploitation of new Technologies and the Bologna process in the training programmes of the third countries' universities, through the offered seminars on these issues to all the incoming academics, post-doctorate fellows, PhD and Master students.
- ☐ To create sustainable educational, cultural and economic links among the Institutions and countries of the two continents, through the promotion of dialogue and the co-operation during this project, as well as through the present and future exchange of scientific knowledge and experience of the local communities.
- ☐ To provide equality of opportunities to both genders, as well as a priority in their selection to socially and economically weak students, to refugees and other displaced individuals, in order to benefit from the programme and ameliorate their future.
- ☐ To establish a network among researchers from the participating countries which will conduct in-depth joint research programmes, as well as to investigate transnational education between the EU and SC Institutes, thus contributing towards the sustainability of the cooperation among the participating countries, universities, organizations and enterprises.
- ☐ To facilitate towards the development of entrepreneurship opportunities between the EU and SC private sector.
- ☐ To contribute to long term sustainable development in the third countries and to offer assistance towards the improvement of the local economies.

For more please visit the project website:

<http://erasmusmundus5.teithe.gr/?fbclid=IwAR0QXKYD2KBjDG96VoruhTseMYqbrjqV488r070qmJUEiEUkROSjHmEvF6U>