

## Project duration

33 months (1.10.2022. to 30.6.2025.)

## Project co-financing

250.000,00 EUR



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the European Union

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## Partners

The Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts, Croatia  
[www.hok.hr](http://www.hok.hr)

Resita Technical College, Romania  
[www.technic-resita.ro](http://www.technic-resita.ro)

Craft Chamber Skopje, North Macedonia  
[zkomora.com.mk](http://zkomora.com.mk)

Faculty of Informatics and Digital Technologies, Croatia  
[www.inf.uniri.hr](http://www.inf.uniri.hr)

Professional Vocational School Pirot, Serbia  
[srednjastrucnapirotd.edu.rs](http://srednjastrucnapirotd.edu.rs)



## Partner activities update

Partners have finished project activities from **WP2** to improve stakeholder cooperation. In Croatia, another **communication seminar** was held in April 2025 in Zagreb to improve communication between VET teachers and mentors in companies. Also, in May 2025 a **multiplicators seminar** for VET advisors was organised in Trakošćan. Also, all project partners finished their activities on building effective partnerships by signing **Memoranda of Understanding** with regional and local VET stakeholders in their countries.

Another key project activity is the development of **e-platform and apprenticeship e-logbook**. In 2025, **piloting** was organised with selected VET schools in Croatia, Romania, North Macedonia and Serbia. The piloting showed that the functionalities of e-platform and e-apprenticeship map are useful and provide an innovative tool for raising the quality of cooperation between schools, apprentices and employers. Based on the results of piloting, partners provided sets of recommendations for securing the sustainability and broader implementation of developed digital tools.

Also, **e-modules for mentors in companies** have been finalized in all project countries and were successfully tested and used by users.

Regarding the promotion of e-modules, **the Marketing Campaign** was conducted in order to promote e-modules and raise awareness about their existence to a wider audience.

On 21 January 2025, the **4th partners meeting** was organised online.

Project coordinator (HOK) informed project partners about the current status of project activities and discussed with them future steps. Also, the dates for the final conference and final partners meeting were agreed as well as the first preparatory steps.

All partners agreed upon next steps for the final six months of the projects, and it has been concluded that the **final conference and final partners meeting will be held in Zagreb in May 2025**.

## Sustainability conclusions

- continue organising activities to foster partnership cooperation in VET
- find the way to implement e-platform and e-apprenticeship map on a broader scale
- raise awareness about e-modules as a practical tool for mentors to improve their pedagogical skills

## Final Partners' Meeting in Zagreb

Partners concluded project activities and discussed the project sustainability.



## Better VET Through Partnership: Highlights from the Erasmus+ Joint Mentorship Project Conference

The final conference of the Erasmus+ project Joint Mentorship: Better Cooperation for Better VET was held on May 20, 2025, at the premises of the Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts.

The conference brought together stakeholders in vocational education and training (VET), as well as international project partners, to present the project's results and discuss the importance of cooperation in the VET system.

Dalibor Kratochvil, President of the Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts, congratulated and thanked the project team from the Chamber and partner institutions for their work on the project. He also addressed the ongoing reform of vocational education and the introduction of new curricula starting from the next school year. "The Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts has repeatedly emphasized the need for more hours of work-based learning in enterprises, and that businesses providing apprenticeships should be licensed. Someone needs to verify who is working with students and under what conditions. Our goal is to ensure that apprenticeships continue to play a strong role, are further improved where needed, and provide young people with the conditions for a decent life and work – just like in advanced European countries," said President Kratochvil.

At the conference, craftspeople, vocational school teachers, and representatives of relevant ministries and agencies had the opportunity to learn about the project's results, especially the tools developed to improve cooperation – such as **the Guidelines for Enhancing Cooperation** with best practice examples, and **the e-platform with the e-apprenticeship map**.

In addition, participants were introduced to **training modules for in-company mentors**, aimed at helping them enhance their pedagogical skills and their work with students.

A panel discussion was also held on the topic of cooperation and ways to improve collaboration among VET stakeholders. The panel included representatives from the Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts, the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, the Ministry of Economy, the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education, and a school principal.

The main conclusion of the panel discussion was that although many activities are being implemented to strengthen cooperation, there is still a clear need to improve communication and develop support models for more effective collaboration – especially between craftspeople and schools.

The **general conclusion** of the conference was that cooperation is the key to successful and effective vocational education, and that existing tools can further enhance this collaboration. It is also necessary to continue raising awareness about the importance of cooperation and to engage as many craftspeople, schools, and students as possible in various forms of collaboration at the local and regional levels – with concrete support from relevant state institutions.