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Newsletter 2 / August 2021 – December 2021

**Erasmus+ Capacity Building of Higher Education
“TEACHERS’ CERTIFICATION CENTRES: INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO
PROMOTION TEACHING EXCELLENCE” / UTTERLY
619227-EPP-1-2020-1-UA-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP**

**NEWSLETTER 2
August 2021 - December 2021**



Union of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Ukraine



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**TEACHERS’ CERTIFICATION CENTRES: INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO PROMOTION TEACHING
EXCELLENCE / UTTERLY**

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

TEACHERS' CERTIFICATION CENTRES: INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO PROMOTION TEACHING EXCELLENCE / UTTERLY

619227-EPP-1-2020-1-UA-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Project duration: 15.01.2021 – 14.01.2023

Project Coordinator: Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine.

Wider objective:

To contribute the modernisation of higher education systems in Ukraine by introducing universities centres of teaching excellence for promotion of European educational innovations by professional university teachers' certification.

Specific project objectives:

- To modernise the formal system of university teachers' professional development and certification in Ukraine by establishing of 9 independent Centres of Teaching Excellence, as well as creating their network, focusing on enhancing quality of university teaching;
- To introduce the professional university teachers' certification programs based on European good practices and education innovations for ensuring teaching excellence;
- To develop and pilot a new teaching excellence curriculum based on teaching excellence framework, including courses syllabi and MOOCs which are permeable with education needs of academic communities in Ukraine and resulting in professional certification of university teachers.

Expected results:

- Benchmarking research conducted.
- Strategy and model for Teaching Excellence developed.
- Selected staff retrained in EU.
- CTEs offices opened.
- Professional standards for university teachers developed.
- Regulation for teacher attestation improved.
- Teaching excellence curriculum developed.
- Evaluation methodology for certification created.
- Trainees for pilot groups enrolled.
- Certification programs accredited.

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Partners:

- **Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania** (<https://cutt.ly/bWzfLo2>)
- **Bayreuth University, Germany** (<https://cutt.ly/vWzgw1K>)
- **University of Versailles Saint-Quentin, France** (<https://cutt.ly/OWzf3Ug>)
- **Wroclaw University of Science and Technology, Poland** (<https://cutt.ly/MWzgtQh>)
- **Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman, Ukraine**
(<https://cutt.ly/fWzgiqf>)
- **Poltava V.G. Korolenko National Pedagogical University, Ukraine** (<https://cutt.ly/3WzgpvT>)
- **Kryvyi Rih National University, Ukraine** (<https://cutt.ly/oWzgdSB>)
- **Lutsk National Technical University** (<https://cutt.ly/KWzghca>)
- **Kropyvnytskyi Volodymyr Vynnychenko Central Ukrainian State Pedagogical University, Ukraine** (<https://cutt.ly/OWzglb>)
- **Pereyaslav-Khmelnytsky H.Skovoroda State Pedag. University, Ukraine**
(<https://cutt.ly/7Wzgx1t>)
- **Nizhyn Mykola Gogol State University, Ukraine** (<https://cutt.ly/bWzgnvb>)
- **Institute of Higher Education of the National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine, Ukraine** (<https://cutt.ly/eWzgW1P>)
- **Union of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Ukraine, Ukraine**
(<https://cutt.ly/9WzgTvu>)

Project web-site: <https://projects.lnu.edu.ua/utterly/>

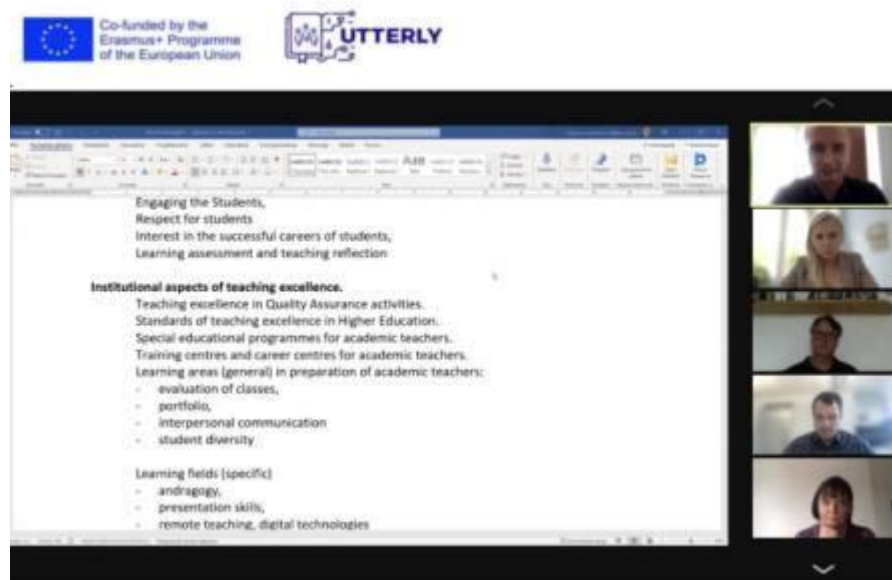
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Project Management Board meeting (4.08.2021) in online mode

On August 4, the meeting of the UTTERLY (“University teachers’ certification centers: innovative approach to promotion teaching excellence”) Project Management Board was held. During the meeting, the latest version of the project implementation handbook was discussed and approved.

In addition, the participants discussed the general concept of teaching excellence, benchmarking, academic teachers’ skills in different EU countries, the features of distance learning and institutional aspects of teaching excellence.



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Meeting in Wroclaw (21.09.2021-23.09.2021) in hybrid mode

On September, 21-23, at Wroclaw University of Science and Technology the UTTERLY project members' meeting titled "University teachers' certification centers: innovative approach to promote teaching excellence" took place in hybrid mode.



On **the first day** of work, the main achievements and results of the first project work package were discussed.

On September 21, 2021 (the first day of the meeting) the project coordinator from Ivan Franko National University of Lviv Vitaliy Kukharsky came out with a keynote speech, plans and key issues of the meeting. Mariusz Mazurkiewicz, representative of the Wroclaw University of Science and Technology presented benchmarking analysis results that had been conducted within the implementation of the first work project package.

Svitlana Kalashnikova, from Institute of Higher Education, National Academy of the Educational Sciences of Ukraine presented the strategy and model for teaching excellence. Asta Raupeliene, representative of Vytautas Magnus University of Lithuania, spoke about Objectives and Outputs that had been achieved.

In general, as a result of the first working day of the meeting in Wroclaw, the main achievements of the comparative analysis were discussed and strategic goals for the development of teacher certification centers were set.

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Meeting in Wroclaw (21.09.2021-23.09.2021) in hybrid mode



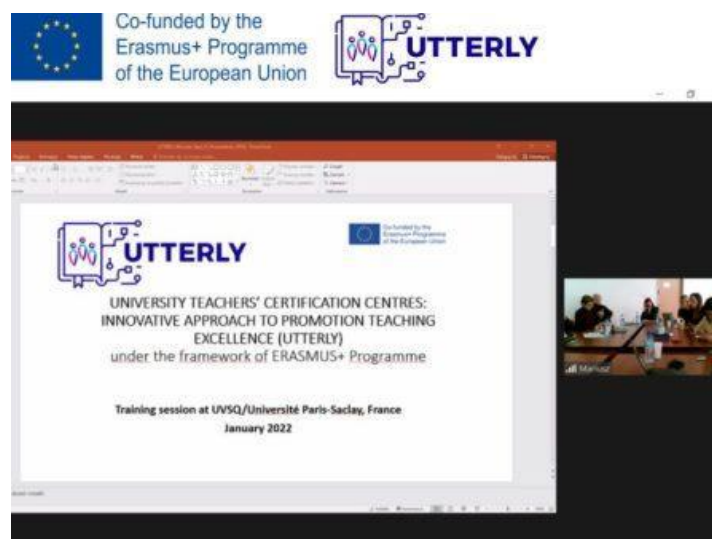
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Meeting in Wroclaw (21.09.2021-23.09.2021) in hybrid mode

The **second day** of the meeting in Wroclaw was dedicated to the discussion of the second working project package results.

The following important aspects of the project were considered:

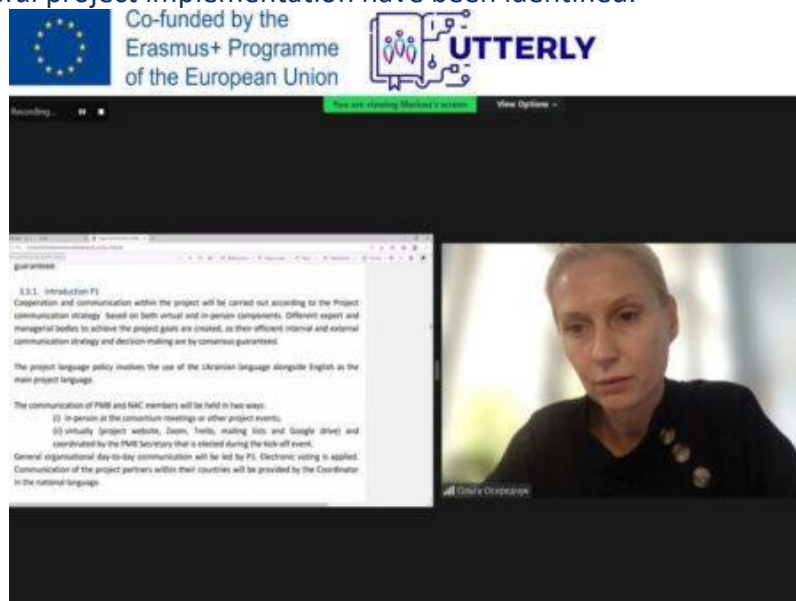
- the process of selecting academic and administrative staff for Teacher Certification Centers;
- road map for the Teacher Certification Centers establishment and operation;
- training programs for the Centers employees, which will take place in Bayreuth (Germany) and in Paris (France).



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Meeting in Wroclaw (21.09.2021-23.09.2021) in hybrid mode

The third, final day of the meeting in Wroclaw (September 23, 2021) was devoted to the discussion of the project practical arrangements and its financial aspects. All the partners' further steps and cooperative actions towards successful project implementation have been identified.



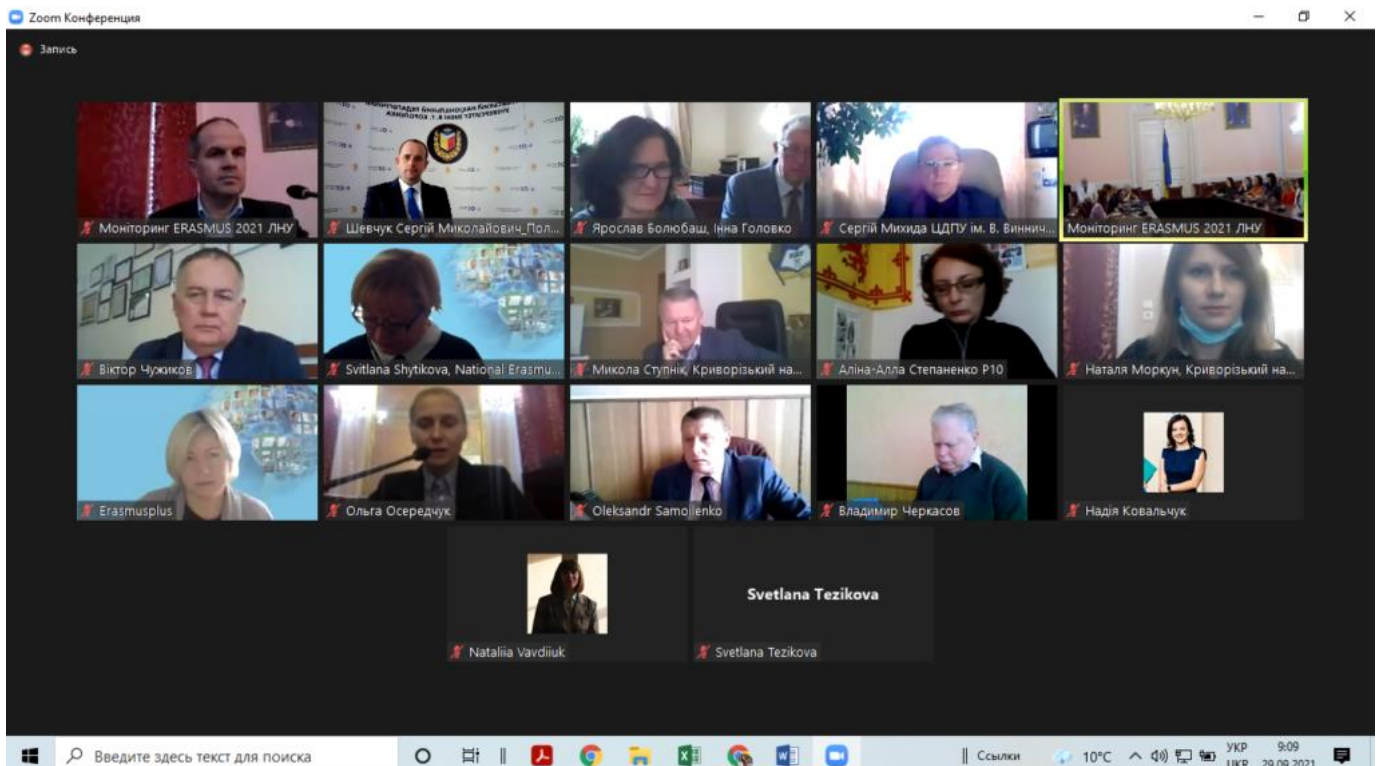
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Monitoring of the project (29.09.2021) in online mode

On Wednesday, September 29, the Erasmus office monitored the project. During the online meeting, the UTTERLY coordinators and managers presented reports on the project's progress.

The Vice-Rector for Research, Teaching and IT Development of Ivan Franko National University of Lviv Vitaliy Kukharskyi opened the meeting with his report. It provided the basic information on challenges, changes, best practices, coverage, equipment involved, certification programs implemented, etc. "UTTERLY opens new opportunities for growth in education, we are proud that Lviv University has become one of the catalysts for such changes in Ukrainian education," said Vitaliy Kukharskyi.

Then the partners made short presentations on their progress within the project and the results that had been achieved. Lviv University was represented by Olha Oseredchuk, Head of the Marketing and Development Center. In her presentation she described in detail the process of certification program implementation at the University, its results, challenges and solutions.



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Monitoring of the project (29.09.2021) in online mode

Also, partners from Kyiv National University of Economics named after Vadym Hetman, Poltava V.G Korolenko National Pedagogical University, Kryvyi Rih National University, Lutsk National Technical University, Volodymyr Vynnychenko Central Ukrainian State Pedagogical University, Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav, Nizhyn Mykola Gogol State University, the National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine and the Union of Rectors of Higher Educational Institutions of Ukraine delivered their presentations.



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Meeting in University of Bayreuth (22.11.2021-26.11.2021) in hybrid mode

On November 22-26, at the University of Bayreuth (Germany) a meeting of project participants took place.

The work was carried out in a hybrid format - the participants in the Bayreuth seminars were joined via video link by colleagues from partner universities who were unable to travel due to quarantine restrictions. A number of events took place online.

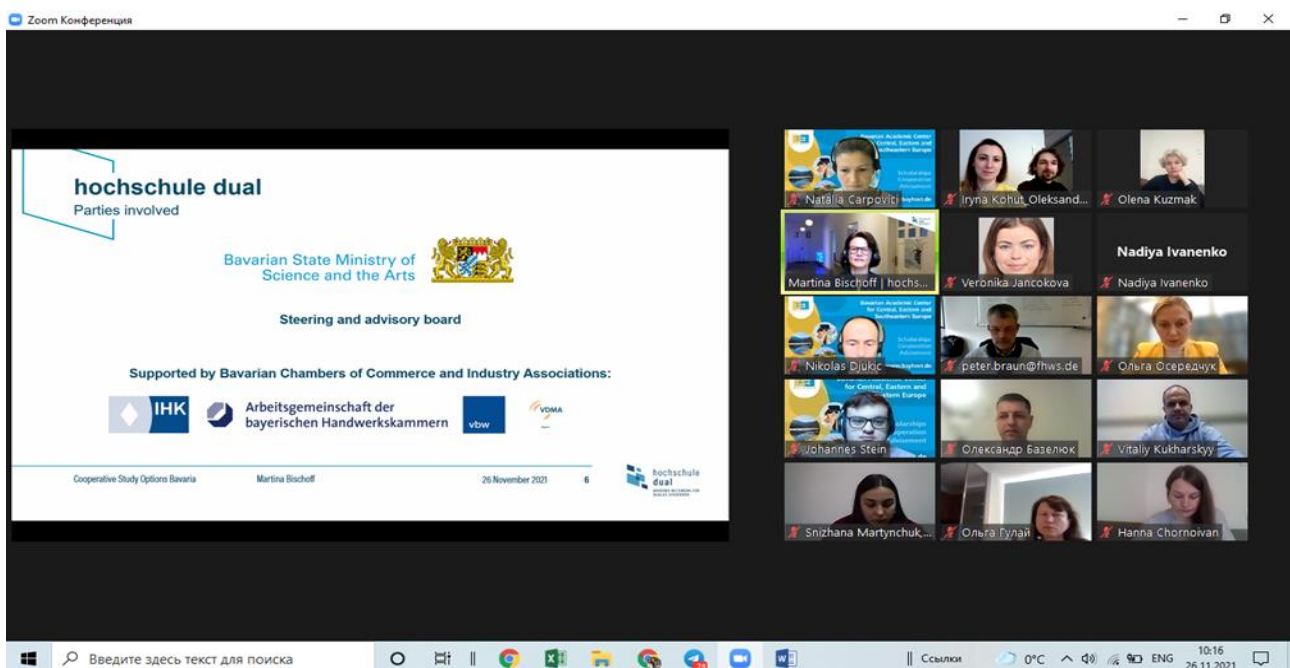
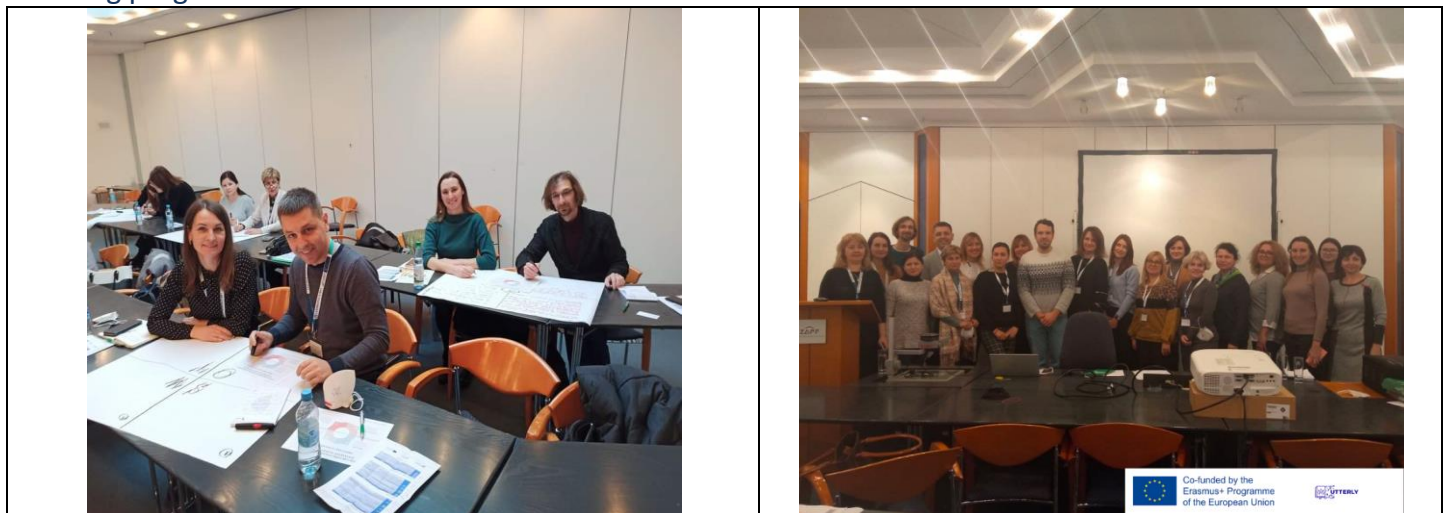


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Meeting in University of Bayreuth (22.11.2021-26.11.2021) in hybrid mode

The project participants considered the organization of Teachers' Certification Centers in higher education institutions, learned about the experience of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Bayreuth University, innovative projects QUADIS and DABALUGA, discussed Bavarian-Ukrainian-Belarusian exchanges in dual programs of study etc.

The visit ended with informal communication and excursions to the cultural centers of Bayreuth. Such meetings are important because they promote cooperation in the field of educational exchanges and dual training programs.



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Training “Strategy and Model of the Center for Teaching Improvement” (07.12.2021–10.12.2021)

On December, 7-10, at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, the training “Strategy and Model of the Center for Teaching Improvement” was provided for the participants of the UTTERLY project.

During the training, representatives of the partner universities from all over Ukraine discuss a range of vital questions: Which direction does higher education move on? What are the models of a modern university and its strategies for improving teaching? What should a university lecturer's profile be? Besides, the participants focused on institutional policies related to promoting teaching excellence.



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Vitaliy Kukharsky, the Vice-Rector of Ivan Franko National University of Lviv highlighted: "The University has had some experience in launching two courses to improve teaching skills, so we are happy to support another joint initiative with the UTTERLY, which aims to help Ukrainian universities to make sense of the nuances connected with teachers certification and appreciate the role of the certification centers." **Only joint efforts can ensure the improvement of the quality of teaching and the educational environment in Ukraine in general.**





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Project social networks:

Facebook: <https://cutt.ly/4WzgFXi>

Instagram: @utterly.erasmus