

RiHEI

Accessing EU resources to improve HEI operational and content quality

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Co-funded by the European Union

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Aim of the toolkit

to provide comprehensive guidance on accessing and utilizing EU resources, fostering strategic partnerships, aligning with European standards, and implementing innovative practices to enhance institutional operations, curriculum quality, and global competitiveness in key areas such as:

- Accessing EU resources to strengthen academic and operational capacities of Georgian HEIs.
- Aligning with European educational standards to improve institutional quality and international competitiveness.
- Leveraging EU-funded projects to improve institutional content quality and student outcomes.

Learning outcomes

- Understand the role of HEIs as sustainable growth and enterprise catalysts in Georgia.
- Learn how to access and utilize EU resources to enhance operational quality and academic content.
- Align institutional goals with EU quality standards and international best practices.
- Explore strategies for digital transformation and technological integration in higher education.
- Foster curriculum innovation to meet 21st-century workforce demands and promote interdisciplinary learning.
- Build institutional capacity through international collaboration, professional development, and leadership training.
- Analyze and apply lessons from successful EU-supported initiatives to achieve impactful outcomes in Georgian HEIs.

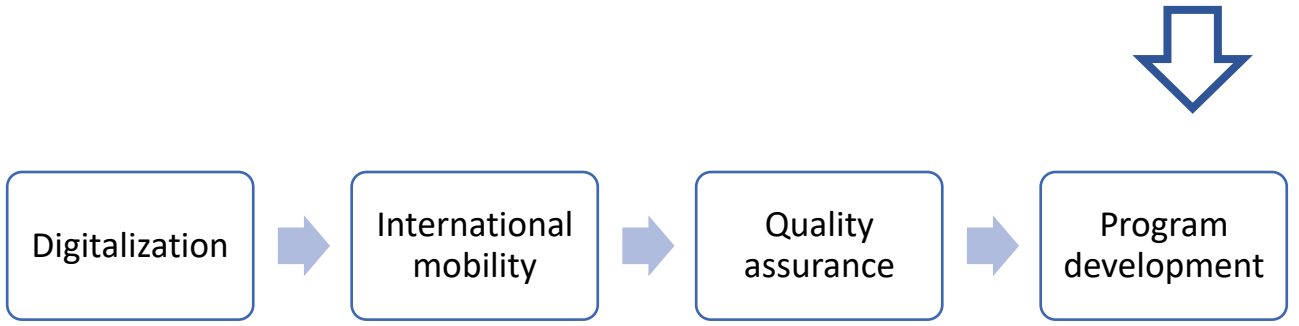


Unit1. Accessing EU Resources to Enhance HEIs



Accessing EU Resources to Enhance HEIs

- HEIs need to remain competitive and globally relevant.
- The EU offers significant financial resources and mechanisms for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Georgia.
- These resources aid transformative changes in areas like:



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Accessing EU Resources to Enhance HEIs in Georgia

- Focusing on the strategic use of resources available in the European Union

Georgian HEIs can:

- Take advantage of their status
- Adhere to European standards
- Achieve global heights in higher education

benefit students, faculty and society at large in the long term

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Key EU Programs

Key EU Programs Supporting HEIs Modernization

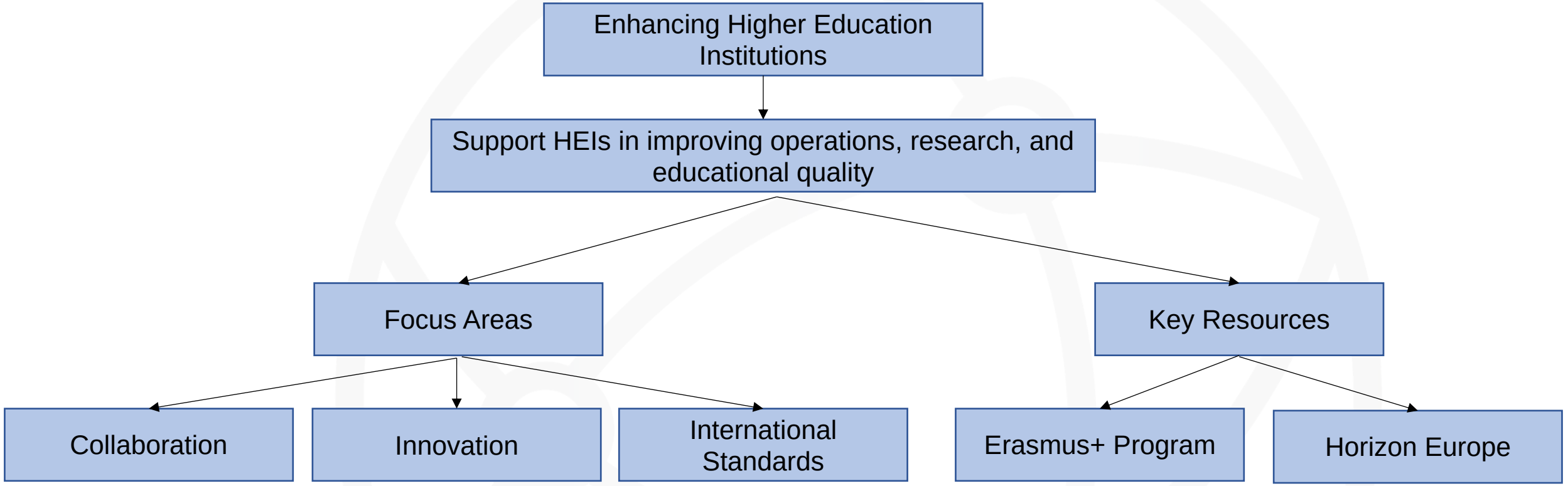
Erasmus+

- Funding for student/staff exchanges and academic programs.
- Builds global partnerships and enhances international exposure.

Horizon Europe

- Supports cutting-edge research, fostering collaboration with European partners.
- Strengthens academic and research capacities in Georgian HEIs.

Overview of Key EU Resources for HEIs



Key EU Resources for Enhancing HEIs

- Vital EU Resources for Georgian HEIs

Key EU Resources for Enhancing HEIs	• Vital EU Resources for Georgian HEIs
Erasmus+ Program	• ross-border collaboration and capacity building .
Horizon Europe	• Focuses on interdisciplinary research and global competitiveness.
EIT	• Integrates innovation and entrepreneurship into education.
Europass Digital Credentials Framework	• Supports the certification of digital and micro-credentials, ensuring easy recognition across Europe.

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Erasmus+ Program

Erasmus+ Program Overview

- **Funding for:**
  - Student and staff exchanges
  - International partnerships
  - Capacity-building projects
- **Benefits:**
  - Improves teaching methods
  - Enhances administrative processes
  - Promotes global institutional collaboration.

Erasmus+ Program

- promotes educational excellence by creating mobility- and cooperation-related opportunities for everyone.

- The Key benefits for HEIs:

Student Mobility

Staff Mobility

Capacity-Building Projects

Grants

- financial aid for studying and training abroad
- experiencing different educational systems, cultures, languages

Benefits

raises the academic level of students,
helps to make students global citizens, a characteristic especially for the modern interdependent world

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Erasmus+ Program

- promotes educational excellence by creating mobility- and cooperation-related opportunities for everyone

- The Key benefits for HEIs:

Student Mobility

Staff Mobility

Capacity-Building Projects

Grants

- Encourages exchange of academic staff between Georgian and European universities

Benefits

For Staff:
- generate new teaching approaches,
- disseminate expertise worldwide
- strengthen research links

For Universities:
- Institutional networking
- Continuity of programmes

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Erasmus+ Program

- promotes educational excellence by creating mobility- and cooperation-related opportunities for everyone

- The Key benefits for HEIs:

Student Mobility

Staff Mobility

Capacity-Building Projects

Grants

- Reform and upgrade institutional governance, curricula and educational delivery

Benefits

studying and adopting best practices from European institutions, especially in:

- Using modern technologies in higher education,
- Sustainable management of higher education and research

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Erasmus+ Program

- promotes educational excellence by creating mobility- and cooperation-related opportunities for everyone

- The Key benefits for HEIs:

Student Mobility

Staff Mobility

Capacity-Building Projects

Impact on Institutional Operations:

- Raising standards of operational efficiency in HEIs
- International standards administrative processes
- Increasing internal efficiency and global competitiveness.

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Horizon Europe

➢ **Horizon Europe Overview**

Focus: Major research and innovation projects

Benefits:

- Enhances academic and research capacities
- Supports interdisciplinary research
- Strengthens global competitiveness.

Horizon Europe

EU's biggest research and innovation programme:

- scientific excellence that drives technological advancement and global competitiveness

Opportunities for Georgian HEIs

- **Collaborative Research Projects:**
  - Participating in cutting-edge research projects with European partners
- **Innovation and Technology Transfer:**
  - Developing stronger links to industry (across academia and industry) and create innovation ecosystems
- **Strengthening Research Infrastructures:**
  - Developing and improving research infrastructures in HEIs, such as laboratories, data centers or digital platforms.

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Horizon Europe

Benefits

- Interdisciplinary initiatives that reinforce the research capacity of the involved institutions
- Responding mainstream global challenges such as climate change, digital transformation as well health crises
- Fostering startup business environments based on research
- Growing to become more research active, competitive and able to attract high quality researchers and create valuable international networks and partnerships

Strategic Benefits:

- ✓ Creating a successful research environment and raise their profile in the international scientific community
- ✓ Gaining access to new knowledge or technologies that they may not be able to develop alone
- ✓ Remaining competitive in a global knowledge economy that innovates faster than any other phenomenon.

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European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT)

European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Overview

- **Purpose:**
  - Provide structured guidelines
  - Offer certification systems (EIT Label)

- **Benefits:**
  - Integrates innovation into curricula
  - Promotes creativity and entrepreneurship

European EIT

Enhancing HEI Curricula and Entrepreneurship

- EIT Label Certification which proves that institutions provide industry-related training programs, latest technological updates, and do not develop entrepreneurial skills.
- Developing Entrepreneurial Skills as a part of course offerings
- Cross-Sector Collaboration

Impact on Educational Quality

- ✓ staying up-to-date in the process of delivery of educational content in terms of academic knowledge and changing requirements for employment.
- ✓ A more flexiblen learning space

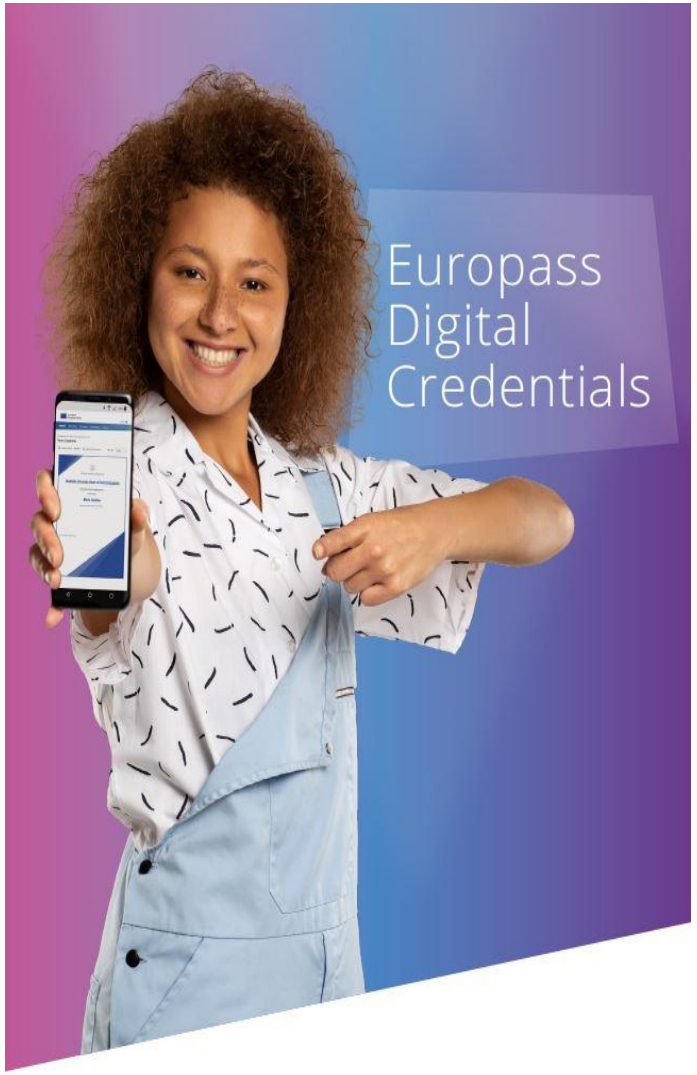
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Europass Digital Credentials Framework

- **Europass Digital Credentials Framework Overview**

- **Purpose:**
  - Issue and certify digital credentials

- **Benefits:**
  - Enhances recognition of skills
  - Ensures qualifications are transferable and recognized across Europe.



europass

Europass Digital Credentials Framework

Key Features and Benefits:

- ➢ Micro-Credentials and Lifelong Learning
- ➢ Transparency and Mobility
- ➢ Blockchain-Enabled Verification

Impact on HEI Administration and Student Outcomes:

- ✓ Reduce accreditation administrative costs and simplify document processing for institutions
- ✓ Easier transfer of students qualifications
- ✓ Increased transparency and international credibility of Georgian HEIs.

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The Strategic Role of HEIs in Georgia's Global Integration

Alignment with European Educational Standards

- Globally comparable and competitive qualifications which Makes Georgian graduates more competitive for further education or the workforce abroad

HEIs as Catalysts for Economic Development

- Preparing a skilled workforce
- fostering entrepreneurship

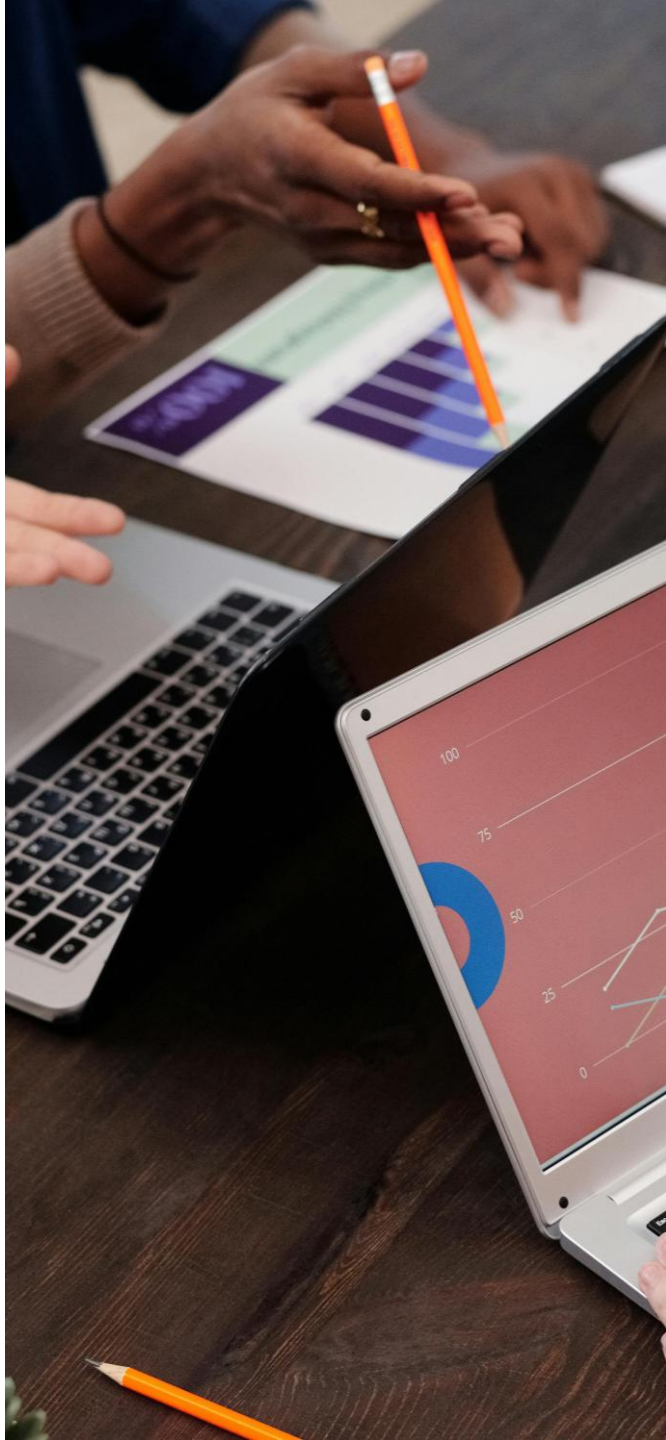
Bridging East and West: A Strategic Geopolitical Role

- Bridge between countries with different educational and economic approaches

Fostering Global Citizenship and Cultural Diplomacy

- Promoting intercultural understanding among students and faculty
- Fostering global perspectives

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Alignment with European Educational Standards

The European Qualifications Framework (EQF), also known as the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS),

Georgian institutions  Institutions in other countries in the EU

Benefits:

- ✓ Increasing student and faculty mobility
- ✓ Presenting Georgians culturally
- ✓ Recognizable certificates within all of Europe, providing mobility opportunities for graduates as well as researchers

In Georgia:

- ✓ Improves Georgian students' employability and effectively means their qualifications are globally comparable and competitive.
- ✓ such standardization favors the entire value chain of Georgian education for global recognition and enrollment of faculty and students.

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HEIs as Catalysts for Economic Development

Initiatives:

- Preparing a skilled workforce and fostering entrepreneurship

- Become centers of applied research and innovation in local problems
- Contributing to global knowledge.

These partnerships have allowed Georgian HEIs to:

✓ strengthen the knowledge-based sectors worldwide

✓ contribute to entrepreneurship by creating the basic elements in the innovation ecosystems



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Bridging East and West: A Strategic Geopolitical Role

Georgia's geopolitical position:

- ✓ Intersection of Europe and Asia
- ✓ Opportunity to become a bridge between countries

Impact:

- A diverse dialogue of ideas, cultures and research methods
- Versatile and adaptable education system



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Fostering Global Citizenship and Cultural Diplomacy



Georgia's HEIs :

- Responsible for the consequences of global citizenship and cultural diplomacy.
- International conferences, research collaborations, and the like are some of the most effective approaches for universities to promote intercultural understanding among students and faculty while fostering global perspectives.
- It not only contributes to the personal and professional development of students but also enriches the relationship between Georgia and the global community.

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Importance of International Collaboration for HEIs' Growth

- Enhancing Research Capabilities through International Collaboration
- Curriculum Development and Academic Innovation
- Professional Development and Training for Staff
- Expanding Global Networks and Opportunities



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Importance of International Collaboration for HEIs' Growth

Enhancing Research Capabilities through International Collaboration

Benefits:

- Opens new ways of access to the most modern research and technology infrastructure and methods
- participate in impactful projects in climate change, public health or digital transformation
- Higher quality of research outputs derived from sharing of ideas, data and knowledge
- Ensuring the visibility of Georgian HEIs in the global research community



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Importance of International Collaboration for HEIs' Growth

Curriculum Development and Academic Innovation

Helps the Georgian universities implement new academic trends, technologies and interdisciplinary approaches into their programmes

Benefits:

- ✓ Up-to-date educational material and interdisciplinary approaches
- ✓ Creation of joint academic provides in entire new avenues for courses like Artificial Intelligence, Renewable Energies, and Sustainable Development



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Importance of International Collaboration for HEIs' Growth

Professional Development and Training for Staff

- **Benefits:**

- ✓ Improve the professional projection of academic and administrative personnel
- ✓ The opportunity to visit their European colleagues and learn about new approaches
- ✓ Be engaged in training related to digital transformation, quality assurance and internationalization, the three main components needed for the modernization of Georgian HEIs
- ✓ Mentoring opportunities and give Georgian staff hands-on experience working with seasoned European academics on research and educational programs.



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Importance of International Collaboration for HEIs' Growth

Expanding Global Networks and Opportunities

➢ Benefits:

✓ Connect with the larger academic world more effectively

✓ provide opportunities for Georgian students and faculty to attend various global academic events like conferences, workshops, research symposia etc.

✓ engage Georgian HEIs in global challenges and enable them to have a voice in addressing critical issues

➢ Impact:

- Increased visibility of Georgian HEIs through cooperation with the HEIs from EU.
- This exposure serves to enhance and consolidate the visibility of Georgian HEIs as leading academic experiences, innovation poles and further encourages international mobility of students, faculty and research funding.
- Through global engagement, Georgian academia benefits but also the benefits for Georgia as a forward-thinking and globally integrated country.

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The Status Current of the Georgian HEI System

- ✓ **implementing the EQF and ESG for quality assurance**

  -Review of the National Qualifications Framework
  - updated accreditation mechanisms

- ✓ **EU-supported programs such as Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe**



Georgian HEIs are responsible for their excellence and are using international partnerships and EU resources to fill these gaps

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Learning from Successful EU Models

➢ Technical University of Munich (TUM), Germany

Key Achievement:

✓ Leads the EU-funded *Graphene Flagship*, the world's largest graphene research initiative.

Impact:

- ❑ Enhanced research capabilities,
- ❑ significant breakthroughs in materials science,
- ❑ strengthened international reputation and collaborations.

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Learning from Successful EU Models

➢ University of Udine, Italy

➢ **Key Achievement**:

- ✓ Participated in the EIT HEI Initiative,
- ✓ Receiving funding to boost innovation and entrepreneurship.

➢ **Impact**:

- ✓ Developed local innovation ecosystems
- ✓ Fostered academia-industry partnerships
- ✓ Achieved institutional change

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Learning from Successful EU Models

➢ Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e), The Netherlands

➢ **Key Achievement**:

- ✓ Leveraged the EIT HEI Initiative to enhance entrepreneurial and innovation capacity.

➢ **Impact**:

- ✓ Built strong industry partnerships
- ✓ fostered student and staff entrepreneurship
- ✓ created numerous start-ups and spin-offs.

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Learning from Successful EU Models

➢ Lund University, Sweden

➢ **Key Achievement**:

- ✓ Engaged in EU-funded projects through Horizon 2020 and ERDF.

➢ **Impact**:

- ✓ Strengthened research capabilities
- ✓ Advanced innovation initiatives
- ✓ Developed cutting-edge technologies through collaborations with industry and academia.

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Learning from Successful EU Models

➢ Technical University of Denmark (DTU)

- **Key Achievement**:
  - ✓ Secured significant EU funding through Horizon Europe, focusing on sustainability challenges like wind turbine blade manufacturing (*TURBO project*).

- **Impact**:
  - ✓ Enhanced research infrastructure
  - ✓ Fostered international collaborations
  - ✓ Contributed to global climate and energy solutions.

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Unit 2. Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

- **Objective:**
  - Improve operational quality of Georgian HEIs
  - Ensure international competitiveness and alignment with European practices
- **EU Resources & Benefits:**

  Frameworks & Tools:
    - Foster transparency
    - Enhance mobility
    - Integrate digital technologies

  Training Programs:
    - Modernize administrative and educational operations
    - Enhance faculty and staff competencies

  Recognition:
    - Ensure student qualifications are recognized across Europe and beyond

Outcome:

- ✓ Raise institutional quality
- ✓ Align with European educational standards
- ✓ Boost global competitiveness

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Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

The components of enhancing operational quality through EU standards for Georgian

Key Areas	Description	Benefits for Georgian HEIs
Adoption of EU Quality Standards	Georgian HEIs can integrate frameworks such as EQAR, ECTS, and EQF to align with European standards, ensuring international competitiveness and recognition of qualifications.	• EQAR: Ensures quality assurance in line with European standards. • ECTS: Promotes academic mobility and credit transfer. • EQF: Enhances comparability of qualifications.
European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR)	EQAR is a register that ensures Georgian HEIs adhere to quality assurance processes recognized across the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), promoting trust and transparency.	Facilitates cross-border collaborations and reassures international students of education quality in Georgia.

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Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

The components of enhancing operational quality through EU standards for Georgian

Key Areas	Description	Benefits for Georgian HEIs
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	ECTS standardizes credit transfers, allowing Georgian HEIs to make their programs compatible with European institutions. This supports student mobility and academic flexibility.	Seamless credit transfer between Georgian and European institutions, enhancing student experience and attractiveness for international students.
European Framework of Qualifications (EQF)	EQF standardizes qualifications across Europe, making it easier to compare and recognize academic and vocational credentials.	Greater transparency and recognition of qualifications, enhancing graduate employability and international mobility.

Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

The components of enhancing operational quality through EU standards for Georgian

Key Areas	Description	Benefits for Georgian HEIs
Tools for Digital Transformation	EU-funded programs like Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe provide access to digital tools that enhance remote learning, online assessments, and data analytics, improving both academic and administrative functions.	• Remote Learning: Expands learning access, reduces costs, and ensures continuity during disruptions. • Data Analytics: Improves decision-making and operational efficiency.
Remote Learning and Online Assessments	Digital platforms supported by Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe allow Georgian HEIs to implement remote lectures, virtual classrooms, and online assessments, making education more accessible and flexible.	Improves accessibility and inclusivity while reducing physical facility costs and enhancing the global reach of Georgian HEIs.

Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

The components of enhancing operational quality through EU standards for Georgian

Key Areas	Description	Benefits for Georgian HEIs
Data Analytics for Administrative Efficiency	Horizon Europe funding allows HEIs to use data analytics for enrollment management, student tracking, and resource allocation, streamlining operations and supporting data-driven decisions.	Enables evidence-based decisions, optimizes student services, and enhances operational transparency.
Training and Certification	Staff development programs, such as DigCompEdu and EntreComp, enhance digital and entrepreneurial competencies, ensuring Georgian educators are equipped for modern education demands.	• DigCompEdu: Builds digital teaching skills. • EntreComp: Fosters entrepreneurship and innovation on campus, preparing students for global workforce challenges.

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Enhancing Operational Quality through EU Standards

The components of enhancing operational quality through EU standards for Georgian

Key Areas	Description	Benefits for Georgian HEIs
DigCompEdu (Digital Competence of Educators)	This EU framework enhances the digital competence of educators, promoting the integration of technology in teaching and learning environments to better engage students and foster online collaboration.	Ensures staff can effectively use digital tools to enhance student learning experiences, keeping Georgian HEIs competitive in the digital education landscape.
EntreComp (Entrepreneurial Competence)	EntreComp develops entrepreneurial skills among both educators and students, encouraging creativity, innovation, and problem-solving as essential 21st-century skills.	Cultivates a culture of entrepreneurship, positioning Georgian HEIs as leaders in innovation and problem-solving.

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Adoption of EU Quality Standards

Objective: Enhance Operational Quality in Georgian HEIs

Key Frameworks
European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR): • Promotes trust and transparency • Ensures alignment with European quality assurance standards
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS): • Facilitates credit transfer and academic flexibility • Enhances compatibility with European institutions
European Framework of Qualifications (EQF): • Standardizes qualifications across Europe • Enhances transparency and employability

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Benefits of EU Quality Standards

Impact on Georgian HEIs

EQAR

- Facilitates cross-border collaborations
- Assures international students of quality alignment with European norms

ECTS:

- Promotes student mobility
- Attracts international students through seamless credit transfers

EQF:

- Enhances comparability of qualifications
- Supports recognition of Georgian qualifications in EU member states

Outcome

Creates a cohesive higher education landscape, enabling better participation in European academic exchanges and research

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Tools for Digital Transformation

Enhancing Operational Quality through Digital Tools

Remote Learning & Online Assessments

- Enabled by EU funding (Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe)
- Supports remote lectures, virtual classrooms, and online assessments
- Enhances accessibility and inclusivity

Data Analytics for Administrative Efficiency:

- Improves enrollment management, student tracking, and resource allocation
- Supports evidence-based decision-making and operational transparency

Outcome

Fosters a flexible and adaptive educational environment, positioning Georgian HEIs competitively in the global education market

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Training and Certification Programs

Building Competencies for Enhanced Quality

DigCompEdu (Digital Competence of Educators):

- Improves digital proficiency in teaching
- Integrates technology into curricula and fosters collaborative learning

EntreComp (Entrepreneurial Competence):

- Develops creativity, innovation, and problem-solving skills
- Fosters a culture of entrepreneurship and prepares students for the global economy

Outcome

Ensures high-quality, future-focused education, and prepares staff and students for a rapidly changing academic and professional landscape

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EU Quality Standards and Their Impact on Accreditation

- **Objective:** Accreditation under EU guidelines

The accreditation process under EU standards:

- Understanding the EU Accreditation Framework
- Accreditation Process for Georgian HEIs

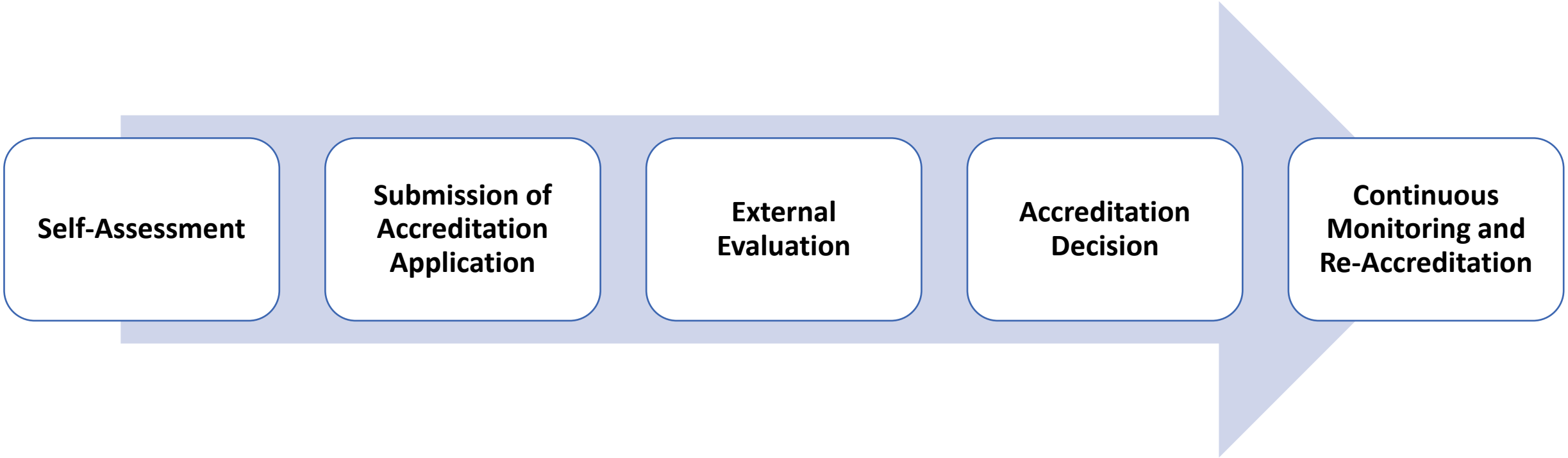
The role accreditation process in :

- Implications for International Competitiveness
- Local Adaptations for Georgian HEIs



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The accreditation process under EU standards



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The accreditation process under EU standards

Self-Assessment

- self-assessment of institute internal processes, including teaching methods, learning outcomes, research activities, and governance structures to identify areas that meet EU standards and those requiring improvement.

Submission of Accreditation Application

- submit an application to a recognized quality assurance agency (often an EQAR-registered agency) for accreditation.
- The application includes:
- detailed reports on institutional processes, curricula, faculty qualifications, student outcomes, and governance practices.

External Evaluation

- An external review panel, visits the institution to conduct an on-site evaluation.
- The panel examines whether the institution adheres to ESG standards and assesses the institution's ability to provide high-quality education and conduct internationally recognized research.

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The accreditation process under EU standards

Accreditation Decision

- Based on the evaluation, the quality assurance agency makes a decision on accreditation.
- Institutions that meet the standards receive accreditation, while those that fall short may be granted provisional accreditation with conditions for improvement.

Continuous Monitoring and Re-Accreditation

- institutions must regularly undergo re-accreditation TO ensure they continue to meet quality standards.

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Implications for International Competitiveness

Objective: Enhance the international standing of Georgian HEIs

Key Frameworks
Increased Student Mobility: • Attracts international students • Simplifies the process of credit transfers
Improved Faculty Recruitment: • Attracts highly qualified international faculty
Enhanced Research Collaboration: • Fosters collaborative research projects • Contribute to global knowledge and innovation
Greater Access to Funding: • Becomes more eligible for more EU grants

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Local Adaptations for Georgian HEIs

Objective: Successfully align with EU accreditation standards

Key Frameworks
Curriculum Modernization: • Ensure that curricula are designed to meet both local and international demands
Governance Reforms: • Emphasis on institutional governance
Enhancing Research Capacity: • Invest in research infrastructure and foster a culture of research excellence
Student-Centered Learning: • Shift from teacher-centered models to more flexible, student-centered approaches

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Modern Governance: Institutional Reforms Through EU Support

Key Areas of Institutional Reforms in Georgian HEIs through EU Support

Key Areas of Reform	Description	EU Support Programs	Expected Impact on Georgian HEIs
Decentralized Decision-Making	Shift from centralized governance to greater participation from faculties, departments, and stakeholders.	Erasmus+, Horizon Europe	Fosters a more democratic and flexible governance model, improving responsiveness.
Strategic Leadership & Vision	Development of long-term strategic plans aligned with national goals and European educational standards.	European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT), Erasmus+	Ensures alignment with global education markets and enhances institutional growth.
Financial Transparency & Efficiency	Implementation of best practices in budgeting, financial reporting, and resource allocation.	Erasmus+ Capacity Building Initiatives	Increases financial sustainability, optimizes resource use, and attracts investments.

Modern Governance: Institutional Reforms Through EU Support

Key Areas of Institutional Reforms in Georgian HEIs through EU Support

Key Areas of Reform	Description	EU Support Programs	Expected Impact on Georgian HEIs
Human Resource Management	Modernization of recruitment, performance evaluation, and professional development for staff.	Erasmus+, EIT, Leadership Training Programs	Enhances workforce motivation, improves recruitment, and fosters faculty development.
Leadership Training Programs	Training in strategic thinking, change management, and global leadership skills for university leaders.	Erasmus+, EIT	Prepares leaders to navigate institutional challenges and drive innovation.
Accountability & Quality Assurance	Adoption of internal and external quality assurance systems aligned with EU standards.	European Standards and Guidelines (ESG), EQAR	Promotes continuous improvement, maintains high academic standards, and ensures accountability.

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Unit 3. Digital Transformation and Technological Integration in Georgian HEIs

Remote Learning: Opportunities and Challenges



Opportunities in Remote Learning:

- **Increased Accessibility and Inclusivity:**

This support is used to develop digital platforms teaching online courses, lectures with demonstrations, or virtual classrooms for joint interaction.

- **Flexible Learning Environments:**

The option suits non-traditional students, such as working professionals and part-time learners, better suited to learn at their own time of convenience.

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Remote Learning: Opportunities and Challenges

Challenges in Remote Learning:

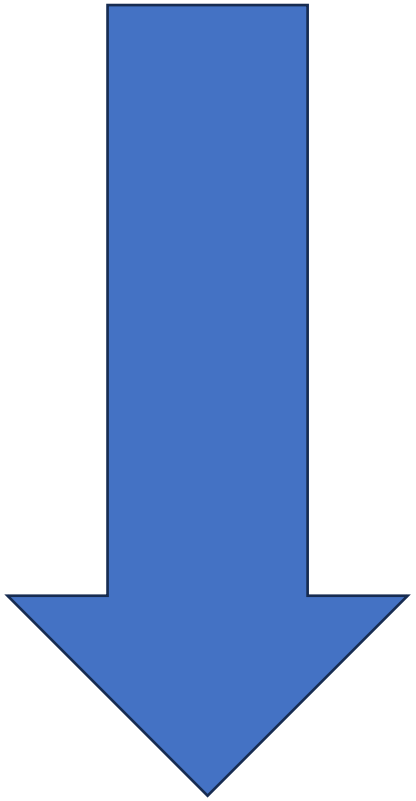
- **Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Issues:**

many in rural regions are often not able to connect with their students online which makes it essentially impossible for them verge on a fair share at the educational process.

- **Student Engagement and Interaction:**

Remote learning, as compared to in-class situations, does not provide nearly the equivalent of live student-teacher interaction.

keeping students so interested, particularly in programs where hands-on practice is required (for example, in laboratory-based subjects), appears to be a serious challenge.



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Remote Learning: Opportunities and Challenges

Case study: Erasmus+ and Remote Learning at Ilia State University

Support : EU.
a blended learning model (with a mix of online and offline classes) through Erasmus + at the COVID era

- ✓ more than 100 courses
- ✓ online Feedback loop

This initiative held promise for the future of remote learning, and showed that technology can deliver educational continuity beyond physical and logistical obstacles

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Data Analytics and AI for Academic Management

Applications of Data Analytics in HEIs:

- Enrollment Management and Predictive Analytics:
- Resource Optimization:

AI for Academic Performance Monitoring:

- Automated Feedback Systems
- Personalized Learning Paths



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Data Analytics and AI for Academic Management

Case Study: Horizon Europe and Data Analytics at Tbilisi State University

- Using data analytics to increase student retention and success
- supported by a project funded through Horizon Europe

A predictive analytics platform is installed which mines student data on grades and attendance as well as how engaged they are with the school in order to determine which students are most likely to fail.

This capability could:

- ✓ enable administrators to offer tutoring,
- ✓ counseling or any other support service needed that is applicable for student success.

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The Role of Virtual Labs and Digital Assessments

practical training

- Virtual Laboratories
- Collaborative Learning With Virtual Labs

Digital Assessments:

- Remote and Real-Time Assessments
- Automated Grading and Feedback



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Data Analytics and AI for Academic Management

Case Study: Horizon Europe and Data Analytics at Tbilisi State University

Using data analytics to increase student retention and success rates at Tbilisi State University (Georgia), is being supported by a project funded through Horizon Europe . The university installed a predictive analytics platform, which mines student data on grades and attendance as well as how engaged they are with the school in order to determine which students are most likely to fail. This capability could enable administrators to offer tutoring, counseling or any other support service needed that is applicable for student success. This data-centered methodology is making strides in terms of student retention.

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Blockchain for Credentialing and Academic Transparency

Blockchain for Credential Security:

- Immutable and Verifiable Records
- Simple and Quick Verification of Credentials

Blockchain for Academic Transparency:

- Micro-Credentials and Lifelong Learning
- Transparency in Academic Achievements



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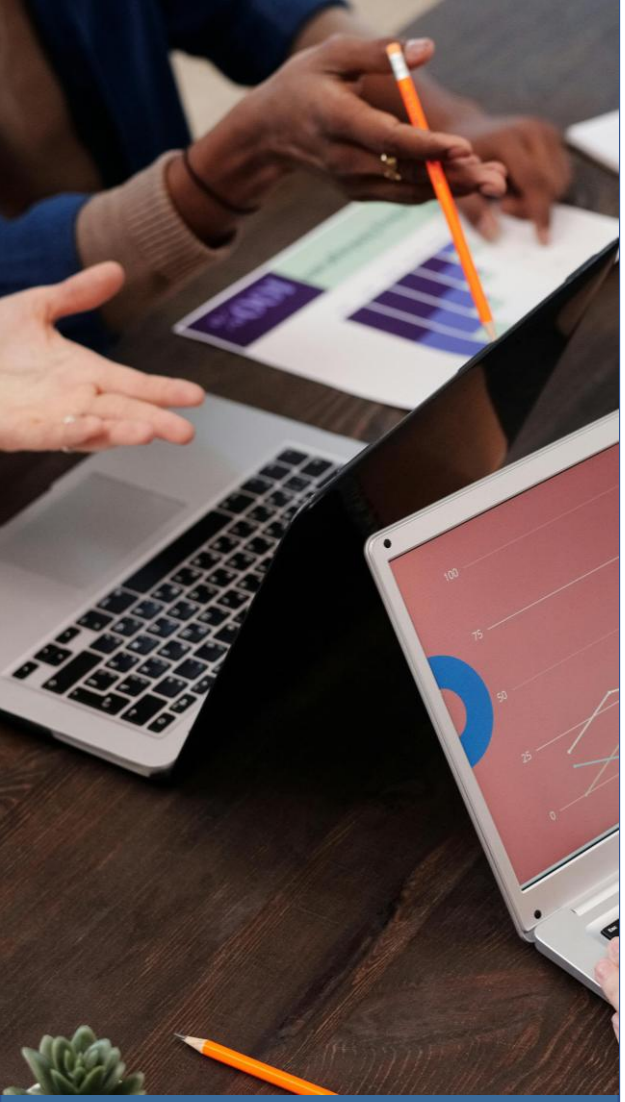


Unit 4. Improving Curriculum Quality with EU-Funded Projects

Improving Curriculum Quality with EU-Funded Projects

- Access to High-Quality Educational Materials
- Adapting EU Materials for Georgian HEIs
- Enhancing Interdisciplinary Approaches in Georgian HEIs
- Developing Competency-Based Curricula
- Bridging Skills Gaps: Preparing Students for 21st Century Careers

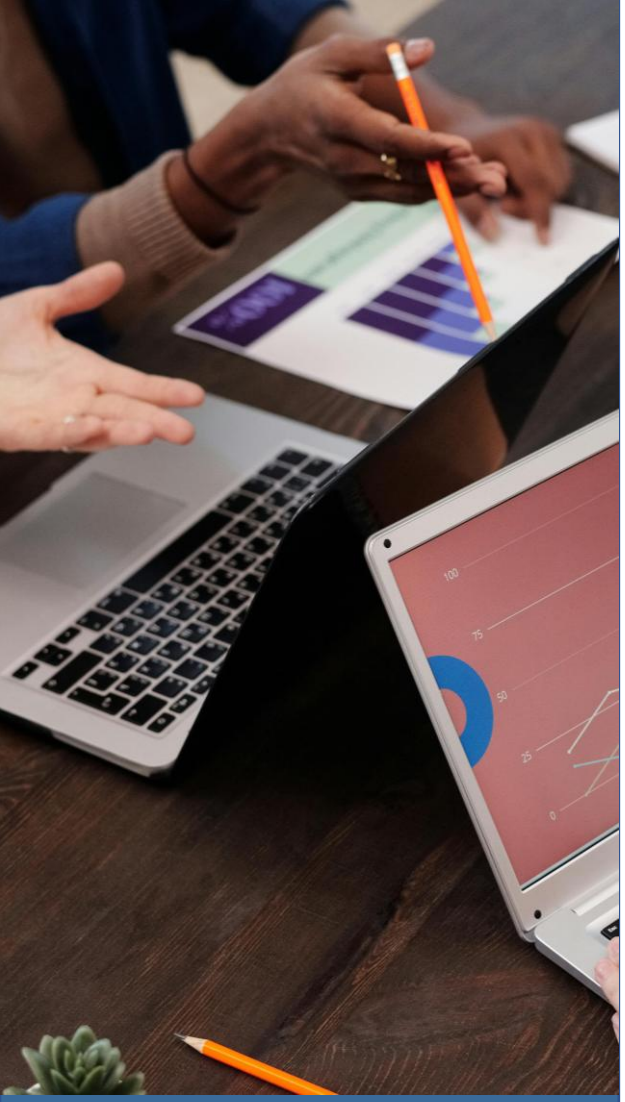
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Access to High-Quality Educational Materials

Key Resources Provided by EU Projects:

- **Teaching Modules:**
  - Structured, peer-reviewed educational materials
  - Includes lesson plans, assessments, and multimedia resources
- **Digital Learning Materials:**
  - Digital textbooks, interactive platforms, and virtual environments
  - Modernizes content delivery and expands accessibility
- **Evaluation Methods:**
  - Cutting-edge tools for assessing learning outcomes
  - Includes both traditional and modern assessment techniques



Access to High-Quality Educational Materials

Impact on Georgian HEIs:

- ✓ Access to these high-quality materials
- ✓ Integration of EU-funded content, institutions can provide students with a more thorough curriculum covering global trends and the latest technologies.
- ✓ Having graduates who can compete on an international level.

Adapting EU Materials for Georgian HEIs

Making EU funded educational material more relevant:

- **Practical Application:** Incorporate case studies from Georgian firms to make content more relevant and applicable, particularly for business and economics courses.
- **Accessibility:** Translate resources into Georgian to expand their audience.
- **Alignment with Local Standards:** Ensure materials align with Georgian national education policies, accreditation standards, and local laws.

Effects on the Quality of Local Curriculum:

- Fulfilling and useful educational experience
- Students readiness for their local and global challenges.

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Enhancing Interdisciplinary Approaches in Georgian HEIs

- **The Role of Interdisciplinary Education:**
  - Cross-disciplinary studies
  - Fostering Innovation through Collaboration
  - Preparing Future-Ready Graduates

Support for Interdisciplinary Curricula in the EU:

- Providing the means and resources for course
- Joint degree programs such as those supported by Erasmus+ frequently blend social sciences with technical disciplines

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Developing Competency-Based Curricula

Characteristics of Competency-Based Curricula

- **Focus on Skills and Competencies**
  - ✓Immediate, market-relevant skills
  - ✓Students' assessment based on exhibition of their capacity
- **Flexible Learning Paths**
  - ✓Work at their own pace
  - ✓Personalized learning
- **Real-World Application**
  - ✓Competency-based programs involve lab courses, internships, and other hands-on experiences

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Bridging Skills Gaps: Preparing Students for 21st Century Careers

Key Areas of Focus:

- **Digital Skills**
  - ✓ Digital revolution and the need of computer-literate graduates.
- **Sustainable Development**
  - ✓ Developing a pathway in environmental science, sustainable business and green technologies
  - ✓ Ensure that graduates are fully equipped to support the global move towards a more sustainable economy.
- **Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

✓ The creation of innovation hubs, business incubators and startup accelerators

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Unit 5. Capacity Building and Staff Development

The Role of Erasmus+ in Staff Mobility and Collaboration

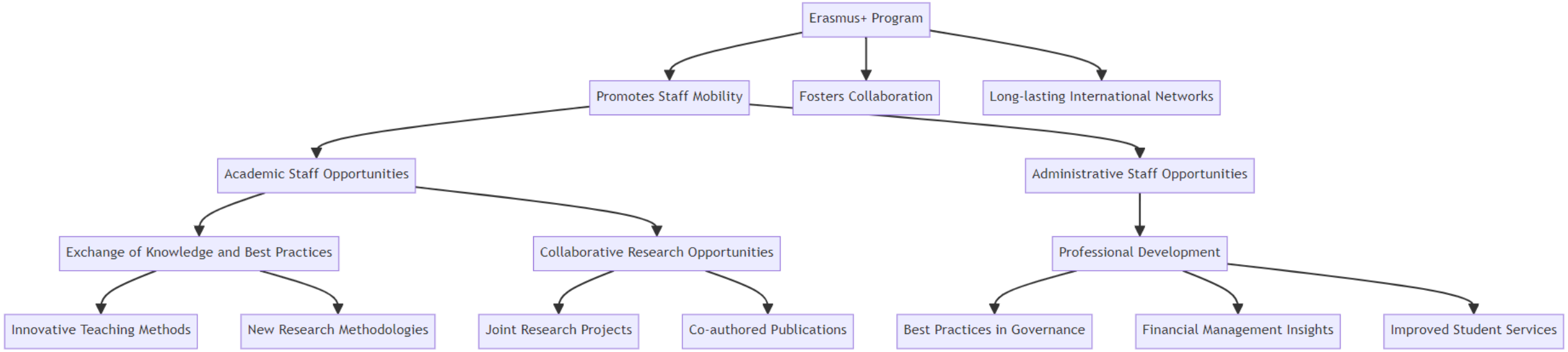
Empowers Georgian university staff (academic and administrative) through exchange programs.

Facilitates collaboration with international peers and professional development.

Enhances staff competencies, teaching quality, and builds lasting international networks.

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The Role of Erasmus+ in Staff Mobility and Collaboration



The role of the Erasmus+ program in promoting staff mobility and collaboration among Georgian university staff

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Lifelong Learning and Professional Development

EU Support for Continuous Professional Development:

- **Online Platforms & MOOCs:** Access to diverse professional development courses on topics like digital education, pedagogy, and leadership.
- **Certification Frameworks:** Structured pathways to enhance digital teaching competencies.
- **Workshops & Events:** Interactive workshops, conferences, and webinars addressing emerging trends in higher education.
- **Impact on Georgian HEIs:** Fosters a culture of lifelong learning, quality education, and professional advancement.

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EU Contributions to Leadership in HEIs

Leadership Training Programs:

- **Strategic Planning:** Erasmus+ 2020 projects support HEI administrators in aligning resources with long-term institutional goals, addressing resource constraints, student diversity, and technology.
- **Managerial Competency:** Emphasizes strong skills in planning, execution, and follow-up for effective management.
- **Financial & HR Management Training:** Builds competencies in financial oversight, faculty management, and adherence to international quality standards.

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EU Contributions to Leadership in HEIs

Mentorship Opportunities and Peer Learning:

- **Peer Learning Platforms:** Programs like the Leadership Development Programme (LDP) connect participants with European peers and experienced institutions to share best practices in governance, internationalization, and student support.

- **Mentorship for Emerging Leaders:** Offers guidance on navigating academic leadership, providing support to define leadership paths and strategies.

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Unit 6. Use of EU-Funded Projects for Content Quality

EU Contributions to Leadership in HEIs

Access to Comprehensive Educational Materials

- **Teaching Modules:** Pre-structured, ready-to-use content for educators.
- **Digital Resources:** Includes digital textbooks, interactive platforms, and virtual learning environments.
- **Innovative Evaluation Tools:** Combines traditional (exams, essays) and modern (online assessments, real-time feedback) methods to enhance learning outcome assessment.

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Customization for Local Use

Adapting EU Materials to Local Contexts:

- **Customization Opportunities:**
  - Incorporate Georgian examples and case studies
  - Translate materials into Georgian for increased accessibility
- **Alignment with Local Needs:**
  - Adapt teaching modules to national educational policies
  - Ensure content relevance to Georgian students and industries

Outcome

Combines global knowledge with local insights for a comprehensive educational experience.

The Role of the EU Resource Identification

- **Centralized Platform for Educational Materials**

- **Features:**
  - Access to a repository of EU-funded resources
  - Filters for subject, language, and level of study
- **Additional Benefits:**
  - Facilitates partnerships and collaborations with European HEIs
  - Regular updates with new materials and innovations
- **Outcome:**
  - Streamlines access to high-quality content and supports integration into curricula.

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The Role of the EU Resource Identification Hub

Role of the EU Resource Identification Hub

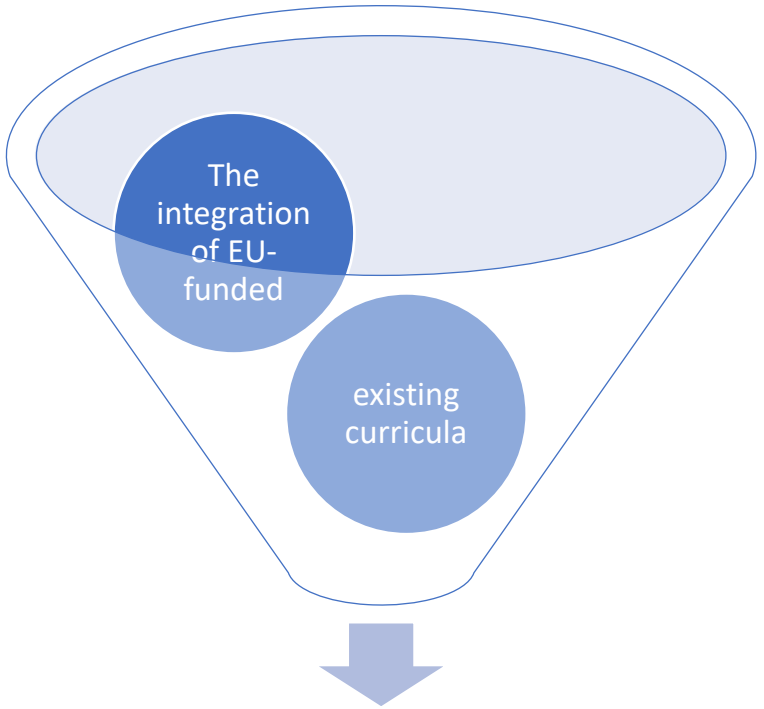
- Allows institutions to easily identify, access, and integrate educational materials created by EU-funded projects
- Offers a streamlined process for Georgian HEIs to discover relevant content.
- Facilitates partnerships and collaborations between Georgian and European HEIs.

Outcome

- Development of new educational materials,
- Keep HEIs curricula aligned with international advancements, enhancing their global competitiveness.

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Integration into Existing Curricula



Enhancing content quality at Georgian HEIs

Benefits

- Enhancing current course offerings
- Providing students with access to globally recognized content
- Maintaining the integrity of the institution's academic goals

For foundational courses

- Offer students a more comprehensive understanding of their subjects, blending local and international perspectives.

For more specialized courses

- Provide access to cutting-edge research and niche topics that may not have been previously available in Georgian institutions.

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Impact on Content Quality and Student Outcomes

Impact:

- Access to high-quality, peer-reviewed materials
- The integration of diverse perspectives and up-to-date research
- Exposure to globally relevant content
- Recognition and valued by employers around the world
- Improving the overall quality of students' educational content

➢ Increased enrollment of international students, stronger partnerships with European institutions, and greater participation in global academic exchanges.

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Integration and Impact on Content Quality

- **Integrating EU-Funded Materials into Curricula:**

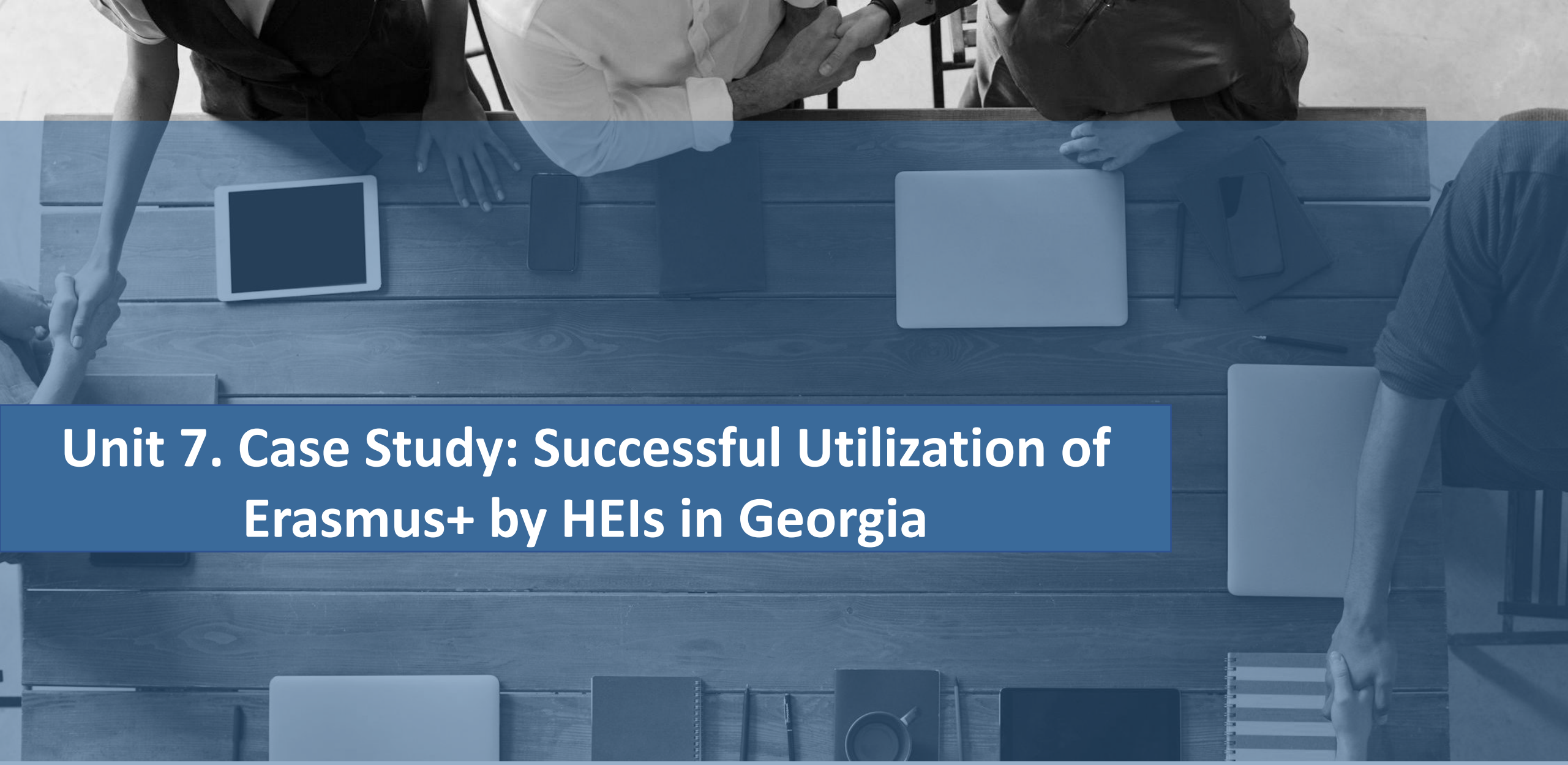
Integration Benefits

- ✓ Enhances foundational and specialized courses
- ✓ Introduces innovative pedagogical methods

Impact on Student Outcomes

- ✓ Improves academic performance and understanding
- ✓ Prepares students for the international job market

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Unit 7. Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ Modernization of Agricultural Science Curricula in Georgia

Georgian Agricultural University

Focus area:

- ❑ Curriculum Modernization
- ❑ Agriculture

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Introduced modules on sustainable farming and precision agriculture
- ✓ Increased student employability

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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ **Raising Research Capacity of Georgian HEIs through Developing R&D Units (HERD)**

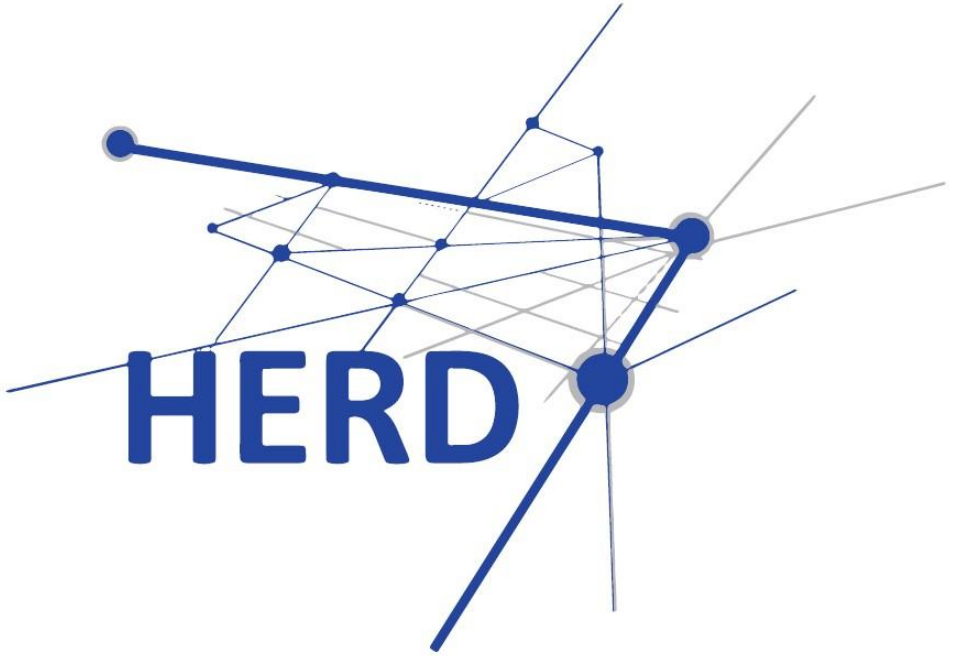
Georgian Technical University (GTU)

Focus area:

- ❑ Research Development
- ❑ Technology

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Strengthened research in renewable energy and smart technologies, joined Horizon Europe projects



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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ Development of European Studies Curriculum

Tbilisi State University (TSU)

Focus area:

- ❑ Curriculum Development
- ❑ Academic Collaboration

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Developed a European Studies program aligned with EU standards
- ✓ Credit recognition for student mobility

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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ **Promoting Student and Staff Mobility Between ISU and EU Partners**

Ilia State University (ISU)

Focus area:

❑ Student & Staff Mobility

Key Outcomes:

✓ Enabled hundreds of students to study abroad

✓ Improved staff teaching methods through exchange programs.

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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ **Fostering International Mobility in Georgian Universities**

Akaki Tsereteli State University (ATSU)

Focus area:

- ❑ Internationalization
- ❑ Student & Staff Mobility

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Established bilateral agreements with European universities, enhancing global academic exposure

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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ University Governance Reform and Modernization

Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University (BSRSU)

Focus area:

- ❑ Institutional Governance
- ❑ Administrative Modernization

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Implemented modern governance structures, improved financial management and student services.

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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ Digitalization of University Administrative Services

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU)

Focus area:

- ❑ Digital Transformation
- ❑ Administrative Modernization

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Digitalized administrative processes
- ✓ Improving efficiency and transparency.

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Case Study: Successful Utilization of Erasmus+ by HEIs in Georgia

❖ Developing Entrepreneurship and Innovation Skills

Caucasus University

Focus area:

- ❑ Entrepreneurship
- ❑ Innovation

Key Outcomes:

- ✓ Integrated entrepreneurial skills into curricula, fostering student start-ups and innovation culture.

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Conclusion

Conclusion

Strategic Utilization of EU Resources for Georgian HEIs:

- **Opportunities Provided by EU Resources:**
  - **Programs:** Erasmus+, Horizon Europe
  - **Tools:** Europass Digital Credentials Framework
- **Key Areas of Impact:**
  - **Digital Transformation:** Integration of advanced technologies and digital tools.
  - **International Mobility:** Enhanced opportunities for student and staff exchanges.
  - **Quality Assurance:** Adoption of EU frameworks (EQAR, ECTS, EQF) for maintaining high standards.
  - **Curriculum Development:** Modernization and alignment with international standards.
- **Outcome:**
  - **Enhanced Quality:** Modernized educational content and administrative processes.
  - **Increased Competitiveness:** Greater alignment with global standards and improved international recognition.
  - **Strategic Use:** Effective implementation of EU resources for institutional growth and innovation.z



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