



NEWSLETTER

● THE SMARTI PROJECT

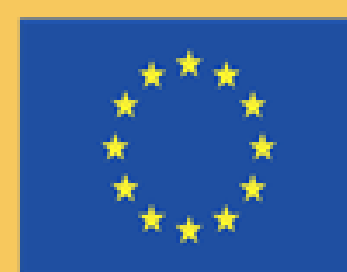
SMARTI is an Erasmus+ CBHE project implemented by the consortium of 4 European, 5 Russian and 6 Armenian HEIs / organizations under the coordination of Technische Universität Dresden (Germany). The project is aimed at the promotion of excellence of education in PC by the development and the implementation of a comprehensive pedagogical Modules English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) curricula for in-service Armenian and Russian teaching staff and trainee teachers using an ECTS/Tuning Modular design for teaching academic content in English in Russia and Armenia, which will be developed via a network of EMI Centers.

NEWS ABOUT PROJECT ACTIVITIES

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INRTU SMARTI project team
KFU SMARTI project team



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ESP and ECTS/Tuning Modular Training at UCP, Portugal

In January 17-21, 2022 training was held for teachers of special disciplines at Catholic University of Portugal (UCP) as a part of SMARTI project. The event had a hybrid format; it brought together representatives from all partner universities and organizations. The main aim of the training was to prepare the project participants for the development of nine educational modules in EMI (English as a Medium of Instruction). The trainers have become colleagues from EU project partners: Dresden University of Technology (Germany), Riga Technical University (Latvia) and Liverpool John Moores University (UK).

Participants from Russian partner organizations have highly appreciated the event; MRSU representative Mihail Rozhkov commented: “Despite the objective difficulties in conducting the training, primarily related to technical issues, in general, the event was productive. Many thanks to Portuguese partners for the warm welcome. For me, this was the first opportunity to personally communicate with colleagues from Russian partner universities and colleagues from Armenia. Upcoming events within the framework of the SMARTI project were discussed, we tried to come to some common vision of the prospects for the development of EMI centers. I would like to express my gratitude to colleagues from Dresden, Liverpool and Riga for their excellent presentations and wish all project participants fruitful work in the future.”

More information at <https://smarti-erasmus.eu/esp-and-ects-tuning-framework-training-week-at-the-catholic-university-of-portugal/>



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Along with the training, partners discussed the project further steps. For instance, a working group has been organized to prepare multiplication trainings to be held at Russian and Armenian partner universities. A series of events will be aimed at sharing the experience gained during the training and raising awareness about the SMARTI project.



RU Home Multiplication Training

Based upon experience and proceedings of ESP and ECTS/Tuning Modular Training at UCP, Russian SMARTI partners implemented institutional-based multiplication trainings in February 2022. Each university came up with its own unique agenda.

The training at MRSU consisted of 6 sessions. The instructors delivered workshops on TUNING/ECTS competences, learning outcomes, CVs (Europass) etc. Among the participants were master students, administrative and teaching staff: both currently delivering EMI courses and those who are only planning to do it. The total number of attendees was 33 persons.

KFU project team members Natalia Krivosheeva and Anna Churunina brought up to discussion and practice such topics as “Students applications for special programs / courses (e.g. Motivation Letters / Cover Letters)”. Target audience was represented by the second year students, 20 in aggregate.

Training at INRTU was attended by 20 persons; they were academic and research staff, PhD and MA/BA students. The program implied three main components: lectures, trainings, homework. Areas of special interest: ECTS and TUNING frameworks by program/course development; use of Bloom’s Taxonomy for program/course learning outcome identification; practical course on how to make a good presentation.

PSU multiplication training program consisted of two parts. Part one focused on use of ESP and presentation skills (for both categories: public speaking and visual presentation) by students and teachers while working within English as a medium of instruction. Part two introduced by Aleksei Kupriakhin, SMARTI project manager at PSU, encompassed a series of short lectures and practical tasks aimed at explaining the mission and goals set by SMARTI project; presentation the research activities (e.g. results of Desk & Field study in Russia); discussion of current perspectives in the sphere of academic mobility programs; preparation of documents (motivation letter and CV/resume) for application package. Total number of participants: 18





SMARTI Knowledge

RU participants of ESP and ECTS/Tuning training share their experience...

Anastasia Sinitskaia, INRTU: “RTU brought up a completely new view of the students’ role in the educational process as well as the clear picture of how teaching under EMI concept is organized. LJMU representatives demonstrated the learning outcome approach to course development including Bloom’s taxonomy application. The latter was new and extremely useful for me. The practical interaction during the session was motivating and inspiring”.

Nina Druzhinina, INRTU: “While talking about teaching and learning, our colleagues from EU universities emphasized the student-centered approach applied. The educational process is organized in a way when teachers and students are partners enjoying equal rights; the students are actively involved into the process and can influence it on an almost any stage”.

Mikhail Rozhkov, MRSU: “During the training I learned about the European programmes in the field of student-centered education, studied the specifics of the educational programmes building in the field of EMI and strengthened my knowledge in the field of academic writing.”

Elena Tikhomirova, PetrSU: “One of the most useful part of the training delivered by the representatives of Dresden University of Technology was the one pertaining to presentation skills. The materials and presentations contained relevant examples and clear instructions which might really come in handy while working within EMI and showing students the best ways to present their ideas”.

Anna Churunina, Natalia Krivosheeva, KFU: " We have not only gained extensive knowledge thanks to our European colleagues, but we were also inspired by their experience of using EMI, and it will certainly be reflected in future events."





Quality SMARTI

In accordance with the Quality Assurance Strategy developed in the project, IEWG carried out all quality control activities, namely it evaluated the project meeting in Goris State University (Armenia), prepared a report and posted it for review on the project website. The group's next quality assurance step was to prepare the structure of the progress report and start collecting data to form the report. This work was successfully carried out by partners from Armenia and in March 2022 a progress report was presented to all members of the consortium. Besides, starting from November 2021 quality assurance of the project website took place. Namely IEWG checked the updating of the information on the project website. After the ESP and ECTS/Tuning Modular Training at Catholic University of Portugal, the IEWG developed an event satisfaction questionnaire, which was posted in the Question - Pro system by partners from Armenia.

After receiving the answers from the training participants, Russian Register prepared a consolidated report on the event. Also, members of the IEWG participated in the preparation of templates and recommendations for conducting the Multiplication training.

International Erasmus Day in Kasatiso, Kazakhstan

On November 24, 2021 International Erasmus Day took place in Kasatiso, Kazakhstan, hosted by Academy of Labour and Social Relations. The roundtable brought together 10 key speakers from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russia and Bulgaria. SMARTI project was represented by Olga Safonkina from Mordovia State University (MRSU).

Her report "Internationalization at home as internationalization of the curriculum" explained the essence of internationalization process and underlined the part SMARTI project plays within this context. Provided that internationalization of education encompasses such aspects as mobility (of all kinds and levels), development of new programs and standards, institutional partnership and some others, Erasmus+ SMARTI project has all the prerequisites for supporting internationalization in global scale through its project activities.

More information about the event could
be found at
<https://smarti-erasmus.eu/international-erasmus-day-in-kazatiso/>

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Presentation at LED Conference

On December 3-4, 2021 the I International Online HSE Languages Education Development (LED) Conference was held at Higher School of Economics, School of Foreign Languages. The event brought together nearly 1600 leading scientists, educators, methodologists, experts, practitioners and managers from 7 world countries, 29 Russian and 10 foreign universities, 12 business organizations. SMARTI project was presented at the conference by Olga Safonkina from Mordovia State University (MRSU).

In her report "Teaching in English as Medium of Instruction as a new educational vector: the case of SMARTI project (Erasmus +)" Olga Safonkina presented the objectives of the project, described the stages of project implementation, and also spoke about the results of the survey of students and teachers of Russia in the field of teaching specialized disciplines in English: "HSE is the undisputed leader in higher education in Russia. The opportunity to tell about the SMARTI project using the platform and resources of this university is a unique chance for disseminating the project at the national level. Of course, publications on social networks solve a number of tasks that face the popularization of the project, but conferences provide an opportunity for communication with the profile audience of the project: academic and business organizations focused on the development of higher education".

More information
about the event could
be found at
https://vk.com/smarti_russia?w=wall-204255342_35%2Fall

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Presentations at INRTU

On December 6 and 23, 2021 Anastasiia Sinitskaia and Nina Druzhinina, SMARTI project team members, have conducted the information sessions at the Division of Mathematics and Applied Informatics of the Institute of Information Technologies and Data Analysis as well as at the Department of Foreign Languages of the Institute of Applied Linguistics and Intercultural Communication.

During the sessions, INRTU staff has got the detailed information about the project: its aim and objectives, consortium, INRTU role and EMI phenomenon. The first project outcomes and outputs including desk and field study results have been also reported. The presentation aroused a string interest among the audience.

More
information at
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Presentation at “L Ogarev Readings” conference

On December 6-11, 2021 MRSU hosted an online conference "L Ogarev Readings". SMARTI project was presented both under the plenary session and conference sections.

Gerard Cullen from Technische Universität Dresden, Germany, project coordinator, told about SMARTI at the plenary session while two reports on project EMI topic have been presented under the section "Topical issues of linguodidactics". Associate Professor of the Department of English Philology, Faculty of Foreign Languages, MRSU Olga Safonkina made a presentation "Subject teaching in English: research results" and 3rd year student of the Faculty of Foreign Languages, MRSU Elizaveta Labutina presented the report "Key principles of subject-language integrated learning".

Olga Safonkina commented on the event: "The Ogarev Readings conference is held annually to summarize the research activities of the university staff. In our opinion, this is an ideal starting point for talking about what projects the Faculty of Foreign Languages is involved in".

More information at
[https://vk.com/smarti_russia?
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Meet SMARTI Partners

Irkutsk National Research Technical University (INRTU)

INRTU is a public university established in 1930 with a community of over 16000 students coming from about 30 countries and over 2000 members of academic and administrative staff. Students can make a choice among 220 degree programs in the fields of engineering and technology, humanities, economics and fine arts taught across 10 institutes. State-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities of the University ensure the high quality of education, research and innovations.

INRTU gives much consideration to the growth of its international openness and internationalisation. The University has reliable partnership relations with more than 80 educational and research organisations in the world. Joint research projects, teachers' and students' mobility, joint scientific events and publications are main areas of collaboration.

INRTU SMARTI project team



Varvara Panko
Project
coordinator,
Publicity officer



**Evgeniia
Arbatskaia**
Academic
supervisor, QA
officer



**Anastasiia
Sinitskaia**
Subject teacher
(Math and physics)



Nina Druzhinina
English language
instructor





Meet SMARTI Partners

Kazan Federal University (KFU)

KFU is one of the oldest universities in Russia, founded in 1804 and one of the ten Russian federal universities, the oldest classical multidisciplinary university that trains highly qualified specialists and conducts extensive research programs. It has 35,000 students, including 5,000 international students. KFU has 221 departments and more than 4,000 teachers.

KFU is one of the three best classical universities in Russia and one of the twenty strongest universities in the country. The university trains specialists in various fields. KFU is one of the leaders in the field of scientific research, whose priority is the generation, concentration and dissemination of knowledge, competencies and technologies in response to global challenges, ensuring the development of science and technology based on the integration of the educational process and fundamental scientific research.

KFU SMARTI project team



Marina Solnyshkina
Project coordinator



Elzara Gafiyatova
Language Center representative



Gulnara Aleeva
QA officer



Evgeniia Bulina
Publicity officer



Natalia Krivosheeva
English language instructor



Sergey Sushkov
Subject teacher (physics)



Anna Churunina
English language instructor

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Meet SMARTI Partners

Russian Register Certification Association (RR)

Russian Register Certification Association is the largest internationally recognized Russian certification and expert organization.

The independence and objectivity of the Russian Register, as well as the competence of the staff, is confirmed by numerous national and foreign accreditations and the positive experience of more than 15 years of activity.

RR SMARTI project team



**Aleksandra
Zvezdova**
Project coordinator



Anna Shmakova
Project
administrator



Victoria Hope-Parry
Technical specialist



Anastasia Anufrieva
Technical specialist



Olga Ilyna
Finance specialist

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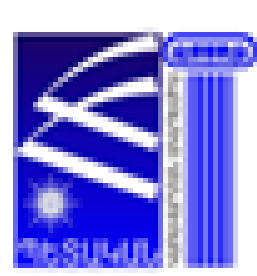
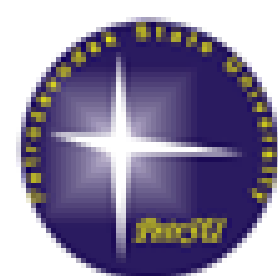


SMARTI Consortium

Coordinator



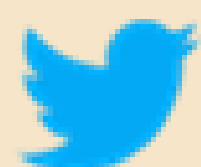
Partners



SMARTI social media



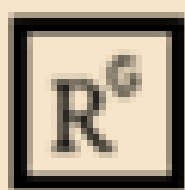
Facebook: [smartiproject](https://www.facebook.com/smartiproject)



Twitter: [SMARTI](https://twitter.com/SMARTI)



Youtube: [SMARTI Project](https://www.youtube.com/SMARTIProject)



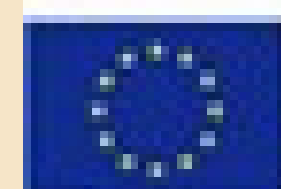
ResearchGate: [SMARTIresearchGate](https://www.researchgate.net/SMARTIresearchGate)



VK: https://vk.com/smarti_russia

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