"foRMAtion - Innovative and smart module for potential Research Managers and Administrators in higher education" is a project co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, with 8 partners from 5 European countries (under GA no. 2019-1-HU01-KA203-061233)

Summary

The aim of the foRMAtion project is to support students in higher education as potential research managers and administrators (RMAs) by reinforcing their high-level and transversal skills needed for developing and managing excellent European research, innovation and educational projects. The project addresses the growing need for professional research support staff due to the increasing competition for EU funds in the field of R&I projects, the gap between education and labour market needs and the serious shortage in RMA educational programmes, standardisation and certification.

Activities & Outputs

During the duration of the project (01/09/2019-31/12/2022), the implementation included a number of interlinked activities. Based on a **methodological guide and good practice collection** identifying and assessing existing good practices, know-how, methods and tools in the field of training RMAs, an innovative **international module** was developed for university students. The foRMAtion module was tested at the partner universities: Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania and Corvinus University of Budapest. The elaboration of the module includes the following two outputs of the project:

1. a curriculum for the students, titled "foRMAtion international curriculum for future Research Managers and Administrators" elaborated by the colleagues at the Universidade NOVA de Lisboa;
2. a teaching material titled "foRMAtion Teacher's guide – Guidelines and lesson plans for the instruction of the international curriculum for RMAs" including interactive and project-based learning methods for teachers, developed by the colleagues at the Corvinus University of Budapest.

The courses have been supplemented by a **mentorship programme through the blended learning mobility of students** through which trained staff at partners mentor students to get work experience and hands-on knowledge.

Apart from these activities, to open up the project for an even broader audience, foRMAtion has developed an **online textbook as an interactive, user-friendly and targeted training opportunity** available for anyone within and beyond the project, including those who already entered into the profession. This was tested in the spring of 2022 in Rome through a Seasonal School, where the students of the partner universities attended the course.

Lastly, a **guide and impact assessment has been prepared for educating and training RMAs at HEIs**, highlighting the transferable practices and formulating policy recommendations to channel the results and outcomes to national and EU decision-makers and other relevant stakeholders. This aim was also supported by the organisation of public stakeholder events in Portugal, Romania, Italy, Slovenia and Belgium in 2022. All mentioned **outputs** are available as Open Education Resources (OER).

Corvinus University of Budapest was represented by the Department of International Relations and the Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement and Methodology. Their role was to compile a Teachers' Guide including student activities and education methodology for the teaching of the international curriculum for future Research Managers and Administrators (RMAs).

ABOUT THE PROJECT: https://www.formation-rma.eu/
MAIN OUTPUTS: https://www.formation-rma.eu/results/
ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM: https://www.formation-rma.eu/online-learning-resources/

Project partnership:

foRMAtion gathers 3 HEIs and 5 business actors with different scientific background.

HÉTFA Research Institute (HU) | Coordinator / https://hetfa.eu/
Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (PT) / https://www.unl.pt/
Corvinus University of Budapest (HU) / https://www.uni-corvinus.hu/?lang=en
Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania (RO) / http://www.sapientia.ro/en
SPI - Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação (PT) / https://spi.pt/en.index
APRE - Agency for the Promotion of European Research (IT) / https://www.apre.it/en
ISINNOVA - Institute of Studies for the Integration of Systems (IT) / https://www.isinnova.org/
SFI – Slovenian Forestry Institute (SI) / https://www.gozdis.si/