

# S.U.C.R.E.

Supporting University Community pathways for REfugees-migrants  
(Erasmus+ Two-year KA2 Strategic Partnership)

*We cordially welcome you to our project: **Supporting University Community pathways for Refugees/migrants**, an initiative coordinated by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with partners VU Amsterdam, University of Cologne and the Greek Council for Refugees; funded by the Hellenic National Agency (IKY).*

*We are proud of our consortium's aim at improving the refugees/migrants access into Higher Education and providing practitioners with digital material to support this vulnerable population, through psychosocial activities as well as through informing them on medical and law issues. This project is of great academic and social importance not only for the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki but also for all Higher Educational Institutions in Europe as the necessity for building supporting pillars becomes evident by the everyday engagement of all European societies with the refugees/migrants.*

*We welcome your help and your thoughts in order to succeed in our goals and we hope that along our way we will join forces with other initiatives. We wish to the teams, locally and abroad, working in this project a fruitful cooperation with the best possible outcome towards the academic and social facilitation of the refugees/migrants.*

With Friendly Greetings,

Prof. Ariadni Stogiannidou

Vice Rector for Academic & Students Affairs  
Chair of the Committee of European Educational Programmes

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## Upcoming Events

**25-26 September, 2017**

- **Interim Meeting** – University of Cologne, Germany
- **1st Multiplier Event** – University of Cologne, Germany

## Kick-Off Meeting

On the **14th of November 2016**, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, as the Coordinator of the KA2 Project S.U.C.R.E, hosted its Kick-off Meeting. All Partners:

- **VU Amsterdam,**
- **University of Cologne & the**
- **Greek Council for Refugees**

participated with their representatives in a very productive and promising meeting; a very friendly environment was established and all coming activities were discussed.



More information:  
<http://sucre.auth.gr/en/media>

## News on the Intellectual Outputs of the Project

### Intellectual Output 1:

Higher Education Qualification and Application Procedures for Refugee Applicants

Description: <http://sucra.auth.gr/en/outputs>

### Intellectual Output 2:

Institutional Support for Refugee Students in Higher Education

Description: <http://sucra.auth.gr/en/outputs>

#### Activities realized so far:

- Creation of a register of university refugee initiatives at a European level.
- Development of the university initiatives registry.
- Draft of questionnaire for IO1 and IO2.
- Creation of a literature base for S.U.C.R.E.

The outcomes of IO 1 will be ready in September 2017.

The University of Cologne is also organizing a Summer School Programme: "Refugee Teachers. Potentials and Challenges for University Education".

### Intellectual Output 3:

Institutional Support for Refugee Scholars in Higher Education

Description: <http://sucra.auth.gr/en/outputs>

#### Activities realized so far:

- Advancements on the Refugee Scholars activities.
- The questionnaire aimed at Institutions is currently in the try-out phase.
- A second questionnaire aimed at scholars is also prepared.
- All preparations for the set-up of the relevant Deliverable are arranged. The specific deliverable is a study on best practices for hosting refugees.

### Intellectual Output 4:

Psychosocial Support through Communities' Engagement & Mobilization

Description: <http://sucra.auth.gr/en/outputs>

#### Activities realized so far:

- An extensive list of national and foreign NGO's working in the field has been compiled.
- A focus group guide for NGO members and an interview guide for refugees along with the respective consent forms have been created.
- A focus group guide for focus groups with refugee students along with the consent form has been sent to the Project's partners in Cologne and Amsterdam, so as to organize focus groups with refugee students in their universities.
- Two focus groups with ten NGO's employees of various relevant disciplines working with refugees were conducted, producing rich and useful material. Other focus groups are currently being arranged, as more NGO's employees have been recruited.
- A meeting with Refugee Education Coordinators, who work at different refugee camps in the area of Central Macedonia-Greece was held, where problems and needs of refugees' education were discussed. Another meeting has been arranged to further elaborate on the issue.
- A visit to the camp of Diavata, located near the city of Thessaloniki was made. AUTH's team was informed about the problems children and teenagers who live at camps face regarding their education and their living conditions, in general. The camp manager, the education manager and other educators accompanied the IO4 team to a short visit to the camp's school and willingly answered to all inquiries on the issue of refugees' current and future education.
- Two members of the IO4 team attended a focus group conducted by the IO5 team, in order to get informed about legal and health issues refugees' face.
- The whole IO4 team attended "Refugee children education: current issues and suggestions" symposium organized by the Hellenic Observatory for Intercultural Education.

## Kick-off Meeting Photographs



November 2016, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

### Intellectual Output 5:

Supporting refugees on Health and Law issues

Description: <http://sucre.auth.gr/en/outputs>

#### Activities realized so far:

- All the necessary bibliographic material was collected by the research teams of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Greek Council for Refugees.
- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki team drafted questionnaires which were sent to the responsible people of the consortium of the University of Cologne and the VU Amsterdam in order to be distributed or to be used in interviews with refugee students of their respective Universities.
- In cooperation with the consortium institutions the leading team of IO5 has modified the questionnaires and revised the contents of the output's activities. The results of the questionnaires/interviews will be incorporated in two separate reports by each partner University, which should be sent to the Aristotle University coordinating team.
- Both of the above reports will be integrated in a final report on guidelines/good practices regarding the integration of refugees/migrants in higher education edited both by Aristotle University research team and the Greek Council for Refugees. The outcomes of IO 5 will be ready in September 2017.
- In addition, a focus group was organized in March 2017 by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki concerning the first three activities of IO5, in which the Greek Council for Refugees (members of social and economic services), members of Doctors of the World (doctors and social workers) and lawyers – members of NGOs participated. During the focus group, the practical problems (legal and medical) that refugees/migrants face daily in refugee camps, and in places of more permanent accommodation, as well as issues of social protection, were discussed.
- Further proposals were made regarding the better integration of refugees/migrants in higher education. After processing the results of the focus group in relation to the first three activities of IO5, the Aristotle University research team in cooperation with the Greek Council for Refugees has already begun producing the digital educational/training material.

On the 9th of December 2016, Assoc. Prof. A. Triantafyllidis (Scientific Responsible of the S.U.C.RE. Programme) had a meeting with the General Secretary of the Greek Ministry Education, Dr. I. Pantis. One of the main points of discussion was the Ministry's plans to assist and organize the access of refugee students into Greek Higher Education Institutions. Thus, the role of the S.U.C.RE. programme was characterized fundamental, especially for its parts on the establishment of academic entrance criteria and refugee student's integration processes.

In May 2016, Assoc. Prof. A. Triantafyllidis and Mrs. Maria Mylona from AUTH presented the S.U.C.RE. programme proposal at the European Association of ERASMUS Coordinators (EAEC), ERACON 2016 during the Session: RT1-Higher Education response to the refugee crisis and the role of the Higher Education networks.

In November 2016, the S.U.C.RE. Programme was presented by Mrs. Maria Mylona from AUTH at the "European Values Revisited: The Role of Culture in Refugee Integration to Local Communities", a Conference organised by EUNIC, The European Office of Cyprus and the House of Cyprus. The S.U.C.RE. Programme was presented in the session "Presentation of EU Funding Programmes that Could Support Projects for Refugees".

Mrs. Mariana Arjona Soberón, from the University of Cologne, presented S.U.C.RE. in February 2017 at the Supporting Scholars at Risk, a Regional Network Approach event in Germany. In March 2017 she presented the Programme at the Science4Refugees Conference and Networking event in Brussels; and another presentation was also held in April 2017 at the ProGRANT-Proposal Writing for Research Grants that took place in Argentina.

In March 2017, Dr. Johannes Müller, from the University of Cologne, presented the Programme in the EURIE-Eurasia Higher Education Summit where S.U.C.RE. was well-received and a discussion was held afterwards raising important points on the current situation.

Mr. Marinus Kool, from the VU Amsterdam, presented the Programme at the Kick off Conference ACADEMIC REFUGEE project in Oslo in October 2016. The above project is a consortium of Dutch national Coordinator Academic Freedom (at UAF) and European Director SAR Network. Mr. M. Kool also presented the Programme in a number of relevant publications.

In October 2016, Assoc. Prof. A. Triantafyllidis and Mrs. M. Mylona from AUTH presented the S.U.C.RE. Programme at the 6<sup>th</sup> Erasmus Staff Training Week held at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki organized by the Department of European Educational Programmes of AUTH.



## Erasmus+ Online Linguistic Support

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki will distribute to refugees/migrants, in various Welcoming Centres, 200 digital language learning licenses that will give them access to an online European language course of their choice. The licenses are offered by the Hellenic National Agency (IKY). According to the European Commission "the Erasmus+ Online Linguistic Support (OLS) helps Erasmus+ participants improve their knowledge of the language in which they will work, study or volunteer abroad, so that they can make the most of their experience. It is currently available for Czech, Danish, German, Greek, English, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish. Gradually, more languages will be introduced. The OLS makes linguistic support accessible in a flexible and easy way and contributes to promoting language learning and linguistic diversity. It aims to ensure a better quality of learning mobility, as well as to measure the impact of the Erasmus+ programme on linguistic skills."

For more information please visit the following website: <http://erasmusplusols.eu/ols4refugees/>.

## Aristotle University of Thessaloniki-School of Modern Greek Language

The School of Modern Greek Language of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki participates in a KA2 Erasmus+ project entitled "Managing the refugee and migrant flows through the development of educational and vocational frames for children and adults" - XENIOS ZEUS. The project consists of activities aiming at a Welcome Guide for Refugees as a useful everyday booklet. This is a survival guide which aims to help adult refugees get acquainted with the city of Thessaloniki. It addresses refugees and immigrants residing in Thessaloniki and in the wider area around the city. The primary learning objective of the Guide is to help those adult learners develop basic communication skills which they can use in order to interact with Greeks and get acquainted with the everyday life in Greece (level A1, according to the Common European Framework of Reference). Furthermore the School of Modern Greek Language is involved in the production of Educational Support Material the outcome of which will be the main Training Material for the Refugee Trainers that will start the Training Courses. The School of Modern Greek Language will also organize during April-May 2017 training seminars for trainers in the camps.



## OTHER NEWS

**Refugees' impact on Bologna reform – Recognition of Prior Learning and inclusion in the light of increased migration - Conference, Malmö:** The Swedish Council for Higher Education and the Swedish Ministry of Education and Research, in collaboration with Malmö University, invite you to a conference on Recognition of Prior Learning, inclusion and alternative routes to higher education in light of increased migration. The conference will take place in Malmö, Sweden, on the 12th and 13th of June 2017. For more information: <https://www.uhr.se/om-uhr/Konferenser/refugees-impact-on-bologna-reform/>

**Academic Refugee Staff Training Week – Oslo, Norway:** The staff training has two modules and multiple target groups. Module one: Understanding Academic Freedom and related Higher Education Values; Module two: Welcoming Refugees and Threatened Academics to Campus. This staff training course is aimed at academic and administrative staff of all levels, especially those involved in welcoming refugees and threatened academics on campus. It will put a strong emphasis on sharing experiences and exchanging good practices between colleagues from many European universities facing similar challenges. For further details: <https://www.uio.no/english/about/global/globally-engaged/academic-refugee/events/staff-training.html>

**Primary Health Care and Psychosocial Support to Migrating Populations:** The scientific seminar is organised within the framework of the project: "Emergency assistance for the effective management of migration flows in the Greek territory". The project is funded 100% by the Internal Security Fund (emergency measures) EU-ISF Borders and Visa EMAS - Emergency Assistance. It is implemented by the Reception Service and Identification of the Ministry of Immigration Policy in cooperation with Médecins du Monde-Greek Delegation. Information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/195706024249290/?ti=c>