**The University of Economy in Bydgoszcz (Poland)** is looking for partners for a transnational project that will be organised within the framework of Erasmus + programme, Key Action 2: Cooperation for Innovation and Exchange of Good Practices titled **“Leaders on the go: the innovative methods of teaching and working with youth”**.

Main objective of the project is to stimulate participation of young people from EU countries in democratic life. According to the data published by European Parliament, 2014 elections were marked by the lowest voter turnout in the history, partially because interest appeared low among young people.

In order to change that, certain actions, aimed on rising young people active participation, have to be undertaken. First of all, it is necessary to raise awareness among youth about their civic rights and to create a sense of European solidarity and working on realization of their own interests. Apart from that, young people should be encouraged to increase their knowledge about European Union and contemporary world.

Young people have to be aware of the functioning of institutions and organizations enabling them to exercise their rights and supporting realization of their interests. At the same time, it is necessary to build trust in those institutions among young people. Both goals can be achieved by: professionalization of organizations and institutions involved in youth work, training of individuals employed in those organizations, offering new, attractive forms, methods and tools for cooperation.

**The general aims of the project are:**

* Working together towards creation of innovative instruments that could be used in a work with young people, especially in regard to improvement of language and interpersonal skills as well as digital competence of people involved in the youth work. Project will bring together 80 participants (school and academic teachers, coaches, tutors , school guidance counsellors);
* Launching, testing and implementing innovative instruments in a work with 800 young people from partner countries;
* exchanging best practices, programs and instruments for working with young people;
* Increasing the role of organisations and individuals involved in a youth work in promotion of life- long learning, informal and non- formal education, youth mobility, international cooperation, along with increasing the knowledge about civic rights in EU member states.

**Participant profile:**

1. Teachers / other individuals working with youth from Poland and two participant countries (12 from each partner country) involved in the work for local and regional communities
2. Local leaders coming from different social and cultural backgrounds recruited by teachers

**Estimated project duration: 24 months**

1st stage: June 2015- July 2016

First stage of the project will start with preparations necessary for successful project management. This includes preparing documents, organizing the main office and recruiting staff. Partners will be responsible for and setting up rules for further cooperation. Preparations will be followed by recruitment of participants and coaches. Trainings for teachers will be conducted. At the same time e-learning platform will be created. First evaluation of the project is planned for April 2015. To sum up achievements of the first stage of the project, representatives of each country will take part in a conference that will be organized in Bydgoszcz.

2nd stage: August 2016- May 2017

This stage will start with recruitment of local leaders who will learn new skills under the supervision of their tutors. E-learning platform will serve as a main tool for this purpose. January 2017 will mark the end of the project. At this point, results will be evaluated.

**Budget:**

Partners will be responsible for recruitment of participants and coaches. Project budget will include costs of fees for both groups, along with the fee for coordinators of the project on the side of partners. Cost of travelling to Poland for conference participants from partner countries will be covered as well.

Predicted private financial participation of each partner for the whole length of the project depends on the costs suggested in the Erasmus+ guidelines for certain groups of countries:

* 8,000 EUR for the following countries: Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Macedonia and Turkey
* 19,000 EUR for Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Finland, Great Britain, Iceland

All parties who agree to participate in the project as partners should sign letter of intent to confirm the intention to collaborate with the University of Economy in Bydgoszcz for the duration of the project.