

# OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROJECTS

# NEWSLETTER

**Dear Faculty and Staff,**

I am pleased to introduce this newsletter as an additional platform for us to remain connected, share updates, and reflect on our collective progress. As the year draws to a close, it is an opportune time to recognize our achievements while also considering our future direction. These accomplishments reflect the dedicated efforts of all involved. Each application, resubmission, and project has required significant commitment, and together, we have established new partnerships and launched new initiatives.

Thank you to all faculty and staff who submitted project applications. Your creativity, and commitment to research and development are highly valued. Project coordinators take on the important responsibility of leading successful implementation and coordinating activities across their project teams. While this role is demanding, it is also highly rewarding and contributes significantly to both professional growth and the broader impact of our university. I greatly appreciate your continued hard work and dedication.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Welcome  
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I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all our partners and funding agencies that recognized the potential of the project ideas and research conducted at IUS. Their support has enabled innovative research that aligns with IUS's strategic goals and its commitment to global citizenship. Externally funded projects have enabled our undergraduate and graduate students to participate in numerous research projects, providing them with direct experience in novel research methods, advanced technologies, and real-world problem solving. These projects have also facilitated the acquisition of state-of-the-art research equipment, enhancing our institutional research capacity.

Finally, I want to thank IUS Upper Management and all the other offices that have supported us.

**Wishing you success and new projects in 2026. OSP is here to support you.**

Sincerely,  
Dr. Nađa Beglerović



**OSP** Office of  
Sponsored Projects

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## CELEBRATING NEW PROJECTS

We are pleased to announce new projects funded by the Ministry of Science, Higher Education, and Youth of the Canton of Sarajevo and the Federal Ministry of Education and Science. The success demonstrates dedication, expertise, and collaborative effort in developing competitive proposals. This funding enables the implementation of high-quality projects and further enhances IUS contributions to research, innovation, and societal advancement in addressing significant societal challenges.

**We congratulate all professors and their project team members on this achievement and look forward to their implementation and positive outcomes.**

The Federal Ministry of Education and Science has selected the following projects:



**Project: Examining the Relationship between Occupational Stress, Coping Strategies, and Personality Traits among Police Officers in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina**



Project Coordinator:  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Selvira Draganović

This research project investigates the relationship between occupational stress, coping strategies, and personality traits among police officers in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The study seeks to identify primary operational and organizational sources of stress, examine officers' coping mechanisms in stressful situations, and assess the influence of personality traits on the selection and effectiveness of coping strategies. The anticipated findings aim to advance understanding of police officers' mental health and inform the development of targeted interventions to improve well-being and occupational performance.

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**Project: Challenges and Opportunities of Implementing Green HRM Practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Qualitative Study – QUALI-GREEN BiH**



Project Coordinator:  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emil Knezović

A research project has been initiated to investigate the implementation of Green Human Resource Management (GHRM) practices organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project seeks to identify principal challenges and opportunities associated with the adoption of green HR practices and to offer actionable recommendations, including the creation of a digital handbook for organizations. In alignment with the Development Strategy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021–2027, the project also advances the Sustainable Development Goals, with particular emphasis on decent work, sustainable industrialization, responsible consumption, and climate action.

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**Project: Impact of Digital Literacy in Higher Education on Shaping Professional Aspirations and Employment Intentions**



Project Coordinator:  
Assist. Prof. Dr. Emir Hambo

A new multidisciplinary research project explores how digital competencies impact students' career development in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The study defines digital literacy as more than technical skills, highlighting its role in adaptability, innovation, and recognizing opportunities. In response to high youth unemployment and complex school-to-work transitions, the research examines how digital literacy shapes students: three career intentions among university entrepreneurial (starting a business), intrapreneurial (innovating within organizations), and job-search (seeking traditional employment).



### Jean Monnet Actions in the field of Higher Education: Modules

ERASMUS-JMO-2025-MODULE

#### Project: **European Cybersecurity for Bosnia and Herzegovina (ECS4BIH) (2025-2028)**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Amal Mersni**

The ECS4BIH Project, co-funded by the European Union through the Erasmus+ Programme (Jean Monnet Actions), marks a significant advancement for the International University of Sarajevo (IUS) in EU-focused education and research. IUS is the sole higher education institution in Bosnia and Herzegovina to have secured two Jean Monnet Modules since 2022, demonstrating its robust institutional capacity and recognized expertise.

The project aims to facilitate the systematic transfer of knowledge regarding European Union cybersecurity strategies, regulatory frameworks, policies, principles, and best practices, with a specific focus on their applicability to Bosnia and Herzegovina. By offering semester-long courses in English integrated into university curricula, alongside targeted events and public lectures in both English and Bosnian, ECS4BIH convenes academic institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations, industry representatives, and policy actors to enhance understanding of EU cyber governance.

In addition to its educational objectives, ECS4BIH strategically advances research excellence and evidence-based policymaking by promoting cross-sector knowledge exchange and supporting European cybersecurity research. Project outcomes will be disseminated through peer-reviewed academic journals, an edited volume, and communication via traditional and social media to ensure broad visibility and sustained impact.

The Project Coordinator, Assist. Prof. Dr. Mersni stated, “We will deliver European Union cybersecurity as practical learning, research evidence, and public dialogue in Bosnia and Herzegovina so that institutions and the public can apply best practices across policy and operations, aligned with European frameworks, standards, and guidance.”

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#### Project: **Strengthening Italian Language and Culture at IUS**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ervin Kovačević**

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, through the initiative “Contributions to Foreign Universities for the Promotion of the Italian Language and Culture Abroad,” together with the Embassy of Italy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, has once again supported the International University of Sarajevo (IUS) in providing Spoken Italian language courses. This continued support acknowledges IUS’s commitment to promoting the Italian language and culture within higher education, as well as its ongoing dedication to multilingual education, cultural exchange, and international collaboration.

## ONGOING PROJECTS

### Capacity Building in the field of higher education Strand 2

ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CBHE-STRAND-2



#### Project: **The CORE-ED ACADEMY - Transformative Educational Strategies: Fostering Inclusion and Shared Values in Juvenile Justice through Dynamic Correctional Pedagogy and Specialist Professionalization**



Project Co-Coordinators:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pinar Unal-Aydin and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Orkun Aydin**

The Project CORE-ED Academy (1/2025 to 12/2027) seeks to enhance higher education capacities throughout the Western Balkans, including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Serbia, with additional support from Romania and Greece. The project prioritizes the development of specialist competences and the implementation of evidence-based interventions within correctional settings, while advancing inclusion, shared values, democracy, and the rule of law.

By establishing a public–private partnership that connects higher education institutions, research organizations, the labour market, enterprises, and learners, the initiative redefines universities as lifelong learning centers that facilitate inclusive and rehabilitative strategies for youth involved with the justice system.

#### Partners include:



### Capacity building in the field of Vocational education and training (VET)

ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CB-VET



#### Project: **Cyber Fort - Empowering VET Systems and SMEs for Future Cyber Challenges**



Project Coordinator:  
**Mrs. Hilal Karić, IUS LIFE**

The CyberFort project develops practical cybersecurity learning materials tailored for vocational education and training (VET) systems and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), addressing critical skills gaps within these sectors.

The project aims to foster innovation and strengthen the expertise of cybersecurity professionals, thereby supporting increased digital resilience throughout Europe.

The project is implemented by an international consortium comprising the IUS Lifelong Learning Center, the Office of the Governor of Istanbul, and the Cappadocia Innovation Institute (Türkiye), Mindshift Skills Hub (Portugal), the University of Thessaly (Greece), Luarasi University, the National Agency for Employment and Skills, and the Ministry of Economy, Culture and Innovation (Albania).



## TİKA Support Strengthens Teaching and Research Infrastructure at IUS

The International University of Sarajevo (IUS) is further advancing its teaching and research infrastructure through the support of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA). TİKA has facilitated the establishment and modernization of essential laboratories and learning facilities at IUS, such as the iMAC Lab Project, CNC Machine Project, Anatomy Laboratory, the Matrakcija Project, and T-Shirt and Plotter Project.



Project Coordinator:  
Assoc. Prof. Muhammed Yasir Göz

These initiatives enhance hands-on learning, technological capacity, and applied research across various disciplines. They provide students with access to advanced equipment and practice-oriented education that aligns with industry and societal requirements. All projects were coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Muhammed Yasir Göz, whose leadership was essential to their successful implementation. The Anatomy lab, designed to enhance medical education, was officially inaugurated on the IUS campus in Sarajevo. Students will be able to apply theoretical anatomical knowledge in practice, utilizing specialized models that demonstrate human organs, body systems, and their interrelationships.



Anatomy Lab

The opening ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Emin Akseki; IUS Rector, Prof. Dr. Ali Osman Kuşakçı; Rector of the University of Health Sciences (SBU), Prof. Dr. Kemalettin Aydın; Chair of the IUS Board of Trustees, Prof. Dr. Sevgi Kurtulmuş; President of the Sarajevo Education Development Foundation (SEDEF), Mr. Hasan Topaloğlu; TİKA Sarajevo Coordinator, Mr. Gökhan Umut; as well as numerous officials from Bosnia and Herzegovina, representatives of Turkish institutions, students, and academic staff.



Workshops of Thought, Science, and Technology Matrakçı

The IUS Matrakçı Workshop aims to support STEM education and foster creativity, innovation, and critical thinking among students. The **Project “Workshops of Thought, Science, and Technology Matrakçı”** was supported by the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Türkiye. The opening ceremony was attended by senior representatives from the Turkish Ministry of National Education, the Turkish Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and IUS leadership.

Along with the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Türkiye and TİKA, the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce and the Selçuklu Municipality have supported key educational initiatives and projects at IUS.

These initiatives represent a significant advancement in practical education and academic excellence at IUS and further promote academic cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Türkiye.

**IUS sincerely thanks all partners for their ongoing trust and support.**

## Jean Monnet Actions in the field of Higher Education: Modules

ERASMUS-JMO-2022-MODULE



### Project: **European Energy Security EES (1/2022- 12/2025)**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aliaksandr Novikau**

The European Energy Security (EES) Jean Monnet Module focuses on transferring knowledge about EU energy security challenges and mitigation strategies to diverse stakeholders including Bosnia and Herzegovina, policymakers, the media, and the wider public. The project promotes understanding of the EU energy system, energy security policies, and key frameworks such as the EU Energy Roadmap 2050 and the European Green Deal, while fostering dialogue

between Bosnian and EU universities, civil society, and public institutions.

The module offers semester-long English-taught courses at the Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD levels and integrates EU energy security topics into existing International Relations and Political Science curricula. Through innovative teaching, public lectures, seminars, and broad dissemination in academic publications and media, the project builds educational and research capacity in EU studies, sustainability, and energy. It also supports informed discussion on applying EU energy market principles in the Western Balkans.

### Project: **Nature-based solutions for a just Resilience in the Adriatic-Ionian cities** **ADRION NatureD**



**Interreg**  Co-funded by the European Union **IPA ADRION**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Ismar Alagić**

The NATURED project responds to pressing climate challenges in the Adriatic-Ionian (ADRION) region, where urban areas are increasingly affected by floods, droughts, landslides, storms, wildfires, and urban heat islands. To mitigate these shared vulnerabilities, the project equips policymakers and stakeholders with tools to prevent climate impacts in cities, with a particular focus on flash floods and extreme heat. NATURED also advances a just, safe, and inclusive resilience strategy that prioritizes the needs of vulnerable communities.

NATURED integrates climate-city analysis, digital mapping of climate risks, and participatory citizen engagement to co-develop action plans centered on Nature-based Solutions (NbS). These solutions are evaluated through pilot initiatives and incorporated into municipal public works to facilitate the regional scaling of effective measures. Through its transnational, place-based methodology, NATURED transitions cities from reliance on grey infrastructure to sustainable NbS, thereby promoting long-term resilience and climate security in the ADRION region.

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**Project: Optimizing Classroom Air Purification with Measurements  
and CFD Simulations (1/2025 - 12/2025)**



Project Coordinator:  
**Prof. Dr. Muhamed Hadžiabdić**

This project is conducted within a highly competitive research and development grant scheme funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Science and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through the Better Governance for Faster Economic Growth (EGG2) initiative, with additional support from the Government of the Kingdom of Norway and SDG2BiH, funded by Sweden. The programme supports applied research that promotes innovation, strengthens collaboration with industry, and delivers measurable societal benefits in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The project addresses a critical public health challenge by improving indoor air quality in school classrooms during periods of elevated outdoor pollution, especially in autumn and winter. Because children are more vulnerable to poor air quality and its effects on health, cognitive performance, and well-being, the research combines PM2.5 sensor measurements with Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations to evaluate the effectiveness of different air purification technologies under real-world conditions.

For more details on the project results, see the brochure: Healthier Air for Better Learning.



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**Project: “Pyrosafe” Research and Market Readiness of Pyrophyllite Disinfecting  
Door Handles (1/2025 - 12/2025)**



Project Co-Coordinators:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Altijana Hromić-Jahjefendić and  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emil Knezović**

Pyrosafe is a research project focused on developing self-disinfecting door handles utilizing pyrophyllite, a naturally occurring mineral with demonstrated antimicrobial and catalytic properties. When exposed to light, pyrophyllite facilitates continuous surface disinfection without the need for frequent chemical cleaning. Through experimental testing, the project evaluates the mineral’s effectiveness in reducing microbial contamination, as well as to evaluate the durability and performance of pyrophyllite-enhanced handle prototypes.

Addressing the growing demand for safer and more sustainable public spaces, Pyrosafe specifically targets high-traffic environments, including hospitals, schools, transport facilities, and administrative buildings. A central aspect of the project is its collaboration with AD HARBI d.o.o., which bridges academic research and industrial production. This partnership facilitates the evaluation of commercial viability and market readiness. IUS sincerely thanks the Federal Ministry of Education and Science and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for their support of these two projects and for acknowledging their significance in promoting innovation, public well-being, and applied research with tangible societal impact.



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**Project: The Impact of Innovations and Robotics on High School Students' Cognitive Thinking (9/2024-2/2026)**



This project seeks to assess and improve high school students' cognitive abilities by integrating innovative technologies, especially robotics, into education. A custom cognitive test measures logical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. Assessments at the start and end of the program evaluate the impact of exposure to robotics and modern technologies. The project is conducted in partnership with the Department of Psychology and partner schools, including Maarif International Schools Sarajevo and Druga gimnazija Mostar.

Project Coordinator:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kanita Karađuzović-Hadžiabdić**

Results are shared through scientific publications, conference presentations, and workshops for both professional and public audiences. The initiative encourages the inclusion of science and robotics in school curricula, highlights the benefits of technological innovation for youth cognitive development, and provides participating schools with additional robotics laboratory equipment. The Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth, Canton Sarajevo, supports this project.

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**Project: Innovative Applications of Eutectic Solvents in Cancer Research (9/2024-1/2026)**



Melanoma is a highly aggressive skin cancer characterized by rapid metastasis and limited treatment options in advanced stages. Despite progress in immunotherapy and targeted therapies, survival rates for metastatic melanoma remain low, underscoring the urgent need for new therapeutic strategies. The project investigates the cytotoxic and potential protective effects of 5-Hydroxymethylfurfural (5-HMF) on a melanoma cell line.

Project Coordinator:  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Lejla Mahmutović**

The study determines optimal compound concentrations using cell viability assays, including CCK-8 and trypan blue exclusion. Cell proliferation is measured by BrdU incorporation, and protein expression is evaluated by Western blot. By employing a multidisciplinary research approach, this project seeks to advance understanding of melanoma growth mechanisms and to facilitate the development of innovative therapeutic options for patients who are unresponsive to current treatments.

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**Project: First Genetic Risk Assessment of Diabetes Mellitus Type 1 in Youth in Canton Sarajevo (9/2024-3/2026)**



Type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) is a complex genetic disorder with a particularly high incidence among children and adolescents in Sarajevo Canton. This project investigates genetic factors contributing to the increasing prevalence of early-onset T1DM within this population.

The research uses RT-PCR to examine the expression of T1DM-related genes in patients and their immediate family members, aiming to identify prevalent genetic variants and inheritance patterns. In conjunction with biochemical and anthropometric analyses, this research seeks to enhance understanding of disease mechanisms, facilitate early detection, and inform more effective prevention strategies for families at increased risk.

Project Coordinator:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jasmin Šutković**

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**Project: AI4CUAV – Innovative AI-framework to enable the detection, classification, and tracking of killer-drones (12/2023-12/2026)**



Project Co-Coordinator:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Özge Büyükdaglı**  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tarik Namas**

The AI4CUAV project represents the first NATO-funded initiative at IUS and constitutes a significant milestone for the university. Supported by the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme, the project unites universities, law enforcement agencies, and NATO experts to address emerging threats posed by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The project seeks to develop a data-driven decision support system that integrates multi-sensor data and artificial intelligence for real-time drone detection, classification, and tracking.

Thus, AI4CUAV is a research-driven initiative focused on breakthrough innovation to advance detection algorithm accuracy and deliver AI-based solutions for complex security challenges. By enhancing situational awareness and response capabilities, AI4CUAV aims to improve airspace safety and security while reinforcing IUS's position in international research and security innovation.

The consortium comprises CNIT Radar and Surveillance Systems National Laboratory (Italy), Mother Teresa University (North Macedonia), the General Police Inspectorate of Moldova, Università degli Studi Link (Italy), and Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs (Ukraine). The project team includes IUS undergraduate and graduate students, alongside faculty members, in project meetings and field experiments conducted in Rome on October 23–24, 2025. This active participation demonstrates IUS' commitment to integrating education, research, and practical application, while providing students with valuable experience in international research and security-oriented innovation.



**Anes Hadžiomerović** (left),  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Özge Büyükdaglı**  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tarik Namas**  
(right)



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**Project: Business-Oriented Education and Competences at IUS as the Right Place for Vocational On-the-Job Training in Industry**



Project Co-Coordinator:  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tarik Namas**  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Ismar Alagic**

The International University of Sarajevo (IUS) is one of five institutions (out of 155 applicants) awarded a prestigious Regional Challenge Fund (RCF) grant to modernize training equipment, facilities, and technologies in response to human resource shortages in engineering.

The initiative, “Business-Oriented Education and Competences at IUS,” targets Mechanical Engineering, Electronics, and Software Engineering, offering students advanced vocational training and better employability opportunities. In collaboration with industry partners, IUS will deliver state-of-the-art training using upgraded infrastructure. The RCF initiative, supported by the governments of Germany and Switzerland, has invested €1.8 million to enhance youth employability and enterprise competitiveness in the Western Balkans. This project demonstrates IUS's dedication to bridging the gap between academia and industry by equipping students with the practical skills required for success in the global workforce.



**Project: Developing Capacity for VET Systems in the Western Balkans (DC-VET- WB)  
(1/2023-1/2026)**



The Developing Capacity for VET Systems in the Western Balkans project builds upon the INTERVET WB initiative, coordinated by UNISER in collaboration with partner organizations throughout the Western Balkans. Its primary objective is to modernize vocational education and training (VET) systems by facilitating practice exchange and implementing comprehensive capacity-building activities.

**Project Coordinators:**  
**Mrs. Sibela Beširević, Deputy Director of the Lifelong Learning Center**

The project seeks to strengthen work-based learning in collaboration with companies, promote inclusion for young people with fewer opportunities, and advance the internationalisation strategies of VET schools. It is organized into five work packages: coordination, quality assurance, dissemination, and three core capacity-building areas, namely work-based learning, social inclusion, and internationalisation.

By conducting research, facilitating peer learning, providing teacher training, and piloting innovative methodologies, the project will generate practical outputs. These outputs include comparative analyses of work-based learning models, video guidelines, virtual company visits, repositories of best practices, a social inclusion toolkit, e-learning modules on VET internationalisation, and step-by-step guidelines for blended mobility projects. Collectively, these results aim to foster more inclusive, collaborative, and internationally connected VET systems throughout the Western Balkans.

The project developed a toolkit to promote social inclusion.



## COMPLETED PROJECTS:

### IUS LIFE and the Joint Hosting Program

Since 2022, IUS Life has actively participated in the Joint Hosting Program 2020–2027 with UNISER Learning Mobility from Bologna, Italy, to strengthen international vocational education and training (VET) mobility. IUS Life has hosted 126 VET students from eight schools, working with 26 companies across Sarajevo Canton and supported by the Chamber of Economy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The program offers students valuable work-based learning, enhancing their practical skills and employability.

IUS Life plans to host over 40 students in 2026 and remains listed in the UNISER VET Learners Mobility Catalogue, which includes destinations across Europe. IUS and UNISER are also exploring ways to expand their cooperation and strengthen international engagement in VET education.

The Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) sincerely thanks IUS Life for its ongoing dedication to the successful implementation of VET projects. IUS Life has significantly contributed to work-based learning, international mobility, and practical training opportunities for students, supporting IUS's strategic goals and mission.



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Congratulations to all project teams on successfully completing projects funded by the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth of Sarajevo Canton. Your dedication and professionalism have advanced scientific knowledge, supported societal development, and furthered IUS strategic goals. Thank you for your outstanding work.

**Project: Green Purchase Intentions: The role of Theory of Planned Behavior, Environmental**

**Concern, and Demographic Factors**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Hamza Smajić**

The research project investigated factors influencing green purchase intentions among consumers in Sarajevo Canton using a comprehensive quantitative methodology, including a survey of 800 citizens. Analysis of behavioral, environmental, and demographic variables provided evidence-based insights into strategies for promoting sustainable consumption and guiding local companies to meet the growing demand for eco-friendly products.

Aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 12 and 13, which emphasize sustainable consumption and climate action, the GreenCB project increased awareness of environmentally responsible consumer choices and provided actionable recommendations for businesses to incorporate sustainability into their operations. The project contributed to advancing greener consumption patterns and fostering a more sustainable future for Sarajevo Canton and the broader region.

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**Project: Challenges of the integration of foreigners into the working environment and daily life in the Sarajevo Canton with an insight into the positive practices of the European Union**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Hamza Preljević**

This project examines the increasing presence of foreign workers in Sarajevo Canton in the context of persistent labor shortages resulting from emigration. It investigates the social, legal, and cultural challenges encountered by these workers, such as insufficient integration support, complicated administrative processes, language obstacles, and experiences of social isolation.

The research further examines public perceptions and security concerns, explicitly differentiating foreign workers from broader migration phenomena. Through an analysis of effective European Union practices, the project seeks to formulate evidence-based and contextually appropriate recommendations that foster social cohesion, enhance economic stability, and advance more inclusive integration policies.

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**Project: Bosnia and Herzegovina Thirty Years After the Dayton Peace Agreement**



Project Coordinator:  
**Assist. Prof. Dr. Hamza Preljević**

The book “Bosnia and Herzegovina Thirty Years After the Dayton Peace Agreement” at the International University of Sarajevo (IUS) brought together local and international scholars to critically examine the country’s post-Dayton development. It covered key themes such as transitional justice, nationalism, collective memory, cultural identity, civil society, and regional geopolitics, along with contemporary challenges like the refugee crisis, secessionist tendencies, regional militarization, and the roles of the EU and NATO.

The project acknowledges the financial support provided by the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, as well as Mr. Denis Zvizdić and Mr. Nezim Alagić, Deputy Speaker of the House of Peoples of the FBiH.

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## Project: The Challenges of Legal Liability of Healthcare Workers in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Project Coordinator:

**Assist. Prof. Dr. Harun Halilović**

A one-year research project funded by the Association of Endocrinologists and Diabetologists in Bosnia Herzegovina (ENDO) marked a significant advancement in medical law in the country. The project systematically analyzed the legal framework regulating medical practice, including patients' rights and the criminal and civil liability of medical professionals. It reviewed relevant case law and legal practices, using comparative insights from European Union countries to identify context-specific solutions. The project helped establish clearer legal standards and improved protection for both patients and healthcare professionals.

The main outcome of the project was the publication of the book "Legal Aspects of the Medical Profession in Bosnia and Herzegovina," coauthored by professors from the IUS Faculty of Law. This volume presents the project's findings and offers a comprehensive overview of legal responsibilities in medical practice, advancing the development of medical law in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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## ERASMUS+ DAYS 2025: IUS RECOGNIZED FOR BEST PRACTICES IN HIGHER EDUCATION



**Dr. Nađa Beglerović**  
OSP Manager

Erasmus+ Days 2025, dedicated to higher education, took place on 7 November 2025 at the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Sarajevo. The event was organized by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the National Erasmus+ Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina and focused on Erasmus+ actions in higher education, including Erasmus Networks and examples of best practices.

The event gathered representatives of universities, ministries, and international organizations involved in Erasmus+ projects and academic cooperation. The program was opened by Mr. Suad Muhibić, Head of the National Erasmus+ Office in BiH, who presented key Erasmus+ actions and opportunities available to higher education institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Among the invited speakers was Dr. Nađa Beglerović, Manager of the Office of Sponsored Projects. She presented IUS's activities within the Erasmus+

programme, highlighting best practices, international projects, partnerships, and mobility initiatives that support international cooperation and academic exchange. Her presentation was well received

and demonstrated IUS's active and successful engagement in Erasmus+.

IUS's invitation to present at this event reflects recognition of its contributions to the Erasmus+ programme. The university thanks the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the National Erasmus+ Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina for their invitation and continued support.

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## WORKSHOP ON ERASMUS+ OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION



Mr. Suad Muhibić, Head of the National Erasmus+ Office

The training workshop, “**Erasmus+ Opportunities in the Field of Higher Education – How to Develop a Competitive Erasmus+ Project Proposal,**” took place on Friday, 10 January 2025. Organized by Dr. Nađa Beglerović, the event contributed to ongoing efforts to increase participation in international funding programmes. Mr. Suad Muhibić, Head of the National Erasmus+ Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, delivered a presentation that provided a comprehensive overview of the Erasmus+ programme, with a focus on opportunities in higher education. He also offered detailed guidance on developing project proposals that align with Erasmus+ priorities and evaluation criteria.

The workshop provided IUS faculty and staff with the opportunity to explore Erasmus+ funding options and enhance their understanding of the proposal development process. Key topics included an overview of Erasmus+ opportunities in higher education, practical guidance for preparing Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) project proposals with a focus on lump sum funding, evaluation criteria, and effective proposal strategies. The agenda also featured a detailed presentation on the Jean Monnet Action, which supports excellence in teaching and research related to European integration.



The workshop concluded with an interactive question and discussion session, allowing participants to clarify specific aspects of the programme and exchange ideas. Initiatives such as this workshop reflect IUS’s ongoing commitment to supporting academic excellence, strengthening project development capacities, and promoting international collaboration through Erasmus+ and other international funding programmes. IUS is grateful to Mr. Suad Muhibić for holding this workshop, as well as to the National Erasmus+ Office (NEO) for their continuous support and valued cooperation.

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## OSP-LED INFO SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS ON NATIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

In June 2025, the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) organized group and one-on-one information sessions and practical workshops for two calls from the Federal Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth Canton Sarajevo. The sessions focused on call requirements and budget planning. These initiatives gave targeted support to academic staff during proposal development and improved the quality and competitiveness of submissions.

IUS developed and submitted several proposals, all of which received funding approval. This result demonstrates the University’s growing success in competitive research funding and reaffirms IUS’s commitment to research excellence and to providing ongoing support to the academic community. IUS also submitted multiple applications to the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth Canton Sarajevo. However, the Ministry cancelled the call, the first such cancellation in ten years. In previous years, the Ministry played a key role in supporting many research projects at IUS and contributed significantly to the University’s research development. Despite this unexpected outcome, OSP remains optimistic that the call will reopen next year. OSP will continue to monitor developments and promptly inform faculty and staff when the call is available again.

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## Project Calls



**Erasmus+ Call for Proposals 2026 Launched** The European Commission has officially launched the Erasmus+ Call for Proposals 2026, with a total budget of approximately €5.2 billion to support cross-border mobility and cooperation projects. The programme helps individuals and institutions develop key competences for the future, including basic, digital, green, civic, and soft skills. The 2026 Call offers opportunities for organisations and individuals worldwide through the international dimension of Erasmus+, based on partnerships between institutions from third countries and organisations from the 33 EU Member States and other associated countries. Comprehensive guidance on all Erasmus+ actions is available: in the new Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2026



and the official Call notice.



### OSP Planned Activities

To support IUS participation in the Erasmus+ 2026 Call, the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) is planning targeted activities in January:

- An information session and proposal development workshop, to be delivered by Mr. Suad Muhibić (date to be confirmed).  
A panel session with IUS academic staff currently implementing Erasmus+ projects,
- focused on practical tips and lessons learned for successful applications and effective

project implementation.

Through these activities, OSP continues to strengthen institutional readiness and support high-quality Erasmus+ project development at IUS.