



**Erasmus+ KA2 Capacity Building project
Development of Innovative Graduate Educational Program in Cyber Security for Digital labor market of
Central Asia
(Cyber4CA)**

NEWSLETTER

INTRODUCTION

Cyber4CA is a **three-year** project co-funded by the European Commission under ERASMUS Plus Programme. It is conducted under the centralized activity “**Capacity-building in the Field of Higher Education**” - 2025. The Project Consortium brings together **17 organisations** – academic institutions, ministries of Higher Education and Digital Technologies, associations – from seven **European and Central Asian countries** – Italy, Spain, Belgium, Romania, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

The overall **goal** of the Cyber4CA project is to create graduate study programs in different disciplines at the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with CS-related courses and establish Centres for the Application of CS in Central Asia. The main focus is on sharing experiences, transferring knowledge, and exchanging best practices between HEIs from the European Union (EU) and the Central Asia (CA) regions. This broader goal aligns perfectly with the priorities of the Capacity Building projects under the Erasmus+ program (“Digital transformation” and “Sustainable growth and jobs”)

The expected **outcomes** of the Project comprise: the development and adaptation of MA educational programs to align with the changing demands of students, industries, and society as a whole. The CS centres will facilitate a connection between the education system and the job market in countries of Central Asia, ensuring that students acquire the specific knowledge and skills needed in the CS sector. The creation of these CS centres involves collaboration among educators, CS specialists, the broader community, and potentially international partners. This cooperative strategy reflects the Erasmus+ initiative's commitment to fostering international collaboration and sharing best practices in education.

UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

To conduct a comprehensive study to assess the needs of the general public and their level of knowledge regarding the application of cybersecurity, surveys were conducted across partner countries, including students, professors, administrative staff, and industry representatives. The goal is to assess current cybersecurity awareness among key stakeholder groups and the demand for cybersecurity education and training. The results of this study will directly inform the development of new cybersecurity courses and programs within WP3, ensuring that the curriculum meets the actual needs and knowledge gaps identified in each country. All partner universities conducted the survey, providing a realistic picture of the curricula development process for training future specialists.

NEXT STEPS

The 3-day face-to-face workshop will be held at IITU (International Information Technology University) (Almaty, Kazakhstan), and bring together all project partners to compare and analyze cybersecurity curricula, courses and best practices in higher education institutions in the European Union (EU) and Partner Countries (PC). The event will be the culmination of WP2 (analysis phase) and will also serve as a solid “bridge” to WP3 (development of training courses and programs).

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