



Sharing the HEIn 4.0 project results and sustainability mechanisms in the frame of the conference in Batumi on 03-04 October 2023

A brief description of the event

On October 3-4 2023 Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University hosted a conference within Erasmus + project “Boosting the role of HEIs in the industrial transformation towards the Industry 4.0 paradigm in Georgia and Ukraine” (HEIn4). The conference was dedicated to sharing the outcomes of the project as well as outlining further industry-higher education institution cooperation potential for sustainability of the project results.

The conference was attended by the representatives of the project member institutions from Europe, Ukraine, Georgia, as well as local partners, from the industry, of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University. Moreover, the representatives of the project member higher education institutions made an important input to enrichment of the content of the conference through making speeches on the specifics of the project implementation as well as the industry university cooperation prospects in their country. Paulo Avila, Professor at Polytechnic Institute of Porto shared the good examples of promotion of the HEIN 4.0 project in their institution as well as presented certain plans of further activities to be carried out for the project resilience. The Ukrainian colleague Oleksandr Zhadanos discussed some details of the project implementation in the education institution on the example of the Ukrainian State University of Science and Technologies.

Project team members of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University delivered a joint presentation with the representatives of industry. The university staff spoke about the activities that were carried out on the basis of the Innovative Lab established in BSU in the frame of the HEIN 4.0 project, while the representatives of the industry brought personal stories to illustrate good examples of the university-industry cooperation that started on the ground exactly of the given project. Zurab Meskhidze, the BSU Business Partner from the



company “Smart Home Solutions” talked about the business of the company and their willingness to cooperate with the BSU beyond the borders of the project too. Mr. Meskhidze underlined the importance of the industry involvement in the implementation of the education process at higher education institution. The conference was also attended by Mr. Gocha Davitadze, Chair of the Resource Centre of the Municipality of Keda whose speech was focused on the needs of the education system in terms of being more familiarized with the innovations as well as the necessity of provision of the relevantly qualified staff who could lead the activities promoting innovative projects. Prof. Paata Chaganava, Quality Assurance Service Head of the Faculty of Tourism delivered the presentation that dealt with the successful examples of the university-enterprise cooperation within the Faculty of Tourism at BSU.

Ani Chelishvili, Head of Development and International Relations Office of Business and Technology University introduced the participants of the conference to success stories emerging from the harmonious relationship between the university and industry always initiated and then maintained by the institution with the aim to strengthen interinfluence of these two systems.

The conference agenda envisaged a tour in the Techno Park of Batumi where the participants visited the Universal Laboratory of Industrial Innovations (Fablab) as well as get familiarized with the perspectives of cooperation between the university and the Techno Park.

The conference was one more step forward in promoting project capacity and the outcomes as well as providing a fruitful ground for sustainable measures as well as potential of closer cooperation between the partners.