

TFK programme, funded projects 2025

Project title: Promoting multimodal educational practices and teacher competencies in vocational education and training (VET): Ukraine - Finland Cooperation	
Coordinator Jyväskylän yliopisto Maarit Virolainen, maarit.ha.virolainen@jyu.fi	Higher education institutions (HEIs) play a vital role in the preparation of vocational teachers and in advancing educational reform. As centers of teacher education, research, and innovation, HEIs are central to the country's efforts to modernize vocational education and training (VET) and ensure its alignment with social and economic needs. Their ability to lead and inform research-driven transformation is particularly important during times of crisis and recovery. The ongoing Russian aggression, which began with the illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014, has severely disrupted Ukraine's education sector. HEIs have suffered infrastructure damage and operational instability, limiting their capacity to deliver quality education and practical training. Institutions responsible for vocational teacher education (VTE) face challenges in organizing supervision and hands-on learning due to destroyed facilities. Despite the operational challenges, Ukraine has initiated VET reforms guided by the 2017 Law "On Education," emphasizing decentralization, institutional autonomy, and competency-based learning.
Partners JAMK university of applied sciences, Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University	To support these efforts, the project MOTIVET4UA promotes international cooperation between Finnish and Ukrainian HEIs. It strengthens institutional capacity by enhancing teacher educators' competencies in multimodal pedagogy, digital teaching, and the responsible use of AI. The project emphasizes research-based development, using current evidence to guide pedagogical practices and system-level reform. It benefits from being integrated into the ongoing provision and research projects of the participating HEIs. Project activities include webinars, seminars, joint research projects, teacher visits and student exchanges, which will be delivered both online and on site. Participating higher education institutions (HEIs) will co-develop content, exchange good practices, and address shared challenges in responding to the dual transition towards the digital and green transformation of societies. A key focus will be to address war-related learning loss through literature reviews, workshops for researchers and teachers, and surveys involving experts and students. These activities will also lay the groundwork for future research collaborations. Expected results include peer-reviewed publications, digital learning materials, and practical tools to support teacher education. HEIs will benefit from increased research capacity, enhanced teaching practices, and deeper international partnerships. By embedding research into practice and policy, MOTIVET4UA contributes to the resilience, renewal, and modernization of vocational teacher education in Ukraine and strengthens the strategic role of HEIs in shaping the future of VET.



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