



a-STEP Cost Action training at the University of Elbasan

The STEP Cost Action organized its first training school at "Aleksandër Xhuvani" University of Elbasan on July 3-4, 2023, bringing together about 30 participants from 8 countries, including Albania, Ireland, Austria, Portugal, North Carolina, the United States, Turkey, and Bulgaria.

The theme of the training was "Building Bridges with Participatory Research" and gathered doctoral students, young researchers, and postdoctoral fellows whose research is related to individuals with different abilities, especially those with autism spectrum disorders and intellectual disabilities.

The participants worked together to integrate theoretical and practical aspects, aiming to acquire as much knowledge and skills as possible from this training. This activity is part of a broader collaboration in the field of applying new scientific methods and expanding study perspectives within the framework of agreements between the University of Elbasan "Aleksandër Xhuvani" and international partners.



National Conference at the Faculty of Education Sciences

The Faculty of Education Sciences at the University of Elbasan successfully organized the National Conference on "Development of competencies for student candidates during professional practice." This conference is part of the planned activities for the project "Assessment of professional practices through competency frameworks for student teacher candidates." In his welcoming speech, the Vice-Rector of the University of Elbasan, Prof. Dr. Peçi Naqellari, emphasized not only the importance of professional practice as a crucial element for the theoretical and practical preparation of teachers but also the adaptation of professional practice programs, teacher preparation with professional competencies, and training for academic staff, among others.

In their speeches, the Dean of the Faculty of Education Sciences, Prof. Dr. Elisabeta Osmanaj, and Mr. Arian Gani, the Director of "Luigj Gurakuqi" United High School, briefly highlighted the significance of such initiatives, not only at the faculty and university level but also on a broader scale. As a result of this project, 7 Guides to Professional Practice in Schools were developed by the Faculty of Education Sciences and funded by the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation. These guides will be made available to students free of charge.