



**Universitatea  
Transilvania  
din Braşov**



**Migrant Integration  
Center Braşov**  
Empowering Inclusion

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Braşov, January 21, 2025**

**Launch of the “Language Buddy” Project for Students and Young Migrants/Refugees**

The Braşov Migrant Integration Center and the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences at Transilvania University of Braşov announce the launch of the “**Language Buddy**” project, dedicated to students and migrant and refugee children (aged 12–17) living in Braşov. The project aims to facilitate access for young people from migrant and refugee families to non-formal Romanian language learning activities, while also offering students the opportunity to develop their pedagogical and intercultural skills.

“Language Buddy” is a model implemented simultaneously in eight European countries (Greece, Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, Portugal, Malta, and Austria), based on intercultural exchange and student training in innovative teaching techniques. Through their involvement in this project, young migrants and refugees will strengthen their Romanian language skills, and students will practice mentoring abilities, contributing to the creation of an inclusive and supportive environment in the Braşov community.

On January 13 and 14, two information sessions were held, attended by 100 students from Transilvania University. Of these, 70 have already signed up to become mentors within the project. Starting in February 2025, enrolled students will take part in a special training course covering topics such as intercultural pedagogy, non-formal learning methods, intercultural understanding and educational dialogue, digital tools, art as a tool for intercultural dialogue, and how to organize mentoring sessions using the “Language Buddy” digital platform. Beginning in September 2025, students will apply their newly acquired knowledge by offering linguistic and cultural support to migrant and refugee children in Braşov.

**Key objectives of the “Language Buddy” project include:**

- Improving access for young migrants/refugees to non-formal and informal Romanian language learning activities
- Increasing the pedagogical and intercultural competencies of participating students
- Promoting intercultural exchange and social inclusion
- Enhancing cooperation between NGOs and public institutions

The project is implemented by a consortium led by the University of Macedonia, consisting of 16 organizations (8 NGOs and 7 universities) from Greece, Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, Portugal, Malta, and Austria. It started on March 1, 2024, runs for 26 months, and has a total budget of €1,366,713.14, co-funded by the European Commission through the **AMIF-2023-TF2-AG-CALL** (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund).

**For more information or to get involved in the project, please contact:**

<p><b>Braşov Migrant Integration Center</b> <b>Press Contact:</b> <i>Astrid Hamberger</i> President, Braşov Migrant Integration Center</p>	<p><b>For more information or to get involved in the project, please contact:</b> <b>Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences,</b> <b>Transilvania University of Braşov</b></p>
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