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Migrant Integration
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PRESS RELEASE

Braşov, 30 December 2025

50 students from Braşov trained as linguistic and intercultural mentors for migrant and refugee children and youth

The Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of Transilvania University of Braşov, together with the Migrant Integration Center Braşov, announce the successful completion of the recruitment and training activities of 50 student intercultural mentors for migrant and refugee children and youth in Braşov, carried out within the European project *Language Buddy*.

This project phase (Work Package 3) represented a key stage in the implementation, training, and operational preparation of the Language Buddy system, both at Transilvania University of Braşov and across partner universities in seven other European Union Member States. The main objective of this phase was the sustainable integration of the Language Buddy model into existing university structures and the preparation of the human resources required for the pilot phase of the project. In total, 365 students across the European Union were trained during this stage.

To this end, consortium partners developed the non-degree online **Language Buddy** course, structured into eight modules and addressed to students in the fields of education, pedagogy, modern languages, and literature. The course is grounded in social and intercultural pedagogy and experiential learning principles and addresses topics such as intercultural dialogue in education, critical and social pedagogy, the use of non-formal and informal methods in language learning, digital tools for education, art as a means of intercultural dialogue, observation, reflection and self-evaluation, as well as the organization of Language Buddy mentoring sessions. The course is hosted on the dedicated **Language Buddy** online platform, specifically developed to support online sessions, mentoring process documentation, and experience exchange among students.

In addition, during the summer of 2025, a three-day face-to-face Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized in Malta. The training brought together 22 selected students from partner universities, who were prepared to act as trainers and mentors at national level.

Following the recruitment and training process, 50 students from Braşov successfully completed the **Language Buddy** course, accumulating 40 hours of training and obtaining the certification required to participate in the project's pilot phase. During this phase, trained students will work directly with migrant and refugee children and youth in Braşov (aged 12–17), supporting Romanian language learning and facilitating their educational and social integration.



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ABOUT THE PROJECT

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

The **Language Buddy** project aims to promote inclusive societies by strengthening the capacity of higher education institutions through training activities and the development of educational support systems. The project prepares students to provide linguistic, cultural, and social support to migrant and refugee children and youth, thereby contributing to their educational and social integration.

For further information or involvement in the project, please contact:

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