

Study visit to Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra (Portugal)

From 11th to 15th of December 2023 the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra (Portugal) hosted QUARSU project Ukrainian partners for study visit, and also for the Coordination meeting of QUARSU project Consortium members.

The delegations of the following Ukrainian partner organizations took part in the event: National University "Odessa Maritime Academy", Mariupol State University, Kherson National Technical University, Sumy State University, Ukrainian National Forestry University, Federation of Employers of Ukraine and Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

National University "Odessa Maritime Academy" was represented by Vice-Rector on scientific and pedagogical work, Prof. Vadym Zakharchenko (QUARSU project National coordinator for Ukraine), the Head of Life Safety Department, Dana Parmenova, and the Head of the English Department, Olga Monastyrska.

Within the study visit programme the participants were familiarized with the structure of Higher Education of Portugal, the history, management system, study programmes and research activities of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, and also visited its faculties and departments. In particular, the participants visited Central Services of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, Higher Institute of Engineering, and Coimbra Higher Agricultural School.

The study visit programme was coordinated by Professor Rui Costa, who is coordinator of Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra QUARSU project team, and President of the European Alliance for Subject-Specific and Professional Accreditation and Quality Assurance.

The participants were given the presentations on the Higher Education system of Portugal, the organization of educational process in the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, approaches to the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), evaluation system and monitoring of students' learning outcomes, and internal Quality Assurance system. The presentations were delivered by leading academics of Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra: Maria João Cardoso, Rui Costa, Carla Xambre, Isabel Dinis, Daniela Cunha, Marta Figueiredo, Sara Martins and others.

During the Coordination meeting the participants discussed the methodological developments, further plans and perspectives on productive joint activities and cooperation. Coordination meeting was conducted under the leadership of QUARSU project coordinator Dr. Marek Frankowicz (Jagiellonian University Poland) and national coordinator for Ukraine Prof. Vadym Zakharchenko (National University "Odessa Maritime Academy").

The participants also visited the City Council of Coimbra and met with the Mayor of the city of Coimbra, Jose Manuel Silva, in the Town Hall.

During this meeting in his speech Prof. Vadym Zakharchenko emphasized the great importance of international cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, further integration of Ukraine into European community. Following the meeting Mr. Jose Manuel Silva stated the readiness of the City Council to support the projects aimed at the development of education and science. He also characterized QUARSU project participants' visit as the crucial step in improvement of Ukrainian and Portuguese cooperation in education, which gives new possibilities and challenges for the students and scientists of both countries.













