



UkraineDigiTrans



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UkraineDigiTrans Newsletter: Spring 2026 Events

The official newsletter of the Erasmus +
Project UkraineDigiTrans “Digital Transformation of Medical
Education in Ukraine”





Three Projects, One Vision: Driving Change Through a Clustering Event

On 13 May 2026, UkraineDigiTrans project co-organised a webinar together with two other Erasmus+ projects, bringing together nearly 100 teachers and education professionals from Ukraine, Georgia, Greece, and Finland. Building Resilient Minds for a Digital Future was a clustering event that united actors from different EU-funded projects who share common interests and goals.

Clustering events create synergies among projects

In the context of EU-funded projects, a cluster typically refers to a group or network of related projects that focus on a common research theme, topic, or area. Clustering events (also cluster events) are collaborative workshops or conferences usually organized by a cluster which shares a common interest. These events bring together a group of experts from related initiatives to explore a specific topic in depth, exchange knowledge, and identify common challenges and opportunities.

For the project consortia, clustering events offer a valuable opportunity to extend the work beyond individual project's boundaries.

These kinds of events amplify the project results by increasing their visibility and long term sustainability. A shared event is a chance to turn the projects' outcomes into practical applications and policy discussions across a wider stakeholder community. For the European Union, clustering events are a valuable tool to increase the impact of research funding.

Joint effort by 3 Erasmus+ funded projects

UkraineDigiTrans project was the initiator for organizing this clustering event. Two other Erasmus+ funded projects with similar interests and aims were suggested to collaborate: BURN and Digi-Change. Thanks to the smooth collaboration with these partners, the event turned out to be very successful.

- **BURN** – Boosting University Psychological Resilience and Wellbeing in (Post-) War Ukrainian Nation (January 2024 – December 2026) is dedicated to strengthening psychological resilience and wellbeing in Ukrainian universities during and after the war.
- **Digi-CHange (January 2026 – December 2028)** aims at digitally transforming medical and nursing education in Ukraine and Georgia.



Three Projects, One Vision: Driving Change Through a Clustering Event

Institution: LAUREA

Tuija Marstio, Coordinator of the UkraineDigiTrans project, delivered an inspiring speech in the event on the role of digitalization in education. She brought up the fact that digitalization is often discussed only in terms of digital tools. However, the impact of digitalization goes beyond the use of digital tools: it shapes how people think, adapt, and cope.

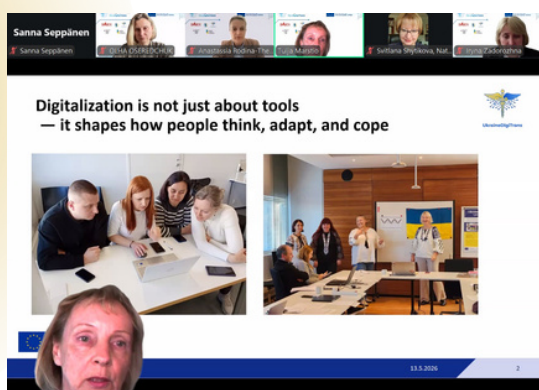
In education, teachers play a key role in integrating technology into learning in pedagogically meaningful ways. They need to adapt their teaching in times of instability, such as war, global crisis and rapid technological changes. For all of us, uncertainty is no longer an exception, but it has become the norm.

“Digitalization is not only about improving education systems but also supporting people’s ability to learn, to adapt and to remain resilient.” - Tuija Marstio, Coordinator of the UkraineDigiTrans project

In her presentation, Dr. Marstio highlighted five key elements of a future-ready mindset for healthcare professionals:

- Adaptability and continuous learning
- Ability to work with uncertainty and complexity
- Critical and ethical thinking
- Digital confidence, meaning belief in ability to use and adapt and to trust digital tools and technologies
- Psychological resilience and professional identity

She also argued that education needs to move from content mastery to capability building, and from digital tools to digital thinking. Digitalization in medical education supports clinical reasoning, simulation, interprofessional learning, and decision-making under uncertainty.



“The question is no longer “which tools we use?” but instead “what kinds of thinking and learning do we design?”” - Tuija Marstio,
Coordinator of the UkraineDigiTrans project



UkraineDigiTrans

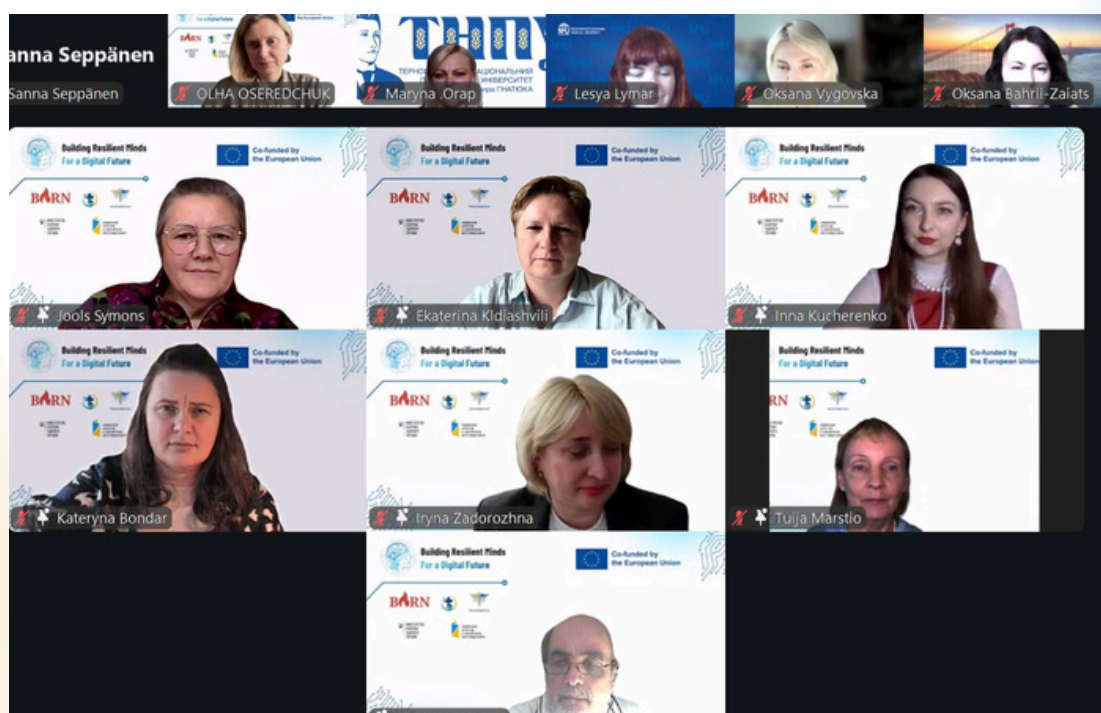
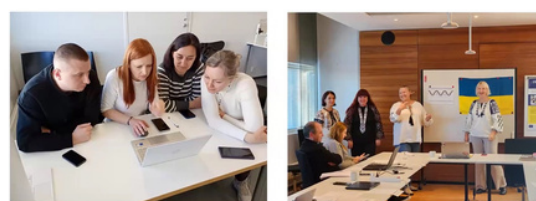
Evolving role of digitalization in building future-ready mindsets

Tuija Marstio



As a final remark, Marstio emphasized that digitalization must remain human-centered. Tools are just tools, and teachers are the ones who give meaning, direction, and humanity to learning.

**Digitalization is not just about tools
— it shapes how people think, adapt, and cope**





A team from the BSMU has piloted the first course for educators based on the UkraineDigiTrans project's training materials

Institution: BSMU

Between May and June 2026, BSMU piloted the course for medical educators. The training course, **"The Case Method in Medical Education: Modern Approaches, Digital Technologies and AI Tools"**, introduced over 20 educators from the theoretical and clinical departments at BSMU to five offline sessions accompanied by individual tasks.

Topics covered included the fundamentals of the case method, AI for pedagogical purposes, prompting and the ethical usage of AI in accordance with national and EU regulations, as well as pedagogical media. The pilot was conducted with the help of training materials kindly provided by UkraineDigiTrans coordinators at Laurea University and partners at AUTH. We are currently evaluating the feedback from the training and believe that future versions will be tailored to the needs of our participants and delivered regularly at BSMU to enhance the quality and interactivity of the educational process.





Advancing Digital Medical Education: Baseline Study Findings Presented during UkraineDigiTrans Guideline Session

Institution: AUTh

On 28 May 2026, within the framework of the **UkraineDigiTrans** project, EU partners organised a guideline session to support Ukrainian partners in the development of digital teaching materials for healthcare students.

During the session, **Dr. Anastassia Rodina-Theocharaki** presented the key findings of the project's Baseline Study on the state of digital transformation in Ukrainian medical education. Drawing on focus groups with academic staff and survey data collected from **276 teachers** and **1,118 students** across four Ukrainian higher education institutions, the presentation highlighted current practices in the use of digital technologies, as well as existing challenges and opportunities for further development.

The discussion focused on important areas for capacity building, including digital pedagogies, the integration of artificial intelligence in education, cybersecurity considerations, and the need for sustainable digital infrastructure. The evidence generated through the Baseline Study will inform the design of high-quality digital educational resources and support the implementation of innovative, learner-centred approaches to medical education in Ukraine.

This activity represents an important step towards achieving the objectives of the UkraineDigiTrans project by fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and the strengthening of digital capacities among project partners.



UkraineDigiTrans

BASELINE STUDY KEY FINDINGS

Digital Transformation for Medical Education in Ukraine

UkraineDigiTrans Project | Work Package 2 |
Dr. Anastassia Rodina-Theocharaki

Project ID
101179494

UkraineDigiTrans Highlights: Training, Research and National Recognition at Bogomolets National Medical University

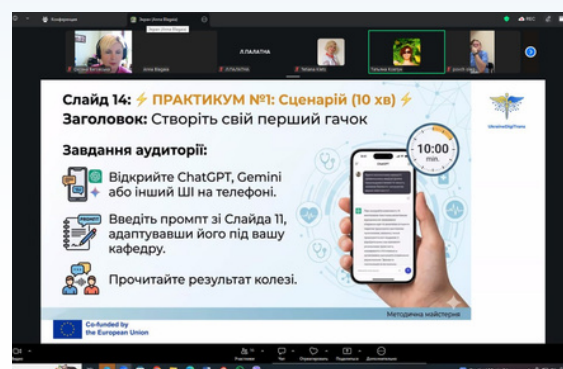
Institution: HMU

The training program “Visualize. Engage. Teach: Digital Interactivity for Medical University Educators” was conducted from **23 April to 8 May 2026** in a hybrid format and brought together medical educators seeking to enhance their digital teaching competencies. The course featured expert-led workshops and practical sessions delivered by **Prof. Oksana Vygovska, Assoc. Prof. Nataliia Kyrystia, Assoc. Prof. Daria Matukova, Assoc. Prof. Anna Blagaia, Prof. Lesia Lymar, Assoc. Prof. Inna Kucherenko, and Prof. Ievgeniia Burlaka**, covering topics such as microlearning, digital learning environments, online interaction, immersive education, visualization tools, clinical simulations, and artificial intelligence in medical education.

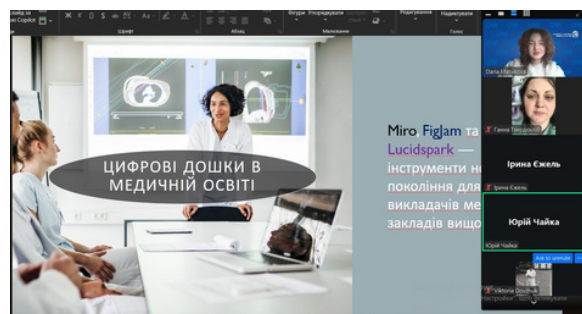
Through 12 intensive training days, participants acquired practical skills for integrating innovative digital technologies into teaching, promoting student engagement, and strengthening clinical reasoning through interactive and simulation-based learning approaches.

Bogomolets National Medical University has once again confirmed its status as one of Ukraine’s leading higher education institutions by receiving the Grand Prix “Leader of Higher Education of Ukraine” at the 17th International Exhibition “Modern Educational Institutions – 2026” and the Honorary Title “Leader of Higher Education of Ukraine” at the 44th International Specialized Exhibition “Education and Career – 2026”. These prestigious awards recognize the university’s successful implementation of modern educational technologies, innovative pedagogical approaches, and projects aimed at enhancing the quality of training for future professionals.

During the exhibitions, BNMU also presented its achievements in the fields of mental health support and the digital transformation of the educational environment.



These accomplishments provide strong evidence of the university’s strategic commitment to innovation and digitalization in education, fully aligned with the objectives of the UkraineDigiTrans project. National and international recognition highlights the successful integration of modern learning tools, the development of digital competencies, and the creation of a high-quality educational environment capable of addressing contemporary challenges and preparing competitive professionals for the European Higher Education Area.

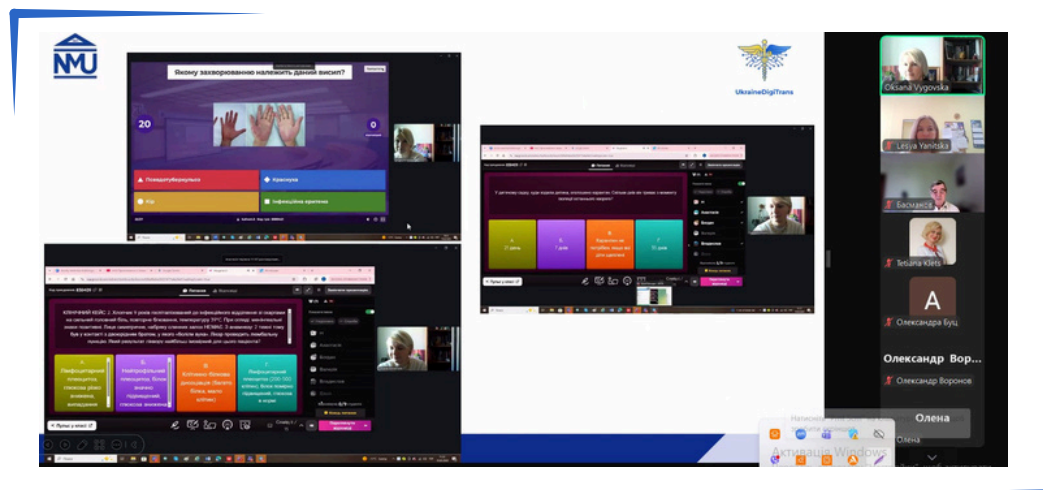


The results of the project were actively disseminated and discussed at several national and international scientific forums, including the **10th International Scientific and Practical Conference on Current Issues in Linguistics and Pedagogy** (Poltava State Medical University, April 30–May 1, 2026), the **IV Scientific and Practical Conference with International Participation «Current Issues in Laboratory Diagnostics, Nursing, Rehabilitation, and Public Health»** (April 24, 2026), the XIV International Scientific and Practical Conference «Current Issues in Higher Professional Education» (April, 23rd, Kyiv), and the Scientific and practical conference «Current issues of infectious diseases in children» (BNMU, March 26-27, 2026, Kyiv), where research findings and educational innovations were presented to the academic and professional community.

A recent publication by Ievgeniya Burlaka, Oksana Vygovska, Inna Kucherenko, Anna Blagaya, and Sergii Zemskov from Bogomolets National Medical University explores the development and role of simulation-based education in pediatric training within the framework of the ERASMUS+ UkraineDigiTrans project. The authors highlight how simulation technologies-including high-fidelity mannequins, standardized patients, in situ simulations, and virtual reality-help address current challenges in Ukrainian medical education, particularly limited clinical exposure and the impact of the ongoing war on healthcare training.

The paper emphasizes that simulation-based learning provides a safe and structured environment for developing clinical competencies, clinical decision-making, teamwork, and communication skills while improving patient safety. The experience gained through UkraineDigiTrans demonstrates how digital and simulation technologies can modernize pediatric education, align training with European competency-based standards, and strengthen the resilience of medical education in Ukraine.

Within the ERASMUS+ UkraineDigiTrans project, the Department of Pediatric Infectious Diseases (Head is Prof. Oksana Vygovska), Department of Medical Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Head is Assoc. Prof. Lesya Yanitska) have played a key role in implementing innovative digital and simulation-based teaching approaches, through curriculum modernization, faculty capacity building, and the integration of advanced educational technologies.





ONMedU Continues Work on a Pedagogical Guide for Remote Learning Management within the Project

Institution: ONmedU

Odesa National Medical University continues its work on the development of a **Pedagogical Guide for Remote Learning Management** within the framework of the project aimed at supporting the digital transformation of medical education.

The guide is being prepared as a practical and methodological resource for academic staff involved in the organization, delivery and quality assurance of remote and blended learning. It will focus on key pedagogical and organizational principles of managing online learning environments, developing structured course spaces, using digital tools effectively, and supporting student engagement in remote education.

As part of the project implementation, the University has purchased **modern video conferencing** equipment required for the effective delivery of educational disciplines within the project. This equipment will support the organization of remote and blended learning, online lectures, practical classes, workshops, consultations and other teaching activities, ensuring better communication between teachers and students in a digital educational environment.

The purchased equipment includes video conferencing system sets for rooms of different capacities.

For rooms up to 20 m², the system includes a camera, soundbar, microphone and cable hub, providing the necessary technical conditions for high-quality audio and video communication during educational activities.

For larger rooms of up to 40 m², the University has purchased an extended video conferencing system set, which includes a camera, soundbar, microphone, cable hub, TV set, wall mount bracket for LCD and plasma panels with a 42–63-inch screen diagonal and vertical tilt adjustment, as well as a laptop for the operator's workstation. This equipment will make it possible to conduct project-related educational disciplines in a more interactive, accessible and technically reliable format.

The acquired equipment will contribute to improving the technical capacity of ONMedU for conducting **online meetings, trainings, workshops, hybrid classes and other educational activities**. It will also support the implementation of modern approaches to remote learning management and enhance the quality of digital educational processes at the University.

The ongoing development of the Pedagogical Guide and the strengthening of the University's digital infrastructure are important steps toward improving the sustainability, accessibility and effectiveness of medical education in the digital environment.

Global Horizons: IFNUL Represents UkraineDigiTrans at International Conference

Institution: IFNUL

Representatives from the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv continue to actively share the developments and milestones of the UkraineDigiTrans project within prestigious international academic circles.

On April 15, Associate Professor Olga Sych participated in the 10th International Scientific Conference **"Prospects for the Development of Entrepreneurship from a Global Perspective."** The large-scale event was hosted virtually by the Faculty of Management at the **University of Lodz (Poland)**.

This year, the conference brought together leading scholars, researchers, and experts from 10 countries, including Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Turkey, Ireland, Greece, the Czech Republic, Austria, Portugal, and Belgium.

Olga Sych presented the implementation results of the Erasmus+ K2-CBHE UkraineDigiTrans project during **Session 5: "Projects in Action: Innovation, Inclusion, and Responsible Entrepreneurship."** It was inspiring to discuss the prospects for future scientific research and joint projects with like-minded professionals!

