



Call for applications

Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) “GLocalEAsT Framing Together Migration, Diaspora and Borders in East-Central Europe”

**at the University of Bologna, Italy
Second Semester of academic year 2022/2023**

The consortium of five partner universities (see list below) invites master students from these universities to apply for the Blended Intensive Programme “GlocalEAsT - Workshop on Migration, Diaspora and Borders in East-Central Europe” at the University of Bologna, Italy, which will take place in the second semester of the a.y. 2022/2023.

Consortium partners are:

- European University Viadrina (Frankfurt Oder, Germany).
- Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia).
- Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna (Italy).
- Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania).
- University of Zagreb (Croatia).

Explore the Thematic Focus of the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme:

The BIP offers **25 international students from 5 partner universities** (5 students per university) an opportunity to explore further migration and borders issues, adopting both transnational and cross-sectoral perspectives by combining insights from research, practice and policy with a special focus on East-Central Europe.

At the end of the BIP, students are expected to acquire a basic knowledge of the main methodological tools adopted in **migration, border and diaspora studies, with a special focus on East-Central Europe**. As a result of the learning activities, students will be able to integrate **insights from research, practice and policy**, exploring global and local dynamics affecting the region.

The BIP will address the complex and interrelated challenges of migration, diaspora and borders: as students will have the chance to explore during the BIP, the latter have a much longer history - also in relation to East-Central Europe. The region became a "transit area" in the so-called "refugee crisis" in the EU that peaked in 2015, but the region was also a site of migration to Western Europe from the socialist era to the post-Cold War period, lasting until today. More recently, the region has also become a place of immigration - for example, from Ukraine and other European states, but also from as far away as China. The proclamation of independent states after the fall of the Iron Curtain, which in some cases led to war and/or frozen border conflicts (as in Georgia, Moldova, and Kosovo), as well as EU association processes and new global constellations in general, affect migration in different ways. Migration - be it labour, family, educational, or flight migration - is based, at least in part, on international relations between states of the region and the European Union that attempt to channel migratory movements by adjusting their border and migration regimes. In the receiving and transit countries, immigration may lead to a strengthening of populism, which makes the integration of migrants very difficult, but it can also lead to new, creative forms of conviviality that respect a greater diversity in society. During the BIP, the lecturers will address the current, complex and interconnected challenges related to migration, diaspora and borders by offering an inter- and transnational perspective, while at the same time providing a profound knowledge of regional and local processes.

Experience the Innovative Structure of the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme:

The learning activity is structured following the innovative framework of Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programmes (BIP). It combines various formats that facilitate the acquisition and deepening of knowledge and skills:

1) **E-learning platform (Virtual):** Renowned scholars in the field of migration and border studies from the partner universities convey central aspects in their lectures (core courses). On the course webpage on 'Virtuale', students will have the opportunity to learn about the main methodological tools adopted in migration, border and diaspora studies, thanks to a selection of readings, slides and 'video-lectures' created by the GlocalEAST team of academics.

2) **Webinars (6 classes; 12 academic hours) place online on Fridays in April (14; 21; 28) and May (5; 12; 19), h. 17-19:** An accompanying series of webinars provides for open discussions on selected case studies, in order to give participants the opportunity to acquire practical knowledge on how to develop research in border, diaspora and border studies.

3) **In-Person Intensive Programme at the University of Bologna - IN PRESENCE, June 12-16 (6 classes; 12 academic hours):** in early June, students from all the institutions will join an in-person intensive programme at the Forlì Campus to learn to design and produce a topic-related research project. On this occasion, a series of selected talks held by professionals from NGOs, research centres and governmental bodies working in migration and border management will be held. Finally, every student will have the opportunity to present his/her paper at the end of the workshop.

Among the topics that will be addressed during the workshop, we may mention:

- Identity and the politicization of Migration in East-Central Europe;
- Labour Migration to and from the CEE countries;
- History and Memories of Migrations and Peoples' Relocation in East-Central Europe;
- Key concepts in Border Studies;
- How to Do Border Research;
- Phantom Borders in East-Central Europe;

- International Relations, Migrations and Diasporas in East-Central Europe;
- Migration/Development Nexus in East-Central Europe.

Enjoy New Teaching Tools:

The Blended format will allow: on the one hand, **students to follow the program remotely**, working independently thanks to the use of the digital platform (Virtuale); on the other, the webinars will guarantee the interaction and cooperation of students in remote modality, and **the in-person intensive programme will give every student the chance to compare the results of his/her own research with course mates/peers.**

Assessment Methods of the BIP:

The assessment of the acquisition of expected knowledge and abilities by the attending students is based on the elaboration of a short essay (max 5000 words, including footnotes and references) on the workshop topics.

The short essay should be based on a case study chosen by the student and previously agreed with the professor. The case study should be focused on migration, border and diaspora issues, and based on the main topics covered in the syllabus. The essay will be finally presented by students during the final in-person intensive programme in early June.

Learn about the Recognition of the BIP at home university:

The participation in the BIP will grant the recognition of **4 ECTS** at home institution. After the selection procedure, students will be invited to include in their respective learning agreements the attendance of the **“GLOCALEAST - Workshop on Migration, Border and Diaspora Studies in East-Central Europe (4 ECTS)” at the University of Bologna.** This activity will be fully recognized by home institution as part of their study plan.

Who can apply?

The Blended Intensive Programme aims at students (Master level) from the 5 consortium universities who are interested in the exploration of migration, diaspora and borders issues. Students who are not enrolled at one of the five partner universities are not eligible for application.

Participants are required to have a very good command of English as the teaching language will be English.

Organizational information and application procedure:

For all participants, there is no enrolment fee. Thanks to the financial support of the Erasmus BIP programme, students will receive a grant (lump sum) which should cover expenses for travel as well as food and lodging.

Join the Selection procedure at your home university:

How to apply?

Participation in the Blended Intensive Programme is bound to an application procedure. Decisions about participation will be made by a selection committee in the respective consortium university where the applicant is enrolled.

In order to apply, please submit **a motivation letter** (max. one A4 page), which describes your interest in the Blended Intensive Programme and possibly also your knowledge, specialization and interest with regard to migration, diaspora and borders issues as well as your international experiences, intercultural competences and your level of English language competence.

A **short CV** (max. one A4 page) is also required. Besides information about your educational and academic attainments (*transcript of records*), please indicate courses, internships or practical experiences in the field of migration, diaspora and borders studies which you completed.

Selection criteria are:

- study focus/experience or at least interest in migration / border / diaspora topics;
- multicultural competences (including languages).

Please send your application (consisting of *a motivation letter* and a *short CV*) by **March 23, 2023** to Drago Župarić-Iljić: **dzuparic@ffzg.hr**

For more information about the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) “GLocalEAsT Framing Together Migration, Diaspora and Borders in East-Central Europe”, please visit:

<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/492616>



The advertisement features a dark blue background with two polaroid-style photographs. The top photo shows a group of people outdoors, some holding flags. The bottom photo shows a group of people walking on a set of stairs. To the right of the photos, the text reads: 'Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Program at the University of Bologna' in white and yellow. Below this, the program title 'GLOCALEAST Framing Together Migration, Diaspora and Borders in East-Central Europe' is written in yellow and white. At the bottom left of the polaroid frame, the phrase 'Apply now!' is written in white cursive. In the top right corner, there is a small logo for 'via' (Vladimir International Affairs).



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union