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## European Integration case for Central Asia (EICCA) Jean Monnet Actions FINAL REPORT Period: November 2023-January 2026

The European Integration Course for Central Asia (EICCA) is the first Jean Monnet Module coordinated by a Tajik higher education institution. Implemented by the Institute of Economy and Trade of the Tajik State University of Commerce (IET TSUC), the project responds to the growing need for structured EU studies and enhanced academic cooperation between the European Union and Central Asia. The overall objective of EICCA is to introduce a comprehensive, academically rigorous, and sustainable course on European integration, co-developed and co-delivered by local faculty and European experts. The project aims to build institutional capacity in EU studies, enhance the competences of educators, create sustainable learning materials, and strengthen student engagement through innovative teaching formats and international academic interaction.

The project also seeks to raise awareness of EU values, institutions, and policies among young scholars, and to create a platform for dialogue on EU–Central Asia partnership dynamics. Through structured academic content, teacher training, public events, and an official EICCA web presence, the project contributes to long-term capacity building in European Studies in Tajikistan.

During the reporting period, the project delivered all core academic and capacity-building activities planned under the EICCA Module. Four full modules of the European Integration Course were designed, prepared, and taught using the course book and teaching materials developed jointly by Tajik and European partners. In the 2024–2025 academic year, 256 contact hours and 128 hours of individual student learning were completed across two groups. In the fall semester of 2025–2026, an additional 128 contact hours and 64 hours of individual learning were delivered, bringing the total to 384 contact hours and 192 hours of individualized work. Within the 384 teaching hours delivered to students, certain sessions were taught directly by the EU experts, contributing to internationalized teaching and enhancing course quality. This corresponds to the 384 teaching hours planned for student instruction in the project work plan. In addition to these hours, the project also foresees 5 hours for the Orientation Seminar (Task 2.1), 10 hours for the Seminar Series and Teaching Methodology Training (Tasks 2.2–2.3) led by EU experts, and 40 hours allocated to the EICCA Summer Camp (Task 3.1), all of which are included in the total 439 planned hours for the project’s academic, methodological, and training activities.

To support further sustainability, the full coursebook and materials were translated into Russian, enabling delivery of the EICCA course to a new group of students majoring in International Economics (World Economy) in the spring semester of 2025–2026. For this additional group, 64 contact hours and 32 hours of student individual learning will be carried out as part of the project’s dissemination and sustainability strategy, which makes the total of 503 contact teaching hours.

Capacity-building tasks were successfully completed. These included the Orientation Seminar on European Studies (Task 2.1), the European Integration Seminar Series and Training on Teaching



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Methodology (Tasks 2.2–2.3), delivered jointly by EU experts Prof. Srdjan Redzepagic and Assoc. Prof. Marko Tomljanović. Together, these activities significantly strengthened the pedagogical and subject-specific knowledge of the teaching staff.

The EICCA Summer Camp on European Integration (Task 3.1) was held in August 2024, gathering 17 students from three universities and involving seven lecturers. The camp combined lectures, workshops, case studies, and data sessions with EUROSTAT, resulting in strong student engagement and high academic output.

In the current stage of the project only the Task 4.3. Closing Conference is pending and the rest of the projects activities have been completed successfully.

The creation of the EICCA webpage (Deliverable D1.3) ensured visibility and dissemination of project news, materials, and events (<http://jm.iet.tj/>)

Following the Task 4.2. Internal Roundtables, the project also successfully organized a large-scale international conference on 12 June 2025, dedicated to the outcomes of the first EU–Central Asia Summit. Over 50 participants joined online and offline, including speakers from France, Croatia, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajik HEIs. This event significantly advanced academic dialogue and strengthened the project’s regional impact.

The project carried out all planned academic, training, and dissemination activities with strong participation at each stage:

#### Course Development and Teaching:

- Four modules were fully developed with accompanying lecture slides, assignments, case studies, quizzes, and self-study materials.
- A comprehensive course book was prepared in English and translated into Russian for sustainability.
- A total of 384 contact teaching hours across two semesters and 192 hours of individual student work were successfully delivered to over 100 students.
- The course will continue to be delivered to an additional student group in spring 2026, ensuring further dissemination.
- The overall project plan foresees 439 total hours, which include:  
384 teaching hours for students,  
5 hours for the Orientation Seminar,  
10 hours for the Seminar Series and Methodology Training,  
(and within the 384 hours some hours taught by EU experts).

#### Capacity Building:

- Orientation and training seminars were held for 12 faculty members, improving pedagogical skills and EU-related knowledge.
- EU experts provided direct mentoring, review, and methodological guidance.

#### Summer Camp:

- A week-long interactive camp provided intensive training through lectures, quizzes, workshops, Eurostat practice, and team projects.



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- Students presented research on EU accession cases (Turkey and Croatia), demonstrating strong analytical development.

#### Public and Dissemination Activities:

- Internal roundtables and an international conference created opportunities for exchange with academic experts from Europe and Central Asia.
- The international conference served as a major dissemination platform linked to the first EU–Central Asia Summit.
- Regular updates through the EICCA webpage and social media increased visibility and outreach.

These combined activities created a strong foundation for sustainable integration of EU studies within IET TSUC and strengthened cooperation between Tajik and European institutions.

The results achieved so far demonstrate significant academic, institutional, and regional impact. Academically, the project created the first full European Integration course in Tajikistan led by a local HEI, delivering over 500 hours of structured teaching and student learning across two academic years. More than 100 students gained foundational and advanced knowledge on EU governance, policies, and integration, enhancing their academic and professional competencies.

Institutionally, the project strengthened the capacity of IET TSUC faculty through direct engagement with EU experts, improved pedagogical skills, and developed long-term teaching materials, including a multi-module coursebook and seminar resources. The translation of the course into Russian ensures durability, allowing non-English programmes to benefit from the course in the future.

The project significantly increased outreach through public events. The international conference and internal roundtables contributed to policy dialogue on EU–Central Asia relations and raised the visibility of Jean Monnet activities in Tajikistan. Participation from regional and European universities broadened cross-border academic cooperation and established new professional networks.

The expected long-term impacts include:

- increased institutional capacity for teaching EU studies,
- strengthened teacher competences in interactive and data-driven pedagogy,
- enhanced student understanding of EU governance and regional integration,
- expanded academic cooperation between Tajikistan and EU universities,
- greater visibility of EU values and policies in academic discourse in Central Asia,
- sustained continuation of the EICCA course beyond the project lifespan.



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## *Task 5.1: Kick-off Meeting*

**DATE:** 8 November 2023

**PLACE:** IET TSUC, Khujand, Tajikistan

**Mode:** Blended

**Link:** <http://jm.iet.tj/2023/11/kick-off-meeting/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7132956560456134657>

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of cote de Azur, France)
2. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)
3. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
4. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC)
5. Shuhrat Qobilov (IET TSUC)
6. Anastasiya Komarova (IET TSUC)
7. Shoiraz Azizova (IET TSUC)
8. Firuz Hoshimov (IET TSUC)
9. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)

**OBJECTIVES:** The main objectives of the kick-off meeting are to get acquainted with the project team and start the project activities. During the kick-off meeting the team must get introduced with the EICCA objectives and tasks in detail.

### **Wednesday 08.01.2023**

The kick-off meeting started with the welcoming speech of Dalerjon Mirpochoev, Vice-Director for Science and International Relations of IET TSUC. He mentioned that IET TSUC is one of the internationalized universities in Tajikistan and the cooperation with EU partner universities such as University of Cote de Azur and University of Rijeka in the framework of Jean Monnet actions would have a great impact on the implementation of the internationalization strategy of IET TSUC.

After the speech of the Vice-Director, the Head of the International Center and Global Engagement and EICCA Coordinator Saidqosim Mukhtorov introduced the EU experts Professor Srdjan Redzapagic from the University of Cote de Azur, France and Professor Marko Tomljanovic from the University of Rijeka, Croatia. Then each member of EICCA introduced himself and his responsibilities during the project implementation.

According to the agenda, the first speech was given by the EICCA coordinator who gave a presentation about EICCA and its overall objectives. He introduced the project summary, which showed all the tasks that would help to achieve the predefined goals of EICCA.

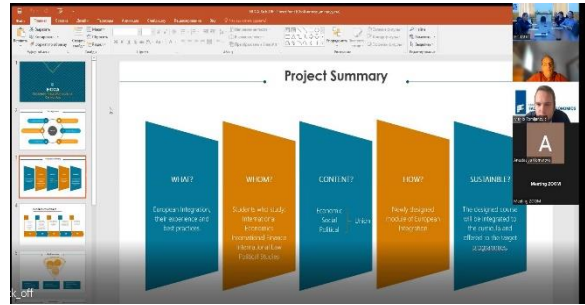
After the coordinator's speech, Shuhrat Qobilov gave a presentation about the current state of IET TSUC regarding the EU integration courses. During his presentation, Shuhrat Qobilov mentioned that EU Integration is not delivered as a separate module or course in the IET TSUC. The EU Integration is included in the content of the World Integration Processes course as a 4-hour topic. He also briefly shared the syllabus of the course and mentioned that the more in-depth analysis will be made later after the deadlines of the EICCA tasks.



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At the end of the meeting, EU experts Prof. Srdjan Redzepagic and Prof. Marko Tomljanovic asked some questions regarding the content of the World Integration Processes course and the materials used during the delivery of the EU Integration theme. After the discussion, the EU experts had a clearer picture of the course and expressed that the given information would be helpful for them to prepare for the next task of EICCA, which is the orientation seminar on EU studies. The EICCA Coordinator Saidqosim Mukhtorov thanked everyone for participating in the kick-off meeting and wished a strong and successful implementation of the project.





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## *Task 1.1: Course analysis*

**DATE(S):** 10-13 October 2023

**PLACE:** IET TSUC, Khujand, Tajikistan

**Mode:** Blended

**Link:** <https://jm.iet.tj/activities/>

[https://jm.iet.tj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Annex-T1.1\\_Course\\_Analysis\\_EICCA.pdf](https://jm.iet.tj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Annex-T1.1_Course_Analysis_EICCA.pdf)

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
2. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)

**OBJECTIVES:** The objective of this analysis is to evaluate the relevance and effectiveness of the existing courses related to international cooperation and integration studies at IET TSUC. In particular, the objective is to ascertain the strengths and areas for improvement in these courses and to determine how the proposed European Integration Course could complement and enhance the existing curriculum.

The EICCA project introduces a specialised course on European integration with the objective of providing students with comprehensive knowledge of the EU's governance, policies and economic frameworks. This course will address gaps in the current curriculum, providing students with the skills necessary to understand, engage with, and benefit from international economic and political unions. The objective is to enhance the academic portfolio at IET TSUC and equip students with the skills to navigate future challenges and opportunities in an increasingly interconnected world.

This report presents the results of an in-depth analysis conducted on five core courses somehow related to EU Integration currently offered at the Institute of Economics and Trade of the Tajik State University of Commerce (IET TSUC). These courses were examined to assess their alignment with the objectives of the European Integration Course for Central Asia (EICCA) project and to identify potential gaps that could be addressed by introducing a dedicated course on European integration. The courses analyzed are as follows: Political Science, International Economic Relations, Customs Affairs and Customs Unions, World Economy, Integration processes.

### **Summary of Courses Analyzed**

1. Political Science – 72 hours, second-year course.
2. International Economic Relations – 64 hours, third-year course.
3. Customs Affairs and Customs Unions – 96 hours, fifth semester.
4. World Economy – 144 hours, second-year course.
5. Integration Processes – 120 hours, fourth-year course.

Each course was evaluated based on four key criteria: content, methodology, teaching approach and relevance to international and regional integration processes. While the existing curricula provide a robust foundation in political science, international economics, and customs practices, the analysis



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revealed a notable gap in the coverage of the European Union's integration model. This report sets out the findings for each course and makes recommendations for improvements to the curriculum to align it more closely with the goals of the EICCA project.

The Political Science course, a mandatory requirement for second-year students, provides a comprehensive introduction to political systems, ideologies, and processes. The course covers both historical and contemporary political theories, with a focus on the Tajik context and the global political environment. The course is structured into 72 hours, comprising lectures, practical classes and independent work. It is assessed through two mid-term assignments and a final examination.

However, while the course provides students with essential political knowledge, it lacks specific content on European integration, which is a critical aspect of modern political cooperation. Incorporating EU governance and political structures into the curriculum would provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of regional political unions and their potential benefits for countries like Tajikistan.

This third-year course International Economic Relations provides students with an in-depth understanding of international trade, finance, and monetary systems, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to navigate the global economic landscape. The course comprises 64 hours of lectures and practical sessions and provides insights into key actors such as multinational corporations and international organisations.

While the course touches on the European Union in the context of regional integration, it does not provide a comprehensive examination of the EU's economic and political systems. Given the strategic importance of the EU as a global economic partner, the inclusion of a specialised European Integration course would provide students with a deeper understanding of EU policies and institutions, equipping them with the knowledge to navigate international economic relations more effectively.

The Customs Affairs and Customs Unions course, which is taught in the fifth semester, provides students with a comprehensive understanding of customs operations, policies, and practices, both in Tajikistan and on an international level. The course covers a wide range of topics, from customs payments and fees to the operations of customs unions, including the Eurasian and EU Customs Unions.

While the course offers practical training through case studies and problem-solving exercises, there is currently no focused exploration of the EU's customs policies and regulatory frameworks. The inclusion of modules on EU customs practices would equip students with the skills required to engage with European markets and align their knowledge with international customs standards.

This second-year course of World Economy offers a comprehensive introduction to the global economic landscape, exploring key topics such as trade theories, labour migration, and transnational corporations. The course comprises 144 hours in total and places great emphasis on the importance of independent learning and critical thinking. However, while it covers international economic



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integration, it does not provide a detailed analysis of the specific economic structures of the European Union.

The introduction of a European Integration course would enhance this programme by providing students with detailed insights into the EU's fiscal policies, trade practices and economic cooperation mechanisms. The addition of this course would prepare students for more advanced discussions on global economic trends and international trade relations.

The Integration Processes course, designed for students specialising in international economics, offers a comprehensive study of global integration movements. The course covers theories of economic integration, indicators of economic cooperation, and specific regional integrations, including those in Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia. However, while the course provides an overview of European economic integration, it does not explore the complex socio-economic and political structures of the EU in sufficient detail.

A dedicated course on European integration would facilitate students' comprehension of the EU's distinctive governance model and impart a more profound understanding of one of the most sophisticated integration systems globally. This would be in line with the EICCA project's objective of promoting awareness of effective political and economic unions.

## ***Task 2.1: Orientation Seminar on European Studies***

**DATE(S):** 23-24 January 2024

**PLACE:** IET TSUC, Khujand, Tajikistan

**Mode:** Blended

**Link:** <https://jm.iet.tj/activities/>

<https://jm.iet.tj/activities-2/>

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of cote de Azur, France)
2. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)
3. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
4. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC)
5. Shuhrat Qobilov (IET TSUC)
6. Tukhtaboy Tukhtaev (IET TSUC)
7. Shoiraz Azizova (IET TSUC)
8. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)
9. Anastasiya Komarova (IET TSUC)
10. Suhrob Yusupov (TSULBP)
11. Mirmamatova Raykhona (TSULBP)
12. Sardorbek Kodirov (FPI)

**OBJECTIVES:** The orientation seminar is delivered together by the professors Srdjan Redzepagic and Marko Tomljanovic for the teaching staff of the World Economy Department of the IET TSUC. The main



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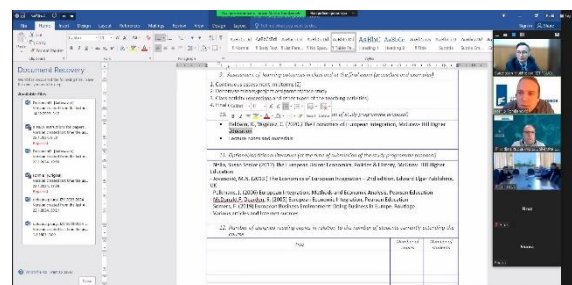
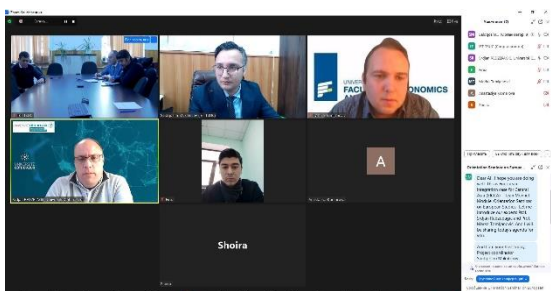
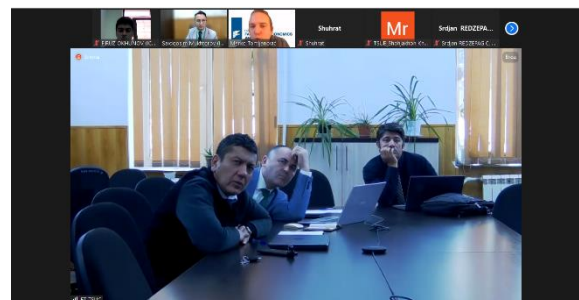
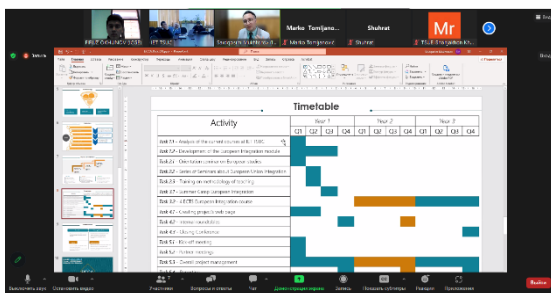
objectives of the 2-day seminar is to introduce the European Studies module to the local teachers who will be delivering the course at IET TSUC. In addition, the orientation seminar aims to enhance the teaching methodology for the European Studies module.

### Day 1 (Tuesday) 23.01.2024

The seminar started with the welcome speech of the EICCA Coordinator and Head of International Center and Global Engagement of IET TSUC Saidqosim Mukhtorov. He introduced all the participants of the orientation seminar and briefly presented the agenda of the meeting. According to the agenda, there was a presentation about the introduction to the European Integration Module jointly by Prof. Redzepagic and Prof. Tomljanovic. Prof. Redzepagic introduced the EU Integration courses offered at the University of Cote de Azur and its principles. Then Professor Tomljanovic spoke about the importance and general objectives of the EU Integration Module. The next speech was also held by Professor Marko Tomljanovic, who presented the ways and methodology of teaching EU courses according to the practice of Croatian universities, especially the University of Rijeka. The final part of the seminar was the discussion and question and answer session, where the future lecturers of the EU integration module asked some questions and received their answers.

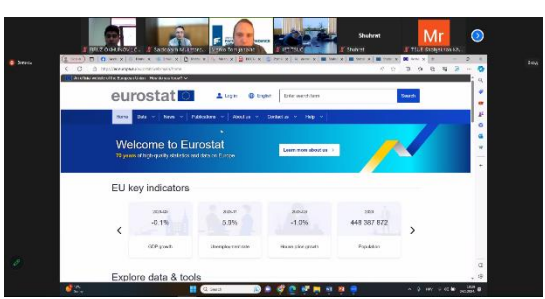
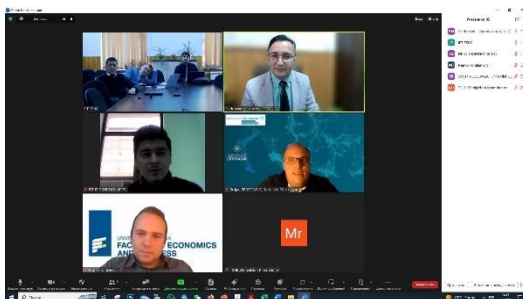
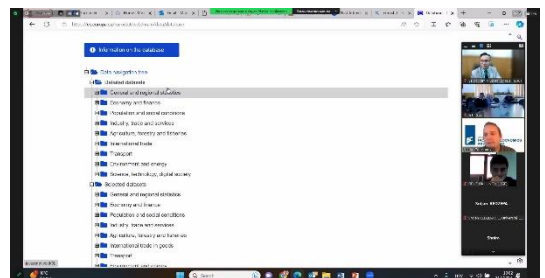
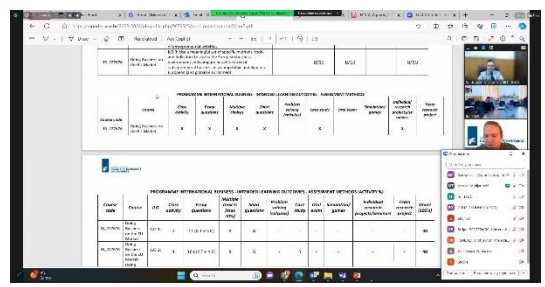
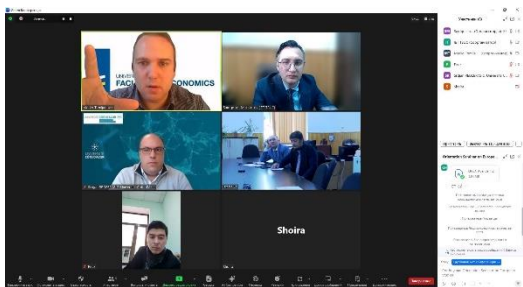
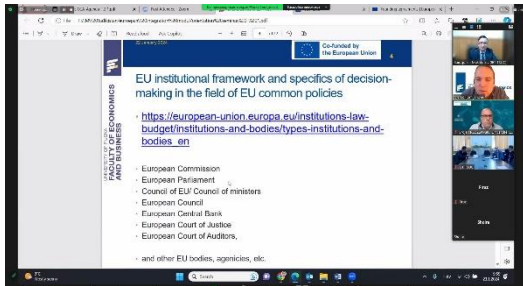
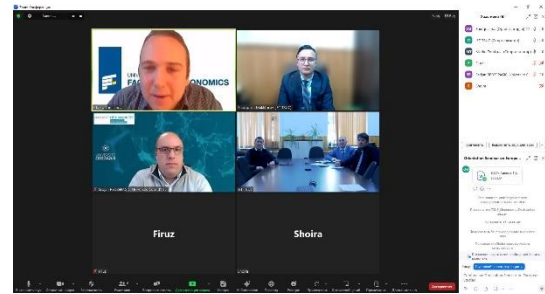
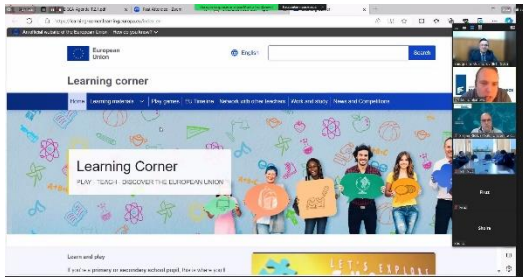
### Day 2 (Wednesday) 24.01.2024

The day started with Professor Tomljanovic's presentation on the approaches to teaching European Integration in Croatia (Part 2), where he focused mainly on the content of the course, presenting the study materials and syllabi used at the University of Rijeka. The main topic of the second day of the orientation seminar was the Eurostat database. Professor Marko Tomljanovic organized an online workshop in which he introduced the Eurostat database and illustrated the possibilities of using the platform in the EU Integration Module. Unlike a simple lecture, Professor Tomljanovic asked the participants to make an online practice of Eurostat usage for educational purposes together. The last part of the orientation seminar was dedicated to the question and answer session, where participants actively asked questions about the Eurostat database. After that, the EICCA coordinator Saidqosim Mukhtorov expressed his gratitude to the EU experts Prof. Srdjan Redzepagic and Marko Tomljanovic for the fruitful orientation seminar and pointed out that Task 2.1 is successfully completed.





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## **Task 2.2: Series of Seminars on European Integration**

### **Task 2.3: Training on Methodology of Teaching**

**DATE:** 20-24 May 2024

**PLACE:** IET TSUC, Khujand, Tajikistan

**Mode:** Blended

**Link:** <https://jm.iet.tj/activities/>

<https://jm.iet.tj/activities-2/>

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of cote de Azur, France)
2. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)
3. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
4. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC)
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10. Mirmamatova Raykhona (TSULBP)
11. Suhrob Yusupov (TSULBP)
12. Sardorbek Kodirov (FPI)

**OBJECTIVES:** The objective of the EICCA European Integration Seminar Series and the Training on Methodology of Teaching is to provide a comprehensive educational experience that improves the understanding and teaching skills of World Economy faculty members at the Institute of Economics and Trade of TSUC. The seminars aim to provide educators with an in-depth knowledge of various aspects of European integration, including its history, economic and political framework, and strategies for sustainable development. In doing so, the project aims to prepare the faculty to effectively deliver a new course on European Integration, thereby enriching the curriculum and fostering an environment of academic excellence within the institution. This initiative, supported by the Jean Monnet Actions, underlines the commitment to promoting higher education and research in European Union studies.

**Day 1 (Monday, May 20, 2024). Fundamentals of common currency euro.**

The seminar series began with a session devoted to the euro - the mainstay of European economic integration. Professor Srdjan Redzepagic from the University of Cote d Azur from France, who is a leading expert in the field, presented a comprehensive analysis of the structure of the Eurozone and the fiscal mechanisms that support it. He discussed the stability criteria to which member states must comply, the role of the European Central Bank in maintaining price stability, and the challenges of fiscal harmonisation within diverse economies. The session concluded with a lively discussion on the possible future enlargement of the Eurozone and its implications for the European project.

**Day 2 (Tuesday, May 21, 2024). History of the European Integration process.**



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On the second day, Professor Marko Tomljanovic presented a vivid historical narrative of European integration. He followed its origins from the ashes of the Second World War, through the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, to the European Union of today. The lecture highlighted key milestones such as the Treaties of Rome and Maastricht and examined the socio-political catalysts that have shaped the Union. The Professor emphasised the importance of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in safeguarding the values and freedoms that define Europe today.

**Day 3 (Wednesday, May 22, 2024). European development strategies, environmental protection policy and sustainable development.**

The third day of the seminar was a forward-looking session exploring Europe's strategies for sustainable development. Professor Srdjan Redzepagic took the podium again to share his insights on EU environmental policies, including the Green Deal and the Circular Economy Action Plan. He emphasised the importance of integrating sustainability into education and research and the EU's commitment to public health, especially in light of recent global challenges. The discussion inspired educators to consider how these policies could be integrated into their curricula.

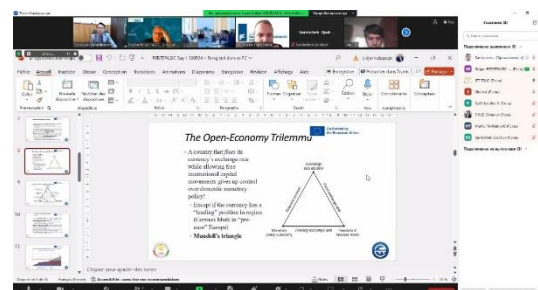
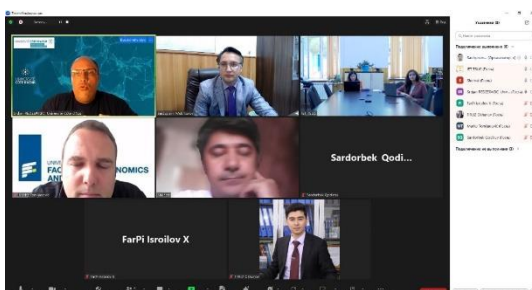
**Day 4 (Thursday, May 23, 2024). EU institutional framework and specifics of decision-making in the field of EU common policies.**

On the fourth day, Associate Professor Marko Tomljanovic from the University of Rijeka provided an extensive overview of the EU's institutional framework. He explained the roles and functions of key institutions such as the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European Council. The session offered a deep dive into the legislative process, the balance of power between the institutions and the intricacies of the policy-making procedures that govern common policies. The professor also touched on the principle of subsidiarity and its application in EU governance.

**Day 5 (Friday, May 24, 2024). The European Internal Market and fundamental market freedoms.**

The final day of the seminar series focused on the European Single Market and the four fundamental freedoms: the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons. The discussion covered the evolution of the Free Trade Area and the Customs Union into the Single Market and the role of the Schengen area in facilitating mobility. The session highlighted the economic and social benefits of market integration and the challenges of maintaining a balance between national sovereignty and collective European interests.

The seminar series has been a huge achievement, equipping the IET TSUC faculty with the knowledge and pedagogical tools to deliver a solid European Integration course. The Director of IET TSUC, Jalilzoda Abdurashit Abdukamol, and the Head of the International Centre and Global Engagement, Saidqosim Mukhtorov, expressed their deep appreciation to Professors Srdjan Redzepagic and Marko Tomljanovic for their dedication and expertise. Their contributions have been important in realising the vision of the EICCA project.





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### Euro goes ...

- Too many economists keep repeating the euro story that it's all structural
- There is also a large cyclical component in the analysis
- Which has been exacerbated by flaws in macroeconomic management
- These are visible:
  - in the **monetary** field
  - in the field of **fiscal** policies

### Euro goes ...

- Euro is a great financial and monetary success
- It has become popular in financial markets and in banking circles
- This success does not seem to have been translated in the **"real" part of the economy**, i.e. in economic growth and employment
- As a result, many people are concerned about their economic future as the euro is not associated with a success story.

### The Open-Economy Trilemma

• A country that fixes its currency's exchange rate while allowing free international capital movements gives up control over domestic monetary policy!

- Except if the currency has a "leading" position in region (German Mark in "pre-crisis" Europe)
- **Mundell's triangle**



### EMU 2023

### History of the European Integration process

Assistant Professor: Marko Tomijano, PhD  
University of Rijeka, Faculty of Economics and Business, Rijeka, Republic of Croatia  
Chair: Jean Monnet in European Integration  
Series of Seminars on European Integration: Day 2 – May 21, 2024

### History of the European Integration process

- 14/02/1958 → The first Treaty on the establishment of the EU (signed by 6 countries)
- 24/04/1957 → The Schengen Agreement on the elimination of border controls is signed by 5 EC members
- 17 & 28/07/1981 → The Single European Act (strengthening the Treaty of Rome) is signed in Luxembourg and The Hague
- 1992 → Maastricht Treaty signed
- January 1, 1993 → workers, goods, services and capital circulate freely
- 1999 → French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, at the summit in Cologne (1992) put forward the final draft which also stipulated the final consolidation of the new system

### Article 3 (ex Article 2) TEU

3. The Union shall establish an **internal market**. It shall work for the **sustainable development** of Europe based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive **social market economy**, aiming at full employment and social progress, and a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the **environment**. It shall promote scientific and technological advance.

- It shall combat social exclusion and discrimination, and shall promote social justice and protection, equality between women and men, solidarity between generations and protection of the rights of the child.
- It shall promote economic, social and territorial cohesion, and solidarity among Member States.
- It shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced.





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## *Task 3.1: Summer Camp on European Integration*

**DATE:** 23-30 August 2024

**PLACE:** Shohin Camp, Guliston, Tajikistan

**Mode:** Blended

**Link:** <http://jm.iet.tj/2024/06/jean-monnet-eicca-summer-camp/>

<https://jm.iet.tj/activities-2/>

### **PARTICIPANTS (Lecturers):**

1. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of cote de Azur, France)
2. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)
3. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
4. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC)
5. Tukhtaev Tukhtaboy (IET TSUC)
6. Shuhrat Qobilov (IET TSUC)
7. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)

### **PARTICIPANTS (Students):**

1. Abdulloeva Anisakhon (TSULBP)
2. Alimatova Aziza (IET TSUC)
3. Aminzoda Abdusattor (Polytechnic)
4. Gafarov Azizjon (IET TSUC)
5. Makhsudjoda Jaloliddinkhuja (IET TSUC)
6. Mazhitov Zaur (IET TSUC)
7. Mirdadoeva Kamilla (IET TSUC)
8. Muqumov Ibrohim (IET TSUC)
9. Norzoda Hasanjon (TSULBP)
10. Qurbonov Bakhtiyor (IET TSUC)
11. Rahmonzoda Mahvash (TSULBP)
12. Raupov Meroj (IET TSUC)
13. Rustami Jafar (IET TSUC)
14. Saidbekova Farzona (TSULBP)
15. Tursunov Ilhomjon (IET TSUC)
16. Yahyoev Murodjon (IET TSUC)
17. Zoirov Bahodur (IET TSUC)

**OBJECTIVES:** The EICCA Summer Camp on European Integration was designed to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of the European Union (EU) and its integration process, along with practical insights into its functioning. The primary objective was to enhance participants' understanding of the EU's political, economic, and social systems, while fostering critical thinking about regional cooperation and integration in a globalised world.



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The camp aimed to provide students with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills through lectures, interactive discussions and hands-on workshops. The programme covered a range of essential topics, including the history of EU integration, governance structures, fiscal and trade policies, market integration, sustainable development, and EU accession requirements. Furthermore, the camp placed an emphasis on practical engagement, offering activities such as quizzes, case studies, and data analysis exercises.

A further objective was to foster collaboration and teamwork through research and presentations on real-world cases of EU accession, enabling students to analyse both the challenges and benefits of joining the union. By the end of the programme, participants were expected to have gained a deeper understanding of the EU's structure and policies, as well as developed critical perspectives on how such frameworks could be relevant for Central Asia. The camp aimed to inspire students to engage in international relations and policy discussions, preparing them to become active contributors to regional integration processes in their own countries.

### **Day 1 (Monday, 23 August, 2024)**

The EICCA Summer Camp commenced with an opening ceremony in the scenic city of Guliston, marking the start of an exciting week focused on European integration. There were 17 students selected from the Institute of Economy and Trade of Tajik State University of Commerce (IET TSUC) and Tajik State University of Law, Business and Politics (TSULBP) and Polytechnic Institute of Technological University of Tajikistan (Polytechnic). Mr. Saidqosim Mukhtorov, EICCA coordinator, inaugurated the camp with a speech outlining the goals and mission of the EICCA project. Mr. Mukhtorov highlighted the importance of studying European integration, noting it as one of the world's most successful regional cooperation initiatives.

Subsequently, Daler Mirpochoev, Vice-Director of Science and International Relations at TSUC, presented the inaugural lecture. His presentation provided an overview of the historical development of the European Union, from its origins as a post-World War II peace initiative to its current status as a powerful political and economic union. Following the lecture, participants engaged in a roundtable discussion led by Mirpochoev, exploring the potential benefits and challenges faced by countries during integration. This interactive session facilitated a productive exchange of ideas, setting the stage for the days to come.

### **Day 2 (Tuesday, 24 August, 2024)**

The second day of the camp focused on the institutional structure of the European Union. Shuhrat Qobilov, an EICCA expert, gave a comprehensive lecture on the governance system of the EU. He explained the roles, functions, and distinctions between the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Council, and the Council of Europe. The lecture provided participants with essential insights into how these bodies interact to manage EU policies.

To solidify the knowledge gained, students participated in a quiz designed around the key concepts covered during the lecture. The quiz not only reinforced their understanding but also fostered teamwork and active engagement. In the afternoon, Saidqosim Mukhtorov delivered a presentation



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on the life and contributions of Jean Monnet, often regarded as the "Father of European Integration." Mukhtorov outlined Monnet's career, his visionary ideas, and the key steps he took to initiate the European project, inspiring participants to reflect on leadership in regional cooperation.

### **Day 3 (Wednesday, 25 August, 2024)**

On the third day of the camp, the focus was on the EU's fiscal framework. Mr. Daler Mirpochoev led a comprehensive session on the EU's fiscal union, elucidating the mechanisms and policies that underpin fiscal coordination among EU member states. He emphasised the significance of harmonised financial regulations for ensuring economic stability across the union.

In the afternoon, students had the opportunity to attend an online lecture by Professor Srdjan Redzepagic from the Université Côte d'Azur. The session, led by Redzepagic, focused on the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and Common Trade Policy. He discussed how these policies affect trade practices within the EU and with external partners, emphasising the importance of striking a balance between internal economic integration and global competitiveness.

### **Day 4 (Thursday, 26 August, 2024)**

On the fourth day, the subject of market integration was the main focus of the meeting. In his lecture, Shuhrat Qobilov examined the fundamental principles of the EU's internal market, outlining the differences between common, single, and internal markets. He highlighted the importance of the free movement of goods, services, people and capital in driving the EU's economic dynamism.

Subsequently, attendees participated in an online lecture delivered by Professor Marko Tomljanovic of the University of Rijeka. Mr. Tomljanovic provided an overview of the structure of the EU budget, focusing on the principles that underpin fiscal planning and distribution. He also addressed the challenges the EU faces in balancing contributions and expenditures across member states, offering insights into the strategic goals of EU budgeting.

### **Day 5 (Friday, 27 August, 2024)**

The fifth day was devoted to an in-depth examination of the EU's development strategies and sustainability policies. In an engaging presentation, Associate Professor Tukhtaev Tukhtaboy outlined how the EU is promoting sustainable development through initiatives in education, research, healthcare and gender equality. Furthermore, he outlined the EU's dedication to attaining the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), demonstrating how the union incorporates environmental and social policies into its comprehensive development strategy.

### **Day 6 (Saturday, 28 August, 2024)**

On the sixth day of the programme, participants received valuable insights into the EU accession process and competition policies. In the morning, Saidqosim Mukhtorov delivered a presentation on EU accession policies and the requirements for countries aspiring to join the union. Mr. Mukhtorov used the case of Croatia to illustrate the challenges and reforms required during the accession process, and to explain the benefits that candidate countries can expect.



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In the afternoon, Mr Mukhtorov returned to present a further lecture on EU competition and state aid policy. He outlined how the EU guarantees fair competition within the internal market, with illustrative examples including Microsoft's interactions with EU competition authorities. The day's activities concluded with a workshop led by Firuz Okhunov, in which participants examined the impact of EU policies on the competitiveness of the pharmaceutical industry. The participants were divided into teams and tasked with developing strategies for enhancing the industry's global standing while ensuring compliance with EU regulations and principles.

#### **Day 7 (Sunday, 29 August, 2024)**

The seventh day comprised a practical workshop on the Eurostat platform, led by Firuz Okhunov. The participants were introduced to Eurostat's functionalities and gained hands-on experience in navigating the platform to analyse data on various socio-economic indicators across EU countries. During the workshop, students compared datasets from different nations and developed forecasts based on the identified trends. This session equipped participants with practical data analysis skills, enhancing their understanding of EU statistics and trends.

#### **Day 8 (Monday, 30 August, 2024)**

The final day of the camp was devoted to student presentations and a review of the key learnings from the programme. Two student teams presented their research findings on the EU accession process. The first team provided an in-depth analysis of Turkey's long-standing candidacy, focusing on the economic, political, and social challenges that have hindered its EU membership. Furthermore, they emphasised the investments Turkey received during its candidacy period.

The second team presented their findings on Croatia's accession, outlining the reforms implemented to join the EU, the Schengen Area, and the Eurozone. They provided a data-driven insight into the benefits that Croatia has experienced since becoming an EU member. Following the presentations, a panel of experts comprising Daler Mirpochoev, Saidqosim Mukhtorov and Firuz Okhunov provided feedback, commending the teams for their analytical work. The camp concluded with a certificate ceremony, during which participants were duly recognised for their dedication and active engagement throughout the event.

The EICCA Summer Camp was a great success, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of the EU's governance, policies and integration strategies. The programme combined lectures, discussions, quizzes and workshops to provide students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills in policy analysis and data management. The final presentations showcased the participants' ability to apply their newly acquired knowledge, marking the camp as a valuable educational experience that will foster deeper engagement with European integration in Central Asia.



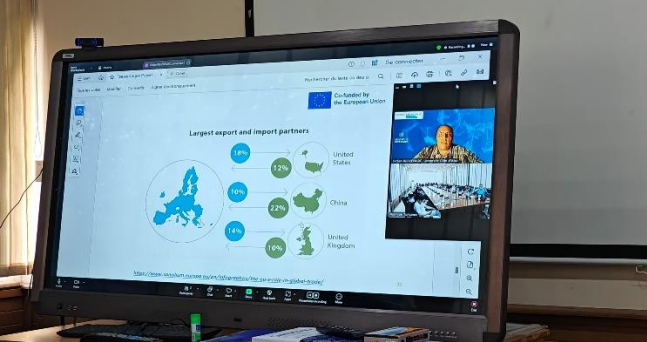
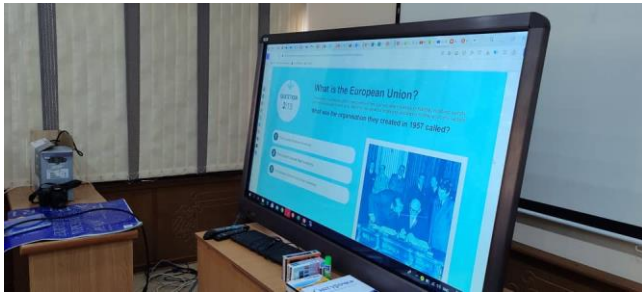


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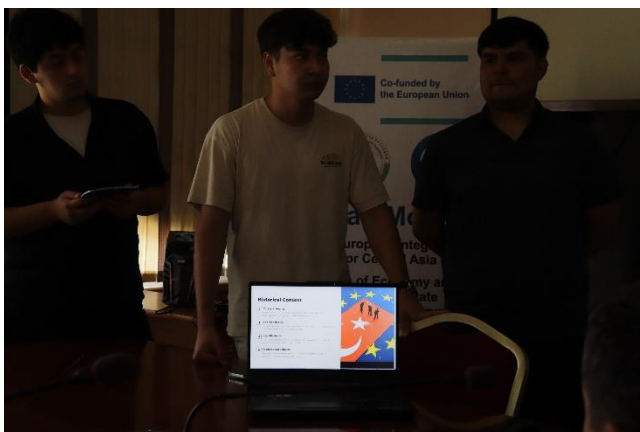
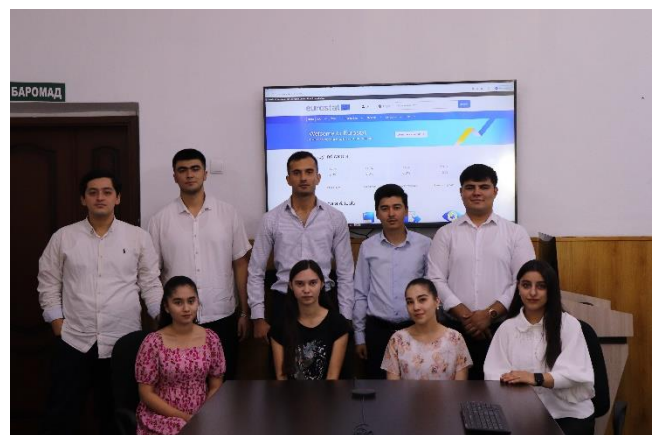


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## Task 1.2: Development of the European Integration module

**DATE:** August 2024

**Link:** <https://jm.iet.tj/activities/>

[https://jm.iet.tj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/EICCA-Module-FULL\\_merged.pdf](https://jm.iet.tj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/EICCA-Module-FULL_merged.pdf)

[https://jm.iet.tj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/EICCA-5\\_ECTS-Syllabus-2024.pdf](https://jm.iet.tj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/EICCA-5_ECTS-Syllabus-2024.pdf)

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Srdjan Redzepagic
2. Marko Tomljanovic
3. Saidqosim Mukhtorov
4. Dalerjon Mirpochoev
5. Tukhtaboy Tukhtaev
6. Shuhrat Qobilov
7. Firuz Okhunov

According to the project timetable the European integration course was developed from the Q1 to Q3. The designing process was led by the Professors Srdjan Redzapagic (University of Cote d'azur, France) and Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia) who were guiding the EICCA experts on course development. The module 1: Foundations of the European integration was developed by Firuz Okhunov and Shuhrat Qobilov. The module 2: The EU Internal Market and Economic Integration was designed by c.e.s., Dalerjon Morpochoev and the module 3: Sectoral Policies of the European Union was developed by c.e.s., Tukhtaev Tukhtaboy. The final module: EU Enlargement, Data-Driven Governance, and Global Influence was developed by the EICCA Coordinator Saidqosim Mukhtorov. The coursebook consists of 4 modules with tests, case-studies, group and individual assignments and presentations are annexed to each module.

## Task 4.1: Designing project web-page

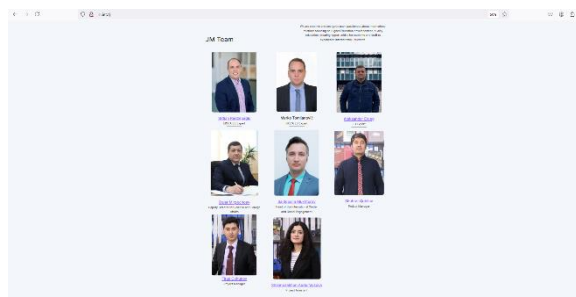
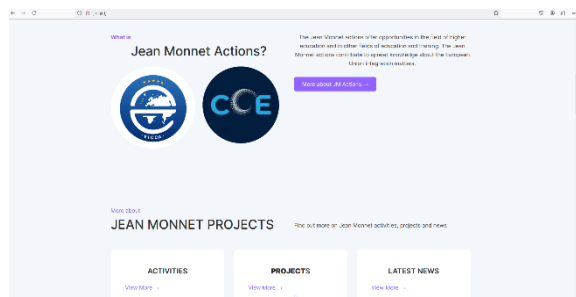
**DATE:** 24-27 November 2023

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
2. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)

By the board of the EICCA it was decided to design a new web-page only focusing on EICCA and further Jean Monnet Activities hold by the Institute of Economy and Trade. The web-page was designed by the EICCA Coordinator Saidqosim Mukhtorov and EICCA Assistant Coordinator Firuz Okhunov. All the events organized, materials and overall outputs and results have been published on the web-page.

Link to the web page: <http://jm.iet.tj/>





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## Task 4.1: Dessimination

**DATE:** 12 November 2024

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
2. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)

This October the Jean Monnet EICCA received the appreciation letter and the Jean Monnet nameplate from the European Commission. The EICCA team is very grateful for the appreciation and together with the National Erasmus Office in Tajikistan have been eagerly contributing in the dessimination of the Jean Monnet Actions throughout the Higher Education Institutions of Tajikistan sharing the case of EICCA. In the following link the video dedicated to the Jean Monnet nameplate and disseminated in the social medias and webpage of the Jean Monnet EICCA can be found.

In general all the dessimination activities are caried out in the web page of the EICCA, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook pages of the IET TSUC.

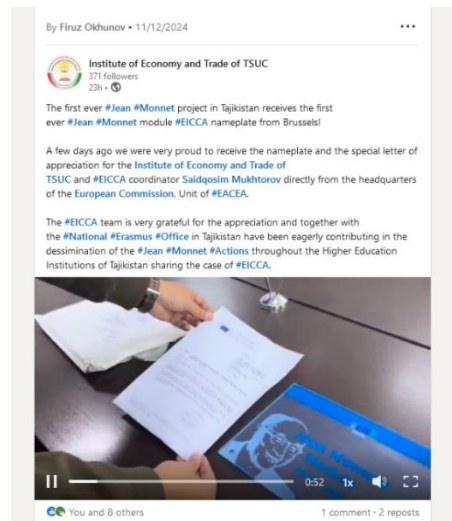
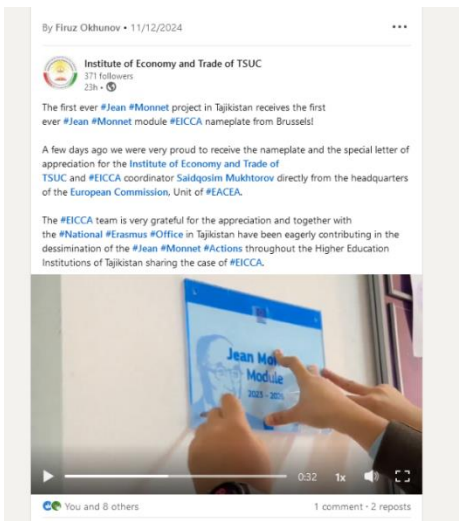
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Link to the web page: <http://jm.iet.tj/>

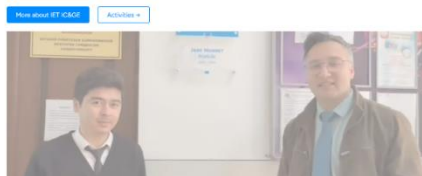
Link to the LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/school/iettsuc/?originalSubdomain=tj>

Link to the Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/iettsuc/?hl=en>

Link to the Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/iettsuc/>



**JEAN MONNET ACTIONS AT IET TSUC**  
IET TSUC is one of the most internationalized higher education institutions in the CA region, located in the south of Tajikistan. IET TSUC offers bachelor's, master's and PhD programs in the fields of economics, business, law and management. The mission of IET TSUC is to train highly competent specialists for the world labor market on the basis of comprehensive teaching and learning. Therefore, such a certain and broad vision of education makes us, different, towards innovation and continuous improvement. IET TSUC has a strong partnership with EU universities and inspiring partners. We are experienced in implementing development and capacity building projects together with international partners and project leaders. In the past, IET TSUC has implemented the CERIC project (IET/IC&E) under Erasmus+ and has previously and currently implemented more than 76 ICM KA2(171) Erasmus+ projects. In fact, the Jean Monnet European Integration Centre for Central Asia (EICCA) is the first and only Jean Monnet action coordinated by the higher education institutions of Tajikistan. The IET TSUC is also the only participant from Tajikistan in the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence in South and East European Competition Law. We would be happy to provide you with more information about the performance of the International Center and Global Engagement on the following web page.





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## **Task 3.2: 4 ECTS European Integration course (Part 1)**

**Period:** September 2024-May 2025 (Academic year 2024-2025)

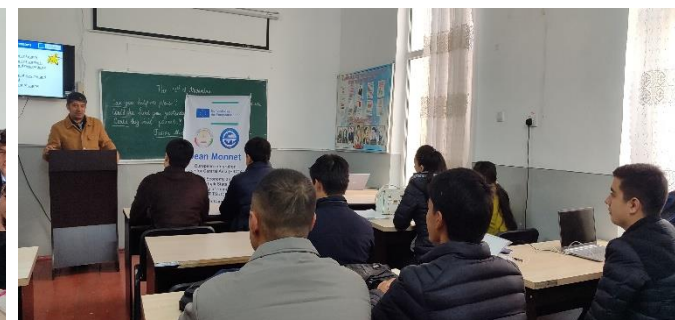
### **PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
2. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC)
3. Tukhtaboy Tukhtaev (IET TSUC)
4. Shuhrat Qobilov (IET TSUC)
5. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)
6. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of cote de Azur, France)
7. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)

The European Integration course kick-started in the academic year 2024-2025 with 2 groups involved in each semester totalling the 4 groups in one academic year. In the first semester 2 groups of International Economics (250103-World Economy) of 4<sup>th</sup> study year took the EICCA course. In the first semester, in two groups according to the LMS data there were 34 students. Total academic hours taught for both groups is 240 hours (160 of them are contact hours). In the second semester the 3<sup>rd</sup> year groups of International Finance (25010407-Finance and Credit in FEA) and International Economics (250103-World Economy) were involved. According to the LMS there were 43 students registered in both groups. The total academic hour of the course for both groups was equal to 144 academic hours (96 of them are contact hours). Thus in the academic year 2024-2025 the total of 384 (256 of them are contact hours) academic hours were delivered to 4 groups.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7261961545822183425>

Link to the web page: <http://jm.iet.tj/>





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### ***Task 3.2: 4 ECTS European Integration course (Part 2)***

**Period:** September 2025-May 2026 (Academic year 2025-2026)

**PARTICIPANTS:**

1. Saidqosim Mukhtorov (IET TSUC)
2. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC)
3. Tukhtaboy Tukhtaev (IET TSUC)
4. Shahnozakhon Abdulfayzova (IET TSUC)
5. Firuz Okhunov (IET TSUC)
6. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of cote de Azur, France)
7. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)

The European Integration course continued in the 2025-2026 academic year with 2 groups involved in the fall semester. The 2 groups of International Economics (250103-World Economy) of 3<sup>rd</sup> study year



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participated in the EICCA course. According to the LMS data there were total of 40 students registered in 2 groups. Total academic hours taught for both groups is 192 hours (128 of them are contact hours). To summarize the EICCA teaching hours of module, there were total of 256 contact hours and 128 hours of individual learning by students, in 2 semesters of the 2024-2025 academic year. As for the fall semester of the 2025-2026 academic year, the total contact hours is 128 hours and 64 hours of individual learning was conducting. In total there were 384 contact hours and 192 hours of individual learning for students were organized. Thus, 384 hours planned in the project timesheet is fully completed.

In addition, in the spring semester of the academic year 2025-2026 (from January 2026 to May 2026) EICCA course will be taught to one more group majoring in International Economics (250103-World Economy, Medium of Instruction: Russian). For this group the coursebook and teaching materials have been translated from English into Russian and total of 64 contact hours and 32 hours of individual learning of students will be completed, which is dedicated to impact the dissemination and sustainability of the EICCA course and the project itself.

Link to the web page: <http://jm.iet.tj/>



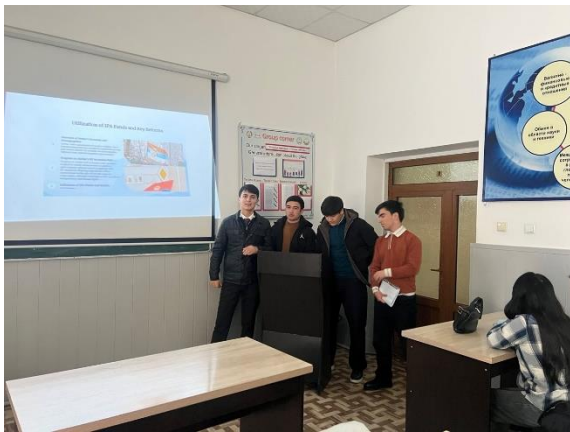
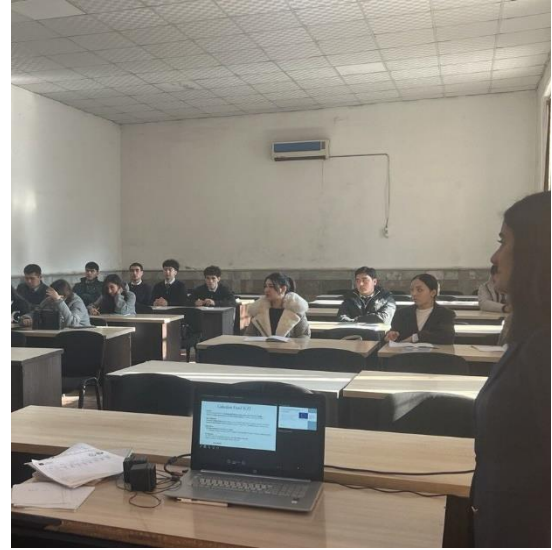


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## Task 4.2: Internal Roundtables (1)

**START DATE:** December 19, 2024

**FORMAT:** Hybrid

**NUMBER of PARTICIPANTS:** 40 (students, professors and EICCA team)

On 19 December 2024, the Jean Monnet Module “European Integration Course for Central Asia” (EICCA) held its first internal roundtable at the Institute of Economy and Trade of TSUC. The event brought together around 40 participants, including a delegation of 6 students and 2 professors from China, who attended the roundtable in person. The session was led by EICCA Coordinator Mr. Saidqosim Mukhtorov, who delivered a lecture on the EU Competition Law, a topic selected specifically to match the academic background of the visiting Chinese students and faculty specializing in law. Following the lecture, participants engaged in a dynamic and comparative discussion exploring the differences between the EU and Chinese approaches to competition policy, enforcement mechanisms, and market regulation. The session further highlighted the potential lessons, best practices, and policy elements from EU Competition Law that could be considered in both the Chinese and Tajik legal frameworks. This first internal roundtable marked an important step in enriching academic dialogue within the EICCA project and strengthening cross-cultural and interdisciplinary exchange among students and faculty.





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## Task 4.2: Internal Roundtables (2)

**START DATE:** June 12, 2025

**FORMAT:** Hybrid

**Link:** [http://jm.iet.tj/eicca\\_roundtable/](http://jm.iet.tj/eicca_roundtable/)

### **PARTICIPANTS (Speakers):**

1. Diana Dimova, Programme Manager, EU Delegation to Tajikistan
2. Mohbonu Nakhatzoda, Coordinator, National Erasmus Office in Tajikistan
3. Saidqosim Mukhtorov, Moderator (IET TSUC, Tajikistan)
4. Firuz Okhunov, Assistant (IET TSUC, Tajikistan)
5. Srdjan Redzepagic (University of Cote D'Azur, France)
6. Marko Tomljanovic (University of Rijeka, Croatia)
7. Eldaniz Guseinov (Ibn Haldun University, Turkiye)
8. Miryakub T. Xaydarov (National University of Uzbekistan)
9. Jildiz Nichaparova (American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyz Republic)
10. Dalerjon Mirpochoev (IET TSUC, Tajikistan)

On 12 June 2025, the Jean Monnet Module "European Integration Course for Central Asia" (EICCA), coordinated by the Institute of Economy and Trade of TSUC, successfully held an international hybrid conference titled "Strategic Partnership Between the European Union and Central Asia: Challenges and Opportunities." The event was organized in collaboration with the National Erasmus+ Office in Tajikistan and was dedicated to the outcomes of the first-ever EU–Central Asia Summit held in April 2025 in Samarkand. The conference brought together more than 50 participants from Europe and Central Asia, including representatives from France, Turkey, Croatia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, and various Tajik higher education institutions.

The conference opened with remarks from Ms. Diana Dimova, Programme Manager at the EU Delegation in Tajikistan, and Dr. Mohbonu Nakhatzoda, NEO Coordinator in Tajikistan. Due to the absence of the initial keynote speaker, Prof. Dr. Chiara Pierobon, the keynote address was delivered by Mr. Eldaniz Gusseinov from Ibn Haldun University, focusing on the strategic dimensions of EU–Central Asia relations in the context of the Samarkand Summit. Academic presentations followed from scholars such as Prof. Srdjan Redzepagic, Assoc. Prof. Marko Tomljanović, Assoc. Prof. Miryakub Xaydarov, Assoc. Prof. Jildiz Nicharapova, and Assoc. Prof. Dalerjon Mirpochoev. Their contributions covered topics ranging from EU enlargement and foreign policy to education, mobility, and regional cooperation.

The event concluded with a panel discussion moderated by EICCA coordinator Saidqosim Mukhtorov, which highlighted the prospects and challenges of regional integration in Central Asia, drawing inspiration from the European model. The conference was a major milestone for the EICCA project, demonstrating its commitment to academic exchange and policy dialogue and marking the first implementation of a Jean Monnet Module coordinated by a Tajik HEI.



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**Effects of EU Enlargement**

These could include:

- Reduction in labour costs for business
- Access to greater levels of funding/money/capital via capital markets (for businesses)
- Increased consumer choice (for goods/services)
- Increased competition (between businesses in the customs union)
- Increased population (due to admission of new EU member states)
- Greater levels of political uncertainty

**JEAN MONNET MODULE**

European Integration and Trade for Central Asia

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN EUROPEAN UNION AND CENTRAL ASIA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

**European Green Deal and smart, green, sustainable goals?**

**Main areas of cooperation between the European Union and the Kyrgyz Republic**

Dr. Uladz Nishanapova, Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences, AUCA

**JEAN MONNET MODULE**

European Integration and Trade for Central Asia

**JEAN MONNET MODULE**

European Integration and Trade for Central Asia

**Fluctuation of the interest**