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# **Modification of the educational module E.D.E. - certificate for long-term care providers**

## **Short description and outlook for 2021**

The year 2021 is going to be the last year of the implementation of a significant joint project in which 7 partners' organizations participate. The aim of the project is to create a modern and flexible training program for managers working in the social services sector. Project proposal has been prepared since 2016 and in 2018 was project submitted to the Erasmus + program. The implementation phase of the project began after its approval in November 2018. The basis for the new program is the education offered so far under the title "The E.D.E. certificate for directors of residential care homes for the elderly ". Partners' organizations acting in the vocational education sector in Austria and Romania under the leadership of the Association of Social Service Providers Czech Republic modified the current E.D.E. program and divided it into 3 levels. The modification itself was preceded by a thorough needs analysis in all countries, and therefore the new program contains current topics and emphasizes independent thinking, sharing experiences and uses alternative skills in addition to full-time training such as internships, projects, study tours and networking. However, the covid-19 pandemic in 2020 interfered with the implementation of several activities. Specifically, it was the so-called final focus groups and a joint international meeting of all partners. The final focus groups, to which academics were also invited in Austria and Romania, were held online.

The international project meeting, which was originally planned for the months of April to June 2020, had to be divided into 2 parts. The first part took place online in June and the second in September, with the partial participation of partners in Vienna. However, even in these difficult conditions, a new training curriculum has been created. The curriculum is now prepared for final comments in March 2021. If traveling will be allowed, the final comments will be solved on project meeting of all partners in Romania. If the restrictions linked with the covid-19 pandemic do not allow traveling, the meeting will hold online. The last activities are going to be 4 conferences and follow-up workshops in the period from May to August 2021. If the situation allows, they would be in a personal form in Austria, Romania, the Czech Republic and internationally under the leadership of EAN.

The new program will be managed by the European Aging Network. Vocational training institutions they want to offer the new program can start applying for accreditation from September 2021. More information about project is on website: [www.eancertificate.com](http://www.eancertificate.com).