

**PIRI REIS UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN AWARDED  
“THE PRIZE OF EXCELLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION” BY THE  
TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL**

The Turkish Higher Education Council has awarded PIRI REIS UNIVERSITY “The Prize for Excellence in International Co-operation”, due to the cooperation it exhibited with Qatar Naval Military College in the frame of the provision of education and the development of research institutions abroad. Piri Reis University is well-known as the founder of the “Turkish Maritime Education Foundation” and has taken a huge step towards becoming a quality Turkish brand, both in Turkish higher education and in maritime education, by using the strengths and experience it has gained from previous successes from past endeavours, together with the leadership and support of the Chamber of Shipping.

The signing ceremony for the agreement to establish cooperation between two higher education institutions took place on March 13th, 2019. The aim of the agreement, signed by Piri Reis University rector Prof. Dr. Oral ERDOĞAN and the Commander of Naval Forces of the Qatar Emirate, Rear Admiral Abdullah Bin Hassan Al Sulaiti, was to establish the administrative and educational structure of the Naval Military College being founded by the Qatar Armed Forces. Military training at the college is to be carried out by the Ministry of National Defence and the academic higher education program of the college is to be provided by Piri Reis University. This project also aims to strengthen the bonds of trust between these two already friendly countries by improving mutual opportunities and cooperation.

Under this agreement, Piri Reis, as a foundation university, will also have access to financial sources to support its current base while allowing it to extend its services to other countries. According to the pact signed by both nations, a number of financial issues are dealt with. Both the University and our home country have benefited by the 22 million Euros that were earned in the first 5 months of 2019. According to national statistics, this figure is considered to rank first in terms of ‘academic education export’ earnings.

Furthermore, by completing this project successfully, we are also contributing to the reputation of our university, Turkish Maritime services, and the Turkish Navy.

Piri Reis University is a full member of the International Maritime Universities Association, and currently holds the chairmanship of the Black Sea Association of Maritime Institutions. It is also involved in carrying out many international projects in association with these institutions.



Prof. Dr. Oral Erdoğan receiving the Turkish Higher Education Council award, “The Prize for Excellence in International Co-operation”, From the President of Turkish Republic Mr. Tayyip Erdoğan



**MINE-EMI**  
**MARITIME INNOVATIVE NETWORK of EDUCATION**  
**for EMERGING MARITIME ISSUES**  
**Project 2019-1-TR01-KA203-077463**

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**NEWSLETTER NO: 1**  
**PROJECT MINE – EMI WEIGHS ANCHOR**

*New Erasmus + Strategic Partnership Project **MINE-EMI** will try to bring new solutions on the emerging maritime issues to ensure sustainable development of maritime transportation for efficient and effective use of oceans.*

The maritime industry is one of the most dynamic economic sectors due to the constant changes in its development needs. It is also closely linked to the changes in Marine Sciences and IT Technologies. Consequently, education and training in marine sciences have to follow the industry's trends closely in order to keep pace with the new competencies required by the development of maritime transportation technologies.

Project MINE-EMI is focused at elaboration of Joint Master Program (JMPs) that facilitate developing skills and competences to raise awareness on emerging maritime issues in order to promote sustainable management of the maritime sector. It focuses on the Black Sea basin and involves representatives from the business sector and local administrations in order to fill the gap between the requirements in the maritime sector (management of marine areas, transport operations, logistics) and the current lacking of updated courses in that matter.

The partners involved in the project are;

- Piri Reis University - Lead Partner, PRU (Turkey)
- Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, CPMR (EU)
- Constanta Maritime University, CMU (Romania)
- Nikola Vaptsarov Naval Academy, NVNA (Bulgaria)
- The University of the Aegean, UAEGEAN (Greece)
- Marine Cluster Bulgaria, MCB (Bulgaria)
- Municipality of Piraeus, MP (Greece)

The project implementation is based on the progressive model, including preparatory activities, development, testing and finalization of JMPs. In the development phase, educational material will be elaborated, collected, evaluated and selected, satisfying the criteria set by the stakeholders. While PRU, NVNA, and UAEGEAN will work on the theoretical part of the teaching materials, CMU will mainly work on the practical side, creating scenarios for maritime simulators on the specific topics of the subject. Both parts will be developed in a coordinated way in order to synchronize all the elements.

PRU will lead the integration of the developed modules in the JMPs. The lead partner will develop JMPs course catalog together with the partner Higher Education



Institutes for better adaptation to institutions specificities and offer the courses outside the partnership framework. The produced material will be tested and evaluated during mobility events. MCB and MP will provide test-beds. The feedback received will be then used to finalize the courses.

The project aims to achieve efficient, safe, secure and environmentally tackling the maritime issues, through:

- **promotion** of the quality of education and training in the Maritime Education and Training (MET) sector to address the specific maritime challenges and prepare the future managers and experts applying innovative methods, practical oriented approach and e-learning model;

- **facilitation** of the mobility for students and teachers, involving educational and training institutions that wish to contribute to overcoming these challenges

- **cooperation** between MET organizations and industry in the field of education and training for managing the issues in the maritime sector for upgrading competencies and adapting to the requirements of the maritime industry.

The successful implementation of the Project will provide the consolidation of the efforts of the maritime institutions especially in the Black Sea region to contribute to the sustainable development through implementation of blue growth, greening transport, maritime spatial planning policies and common maritime basins strategies.

The initial research phase of the project has started as of September 2019. The kick-off meeting and the first stakeholder's conference (multiplier event) will take place at PRU Facilities in Tuzla/Istanbul in the third week of January 2020 (exact days TBC). All involved parties are welcome to attend the conference. All project activities and outcomes will be open to the public and will be disseminated to all stakeholders through the project web page, social media, newsletters, seminars, and conferences. JMP will be available to any interested individual either under the Erasmus Charter scheme or through special enrolment for students from other countries.