The article provides information about Jean Monnet Module ‘European Teaching Excellence for Students' Better Performance’ (2020-2023) in terms of its contents, objectives and outcomes. The Module addresses better understanding of European policies and effective practices for developing key competences and basic skills for lifelong learning and it targets at teachers as key change agents. The authors focus on the participants’ feedback as a means of improving the key components of the module.

Keywords: Jean Monnet Module, teachers’ feedback, European quality, students’ performance.

Since 2016 Ukrainian school education has been undergoing transformations within New Ukrainian School initiative which focuses on the shift from theoretical knowledge to key competences and basic skills. In 2018, it was the first time Ukraine participated in PISA, and by the Average Score of Mathematics, Science and Reading, it falls behind most EU member states, especially Estonia, Finland and Poland that are the top EU PISA countries. So, the purpose of the project is to use the experience of the PISA top EU PISA countries to improve Ukrainian students’ performance.

This will bring Ukraine closer to EU standards and significantly improve the quality of school education in Ukraine, which is in direct relation to most spheres of society. The Jean Monnet Module addresses better understanding of European policies and effective practices for developing key competences and basic skills for lifelong learning. The Module comprises:
two Summer Schools annually (one school for teachers of Humanities; the other one for teachers of Science and Mathematics) on European tools, policies and best practices in school education

- content multiplication, as the teachers who are the Summer School participants, in their turn, will design PISA-like tasks on the EU-related content that will be sent to all the experimental schools

- intense dissemination at 5 conferences, 3 webinars, and 3 roundtables.

The Module aims at highlighting positive examples of European policies and practices for quality school education with the interdisciplinary focus on developing students’ key competences and basic skills for lifelong learning. The main outputs of the Module are an increase of teachers’ awareness of key aspects of EU educational policies and practices effectiveness and challenges, and bringing this knowledge into Ukrainian classrooms.

This Jean Monnet module is the first European study course for teachers at the Institute of Pedagogy, and it prepares them for effective implementation of best European practices into transforming Ukrainian school education within the New Ukrainian School Reform. Also, the conferences and roundtables promote the dissemination of knowledge on European policies and best practices to policy-makers, mass media representatives, and civil society in Ukraine. The broader public gets an access to added value of the Module through the free online materials designed by the teachers on OER and through the website of the project and its active accounts in Facebook and Instagram.

One of the Module’s added values is developing and modernizing the curricula on European Studies through cooperation of researchers from Ukraine and the European Union and thus providing learners with relevant knowledge for effective transforming of national education. Also, the Module has a specific focus on the EU quality of education which is particularly important for Ukrainian school.

The Module improves the teaching contents of teacher professional development programmes that are accredited at the Institute of Pedagogy and significantly contributes to the extension of awareness on European educational policies and best practices among teaching staff, young researchers, students, policy-makers, educational experts, and the public through the summer schools, and online presentation of the Module.

The project team assume that the activities will stimulate excellence in teaching and reflection in European integration in the sphere of education as it will be accompanied with active debating activities which can improve dissemination of ideas and new approaches. It can strengthen the national role of Institute of Pedagogy as one of the key policy-makers in Ukrainian school education will give a chance to extend the scope of European integration studies within Ukrainian schools and universities.