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the European Union**



OptimResearch

**Our new Erasmus+ EMDM
project “MARE-LOG”
approved for funding**



MARE-LOG

Master in Resilient & Human-Centric
Logistics Through Digital Twin Engineering

The project titled “Master in Resilient & Human-Centric Logistics Through Digital Twin Engineering (MARE-LOG)”, coordinated by the Optim Research Group, has been awarded funding under the European Union's Erasmus+ Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM) Program.

The MARE-LOG Project aims to develop an international joint master's program focused on resilient, human-centric, and sustainable logistics systems through a digital twin engineering approach. The project intends to create an innovative educational model that brings together digital transformation, sustainability, and international academic collaborations in the field of logistics.

The Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM) Program is one of the European Union's most prestigious initiatives, supporting higher education institutions in developing international joint master's programs and preparing for future Erasmus Mundus Joint Master (EMJM) applications. In line with green and digital twin transformation goals, the MARE-LOG Project will design an innovative master's curriculum integrating: (1) Digital Twin Engineering, (2) Logistics 5.0, (3) AI-backed decision-making and optimization, (4) Human-centric logistics approaches.

The project is coordinated by Prof. Dr. Muhammet Gül, one of the co-founder of Optim Research Group and a faculty member at Istanbul University. Leveraging our research group's deep academic expertise to lead the scientific and managerial tracks, the expanded project team includes Prof. Dr. Erkan Çelik (Researcher - Istanbul University), Prof. Dr. Süleyman Mete (Researcher - Gaziantep University), Res. Asst. Elif Dursun Yiğit (PhD Candidate / Researcher - Istanbul University), Res. Asst. Dursun Emre Epçim (PhD Candidate / Researcher - Gaziantep University), and Res. Asst. Zeynep Yüksel (PhD Candidate / Researcher - Gaziantep Islam Science and Technology University).

Led by the coordination of Istanbul University, the project consortium consists of the following esteemed international partners and stakeholders:

- Gaziantep University (Turkey)
- NEOMA Business School (France)
- Università degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope (Italy)
- Vilnius Gediminas Technical University – VILNIUS TECH (Lithuania)
- Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia)
- SIMARTER Ltd.
- GOBey Academy (Germany)
- International Transporters Association - UND (Turkey)

Throughout the 15-month design period, the project aims to establish sustainable academic collaboration mechanisms among partner universities, develop joint student admission and evaluation processes, prepare a 120 ECTS international joint master's curriculum, design micro-credential programs, and complete the academic and institutional infrastructure required for a full-scale EMJM application.

The MARE-LOG project will significantly contribute to Optim Research Group's vision of internationalization while pioneering the development of an interdisciplinary, innovative joint master's program at European standards in logistics. With this major milestone, our research group remains dedicated to driving digital transformation and contributing to the future of both national and European higher education spaces.