



Rethymno 11/6/2026

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Erasmus+ Staff Training Week / STAFF WEEK**  
**25–29 May 2026**

The **International Relations Departments** of the University of Crete organized the **3rd Staff Training Week (Erasmus+ KA131)** and, **in collaboration with the International and Public Relations Department of the University of Piraeus** and the International Mobility Consortium (Erasmus+ KA171), **co-organized the 5th International Staff Training Week** at the University of Crete premises from **25 to 29 May 2026**.

Welcoming addresses were delivered by the **Vice-Rector for Development, International Relations and Outreach of the University of Crete, Professor E. Tamiolaki**, the **Vice-Rector for Academic and Administrative Affairs and Student Welfare of the University of Piraeus, Professor Sp. Roukanas** and the **Head of Directorate of General of Administrative and Financial Services of the University of Crete, K. Papadoulaki**.

Under the overarching theme “Digital Transformation, Environment and Climate Change and Education”, **more than 60 academic and administrative staff members** from partner Higher Education Institutions participated in the activities. Participants came from European Union Member States, including Italy, the Czech Republic, France, Poland and Estonia, as well as from third countries such as Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Kosovo, Moldova, Uganda and Tunisia.

The programme, addressing both European and International partners of the University of Piraeus Mobility Consortium, was designed in alignment with the strategic priorities of the European Union and the Erasmus+ Programme, with a particular focus on digital transformation in education, environmental sustainability and climate action.

Participants had the opportunity to exchange experiences and good practices, explore modern educational tools, and discuss ways of co-developing a contemporary and sustainable model of higher education capable of responding to the challenges of technological and social change.

Within this framework, lectures of technical, pedagogical and ethical orientation were delivered, highlighting diverse perspectives on the role of the modern university. In addition, organizers and participants presented innovative practices implemented in their institutions, fostering meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange. The presentations served as a basis for productive discussions and were followed by interactive workshops that enabled substantial collaboration and exchange of views.

The Staff Training Week concluded with an educational visit to the archaeological site of Knossos and the Natural History Museum of the University of Crete.



## Acknowledgements

Sincere appreciation is extended to the **academic, administrative, and technical staff of the University of Crete and the University of Piraeus** for their invaluable contribution to the organisation and successful implementation of the Staff Training Week, as well as to the **staff of the partner universities** for their active participation and valuable exchange of best practices.

Sincere thanks are also extended to **Theartemis Palace Hotel** (Rethymno) for its generous sponsorship of the official dinner and the Cretan music and dance evening offered to all participants on 27 May 2026, and to the **Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry** for providing its premises free of charge and sponsoring the coffee break held in Heraklion on 29 May 2026.

## Staff Training Week Programme:

Erasmus+ KA131 / University of Crete: Rethymno, 25–27 May 2026, Heraklion, 28–29 May 2026  
Erasmus+ KA171 / University of Crete & University of Piraeus Mobility Consortium: Rethymno, 25–29 May 2026

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