



# Strategic Partnerships outside Europe

Professor Madeleine Danova

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

TET CO. KANMENT OXPHAC

#### **Identifying Suitable International Partners**

- Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology Partners from Asia, America and Africa
- Erasmus + Mobilities
- Working on Erasmus+ Projects, Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices, Capacity building in the field of higher education

- European Studies Revitalized Across Asian Universities (EURASIA), 589680-EPP-1-2017-1-BG-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP (2017-3281/001-001)

- Bridging EU and Central Asia: Developing Curricula on Trade, Technology Tansfer and EU Values in the context of EU Green Deal (BRIDGE), 2017

-Tutoring in the Digital Ecosystem for a Socio-Economic and Gender Equality

• Erasmus Mundus, Erasmus – EDU-2021-WMJM-DESIGN- Intercultural Communication: Eurasian Axis – Joint MA Degree Design Project, 2021



#### софийски университет "св. климент охридски" Navigate partnerships in regions with complex sociopolitical dynamics

- China
- India
- Central Asia
- Afghanistan
- Africa
- South America

## **Specific cultural challenges**

- Experts in the different regions
- Very good knowledge in the different types of cultural context
- Careful preparation via online seminars and discussions
- Visits to become personally acquainted
- Working together at the foreign institutions

#### **Examples of Innovative Mobility Programs**

- Joint MA Programs:
- Europe and Asia: Cultural Diplomacy and Geopolitics of the EU with KazNU
- Foreign Language (English), Literature, Mass Media with Bukhara State University
- Intercultural Communication and Translation with Chinese and Bulgarian, Beijing
  Foreign Languages University
- Francophonie, Plurilingualism and Intercultural Mediation with Geneva University



#### Strategies to prepare students and faculty

- •Careful briefing
- •Legal and health issues
- •Understanding the socio-cultural context

СОФИЙСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ "СВ. КЛИМЕНТ ОХРИДСКИ"

### International perspectives

- EURASIA Project new courses at four Asian Universities
- Courses taught by academic staff from partner institutions from outside EU
- Erasmus Mundus Projects
- Summer Schools
- Seminars and round tables
- Conferences

СОФИЙСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ "СВ. КЛИМЕНТ ОХРИДСКИ'

#### Legal Complexities

- Always working within the legal framework of the partner institutions
- Different regulations and laws
- A lot of negotiations and meetings to resolve such problems

СОФИЙСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ "Св. КЛИМЕНТ ОХРИДСКИ"

#### **Alumni-led Initiatives**

- Work with our alumni to start partnerships
- African Ambassadors
- Academic staff teaching at foreign universities





# Thank you for your attention!