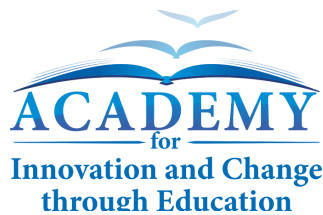


***Academy for Innovation and Change through Education***

in collaboration with

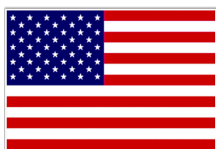
***North Carolina-Moldova Bilateral Partnership***

***VIF / Participate***



## **North Carolina—Moldova Online School Partnership Project**

The project aims to connect 100 schools from Moldova and North Carolina by means of web 2.0 collaborative tools. American and Moldovan students will discuss various topics of common interest, such as cultural differences, global learning, school life, science, music, tolerance and UN sustainable development goals.



This project has been made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Department of State. Its contents are the responsibility of the Project Team and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of State or the United States Government.

### **Teacher goals:**

- encourage interactive teaching methods and reciprocal learning;
- add new insights and dimensions to class discussions;
- promote students' active learning and engage students with different learning styles;
- develop students' civic and leadership skills;
- foster relationships between faculty and community organizations, which can open other opportunities for collaborative work;
- improve school climate and positive school-community relationships.

### **Student goals:**

- develop both interpersonal and leadership skills as result of international collaboration;
- develop a sense of meaning and purpose in their academic life;
- experience different cultures and as a result, reduce many negative and unnecessary stereotypes;
- develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills;
- enhance various skills in the areas of communication, collaboration, and leadership;
- gain deeper understanding of themselves and empathy and respect for others.
- Acquire guided practice in taking action as socially responsible global citizens.

### **American and Moldovan students will communicate:**

- Via VIF/Participate platform
- Using Skype or Viber
- Through Facebook
- By email



### **American and Moldovan teachers will learn how to collaborate with their e-pals while:**

- being guided by project coordinators and mentors;
- participating in bi-monthly webinars;
- completing bi-monthly online assignments;
- exchanging emails with colleagues and partners;
- collaborating with project strategic partners: Participate, North Carolina—Moldova Bilateral Committee, US Embassy to Moldova.



## **Project Schedule**

### **♦ October 2017—Participant registration**

100 schools from North Carolina and Republic of Moldova will register to participate in the project. A project blog will be created to link all international teams. Each school will publish a short profile to include school info, website, Facebook link, logo, plus a few student group pictures. Schools from North Carolina and Republic of Moldova will be paired up according to school profiles and student preferences. Students from both sides of the Atlantic will be introduced to each other via photo and video introductions.

### **♦ November 2017—Connecting via Participate**

All teachers will be connected on [Participate platform](#) in the Teach the Global Goals professional learning community. Together, American and Moldvan teachers will take the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education mini-course.

### **December 2017—January 2018 Connecting via web tools**

American and Moldovan teachers will connect outside of the course based on their students common goals and interests. Monthly webinars will be organized to guide project participants. Each team will choose its own online means of communication: email, Skype, Google Hangouts, Zoom, Facebook, Viber, blogs, school website, etc. Topics of common interest will range from more general themes such as cultural differences and global learning to more specific ones, such as school life, science, music, tolerance and UN sustainable development goals.

### **February 2018—March Working on common projects**

American and Moldovan teachers and students will work together on common school projects based on themes of common interest. Students will create digital posters, video reports, interviews, photo books, games, video essays, etc. Students will vote for the most creative products and will offer feedback to their e-pals.

♦ **April 2018—May 2018—Action and Demonstration**

All digital reports will be published on the project blog. Students will vote for the most creative and inspiring projects.

♦ **May 2018—Reflection, assessment and evaluation**

Project participants will reflect on the implementation of their common online initiatives. Students involvement will be evaluated according to project evaluation rubrics. Online conferences via Skype, Zoom and Google Hangouts will be organized for American and Moldovan students to exchange feedback on their experience.

**PROJECT THEMES**



## Participate

### UN Sustainable Development Goal 4:

#### Quality Education mini-course



American and Moldova teachers will share ideas and resources about quality education worldwide, will participate in Twitter chats and will explore quality education lesson plans created by educators from around the globe.

Every teacher will create and a new collection to gather and curate resources about quality education to share with students. Colleagues from US and Moldova will be invited as collaborators in the collection to share ideas and suggestions.

How can teachers bring this issue to life in their classroom and align them to academic learning? Participants will explore several sample lesson plans about quality education for inspiration, will choose and adapt one for their students or will create their own.

In addition to that, teachers will connect with a school in another part of the world, will participate in a design challenge, such as redesigning a classroom or a school library, will participate in the Global Read Aloud Challenge and will use Twitter to connect to colleagues from around the world.

#### participate.

"In some parts of the world, students are going to school **every day**. It's their normal life. But in other parts of the world, we are **starving** for education... it's like a precious gift. It's like a **diamond**..."

– Malala Yousafzai

## SAMPLE STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Create music instruments from recycled/repurposed materials,
- Organize a local campaign to raise funds to support the poor or the socially vulnerable;
- Plan a flash mob to prevent drug use among young people in the area;
- Raise awareness about land, water or air pollution and encourage communities to protect the environment;
- Coordinate a recycling initiative for children and youth;
- Manage a volunteering event to encourage students be actively engaged in their communities;
- Help local authorities clean a local park or plant trees and flowers;
- Partner with a local NGO and get involved in a community service activity as volunteers;

**Contributions:** The students will get an opportunity to engage in experiential learning and make a difference in their communities in collaboration with their peers from over the Atlantic.

**Outcomes:** At the end of each of the projects American and Moldovan students will share their project details, experiences and outcomes in the form of simple reports, Power Point presentation, pictorial report or short 2-5 minutes videos. The project outcomes of the students will be displayed on the project forum. We will also vote for the most creative and powerful video reports.

## PROJECT PARTNERS

