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PRESS RELEASE

European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering

On 23rd and 24th January 2023, delegates from the seven organisations from six EU countries participating in the project met in Madrid.

The project aims at defining and promoting across Europe the first *European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering*.

In this first meeting of the project, the delegates from the seven partner organisations established the guidelines and work plan for the definition of the standards. The publication of the first version of the quality standards is expected for May 2023. Once they are published, the project partners will organise a transnational consultation open to all the actors involved in the validation process: volunteers, voluntary organisations, higher education institutions, vocational education and training providers, adult education providers, enterprises, and public administrations. The aim of this consultation is to validate the quality standards with end users and to collect feedback which could contribute to the improvement of the standards.

Furthermore, to facilitate the adoption of the *European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering* across Europe, the project partners will produce a Manual in six languages. The manual will contain detailed guidelines and tools to facilitate to any interested party the implementation of these quality standards.

This project is an initiative of the Spanish Volunteer Platform (Spain) in collaboration with: CESUR (Spain), Munster Technological University (Ireland), Centre for European Volunteering (Belgium), CSVnet (Italy), the Portuguese Volunteer Confederation (Portugal), and **Psitest (Romania)**. The project is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

Note: The project 'European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering' is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The content of this press release is the sole responsibility of the project partners.