

AARMENA Erasmus+ Project

The Project Objective and aim: Foster regional integration and cooperation across different regions of the world through joint initiatives, sharing of good practices and cooperation improve the level of competences and skills in HEIs by developing new and innovative education programmes.

The Academic Alliance for Reconciliation in the Middle East and Northern Africa (AARMENA) is: Reconciliation, conflict transformation and peacebuilding is a promising approach to transform violent conflicts and to trigger a social and cultural change in the MENA region. The area is the most affected by wars, civil wars and gross human rights violations on Earth nowadays. Since the 1990s, reconciliation and peacebuilding studies have strongly developed in some centers around the world. However, the discipline is still relatively absent from the academic curricula of universities that triggers the stakeholders, academics, youth and woman in the MENA region. After the AARMENA inauguration that took place on 14 August 2018, the Jena Center for Reconciliation Studies (JCRS) was astonished and delighted to see the widespread and intensive interest of colleagues and universities in the MENA region to develop Reconciliation, conflict transformation peacebuilding studies within a cooperative framework. This means that one of the main goals of the AARMENA is on the way to be achieved: the establishment and the spreading of reconciliation studies in the MENA region. The study of reconciliation process, conflict transformation and peacebuilding is an ongoing progress that is vital for the MENA region, that would help societies, plead and help assist in reconciling with enemies in such a way both can make a better future for their children. For that reason, the AARMENA is a way for prosperity among nations, communities.

The development of Peace, Reconciliation, and Conflict Transformation Studies utmost needed today in the Middle East and North Africa; this was acknowledged after the inauguration of the AARMENA conference in Aug 14, 2018, where all members 45 Professors from 30 different Arab universities in the MENA became members of the AARMENA, and today we are working together to Building Capacity in the Field of Higher Education in Peace, Reconciliation and Conflict Transformation Studies in the MENA Region. the Program countries are "Austria and Germany"

collaboration with the University of Innsbruck and Freidrich Schiller University as program countries the Partner countries are Jordan (Univeristy of Jorda, Petra University), Palestine Authority (Al-Istiklal Univeristy, Al-Azhar Univeristy), Algeria (University of El Oued, Lamine Debaghine -Setif2) with the following activities The reinforcement of the existing network of cooperating partners through further regional, as well as international, cooperation to develop a program in Peace, conflict transformation, and reconciliation studies in HEI Cooperation of UIBK UNESCO Chair for Peace Officer with Jena Center for Reconciliation Studies JCRS in developing interactive reconciliation peace studies workshops in developing sessions for a teaching program in the hosting HEIs.The advanced curriculum in Peace, conflict transformation, and reconciliation studies in the hosting HEIs in the MENA Region. The activities will be to integrate reconciliation studies manual developed by FSU and the Peace and conflict transformation studies manual develop by IBUK.

Project Website: <https://www.aarmena.uni-jena.de/erasmus+>