



Академія Професійного
Розвитку



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PRESS RELEASE

Interaction without barriers: responsible self-development of the person – the key to the development of the country

On June 27, 2025, INFONET Alliance from the Republic of Moldova and the Academy for Professional Development from Ukraine organized a roundtable discussion entitled *“Social Inclusion of People with Disabilities in the Ukrainian Context 2025.”*

The event was attended by representatives of the most relevant non-governmental organizations active in the field of promoting the rights of persons with disabilities in the Republic of Moldova.

The Ukrainian delegation was represented by:

- Zoya Garkavenko, President of the Academy for Professional Development (<https://www.aproacademy.org/>)
- Yurii Voitiuk, Manager of the Center for the Development of Barrier-Free Communication Technologies
- Volodymyr Korpusenکو, Trainer and instructor within the “Interaction Without Barriers” project, war veteran.

The Ukrainian colleagues shared their valuable experience in implementing projects for people with disabilities, including veterans who acquired disabilities as a result of the ongoing war between Ukraine and Russia. The overview of the Academy for Professional Development was very inspiring. We discussed the projects implemented, beneficiaries and partners; the Academy’s role in interacting with State institutions; interactive group work methods, with a focus on the practical use of communication algorithms; experiential learning for adults (parents, social workers, psychologists, educators, banking professionals, etc.); and the practical application of the principle “life and communication without barriers”.

Several success stories were also shared, especially regarding the empowerment of people with disabilities in Ukraine to become community leaders and advocates for the rights of individuals with various special needs. A number of universal technologies adapted to the local context were also mentioned.

The discussions addressed the regional context and current, as well as future, challenges. One topic that sparked productive group interaction was about functional ideas implemented in Ukraine that could be replicated in the Republic of Moldova (e.g., effective tools for raising public awareness about the concrete needs of people with various types of disabilities).

This activity is carried out by INFONET, in partnership with the Academy of Professional Development, within the project „Interaction without barriers”

Захід, що здійснюється Альянсом INFONET у партнерстві з Академією Професійного Розвитку в рамках проекту „Безбар’єрна взаємодія”



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The second part of the event took the form of a dialogue and brainstorming session focused on the exchange of good practices and potential collaborations. In this regard, the meeting concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation and Partnership between INFONET Alliance and the “Academy for Professional Development”.

By signing this agreement, the parties agreed on a partnership along two lines: postgraduate education and adult education; and social inclusion of people with disabilities, with the aim of increasing the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of their activities, based on the principle: **“Responsible self-development of the individual – the key to the development of the country.”**

As a follow-up activity, an online session is planned for next week to discuss concrete steps for developing future joint projects in the Republic of Moldova.

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This activity was carried out by INFONET Alliance, in partnership with the Academy for Professional Development, as part of the *“Interaction Without Barriers”* project.

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