**Vocational training in illicit drug addiction: Equipping health care practitioners with addiction treatment competences and techniques (CARE4SUD)**

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**Press release**

The CARE4SUD project is being implemented by Klaipėdos Ernesto Galvanausko profesinio mokymo centras (Lithuania) in partnership with Institut Za Raziskave In Razvoj Utrip Zavod (Slovenia), Sosu Ostjylland (Denmark), Universidade do Porto (Portugal), Direcția de Asistență Socială și Medicală, Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and Institute of Social Solidarity and Wellbeing: Social Mind (Greece) and its overall objective is to ensure a higher professionalism of the healthcare work force in the illicit drug addiction field at national and European level.

Work package 4 of the project includes the development of the CARE4SUD platform which will host the online addiction counselling VET programme previously produced within the project. The training content offers basic understanding of addiction and awareness of the effects of psychoactive drug use; presents practices of generally accepted models of treatment; develops new skills regarding screening and referral to treatment and knowledge of the relationship between substance use and diverse cultures, values and lifestyles with a view to combat stigma.

The CARE4SUD online educational programme will be openly available to trainees in English and in all partners’ languages (Lithuanian, Slovenian, Romanian, Greek, Portuguese, Danish).

During May 2025, the partners will proceed with the piloting sessions of the CARE4SUD training programme in each partner country.

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