



Kicking-off 2024-2025 Academic Year



CEPFA celebrated this festive day with great enthusiasm. Special congratulations were sent to everyone, particularly the freshmen who stepped into the educational institution for the first time. Graduates and current students shared their achievements across various fields and expressed their hopes that September 1st would start a bright and promising journey for the new students. In today's world, experts in every field play a crucial role in securing the country's economic well-being, and knowledge continues to be the most valuable and enduring capital.



160th Anniversary: The Beginning of New Achievements

Over 160 years, SEPR has embodied the ideals of excellence, dedication, and innovation in vocational education and training, paving the way for young people toward a sustainable future. The historic collaboration between SEPR and CEPFA has always been a source



of pride for us. Together, we have built strong bridges that have facilitated the exchange of knowledge and values, as well as the creation of opportunities for young talents. Thanks to the dedication and effective leadership of CEPFA's President, Christian Droz, the educational center has strengthened its position as a key player in vocational education and training. The exceptional dedication and efforts of the CEO of SEPR Véronique Furlan to advance VET in Armenia, and particularly at CEPFA, are invaluable. She was awarded the Golden



Medal of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, with the honor of the award ceremony held by Armenia's Consul in Lyon, Mrs. Narine Nikolyan. We are confident that the new director of SEPR, Mrs. Oriane Reynaud, will also spare no effort, and the further collaboration will be even more strengthened.



Regional Approaches to the Career Guidance System



Within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET-AM program, CEPFA hosted representatives of SEPR Campus (France), APRO Formazione Training Center (Italy), Gyumri State Medical College, the Ministry of Education, Science Culture and Sports (MESCS) and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia. Within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET-AM program, CEPFA hosted representatives of SEPR Campus (France), APRO Formazione Training Center (Italy), Gyumri State Medical College, the Ministry of Education, Science Culture and Sports (MESCS) and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia (MoLSA) to discuss issues related to vocational guidance. The deputy minister of MESCS Arak-sya Svajyan spoke



about the importance of the participation of VET institutions in Erasmus+ programs, emphasizing the role of IMPROVET-AM in improving the quality of vocational education and training. The representatives of relevant sectors from Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (France) and Piedmont (Italy) regions participated in the meeting online, they presented their countries' experience in managing and developing the career guidance system. The meeting became an effective platform for sharing experiences and discussing innovative approaches. On the second day, the European partners of the program shared their experiences with representatives of VET and educational institutions. The vocational guidance, and current rules applied in the Piedmont region and France were discussed. The Italian and French career counselors demonstrated several interactive and online tools. The dental technology educational program was benchmarked to facilitate the integration of new modules on digitalization.

“New Horizons for Vocational Education and Training” in the Netherlands



CEPFA Director Gohar Grigoryan, together with representatives from SEPR and APRO

Formazione, participated in the EfVET's 33rd Annual Conference held in Amersfoort, the Netherlands. The conference, titled “Training Gen Z: New Horizons for VET”, brought together around 350 inter-national experts in the field of VET. During the conference, Mrs. Grigoryan had the opportunity to take part in workshops that addressed issues related to Generation Z's entry into the labor market and the skills needed for the professions of the future. The event also featured a



presentation of ISATCOVE self-assessment tool by the ETF (European Training Foundation), which is being applied in Armenia for the first time by CEPFA. As part of professional visits, the participants were suggested to see AVENTUS vocational training institution, which has a large department in the field of health-care. Additionally, the outcomes of the youth forum held within the frame-work of WorldSkills 2024 were presented. CEPFA graduates Levon Martirosyan and Robert Hakobyan, specializing in Culinary Arts, took part in the forum.

European Rich Experience in Career Guidance

Anush Stepanyan, the head of the CEPFA Career Center, and R. Topchyan, Director of the National Center for Professional



Education Quality Assurance (ANQA), participated in the ETF Quality Assurance Forum for Vocational Education and Training in Belgrade, which brought together the foundation's partners to discuss their best practices in ensuring the quality of career guidance.

It was discussed how to focus on arranging career guidance and support students in choosing vocational education paths and navigating the labor market.

One of the key topics was the development of quality assurance mechanisms: how to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of career guidance in educational institutions, develop the system, and align it with the market needs, how to create productive cooperation between education and employers.

Lionel Confort Shares His Experience

Following the agreement signed between the Tourism Committee of the Republic of Armenia, the Armenian Hiking and Mountaineering Federation, the French Company AFRAT, And CEPFA, one more training for hiking and trekking leaders/-instructors has been completed. At the end of this stage, participants had the opportunity to enhance their skills as instructors following international standards and become a part of a national certification process for hiking and trekking leaders.

Participants deepened their knowledge in areas such as mountain environment, meteorology, and first aid in emergencies.



The course was led by Lionel Confort, an experienced and certified trekking leader and instructor from the AFRAT company. The theoretical knowledge was followed by a practical part of the training that took place in the field.

The closing Ceremony of the WorldSkills-2024



The closing ceremony of WorldSkills-2024 was arranged by the Armenian National Centre for Vocational Education and Training Development. Mira Nersisyan, a graduate of the CEPFA "Garment Technology" department was awarded a certificate of appreciation. She received the Best of Nation award during the competition.

Certificates were given to her instructors Knarik Vardanyan, Sona Voskanyan, and Maria Elmajyan, who actively contributed to the preparation for the competition.

Additionally, certificates were awarded to Levon Martirosyan and Robert Hakobyan, graduates of the CEPFA "Culinary" department for their support to the Armenian delegation and their active participation in the youth forum organized within the framework of WorldSkills.



Exchange of Experience. Yerevan-Gyumri

Third-year students of the "Dental Technology" department, accompanied by their teachers, visited the Gyumri State Medical College. The purpose of



the visit was to hold a joint class on the topic "Complete Edentulism, Single Denture Restoration." This collaboration is another step toward ensuring quality education and developing students' practical skills. It should be noted that CEPFA collaborates with the Gyumri State Medical College within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET_AM program.

Student Council Upcoming Projects

The agenda for the first 2024-2025 meeting of the Student Council included discussions on



upcoming projects and events, the annual work plan, quality assurance, and the election of their committee members. "Thinking of the large-scale initiatives of the previous semester, we are eager to begin the new academic year with even more exciting programs, impactful events, and a continued commitment to excellence," the members of the Student Council assured.

Our Team at the Career Fair

CEPFA students and teachers participated in the "Career New Opportunities and Prospects" career fair, organized by the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) as part of the



"Learn to Earn Artsakh" program. The event was held at the Armenia Marriott Hotel and was organized in cooperation with Yerevan State University, the Eurasia International University, and the Unified Social Service. The fair aimed to support the social and economic integration of people displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh, helping to increase their competitiveness in the labor market and address employment challenges.

Student's Volunteering and Erasmus Experience



The Vice President of the Student Council, Vahe Grigoryan, introduced the concept of volunteering and provided detailed insights into the Erasmus+ program during a workshop initiated by the CEPFA Student Council. "This experience will boost your self-confidence and equip you with valuable skills and knowledge. Through volunteering, I feel like a meaningful member of society. The smiles and appreciation of those you help are more than enough to make you feel content with your contributions," Vahe shared.

Future Pastry Chefs at Papaya

First-year students of the "Pastry Technology" department made their first visit to a professional environment. Accompanied by their lecturer Ala Avagyan, the students toured the Papaya pastry production facility, where they could observe the production process firsthand and familiarize themselves with



professional materials and tools. The visit provided a valuable opportunity to explore the latest trends in the pastry industry and gain insight into practical work processes. The students actively engaged in discussions and had their questions answered, enriching their understanding of the field.

Hiking Guides Training in Lori

On October 5-6, a hiking leaders' training took place in Lori for representatives of hiking clubs from Gegharkunik,



Syunik, and Lori regions, organized by volunteers of the French organization AFRAT. Anush Stepanyan, the head of the CEPFA Career Center, coordinated the event. The President of the Hiking Club Katrin Tatosyan was also present to support the sessions.

Hiking Hiking Guides Training in Lori

This autumn, CEPFA students, guided by volunteers from the

French organization AFRAT and representatives of the Armenian Mountaineering and Hiking Federation, embarked on a hike to Aghveran. During the journey, they learned essential skills such as navigating the terrain and identifying trail markers.



Happy Teacher's Day!

Organized by the CEPFA Student Council, a special event was held to celebrate Teacher's Day, to recognize professors not only as experts in their fields but also as unique individuals. During the event, students shared heartfelt and



Flavor of Ghapama



The Kentron administrative district of Yerevan recently hosted a delightful event titled "Flavor of Ghapama," celebrating the rich flavors of Armenian cuisine. The centerpiece of the event was ghapama, a traditional Christmas dish made of stuffed pumpkin. In addition to ghapama, visitors were treated to a variety of other classic Armenian dishes, including dolma, gata, baklava, and halva, showcasing the culinary diversity of Armenia. The event successfully combined the celebration of Armenian heritage with practical guidance for the next generation, fostering both cultural pride and professional growth.

New Year in Armenian and French Villages

CEPFA's New Year performance was unique. This year, the students introduced Armenian and French villages. After all, what is New Year without abundant tables, joyful songs, lively dances, and warm hospitality? In France, it's a tradition to celebrate the New Year with friends, while Christmas is reserved for family. Meanwhile, the students in the Armenian village celebrated the two holidays with the same joy and enthusiasm that was to be expected. Let's wish that the coming year brings success, new achievements, fresh creative ideas, and the strength and energy to make them come true.