



The Art of French Pastry



Now, CEPFA has a new pastry laboratory thanks to the financial support of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region and the SEPR Campus in Lyon. For this purpose, all educational equipment and tools were imported from France.

Catherine Staron, Vice President of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region led the official opening ceremony of the new pastry laboratory.

The event was opened with a welcoming speech by the CEPFA Director, Gohar Grigoryan.

RA Minister of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports, Mrs. Zhanna Andreasyan was present and, in her remarks, emphasized the importance of French-Ar-



menian cooperation in the development of vocational education in Armenia. She noted that CEPFA's educational model is a system that can be adopted by other institutions.

Christian Droz, President of SEPR (Vocational Education Company of Rhône), highlighted that the new laboratory will provide dozens of young people the opportunity to master the high art of French pastry, be creative, and



grow professionally in their own homeland.

The ceremony was also attended by Deputy Minister Araksia Svajyan, representatives from the Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs and Foreign Affairs, representatives of the SEPR and other partners.

Armenia-France Decentralized Cooperation Conference in Goris

On June 2-3 2025, representatives from CEPFA and SEPR participated in four the-

matic discussions held as part of the 5th Armenia-France Decentralized Cooperation Conference, which took place in the city of Goris. The panels discussions referred to:

- How decentralized cooperation can address the needs of forcibly displaced persons from Nagorno-Karabakh,
- Economic development of territories,
- Youth in relation to education, culture, Francophonie, vocational education, volunteering,
- Local governance, the role of women in the management system, feminist diplomacy, and civic participation.

Among other panelists were CEPFA Director Gohar Grigoryan, CEPFA Board of Trustees President Christian Droz, SEPR Campus General Director Oriane Rey-



Erasmus+ Meetings in Italy

From March 31 to April 4, 2025, within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET_AM project, Gohar Grigoryan, Director of the French-Armenian Vocational Education Center; Marina Martirosyan, Director of the Gyumri State Medical College; Armenuhi Poghosyan, Head of the Department of Primary and Secondary Vocational Education of the RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports; and Ruzanna Pepanyan, Head of the Employment Division of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of Armenia, visited the APRO Formazione training center in Alba, Italy, a partner of the project.

During the visit, the experience exchange focused on professional orientation, digitalization of education, innovative methodologies, and capacity building of leadership in the field of sustainable development.

The delegation also visited the company LiveTech to learn about the alignment of educational programs with labor market needs. Delegation members met with Mr. Antonio Bosio, Director of APRO Formazione, and visited the Piedmont Regional Government, where active discussions took place between policymakers from both countries. They also visited the City of Talents - a center for



professional orientation located in Cuneo, as well as the Piazza dei Mestieri - a training center in Turin, where they explored innovative approaches to education and career guidance.



Erasmus+ Meetings in Lyon

From April 7 to 9, important meetings were held in Lyon, France, within the framework of the Erasmus+ IMPROVET_AM project, aimed at developing career guidance in Armenia.

The Armenian delegation included Gohar Grigoryan, Director of CEPFA, Marina Martirosyan, Director of the Gyumri State Medical College, Zhora Sargsyan, Head of the Employment Department of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, and Karen Manukyan, Head of the Vocational Education Department of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports.

During the meetings, the participants were welcomed by Christian Droz, President of the SEPR Training Center; Narine Nikolyan, Consul General of Armenia in Lyon; Christophe Meunier, Deputy



Director, Department for Territorial Promotion and International Relations in the Lyon Métropole; Émilie Mirjanyan, Director of International Relations of the Lyon City Hall; and Agnès Hernu, Coordinator of Relations with Armenia in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region.

The delegation visited the “Caravane des Métiers” (Trades Caravan) professional fair and got acquainted with professions in demand in the modern labor market.

The Armenian delegation also had the opportunity to meet with several officials of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, including Jacques Blanchet, Vice President for Vocational Education and Training; Alexandra Chambaz, Deputy Director for Career Guidance; and Francis Boulamaud, Director for Francophonie and Development at the Department of International Relations. The discussions focused on career guidance strategies, the structure of regional bodies, and policies regarding the recognition of non-formal education.



CEPFA at EfVET Tourism Thematic Team 2025



CEPFA Quality Assurance Expert Aida Dabaghyan took part in the discussions at the EfVET TTT (Tourism Thematic Team) 2025 annual event held at the SEPR Annonay campus in France.

The event brought together more than 50 representatives from 14 countries to address various topics related to Centers of Vocational Excellence in the fields of tourism and hospitality, funding, and the development of educational programs.

During the event, the guests had the honor of visiting the Michelin 3-star Les Maisons Marcon restaurant, the Valrhona Chocolate Museum, and the Chapoutier Winery, participated in a wine tasting session at the Maison Marcon wine cellar, attended a croissant-making master class, and enjoyed a wonderful gala dinner organized by the culinary and service teams of the SEPR Annonay campus.

ELE_VET European Partners Visit Armenia



EGInA (Italy), Insignare (Portugal), and the Armenian Youth Opportunities Center (YOC). During the discussions, the participants addressed the main directions of the project: enhancing teachers' digital skills, applying modern teaching methodologies, and developing entrepreneurial competencies. Representatives from Kasakh Secondary School No. 1 after R. Gevorgyan and Yerevan State Vocational School No. 1 were invited as potential project partners.



It should be noted that the European partners had made preliminary visits to the aforementioned schools.

The Head of Erebuni Administrative District Visits CEPFA

CEPFA, together with Flavie Duminil from the Lyon Metropolis, hosted Hakob Balayan, Head of the Erebuni Administrative District, along with members of his team.

During the visit, the guests were introduced to CEPFA's development programs aimed at improving the quality of education, em-



powering youth, and contributing to the overall development of the administrative district.

From Yerevan to Leipzig: A New Chapter in Cooperation

CEPFA hosted a delegation from Leipzig, Germany, which included Gabriel Golfuss, Director of the International Relations Department of the Leipzig City Hall; Kristina Rassmann, Head of the Cooperation Program with Eastern Europe; and Sirarpi Movsisyan, representative of the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Armenia in Saxony.

The delegation was accompanied by Vergine Simonyan, Head of the Foreign Relations Division of the External Relations Department of the Yerevan Municipality. Together with CEPFA Director Gohar Grigoryan, the guests toured the



center, becoming acquainted with SEVPA's activities, programs, and specialties.

The visit included discussions on potential areas of cooperation in education, culture, ecotourism, healthcare-particularly in the field of Dental Technology-and other sectors, with the goal of strengthening Armenian-German relations in the areas of youth development and intercultural exchange.

The 4th Hiking Festival in Lori

As part of the "Trails of Armenia" program, the 4th three-day hiking festival was held



in Lori, bringing together participants from various state bodies - including representatives of CEPFA (administration, students, teachers).

After the official opening ceremony, participants set off on hikes through the breathtaking highlands of Lori. The program included hands-on workshops on topics of first aid skills, building and marking trails, navigation and hiking equipment.

Throughout the three vibrant days

of the festival, participants gathered around the campfire, celebrating with Armenian songs and dances-creating a strong sense of unity and a deep connection to nature.

CEPFA Students Visit the National Assembly of Armenia



Accompanied by Anush Hovsepyan, lecturer of "Social Studies" and "Fundamentals of Law," and Anush Stepanyan, Head of the Career Center, a group of CEPFA students visited the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia. They had the opportunity to learn about the history of the building, visit the library and museum, and take part in an exclusive interview with a Member of Parliament on the topic of shaping responsible and informed citizens.

Meeting the CEPFA Graduate

CEPFA welcomed its graduate Lusine Osyan, who has been working for many years at the



Koshtoyan Couture House. Lusine Osyan shared her professional journey, achievements, and career growth with the students. She conducted a masterclass on corset tops design and sewing techniques.

A Master Class by Armine Sahakyan

Armine Sahakyan, a partner of CEPFA and Director of "Lanesa" wedding dress fashion studio, conducted an engaging masterclass for first-and second-year students of the Tailors' department. The session focused on designing evening skirts and their specific features.

The masterclass was not only rich in new knowledge, but also contributed to the students' professional orientation and motivation.

Pétanque Unites People



CEPFA hosted French volunteers from the KASA Foundation together with refugees from Iran, Haiti, and Syria. The leaders of the CEPFA Student Council taught them the rules of the game and enjoyed playing this extremely popular game in Marseilles. During the day the guests had a tour round the CEPFA's laboratories and got acquainted with the CEPFA activities.