



## STRENGTHENING ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP

# Visit to “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați, Damen Shipyards Galati, MEGA and MDEG

**This week a delegation of Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding (NUS) and Izmail State University of Humanities (ISUH) paid an official visit to “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați, Damen Shipyards Galati, MEGA and MDEG.**

The delegation included NUS Rector Prof. Eugeniy Trushliakov, Associate Professor Antonina Trushliakova, Associate Professor and MDEM Intl. Managing Director Olena Zukova, ISUH Rector Yaroslav Kichuk.

The purpose of this visit was to explore strategic opportunities for long-term academic cooperation between “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați and Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding within the framework of a concluded Partnership Agreement. Considering the strong influence all over the world and extensive experience of Damen Shipyards Group in both Romania and Ukraine as well, the visit has created the unique opportunity to join efforts and advance sustainable academia–industry collaboration within the maritime sector.

The visit began at Damen Shipyards Galați, together with representatives of “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați, where discussions focused on opportunities for cooperation with the industrial and business sectors. The special presentation about the Yard digital transformation has been made for the guests.

The program also included a yard tour, a visit to a BC Ferries vessel, MDEG office and MEGA. The details of the visit will be covered in a dedicated publication.

While visiting the UGAL, an official meeting was held with Professor Marian Barbu, Rector of “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați, together with members of the university’s academic community. The discussions focused on strengthening institutional cooperation, expanding joint educational and research initiatives, and enhancing collaboration with academia and industry partners.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Professor Marian Barbu noted that both sides intend to accelerate joint initiatives in education and research, with a direct impact on industry and the local community.

The delegation also paid separate visits to the Faculty of Naval Architecture, the Faculty of Automation, Computers, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, the Faculty of Engineering, and the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, where they were warmly welcomed by academic and faculty representatives. These visits deserve special attention and will be further reflected in upcoming publications. It’s important to highlight that during the mentioned visits the cooperation agreements between MDEG and UGAL faculties have been signed.

The very special event for the delegation was a meeting with the Mayor of Galați, Ionuț Florin



Pucleanu, that continued the official program of the visit. Guests introduced the institutions they represent, experience in international and industry-oriented cooperation, and expressed sincere appreciation for the solidarity and support shown by the people of Romania, especially the city of Galați, towards Ukraine and its citizens during these challenging times.

This official visit marks an important step forward establishing long-term cooperation between universities and industry partners in the areas of shipbuilding, engineering, economics, and related disciplines. It confirmed necessity of joint efforts for strengthening the international collaboration, knowledge exchange, and professionally-oriented education that meets to the demands of the maritime

and industrial sectors.

It is worth noting that the delegation's visit took place in parallel with the second part of the Damen Leadership Development (DLD) training, held on 13–14 May 2025 for MDEM Intl. managers led by the famous trainer Jaco Friedrich.

The delegation would like to express its sincere gratitude to “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați, Damen Shipyards Galați, and all partners and hosts for their warm welcome, being open, and fruitful discussions. Further publications will follow with more detailed insights into the individual visits, meetings, and discussions, and highlighting specific areas of cooperation and future opportunities. <<

