

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GiLE FOUNDATION AND THE ERASMUS STUDENT NETWORK (ESN) HUNGARY SIGN A STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT.

Today, the GiLE Foundation in cooperation with ESN Hungary are proud to announce a partnership that came into effect on the 4th of March 2021. Our newly formed friendship strengthens both organisation's goal to empower young people and invest in a youth-driven future. Our Cooperation Agreement aims to develop key competencies and provide much-needed support and guidance to young people who pass through our organisations.

It has never been more evident as in the past year that there's indeed a global skills crisis and many young people are struggling to launch their careers or find meaning in what they do. Young people around the globe are required to rethink and re-evaluate the competencies and skills they have, and the job markets they hope to get into.

This new partnership will provide all ESN cardholders in Hungary with a discount on the courses and summer programmes offered by the GiLE Foundation to help address the personal skills gap that many young people have. This involves, but is not limited to, programmes on character building, career planning and communication skills.

Our organisations also recognise the need for a greater degree of solidarity, collaboration, and synergy when it comes to youth-focussed initiatives. And while we look forward to our partnership with much excitement, this Cooperation Agreement certainly marks the beginning of a much deeper collaboration that will benefit both the Hungarian youth and the large education student network that comes through Hungary each year.



Craig V. Johnson
Founder & Co-Creator
GiLE Foundation



Mátyás Kolosai
President
ESN Hungary

About the GiLE Foundation

GiLE Foundation is based in Budapest (Hungary) and it was launched at the World Science Forum in 2019. Its mission is to support young people's pursuit of a successful and meaningful life by developing their competencies and through research and advocacy. The [GiLE Academy](#) provides workshops, group coaching, training sessions and short courses to young people to develop key competencies. The [GiLE Journal of Skills Development \(GJSD\)](#) publishes research papers on soft skills development for the Digital Age.

About the Erasmus Student Network (ESN)

ESN is the biggest (non-profit) international student association in Europe. Its mission is to represent international students and provide opportunities for cultural understanding and self-development under the principle of Students Helping Students. [ESN Hungary](#) was established in 1999 in Pécs. It has a presence in 14 Hungarian universities, 8 in Budapest and 6 in the countryside, and approximately **10,000 Erasmus students** arrive in Hungary each year!