Interreg NEXT Black Sea Basin

Co-funded by the European Union

BSB Dialogue Innovation Platform



CONNECT

COLLABORATE

INNOVATE

Türkiye, Bulgaria and Romania on the European Innovation Map

Southeast Europe is no longer on the margins of innovation.

Although the European Innovation Scoreboard still classifies Bulgaria, Romania and Türkiye as “emerging innovators”, the reality is changing fast. These countries are gaining momentum and claiming their place on Europe’s innovation map.

Romania is thriving thanks to a strong IT ecosystem and a fast-growing fintech scene. Bulgaria is advancing in high-performance computing and artificial intelligence through initiatives such as Discoverer+ and INSAIT. Türkiye is accelerating through dynamic innovation hubs, solid industrial capacity and a vibrant entrepreneurial culture.

Yet challenges remain:

- Low investment in research and development and uneven regional development
- Weak links between research, public policy and market application
- Administrative barriers that slow down innovation
- Brain drain and difficulties in retaining skilled professionals

The conclusion is clear: the region does not lack ideas — it needs stronger connections. Collaboration is the key to unlocking its full innovation potential.

Innovation Ecosystems in Action: The Power of the Quadruple Helix Model

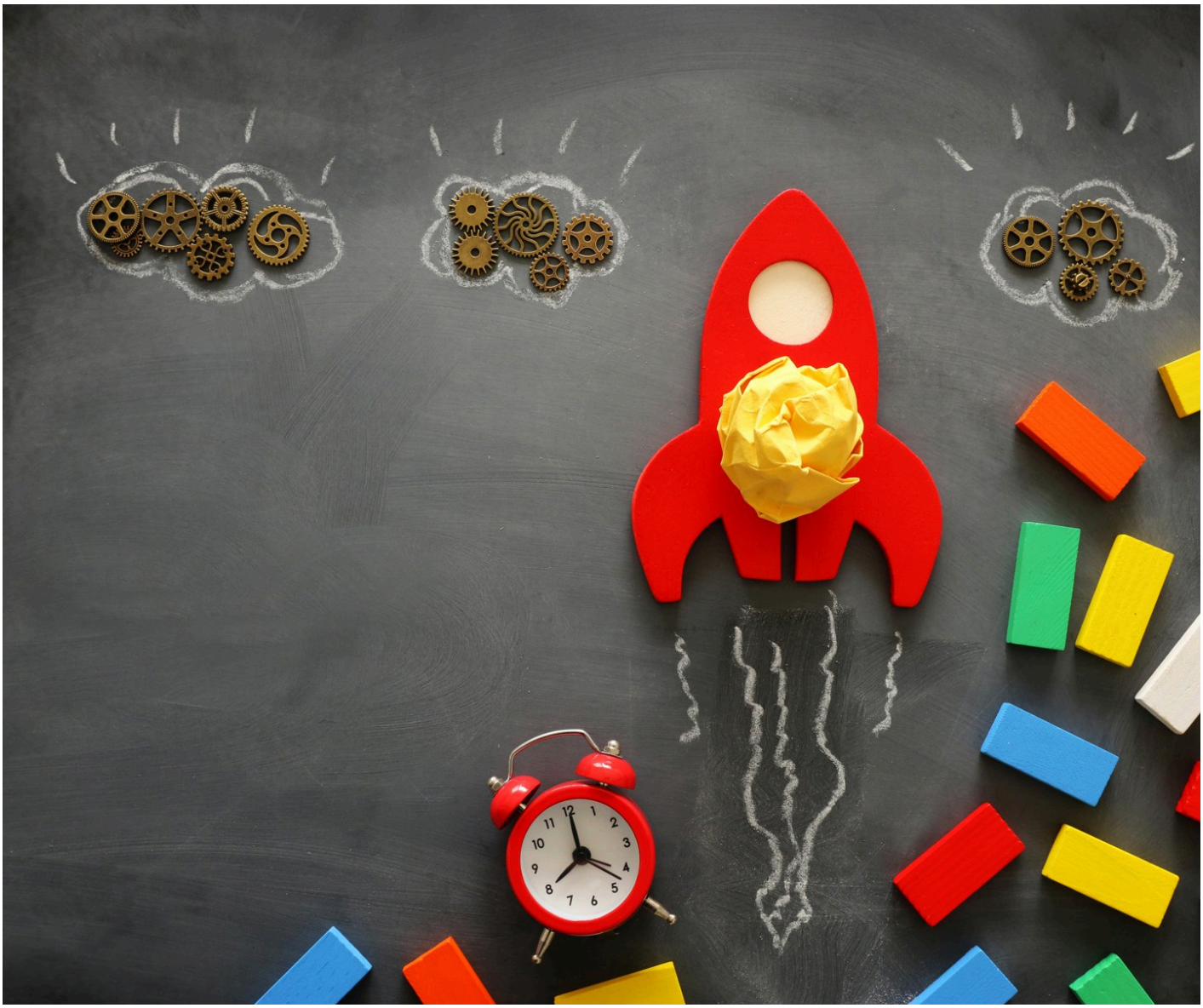
Innovation does not happen in isolation — it emerges through connection.

The **Quadruple Helix** model brings together four key actors:

- Academia
- Business
- Public sector
- Civil society

When these actors work in isolation, innovation stalls. When they collaborate, ideas turn into impact.

Strong ecosystems are built on strong relationships. Dialogue is what turns fragmented efforts into real, scalable solutions.



The DIALOGUE Project

DIALOGUE – Dialogue for Innovation and Better Governance (BSB1104) is designed to make collaboration happen.

Funded by the **Interreg NEXT Black Sea Basin Programme 2021–2027** (EUR 535,609.50, 90% co-financed), the project strengthens cooperation between innovation ecosystems by creating a space for structured dialogue and knowledge exchange.

Its mission is simple yet powerful: **connecting stakeholders, building capacity and promoting better innovation governance.**

Key areas of focus include:

- Understanding ecosystem needs and trends
- Strengthening institutional and managerial capacity
- Fostering cross-sectoral and cross-border dialogue
- Connecting civil society, academia and public institutions

The project brings together a strong regional partnership:

- Çorlu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Türkiye) – Lead Partner
- International Management Institute (Bulgaria)
- Galati Tehnopol Association (Romania)
- Trakya Development Agency (Türkiye)

Together, they combine expertise, networks and regional perspectives to address shared innovation challenges in the Black Sea Basin.



One of the flagship results of the DIALOGUE project is the **Black Sea Innovation Platform** – a dynamic space for communication, knowledge exchange and collaboration.

DialogueInnoHub is where ideas meet action!

Designed to foster a truly cross-border innovation ecosystem, the Platform connects diverse stakeholders to tackle shared regional challenges and unlock new opportunities for growth.

Here, innovators, institutions, researchers and organisations come together to:

- Connect across sectors and regions
- Enhance their knowledge and build networks
- Co-create innovative solutions
- Build lasting partnerships

Whether you represent a public institution, academia, a business support organisation or civil society – this is your space to get involved, collaborate and grow.

Join the community.
Expand your network. Turn ideas into impact.

Want to learn more about the DIALOGUE project and its latest developments? Follow us on social media:

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