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## Start of the academic year at ASEM: The National Bank supports the training of new generations of economists

The First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Moldova (NBM), Petru Rotaru, participated in the opening ceremony of the new academic year at the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova (ASEM), alongside representatives of relevant ministries, faculty members, and first-year students.

In his message to students and faculty members, Mr. Petru Rotaru emphasized that the beginning of university studies is a defining stage that lays the foundation for both professional development and personal growth.

"Many of my colleagues from across all departments – whether in monetary policy, financial stability, external relations, or legal affairs – are ASEM graduates. Through their daily work, they demonstrate the value of the university education provided by this institution," stated the First Deputy Governor of the NBM.

Mr. Petru Rotaru highlighted the strong partnership between the National Bank of Moldova and the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, noting that currently, almost half of the central bank's employees are graduates of this institution. At the same time, the First Deputy Governor of the NBM highlighted joint projects carried out with ASEM, such as the "School of Modern Finance" programme, which offers students and master's students the opportunity to develop their skills and learn directly from the practical experience of European central bank specialists, in particular from the National Bank of Romania.

"The School of Modern Finance is a platform that offers ASEM students and master's candidates the opportunity to consolidate their knowledge with the support of practitioners. The programme will continue because we want to create as many opportunities as possible to connect academic theory with the realities of the banking system," said the First Deputy Governor of the NBM.

Mr. Petru Rotaru encouraged students to make the most of their university years not only to accumulate knowledge, but also to develop critical thinking, teamwork skills, and an innovative spirit—skills that are relevant for future professionals and particularly important in Moldova's European integration process.

The National Bank of Moldova and the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova confirmed their cooperation by signing a partnership agreement seven years ago. Its objective is to strengthen the professional training of young economists and to support the development of a solid economic culture through the exchange of knowledge, experience, and best practices between academia and the central bank.

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