

### OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER Nº 3

## What is StresOut?

**StressOut** is an Erasmus+ project **aiming to provide tools for stress prevention and stress management on a both personal and business level.** We want to create a comprehensive and innovative training course to enable both employers and employees to combat work-related stress and burnout. Here's what you can expect from the StressOut project:



A wide scope **Policy Recommendations Report**, offering policy guidance to address work-related stress on an EU level.



A training program addressing stress prevention and management techniques.





A **First Aid Kit** to help learn how to act in extreme situations of stress and burnout.



A **mobile app** giving you access to all StressOut resources in a single userfriendly place, including videos, podcasts, exercises and other valuable content.



**Stress Awareness Days** campaign dedicated on the importance of mental health and prevention of work-related stress.



### The StressOut Training Course



For the past year now, we've been working on creating a comprehensive, relevant and **easy to understand training contents** to enable every employee and individual out there to learn how to manage work-related stress effectively. After extensive research and valuable expert and stakeholder consultation, we are proud to present you the StressOut Training Course consisting of **5 main units** and **27 topics**:

1

Let's Talk about Stress: A Theoretical Introduction to Stress and Burnout

**Prevention is the Best Intervention:** Preventing Work-related Stress and Burnout

3

2

**To Whom Should I Reach out:** Finding Help in Managing Workrelated Stress and Burnout



**Take a Breath:** Techniques and Methods for Stress Relief and Relaxation



**Be the Best Version of Yourself:** Key Protective Factors for Taking Care of Your Wellbeing

The training course in English **is now officially completed** and the partnership is working on its translation into **5 languages -** Bulgarian, Croatian, Dutch, Greek and Spanish. We are excited to share with you that you will be able to explore it **in early January 2025**.



#### "Use it, don't lose it!" – Plan your next PTO



**Paid Time Off (PTO)** is a policy provided by employers that **allows employees to take time away from work** while still receiving their regular pay. This time off **can be used for various reasons**, including vacation, personal days or other personal matters.

Despite the clear benefits of PTO, many employees find themselves **not using their allotted days and instead, losing them.** Common reasons for this include work culture and expectations, fear of falling behind, financial concerns, mismanagement of PTO, feelings of guilt and responsibility, and the omnipresence of technology and connectivity.

**By addressing these barriers** and encouraging a healthier approach to taking time off, **companies can help their employees** reap the benefits of PTO, leading to a more satisfied, productive, and engaged workforce. **Check out our blog** to discover the benefits of your PTO!

# **Read the Full Article**



#### How Stress Affects Your Brain?

Stress isn't always **negative** - it can provide a **boost of energy and concentration**, such as during competitive sports or public speaking. However, when stress becomes chronic, **it can start to alter your brain**. In the video, Madhumita Murgia explains **how long-term stress can impact brain size**, **structure**, **and function**, even affecting your genes.



"Stress is not what happens to us. It's our response to what happens. And response is something we can choose."

– Maureen Killoran



### The StressOut Consortium

**The partnership** of the StressOut project is organized in a way that covers the necessary competencies for effective and successful implementation of the project, and therefore consists of **6 organizations from 5 different European countries** – Bulgaria, Spain, Croatia, Cyprus and the Netherlands.



# Join the StressOut Initative!

The StressOut survey remains open until the end of the project and aims to define the causes of the work-related stress and how it affects one's wellbeing in order to provide tools for stress prevention and stress management on both personal and business level. Please, **help us achieve our common goal** by answering the questionnaire. It will take you no more than 10 minutes and your contribution will be strongly appreciated!



the European Union