**Hellenic Republic**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**The internal volleyball tournament took place at the outdoor sports facilities of the Agricultural University of Athens**

On Monday, April 7, 2025, an internal volleyball tournament was held at the outdoor sports facilities of the Agricultural University of Athens. The event was a wonderful experience for all students, fostering friendly competition, respect, and the joy of participation. These matches were not only an opportunity for physical activity but also a unique chance for coexistence, interaction, and socialization among all the participating students.

This year, the participation of Erasmus students in the volleyball tournament was particularly significant, as it marked their first time competing. They became an integral part of the university community, joining from the very first day of their arrival at the AUA, engaging in activities at the gym, and participating in all the offered sports events. This experience enhanced the concept of inclusion, as all participants, regardless of their origin or language barriers, were able to communicate and collaborate through shared athletic activities. The tournament served as an opportunity to strengthen the sense of belonging and unity within the university, with all the positive consequences that collective participation brings.

A key figure in the event was the referee, Sotiris Papanikolaou, a 5th-year student (10th semester) in the Department of Agricultural and Food Technology, who is an official referee of the Hellenic Volleyball Federation. He has supported the university’s volleyball tournament for the third consecutive year.

The success of this event proves the power of sports as a means of integration, cooperation, and the strengthening of human relationships within a multicultural university environment.

The tournament was coordinated by Ms. Georgia Athanasopoulou, an associate professor of Physical Education at AUA.

Photos and videos from the event can be viewed at the following link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/SehfUTCFWUSzXCx37>