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GIST World Friends ICT Volunteer Group goes to change the summer landscape of Moldova

- GIST (President Seung Hyeon Moon) – The GIST World Friends ICT Volunteer Group, which was created to foster global talents who can combine the skills needed to foster convergent fields, international communication skills, and volunteerism in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, is gaining more popularity in Moldova *.

* Moldova is a small Eastern European country with a per capita GDP of \$2,596, which is the lowest 29% of the world's 195 countries and is between Romania and Ukraine. With the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Moldova, which is independent, had the complex task of stabilizing the political system and economic growth. The IT sector is regarded as the most promising industry in Moldova. Korea, which is a powerhouse of IT, electronics, automobiles, and K-Pop, is the object of envy today as a model country for Moldova.

- GIST and the National Information Society Agency (NIA) jointly sent the '2018 World Friends ICT Volunteer Group' to Moldova, which ended in July for a month-long teaching program. The GIST-NIA World Friends ICT Volunteers has been sending volunteers to Moldova since 2014 and every summer since 2015.
 - The ICT Volunteer Group, which selects GIST students, leaves the country at the end of June every year to conduct educational service

activities for four weeks during July. 16 people were selected every year from 2014 to 17 and 20 were dispatched to the region this year. It is a team of four to teach ICT, Korean, and Korean culture as one organization per team.

- Moldova has a short summer vacation from June to August instead of a short winter vacation, but there is not much opportunity for students to improve themselves. This year GIST is the largest private university in Moldova, the Free International University of Moldova (ULIM) and the Information Access Center (IAC). An ICT volunteer group was dispatched to the Children's and Youth Center in rural Budești, 15 km northeast of the capital city of Kishinawu, and to the welfare center in Stăuceni, a residential area 10 km to the north.

- GIST students who have expertise in the field of science and technology and English proficiency have opened a class in Moldova and got a good response from local students. Ho-jin Han, head of the Korea Culture Center, said, "There is a new view of Moldova that we have never seen before."
 - Kyung-Sook Yoon (EECS junior), a team leader of the 'Little Mothers' team, said, "I listened and supported a friend who did volunteer work last year, and I do not think I will ever forget this experience. I had an Arduino kit and I was teaching programming to young children, and I am very grateful and thankful the results went beyond my expectations."

 - Alexandra Bantas (16), who completed both the ICT and Korean and cultural education at the Information Access Center, said, "It was a truly amazing and valuable experience to learn C++, which is a programming language that is difficult to learn in Moldova. I thought that I would like to continue studying ICT, and I want to study abroad in Korea."

□ From July 13 to 16, 2018, GIST President Seung Hyeon Moon visited the locations where the students were carrying out their volunteer activities.

◦ Moon met with Ilian Galben, the President of the Free International University of Moldova, on the afternoon of the 16th and discussed ways to increase exchanges and cooperation between the two countries, focusing on IT. Valentina Ciumacenco, head of the Center for International Cooperation at ULIM, said, "The GIST World Friends ICT Volunteer program is the most popular educational program in Moldova. I hope that the ICT volunteer program will continue in the future."

□ Prime Minister Pavel Filip of Moldova visited the Information Access Center's classroom on July 18th to encourage GIST students who were volunteering. Pavel Phillip was also interested in the educational service of the GIST-NIA World Friends ICT Volunteers in 2015, when he was Minister of ICT.



▲ GIST student conducts ICT education in Stăuceni, a residential area 10 km north of the capital city of Chisinau.



▲ GIST President Seung Hyeon Moon visited the four locations of the World Friends ICT Volunteer Group to encourage GIST students.



▲ GIST President Seung Hyeon Moon at ULIM is discussing ways to increase cooperation between the two schools with President Ilian Galven and key executives.