Objectives:

The primary objective of this project is to develop common assessment criteria for simulation training courses within the Air Traffic Controller (ATCO) basic training in order to improve students’ competencies regarding working effectively and in harmony within the integrated Pan-European air traffic system; improve metrics and scoring tools for the evaluations of students according to future targets of this system such as efficiency and economics; and provide guidelines and recommended practices for enhanced ATCO training across the Europe.

The project proposes an innovative approach to measure the performance of ATCO students in radar simulations based on flight cockpit and integrated ATC and flight cockpit simulations. Instructions of ATCO students will be tested in terms of airspace occupancy, service times, aircraft fuel consumption, pilot workload and readability and implementability of ATCO instructions by pilot.

Long term goals:

In order to achieve these targets, Anadolu University (AU), University of Zagreb, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences (ZFOT) and Technische Universität Braunschweig (TUBS) formed a consortium. AU and ZFOT are two leading higher education institutions offering ATCO basic training and possess significant expertise and capabilities in ATC simulations, while TUBS conducts high-end research in the field of flight training and simulations. Although the project primarily targets enhancement of ATCO basic training programs in higher education institutions, its outcomes will provide feedback and recommendations to EUROCONTROL for the revision of reference documents. Therefore, the results can be reached and used by all ANSPs, civil aviation authorities and vocational ATCO training organizations in Europe.

In long term, the project outputs are expected to support development of standardized ATC training, increased awareness in safety, efficiency, economics targets of integrated ATM management in Europe, improved employment and mobility opportunities for ATCO candidates, reduction of the job adaption periods, costs and durations of advanced training for ANSP, and enhanced quality of air traffic services and sustained growth of air transportation and connected regional economies in Europe.