

**D**

## **Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)**

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The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) on its website within one month after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

Please describe your institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy. In your description please explain a) how you choose your partners, b) in which geographical area(s) and c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles). If applicable, also explain how your institution participates in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Our Further and Vocational Higher Education Institution offers a wide range of short-cycle courses in Computing , International Business, Administration and Finance as well as Automobile Industry. These two-year courses are delivered to students from a wide variety of backgrounds who wish to become part of the labour market or enter university.

Since 2009 our institution has offered the possibility of doing an Erasmus internship to students in their second year who wish to live and work abroad as part of an exchange programme.

Year after year the number of students undertaking their Erasmus internship has increased due to the good response to this programme thanks to the information provided by the International Office and the Erasmus Coordinator.

During the last term of the second year our students do their internship in companies which provide suitable on-the-job training tutored by a mentor in the host company.

We have set up partnership with enterprises based in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Italy.

We choose enterprises whose profile match our students' profiles. Above all, we take into account the necessities and demands of the enterprise together with those of our students. Taking into consideration what the enterprise expects from our students, we consider the students' suitability to successfully carry out the tasks they will be entrusted.

That is the moment when we offer our students the possibility of an internship abroad. The students' Tutors together with the Coordinator have a meeting in which we make our students a presentation of the company which includes different aspects of the company such as location, staff, characteristics, ...

All Erasmus activities will be given full visibility through our website where our Erasmus Blog is included. In addition, the International Office together with the Erasmus Coordinator will provide information through talks to our students in Higher Education Courses.

By implementing the Erasmus Programme :

We aim at providing suitable on-the-job training for our students creating strong links between our institution and our students' companies.

We aim to increase our students' employability and job prospects opening up the possibility of a career in a wide range of areas throughout commerce, industry, entertainment and the public sector. Also, the programme enables successful students to progress to a University Degree if they wish to do so.

We aim at offering our students the possibility of working in a foreign country, as well as learning and understanding the host country.

We aim at creating a sense of community among interns from different countries since the Erasmus experience is considered as both a time for training and a chance to socialise.

We aim at enriching our students' lives in the academic and professional fields as well as improving self-reliance and self-awareness.

We aim at providing our students with a better sense of what it means to be a European citizen.

We aim at carrying out staff exchanges so as to exchange professional experiences in teaching and training.

We aim at complementing our ISO 9000 Process Improvement System which is set up in our institution.

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Non applicable

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda\*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

By participating in the Erasmus Programme we expect to modernise our institution getting the following educational and organisational achievements :

Develop clear progression routes from vocational and other education types into higher education by recognizing learning and experience gained outside formal education and training.

Reduce drop-out by providing more transparent information on educational opportunities and information on study choices to school students.

Ensure that financial support reaches potential students from lower income backgrounds through a better targeting of resources.

Encourage a greater variety of study modes (e.g. part-time, distance and modular learning), by adapting funding mechanisms where necessary.

Better exploit the potential of ICTs to enable more effective and personalised learning experiences, teaching and research methods (eg. eLearning ) and increase the use of virtual learning platforms.

Introduce incentives for higher education institutions to invest in continuous professional development for their staff, recruit sufficient staff to develop emerging disciplines and reward excellence in teaching

Ensure the efficient recognition of credits gained abroad through effective quality assurance.

Encourage partnership and cooperation with business as a core activity of higher education institutions, through reward structures, incentives for multidisciplinary and cross-organisational cooperation, and the reduction of regulatory and administrative barriers to partnerships between institutions and other public and private actors.

Promote innovation in higher education through more interactive learning environments.

Facilitate access to alternative sources of funding, including using public funds to leverage private and other public investment .

\* COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0567:FIN:EN:PDF>)